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NOTE ON HORACE *C.* II. 3. 17-20

Cedes coemptis saltibus et domo
 villaque flavus quam Tiberis lavit,
cedes, et exstructis in altum
divitiis potietur heres.

The words in italics are generally held to mean "riches piled high"; cf. "aeris acervus et auri," *Epp.* i. 2. 47; "solas extruere divitias," Petronius 84. But the fact that Horace makes the approach to this expression with the words "villaque flavus quam Tiberis lavit," as well as his language in other passages points to another interpretation as preferable; cf. *C.* ii. 18. 19 f.:

struis domos,
 marisque Bais obstrepentis urges
 submovere litora,
 parum locuples continente ripa.

On the latter passage Acro quotes a very pertinent parallel, Sallust *Cat.* 20. 11: "quis mortalium . . . tolerare potest illis divitias superare, quas profundant in extruendo mari . . . ?" Cf. *C.* iii. 24. 3 f. and especially *C.* iii. 1. 33 f.:

Contracta pisces aequora sentiunt
 iactis in altum molibus;

also Sen. *Epp.* 89. 21 (xiii. 1. 21): "ubicumque in aliquem sinum litus curvabitur, vos protinus fundamenta facietis (iacietis?) nec contenti solo," etc.; cf. *de Tranq.* 3. 7.

In view of the foregoing parallels from Horace himself and elsewhere, it would seem that the words "exstructis in altum divitiis," "riches piled into the deep," are a bold expression for "thy costly mansion by the sea." The interpretation is supported by the scholium of Acro "<EXSTRUCTIS> IN ALTUM DIVITIIS] mari iactis operibus et exstructis in altum aedificiis" (AFV).

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 TIBULLUS ii 6. 8: ADDENDUM

A striking example of the Roman soldier's use of his helmet to carry water,¹ is to be found in Plutarch's *Life of Antony*, XLVII. On that occasion, when Antony determined to take the mountain path, which was without water (*ἀνδρίαν ἔχουσαν*), he ordered his soldiers to carry water with them (*ὔδωρ ἐπιφέρεισθαι*); most of them, however, lacking vessels, filled their helmets (some used skins) and carried the water thus (*διὸ καὶ τὰ κράνη πμπλάντες ὕδατος ἐκόμζον*).

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¹ *Classical Philology*, IX, 447.