



TYCHE

**Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte
Papyrologie und Epigraphik**

Herausgegeben von

Gerhard Dobesch, Hermann Harrauer
Peter Siewert und Ekkehard Weber

Band 3, 1988

1988



Auflösung der Abkürzungen im Index von Tyche 3

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So = Solin, Seite 190—192

Va = Diethart, Kramer, Sijpesteijn, Seite 33—37



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MIKA KAJAVA

HisPELLa and CIL XI 5270 from HisPELLum *

(Tafel 7—8)

In CIL XI 5270 (HisPELLum, Umbria) Bormann has published a honorific inscription erected by the *splendidissimus ordo colon(iae) HisPELLatium* to a female benefactor of the town. The monument was set up in the late 2nd or early 3rd century A. D. What interests us here about this dedication, is its beginning where the names of the honorand and her husband are recorded. From Bormann's commentary (in CIL, ad loc.) it appears that the surface of the stone was already in his time in a very bad condition, and he had obvious difficulties in deciphering the text („Descripsi quantum potui“)¹. The first four lines are printed in CIL as follows:

LICINIAE OFVIC
^RINAE · CI
HISPELLAE · GAVI
SATVRNINI · C · M · V ·

The extremely dilapidated state of the monument derives from the fact that it lay in the open air for many centuries and was therefore exposed to many kinds of damaging effects. The new place where it has been kept since 1986 (see note 1) has to some extent facilitated the study of the inscription, but the characters are so worn that a reliable reading may be achieved only by the aid of squeezes.

Neither Licinia (cf. the references below) nor Gavius (*PIR*² G 110) are otherwise attested, but as both belonged to the senatorial class, it seems appropriate to present some modifications to the traditional interpretation of the opening lines. In his edition Bormann thought that the names of the couple could be read in the following way („Initio fuisse crediderim“): *Licinia Q(uinti) ? f(iliae) Vic[t]orinae c(larissimae) [f(eminae)]*, *HisPELLae Gavi Saturnini c(larissimae) m(emoriae) v(iri)*. Here we should note that Bormann has put a comma before *HISPELLAE*, thus either connecting it with Saturninus' name or possibly regarding it as an indication of Licinia's home-town (in the name index to CIL XI *HisPELLa* is classified among the cognomina; note however that the index was accomplished only after Bormann's death). However, no explanation for the use of such a unique name was given. *HisPELLa* seems to have been somewhat a mystery to Dessau, too. In *PIR* L 191 he

* I am most grateful to prof. Luigi Sensi (Perugia) for his generous help in providing me with photographs of the inscription, and also for his valuable information concerning the history and actual state of the monument. For comments and discussion I also wish to thank Christer Bruun, Martti Nyman, Olli Salomies and Heikki Solin.

¹ The base, now preserved in the entrance hall of the Vecchio Palazzo Comunale di Spello, is executed in local limestone (cm 113 × 64 × 65; the epigraphic field measures 64 × 69 cms, the letters are roughly 4 cms in height).

presented Licinia under the entry ‚Licinia Vic[t]orina Q. f., clarissima femina‘ („sed pro CF in lapide lectum CI“). When commenting on *HISPELLAE*, he stated that „*Hispellae* vocabulum inter CI et nomen mariti interpositum, quo pertineat obscurum“. In 1926 the same perplexity was expressed by Miltner in RE XIII 500, nr. 203: „Ob das auf der Inschrift nach der Angabe *c(larissima) f(emina)* folgende Nomen *Hispella* als zweites Cognomen oder irgendwie anders aufzufassen ist, weiß ich nicht“. Petersen, *PIR*² L 278, registers Licinia’s name in the form ‚Licinia Vic[t]orina *Hispella*, Q. ? filia, *c(larissima) f(emina)*‘ („sed pro CF in lapide lectum est CI“). She has recently been followed by Raepsaet-Charlier, *PFOS* 497.

Now that it is possible to study the inscription in detail from excellent photographs (by L. Sensi), I can confirm Bormann’s reading² with only a few minor variants. After a very accurate and painstaking analysis it seems to me that Licinia’s father was a Gaius, in other words, she was *C. f.* (line 1). But a more crucial problem is the presence of the honorific predicate at the end of line 2 (the photographs of the squeeze clearly show that it was not *c. f.*, but *c. m. f.* instead³). A closer look at the nomenclature of the senatorial class reveals that this honorific title was regularly put after one’s full name. It is never documented as appearing between two different name elements of one and the same person⁴. In fact I previously thought that *CI* (as it is printed in CIL) could stand for something like *CI(audiae)*, and that she did not use the title *clarissima femina* at all. In the present case this would have been quite understandable because she was clearly recognized as a senatorial lady, being the wife of a *c. m. v.*, Gavius Saturninus. But the photographs cannot lie.

