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Stonycreek
Massachusetts Correctional Institution
~~P. O. Box #366~~
~~Bridgewater, Massachusetts~~
1-1-63

Dear Bob:

The ancient inhabitants of Feacenna in Etruria, were noted for their obscene verse & scurrilous writings. Many times I have deplored my lack of their art & scope. The excellent scientific paper of Max, wherein he so clearly defines Alcoholism, is the metaphorical father of the following brain-child:

"Once upon a time, there was a good giant named Gulliver, who operated a Heart Clinic. There were a great many helpers called Lilliputians who kept Gulliver pretty well tied down with red tape. The Lilliputians were just like human beings, which is to say, they were chiefly concerned with their days off, their seniority, their vacations, a raise of salary, & how they could perform their duties with the least possible effort. There is no doubt that they were kind to their wives & to the little Lilliputs, but they were not greatly concerned with the Heart Patients. As regards Heart Disease, they did not know the end of their excretory duct from an oriface on the face of the earth. There was probably a good reason.

It seems that these Heart Patients were sent to the Clinic by a number of procurators all over the state, who had one thing in common, -- in each case their name was Procrustes.

Now, the original Procrustes was a mythological brigand & noted for a famous bed. If his victims were too short, they were stretched out to fit the bed, & if too tall, then parts of them were lopped off.

The modern descendents of Procrustes considered the bed to be old fashioned, & they soon hit upon a new device. They began to send down