

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Pl.+Epid.+1>

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.02.0100%3Aact%3D2>

EPIDICUS (...) But where is she whom you have brought with you?

STRATIPPOCLES

I shall have her here just now.

CHÆR.

What are we now doing here?

STRATIPPOCLES

Let's go in-doors here at your house, that, for the present, we may pass this day merrily. *They go into the house of CHÆRIBULUS.*

EPIDICUS

to himself. Go in-doors; I'll now call¹ a council in my heart to adopt measures about this money business, against whom, in especial, war is to be declared, and out of whom I'm to get the money. Epidicus, consider what you are to do; thus suddenly has this business been thrown upon you. But now you must not be slumbering, nor have you any leisure for delay. Now must you be daring! 'Tis my fixed determination to lay siege to the old man. I'll go indoors; I'll tell the young man, my master's son, not to walk abroad here, or come anywhere in the way of the old gentleman. *Goes into the house of CHÆRIBULUS.*

(...)

EPIDICUS

(...) Now then, come, equip yourself, Epidicus, and throw your cloak about your neck *suiting the action to the word*, and pretend as though you had been in search of the man all the city over. On with it, if you are going to do it! *He hurries past the OLD MEN as though he didn't see them, and calls out aloud.* Immortal Gods! I do wish I could meet with Periphanes at home, whom I'm tired with searching for all over the city, throughout the doctors' shops, throughout the barbers' shops, in the gymnasium, and in the Forum, at the perfumers' shops and the butchers' stalls², and round about the bankers' shops. I'm become hoarse with enquiring; I've almost dropped down with running.

PERIPHIANES

Epidicus!

EPIDICUS

looking round. Who is it that's calling Epidicus back?

PERIPHIANES

It's I, Periphanes.

APAECIDES

And I, Apæcides.

EPIDICUS

And I, indeed, am Epidicus. But, master, I find that you've both met me at the nick of time.

PERIPHIANES

What's the matter?

EPIDICUS

Wait, wait! *puffs and blows* ; prithee, do let me get breath!

PERIPHIANES

By all means, rest yourself.

EPIDICUS

I'm quite faint; I must recover my breath.

APAECIDES

Do rest yourself at your leisure.

EPIDICUS

Lend me your attention. All the men of the army have been remanded home from Thebes³.

APAECIDES

Who knows for certain that this has been done?

1. **I'll now call:** -159. Echard's adaptation of these two lines is so quaint, that it is worth transcribing. "In the meantime must I have a committee of the whole house, to consider of ways and means for the raising supplies to carry on this vigorous war."
2. **Butchers' stalls:** "Lanienas." Madame Dacier thinks that this means a place where arms were sold, and the "lanistæ," or "gladiators" exercised themselves.
3. **Remanded home from Thebes:** Madame Dacier supposes, and with fair reason, that in this Epidicus tells what really is the fact.