As has been stated above, the name *HISPELLAE* has usually been interpreted as Licinia’s second cognomen⁵. Admittedly, if it were a cognomen (*Hispellus*, *-a*), it would be a hapax, but nevertheless quite a plausible formation (*Hisp-ella* like *Marc-ella*). The stem of *Hispo* is *Hisp-*, but as the feminine form *Hisp-ulla* (generally regarded as deriving from *Hispo*) is also attested, we should be prepared to accept *Hisp-ella* as well. However, because Licinia’s name undoubtedly ends with *c. m. f.* (cf. above), *HISPELLAE* cannot be connected with it. As regards the possibility of “*Hispella*” being used as denoting Licinia’s origin (this may have been Bormann’s interpretation, cf. above), we should note that ethnics and geographical cognomina also preceded the predicate *c. f.* / *c. m. f.* and, what is more, one cannot possibly understand how the place name *Hispellum* could produce a feminine personal name in the form *Hispella*. It should be formed from the stem *Hispellat-* instead (cf. below). Moreover, the two names with *c. m. f.* and *c. m. v.* at the end of lines 2

² His comments on the first two lines were „cognovi fere“ (1) and „cognoscere videbar“ (2). Most of the epigraphic codices give ERINAE/ERINIAE (line 2 in., cf. e. g. the possibility of *Sev|erinae*, *Cel|erinae*, or the like), but the reading *Vic|torinae* is indisputable.

³ This is also confirmed by Luigi Sensi.

⁴ For the position of *c. f.* in senatorial women’s names, cf. e. g. W. Eck, *Epigr. ord. sen.* II (Tituli 5), Roma 1982, 541 (on cases where *c. f.* and *C. f.* might be confused). For the title itself, see recently M.-Th. Raepsaet-Charlier, *PFOS* I 8 with bibliography (esp. note 48).

⁵ Cf. however Bormann, who possibly connected *Hispella* with Saturninus’ name (see above). G. Barbieri, *L’albo senatorio da Settimio Severo a Carino*, Roma 1952, 354, nr. 2037, thought that *Hispella* is “verosimilmente un cognome ... che precede il gentilizio”. In the catalogue, however, his name is given in the form “Gavius Saturninus (*Hispella* ?)“.

and 4, respectively, produce a harmonious symmetry for the first four lines. Accordingly, *HISPELLAE* must belong to the husband's name, and it obviously refers to his connection with HisPELLum, perhaps indicating his *patria* (cf. below p. 139). At this point I would like to recall what Schulze, *ZGLE* 555, note 4, once wrote about this inscription: „Besonders merkwürdig finde ich XI 5270 (HisPELLum) *HisPELLae Gavi Saturnini*. Das sieht ja ganz so aus, als ob es in *HisPELLum* eine gens *HisPELLa* gegeben habe“. His statement is somewhat misleading because in the index (p. 611) he lists “n. HisPELLus”. The gentilicia deriving from the place name HisPELLum are *HisPELLas* (gen. -atis) and *HisPELLatius*, the feminine form being *HisPELLatia*⁶. It would not be easy to explain the emerging of an *ae*-ending genitive of *HisPELLas*. Thus the most plausible solution seems to be that *HisPELLae* is the genitive of an otherwise unattested masculine cognomen *HisPELLa*, a new exponent in the series of cognomina in -ella. There is indeed a very revealing parallel case which plainly points in this direction, viz. the name *Rubella*, documented from the Mevanian inscription CIL XI 5068: *C. Rubrius C. l. Hilario Rubella* (seen and checked by Bormann). Besides the masculine *Rubella* we also know the adjective *rūb-īdus* “reddish”, and this pair is perfectly comparable to that of *HisPELLa* : *hisp-īdus* “bristly, hairy”. The brand-new inverse index of Latin cognomina compiled by H. Solin and O. Salomies⁷ records ten masculine names of the -ella-type: *Afella*, *Atella*, *Capella*, *Columella*, *Dolabella*, *Fenestella*, *Libel(l)a*, *Ocella*, *Ofella* and *Rubella*. It is immediately apparent that most of these diminutives are formed from stems ending in -rō / rā- (cf. *afr-*, *atr-*, *capr-*, *dolabr-*, *fenestr-*, *libr-*, *rubr-*)⁸. At first sight this similarity would seem to suggest that *HisPELLa* belongs to the same group, i. e. that there would be a primitive **hisp(e)ro-* behind *HisPELLa* (in theory, the same could be true with *Ocella*, too: perhaps from the stem *ocr-*)⁹. The above-mentioned *Rubella* is also a derivative of *rubr-* (cf. *ruber*, -ra, -rum) and, moreover, the dialectal form *rūfus*, -a, -um (cf. Umbr. ‘*rufru*’) could well be compared with the indisputably reconstructed Osco-Umbrian **hispus*

