

many reasons to disagree with him. embarrassed, bloc ran his fingers through the pile of the carpet, his anxiety about what the judge had said had let him forget his inferior status towards the lawyer for a while, he thought only about himself and turned the judges words round to examine them from all sides. bloc, said leni, as if reprimanding him, and, taking hold of the collar of his coat, pulled him up slightly higher. leave the carpet alone and listen to what the lawyer is saying. in the cathedral a very important italian business contact of the bank had come to visit the city for the first time and was given the task of showing him some of its cultural sights. at any other time he would have seen this job as an honour but now, when he was finding it hard even to maintain his current position in the bank, he accepted it only with reluctance. every hour that he could not be in the office was a cause of concern for him, he was no longer able to make use of his time in the office anything like as well as he had previously, he spent many hours merely pretending to do important work, but that only increased his anxiety about not being in the office. then he sometimes thought he saw the deputy director, who was always watching, come into k.s office, sit at his desk, look through his papers, receive clients who had almost become old friends of and lure them away from him, perhaps he even discovered mistakes, mistakes that seemed to threaten from a thousand directions when he was at work now, and which he could no longer avoid. so now, if he was ever asked to leave the office on business or even needed to make a short business trip, however much an honour it seemed and tasks of this sort

horses two wretched screws. i heard much the same thing, assented the rector. they say he would not have his own coat of arms painted on the carriage, for what was there already was quite good enough for him. he cannot possibly be driving here from carisbury; it is a good twenty miles. well, if he does not drive, he must come by the: train; that would give him two hours and a quarter before the service. what business can he have in cullerne where can he be lunching what can he be doing with himself for two mortal hours and a quarter here was another conundrum to which probably only one person in cullerne town could have supplied an answer, and that was mr sharnall. a letter had come for the organist that very day: the palace, carisbury. my dear sharnall, i had almost written 'my dear nick; forty years have made my pen a little stiff, but you must give me your official permission to write 'my dear nick the very next time. you may have forgotten my hand, but you will not have forgotten me. do you know, it is i, willis, who am your new bishop it is only a fortnight since i learnt that you were so near me 'quam dulce amicitias, reintegrare nitidas and the very first point of it is that i am going to sponge on you, and ask myself to lunch. i am coming to cullerne at: to day fortnight for the