

A. Horace O. 3.6.45-48

*Damnosa quid non inmutat dies?
Aetas parentum, peior avis, tulit
nos nequiores, mox daturos
progeniem vitiosiore.*

Pernicious Time—what does it not diminish?
Our parents' age, inferior to our grandparents,
produced us who are viler, soon to bear
a more vicious progeny.

A. Ennius *Ann.* 5.156 = Cicero *Rep.* 5.1.9

Moribus antiquis res stat Romana virisque

The Roman state stands upon ancient morals and men.

B. Scholarship assuming the narrative of decline:—

Luce (2012), 342, of Tacitus' *Dialogus*: "How remarkable not to be attracted into that attitude so beloved by all cultures, but never more than by the Roman, that the past is better because the men who live then were better!" The assumption that a decline narrative permeated Roman literature, or culture more generally, may be found in Earl (1961) 41-46, 113-121; Badian (1966) 5-6; Goodyear (1970); Crawley (1971), 24; Lintott (1972); Koestermann (1973); Williams (1978); Döpp (1989), whose nuanced view is that the reign of Augustus was an exception in an otherwise constant sense of decline in Roman literature, 95; Evans (2008), with some reservations about the universality of the decline narrative, as in Lucretius and Juvenal, 78-83), 8.

C. The *FRH* on Fabius's moralism:—

Ad fr. 24 C: "It may be that Fabius was making a moral point, and lamenting the growth of luxury that followed Rome's major conquests. This is an attractive possibility, but does not seem to us to be conclusively proved by the text of the fragment as it stands.

D. 1. Fabius Pictor, fr. 24 Cornell = Strabo 5.228

φησὶ δ' ὁ συγγραφεὺς Φάβιος Ῥωμαίους
αἰσθέσθαι τοῦ πλοῦτου τότε πρῶτον, ὅτε τοῦ
ἔθνους τούτου κατέστησαν κύριοι

And the historian Fabius says that the Romans first
perceived [the Sabines'/?/their own/?/any?] wealth when
they became masters of this people [sc., the Sabines].

2. fr. 25 C = Pliny *Nat.* 14.89

*Fabius Pictor in annalibus suis scripsit matronam,
quod loculos, in quibus erant claves cellae vinariae,
resignavisset, a suis inedia mori coactam . . .*

Fabius Pictor in his annals wrote that a matron was
compelled by her family to die of starvation because
she had opened the coffers in which the keys of the
wine cellar were kept. . .

3. fr. 26 C = *Suda* s.v. Φάβιος Πίκτωρ Φ2 (4.691
Adler)

Φάβιος Πίκτωρ, σθηγγραφεπὺς Ῥωμαίων, οὗτος
λέγει ἄρχοντι Ῥωμαίων μὴ ἐξεῖναι μηδενὶ
σφετερίσασθαι ἐκ τοῦ δημοσίου ὀτιοῦν.

Fabius Pictor, a Roman historian, says that it was not
permitted to any Roman magistrate to appropriate
anything from the treasury.

4. fr. 17 C = Livy 8.30.9-10

seu uotum id deorum cuiuspiam fuit seu credere libet
Fabio auctori eo factum ne suae gloriae fructum
dictator caperet nomenque ibi scriberet aut spolia in

[The master of the horse Q. Fabius Rullianus burnt the
spoils of the dictator L. Papirius Cursor after the battle
of Imbrinium in 325 B.C.] either as a votive to one of
the gods or, if one would credit Fabius as an authority,

triumpho ferret. (10) litterae quoque de re prospere gesta ad senatum non ad dictatorem missae argumentum fuere minime cum eo communicantis laudes.

E. Polybius 1.14. 3

διὰ γὰρ τὴν αἴρεσιν καὶ τὴν ὅλην εὐνοίαν Φιλίνῳ μὲν πάντα δοκοῦσιν οἱ Καρχηδόνιοι πεπρᾶχθαι φρονίμως, καλῶς, ἀνδρωδῶς, οἱ δὲ Ῥωμαῖοι τὰναντία, Φαβίῳ δὲ τοῦμπαλιν τούτων.

F. Cato F109 C = Festus 320

Mulieres opertae auro purpuraque; arsinea, rete, diadema, coronas aureas, rusceas fascias, galbeos lineos, pelles, redimicula

that it was done lest dictator should have enjoyment of his glory and inscribe his name there [on the spoils] or carry them in a triumph. The letters he dispatched to the senate about his successful action, but not to the dictator, were an illustration that glory was not in the least to be shared with him.

For to Philinus the Carthaginians seem to have done everything prudently, appropriately, and bravely, on account of his tendentiousness and thorough sympathy, while the Romans did the opposite. But for Fabius it is altogether the reverse of this.

Women covered in gold and purple; headdress, hairnet, diadem, crown, gold crowns, red ribbons, linen amulets, furs, hair-bands [tr. Bispham and Cornell].

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