

means i mustnt neglect anything that mite be of use to me; even if theres very little hope of a particular thing being of any use i cant just throw it away. so everything i have ive put to use in my case. ive taken all the money out of my business, for example, the offices for my business used to occupy nearly a whole floor, but now all i need is a little room at the back where i work with one apprentice. it wasnt just using up the money that caused the difficulty, of course, it was much more to do with me not working at the business as much as i used to. if you want to do something about your trial you dont have much time for anything else. so youre also working at the court yourself asked thats just what i want to learn more about. i cant tell you very much about that, said the businessman, at first i tried to do that too but i soon had to give it up again. it wears you out too much, and its really not much use. and it turned out to be quite impossible to work there yourself and to negotiate, at least for me it was. its a heavy strain there just sitting and waiting. you know yourself what the air is like in those offices. how do you know ive been there, then asked i was in the waiting room myself when you went through. what a coincidence that is exclaimed totally engrossed and forgetting how ridiculous the businessman had seemed to him earlier. so you saw me you were in the waiting room when i went through. yes, i did go through it one time. it isnt such a big coincidence, said the businessman, im there nearly every day. i expect ill have to go there quite often myself now, said although i can hardly expect to be shown the same respect as i was then. they all stood up for made on his endurance, and he angrily and peevishly pointed to his begrimed face as he made his way through the people waiting for him. to morrow, to morrow, he cried; nay, if necessary, today, after sunset. but now i need rest. rest rest why, you yourselves can see the state i am in. all even the master masons and purveyors who had come on urgent affairs, drew back; only one elderly man, his sister paulinas house steward, caught hold of his chiton, stained as it was with smoke and scorched in many places, and said quickly and in a low tone: my mistress greets you; she has things to speak of to you which will bear no delay; i am not to leave you till you have promised to go to see her to day. our chariot waits for you at the garden door. send it home, said pontius, not even civilly; paulina must wait a few hours. but my orders are to take you with me at once. but in this state so i cannot go with you, cried the architect with vehemence. have you no sort of consideration and yet who can tell well, tell her i will be with her in two hours. when pontius had fairly escaped the throng he took a bath; then he had some food brought to him, but even while he ate and drank, he was not unoccupied, for he read the letters which awaited him, and examined some drawings which his assistants had prepared during his absence. give yourself an hours respite, said the old housekeeper, who had been his nurse and who loved him as her own son. i must go to my sister, he answered with a shrug. we know her of old, said the old woman. for nothing, and less than nothing, she has sent for you be fore now; and you absolutely need rest. there are your cushions right so and let me ask you, has the humblest stone carrier so hard a life as you have even at meals you never have an hour of peace and comfort. your however, he gave orders that his bath should be prepared, and desired to be dressed; then macrinus and others were to be sent for. sooner would he step into boiling water than return to that bed of terror. day, life, business must banish his terrors. but then, after the evening would come another night; and if the sufferings he had just gone through should repeat themselves then, and in those to follow, he should lose his wits, and he would bless the spirit of tarantas if it would but come to lead him away to death. but the deed the indian was right that would survive him on earth, and mankind would unite in cursing him. was there yet time was he yet capable of atoning for what was done by some great and splendid deed but the hundred thousand the number rose before him like a mountain, blotting out every scheme he tried to form as he went to his bath taking his lion with him; he reveled in the warm water, and finally lay down to rest in clean linen wrappers. no one had dared to speak to him. his aspect was too threatening. in a room adjoining the bath room he had breakfast served him. it was, as usual, a simple meal, and yet he could only swallow a few mouthfuls, for everything had a bitter taste. The