⁶ Cf. Schulze, *ZGLE* 528. No other related gentilicia are recorded by Solin, Salomies in their *Repertorium nominum gentilium et cognominum Latinorum*, Hildesheim 1987, s. v., where by a simple accident (originally that of Schulze) the name “HisPELLus” is also registered. For the suffixe -ās, -ātis, see besides standard grammars e. g. A. Ernout, *Philologica* III (Études et commentaires 59), Paris 1965, 29 ff., and recently C. Kircher-Durand, *Les adjectifs dérivés de noms de lieux en latin*, Hommage à Jean Granarolo, Ann. fac. lettr. sc. hum. Nice 50 (1985) 176–179.

⁷ Cf. note 6.

⁸ As for *Afella*, it is to be put together with the Italic stem *Afr-* (cf. e. g. *Afrius*). *Atella* is of course not the name of the town used as a personal name: this kind of naming would be exceptional. It is rather to be regarded as a derivative of *atr-* (*Ater* is also a personal name, Kajanto LC 227). The formation of diminutives in -ello/a- from primitives in -ro/ā- has been well illuminated by G. K. Strodach, *Latin Diminutives in -ello/a- and -illo/a-*, Univ. of Pennsylvania 1933, 28 ff., 65 ff. (Language Dissertations 14).

⁹ The masculine cognomen *Ocella* has always been regarded as being a kind of by-form of *ocellus* (dimin. of *oculus* < IE *ōkʷelo-s*). We should, however, note that not one of the masculine names ending in -ella is formed in this way: there is no *Afellus*, *Atellus*, *Capellus* etc. in the background of *Afella*, *Atella*, *Capella* etc. (even *Ofella* is a diminutive of *offa*, and the cognomen *Ofellus* is a secondary formation after *Ofella*; cf. also *sacellum* which derives from *sacr-*, but *sacellus* is a diminutive of *saccus*, and likewise *Libella* comes from *libra*, but *Libellus* from *liber*; as for *capellus* [< *caper*], it is a much later formation than *capella* [< *capra*]). Moreover, *ocellus* is never found as a personal name, nor is *oculus*, but cf. e. g. *Feliculus* : *Felicellus*, *Masculus* : *Mascellus*, *Muriculus* : *Muricellus*, *Rusticulus* : *Rusticellus*. Of course, it may be true that *Ocella* was conceptualized as *Ocella* (like *oculus*), but in origin it may have been a derivative of *Ocr-*, which is well attested in such names as *Ocra*, *Ocrea*, *Ocratius* etc., cf. Schulze, *ZGLE* 201, 364, 534, and for instance the senatorial *Luscii Ocreae*.

(<IE *ǵhers-kʷos)¹⁰. Accordingly, we would have the following scheme: *Hisp-ella* : *hisp-idus* : **hisp-us* : **hispr-* / *Rub-ella* : *rub-idus* : *ruf-us* : *rubr-*. It is, however, to be noted that the *r*-ending stem of *rūb-* is already present in the IE **rudh-ró-*, where the Latin *b* is represented by the IE *dh*, whilst the *p* in *hisp-* is an Osco-Umbrian realization of the IE labiovelar *kʷ*. As there is no clear parallel evidence from other IE languages to suggest that a possible *ro*-ending stem of *hisp-* really existed in IE, it does not seem very plausible that the hypothetical **hispr-* could be deducted therefrom. If **hispr-* ever existed, it might be of later origin, perhaps a variant of **hisp-* by way of analogy to such a pair as *rubr-* : *rub-* (cf. also IE **skel(e)-p-* : Lat. *scalpr-* : Olcel. *half-r-*). Be this as it may, the name *Hispella* could of course be explained simply by referring to the very common and normal segmentation of a name after a given model: if there was *Rub-ella* (and *rub-idus*) or *Hisp-ulla* (and *hisp-idus*), it follows that *Hisp-ella* would be an equally acceptable name as well¹¹. In addition, the place name *Hispellum*¹² obviously belongs to the same family as well as the personal names *Hispo* and *Hispel(l)o* (attested in CIL XIII 6943 [Mogontiacum]: *L. Novellius T. f. Polia | Hispelo*¹³; the only parallel case seems to be *Mercello*, recorded by Solin, *Salomies, Index invers. s. v.*, but it was primarily a gentilicium with the variant *Mercellus*, fem. *Mercellia*, cf. Schulze, *ZGLE* 301). We could compare the whole *Hisp-* group with names beginning with *Cat-* (like *Cato* and *Catus*): even though different names in this category might have various derivations, the Romans probably segmented them all as derivatives of *Cat-*: *Cato* (the stem is *Caton-*, from which e. g. *Catoninus* etc.), *Cat-ullus* (at times regarded as a diminutive of *Cato*, cf. Kajanto, *LC* 250), *Cat-ulus* (from *Catus*), *Cat-ellus* (dimin. of *Catulus*) etc. The way names and single name elements were conceptualized by those who used them was of course a decisive factor when new derivations were coined.

It has been shown above that *Hispella* was one of Gavius Saturninus' cognomina. It is not absolutely sure whether he also had a praenomen on the inscription, but after a detailed study of the photographs I would be inclined to put a *Ç* before *HISPELLAE* (there seems to be as much space in the lefthand margin as there is before *LICINIAE* on line 1, and, what is more, the photographs of the squeeze show a curved stroke very much resembling the letter C). Therefore lines 1—4 are most probably to be read in the following way: *Ç. Licinia Ç. f. Vic[torinae] c(larissimae) m(emoriae) f(eminiae) | Ç. Hispellae Gavi | Saturnini c(larissimae) m(emoriae) v(iri)*. Thus the order of Saturninus' names would be "praen. — cogn. — gent. — cogn.". It seems quite obvious that this style represents the habit of omitting the first gentilicium from one's full name. However, the type "Ser. (Cornelius) Scipio Salvidienus Orfitus" (*PIR*² C 1446; cos. 110) is not comparable with our case,

¹⁰ Cf. e. g. J. F. Muller, *Altitalisches Wörterbuch*, Göttingen 1926, 128; Ernout, Meillet, *Dict. étym. de la langue latine*⁴, Paris 1959, 296; Walde, Hofmann, *Lat. etymol. Wörterbuch*⁴ I, Heidelberg 1966, s. v. *hircus*. Further, J. Pokorny, *Indogerm. etymol. Wörterbuch* I, Bern, München 1959, s. v. *ǵhers-*.

¹¹ For the coining of new diminutives on the analogy of already existing ones, cf. Strodach, (above note 8) 32f.

¹² On the name in ancient sources, cf. Bormann, CIL XI, in the Introduction to the *Hispellum*-section. For the history of *Hispellum* (Spello), see now also *Fragmenta Hispellatae Historiae*, ed. by M. and L. Sensi, *Boll. stor. della città di Foligno* 8 (1984 [1985]) 7—136 (CIL XI 5270 is mentioned on p. 85).

¹³ Cf. also the diploma CIL XVI 107 from Pannonia Inf. (tab. I, extrins. l. 9): *L. Versinius Aper Hispell()*, where Nesselhauf opted for *Hispell(o)* and regarded it as an ethnicon. In this function, however, one would instead expect the name *Hispellas*. Cf. also Kircher-Durand (above note 6) 176—179.

because *Scipio* is a most distinctive cognomen: it must have been clear for everyone that he was a (Cornelius). Name forms beginning with e. g. *Lentulus*, *Silanus* or the like belong to the same group. In the HisPELLian inscription, by contrast, the first gentilicium must have been intentionally suppressed because of its humble flavour (compare the style "M. Agrippa", where the gent. *Vipsanius* was deliberately dropped). As has been convincingly shown by R. Syme, this practice was at times adopted as a means of raising one's social prestige, or perhaps better, of concealing the ignobility of a certain name¹⁴. That Saturninus wanted to call himself by the gent. *Gavius* is quite understandable, because that illustrious name was well represented in the senatorial album of the Imperial period, especially in the 2nd century A. D. (cf. *PIR*² G 89 ff.). It might be that *Gavius* was inherited from the maternal side, as it was not uncommon that in the types "gent. — cogn. — gent. — cogn." and "gent. — gent. — cogn." the latter gentilicium came from the mother's family. Thus, in theory, Saturninus' maternal grandfather may have been called "Gavius", perhaps even "Gavius Saturninus".

In our case the personal name *HisPELLa* and the geographic context, i. e. the town where the dedication took place, clearly testify to Saturninus' connection with HisPELLum. Perhaps he, his father or the more remote ancestors were natives of that town. His wife, Licinia Victorina, must also have had a close relationship to HisPELLum, because otherwise her *singularis castitas* (lines 5/6) and *munificentia* towards the town (lines 7/8) would be inexplicable.

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¹⁴ R. Syme, *Imperator Caesar: A Study in Nomenclature*, *Historia* 7 (1958) 186 = *RP* I 375—376.



Kajava (Photo by L. Sensi)



Kajava (Photo by L. Sensi)