

Some Roman Slave-names. By F. F. BRUCE, M.A.

The value of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum* as a storehouse of Roman personal names has long been recognised. Among these the names of slaves form a distinct and important class. It was Professor Paul Kretschmer of Vienna who first directed my attention to the largely unexplored field of Roman slave-names and suggested that I might do for this subject what Dr. Maximilian Lambertz had done for Greek slave-names in *Die griechischen Sklavennamen* (Vienna, 1907).

As the field is wide, I have restricted myself chiefly to those volumes of the *C.I.L.* which cover Rome and the rest of Italy—viz. volumes V, VI, IX, X, XI, and XIV.

Slaves, as a rule, were not important people; only a few of them attained epigraphical immortality. But slaves were frequently emancipated, and we know to what heights of dignity many freedmen climbed in Imperial times. The inscriptions abound in names of freedmen. And to this fact we owe a great part of our knowledge of slave-names. For the freedman kept his old slave-name as his new *cognomen*, while he adopted his erstwhile master's *prænomen* and *nomen*. Most of the references in this article, therefore, are to *cognomina* of freedmen rather than to names of actual slaves.

Roman slave-names may be divided into a multitude of groups. In the earliest times the slave had no official name, any more than any other piece of his master's property. Marcus's house was *Marci domus* and Marcus's slave, likewise, was *Marci puer*, generally found in the form *Marcipor* because of the strong stress-accent on the first syllable of the compound. Some examples of this type of name are found also in later times, even as freedmen's *cognomina* (e.g. A. Cæcili A. 1. Olipor: VI 2247); and apparently the original significance of the formation was lost so completely sometimes that the slave-name in *-por* might have nothing to do with the master's *prænomen* (e.g. P. Cornelius P. 1. Gaipor: VI 30914). Examples of these names from the inscriptions are—

Gaipor: VI 30914 (see above).

Lucipor: X 8042.

Marpor: VI 6907 (from Marcipor).

Næpor: VI 9430 (from Gnæipor: for the loss of *g* cf. *nauus*, *nosco*. See Schulze, *Zur Geschichte lateinischer Eigennamen*, pp. 332n., 513).

Olipor: VI 2247 (see above); XI 1973 (i.e. Auli puer).

P(ubli)por: IX 2818.

With the increase in the number of slaves, distinctive names became necessary. The majority of slaves bore Greek names, partly, though not entirely, because of their Greek provenance. Most of the Latin slave-names are translated from or formed on the analogy of Greek ones. Rarely did a slave from a non-Greek and non-Latin speaking country retain his foreign name. Only a few names from

Symbius (for *συμβιω̄ν*): VI 34971 *bis*.

Syneros (for *συνερω̄ν*): VI 16378, 28160, 35478; IX 2128, 4588, 4866, 4918, 6293; X 4391, 5355, 5741; XI 4757; XIV 51, 3849.

Thallus (for *θάλλων*): V 824, 1408; VI 44, 395, 621, 975, 1912, 2080, 8699, 24027, 32375; IX 2901; X 1403 *bis*, 8339 (Tallus); XI 1927, 3206.

Thelus (for *θέλων*): XI 1270.

(b) *Present Feminine Active*

Anthusa (*ἀνθοῦσα*): V 1911; VI 5524, 6180, 9527, 12933, 16077, 22652, 23502, 24650, 26939, 27821, 33167, 37696, 38153 (Antusa); IX 5137; X 4598 (Antusa); XI 3745, 5851.

Arescusa (*ἀρέσκουσα*): VI 4653, 8171, 8912, 9050, 11182, 12211, 12317 (Areschusa), 13596, 13670, 15360, 19817, 20222, 21575, 21803, 27025, 37916, 38861; IX 161, 5254; X 2367, 2527; XI 1681, 1942, 3234; XIV 815.

Arethusa (*ἀρέθουσα*): VI 11207, 18591, 20378; XIV 358. (This is a participial form originally; but its use as a female slave-name, of course, is derived from the name of the well-known fountain-nymph.)

Chærusa (*χαίρουσα*): V 7013; VI 25319; X 6384 (Cærusa).

Cratusa (*κρατοῦσα*): VI 37437.

Epangellusa (*ἐπαγγέλλουσα*): VI 23898.

Lanthanusa (*λανθάνουσα*): VI 12167.

Mellusa (*μέλλουσα*): VI 21805.

Æcusa (*οἰκοῦσα*): VI 19043.

Pæzusa (*παίζουσα*): VI 29378.

Paschusa (*πάσχουσα*): VI 9941, 22754 (Pascusa), 24583 (Phaschusa); X 609 (Pascusa).

Pherusa (*φέρουσα*): VI 20173.

Philusa (*φιλοῦσα*): VI 7201, 11017, 20335, 29011, 33920; X 8227; XI 5894.

Phlegusa (*φλέγουσα*): VI 27524; X 2649.

Pithusa (*πείθουσα*): VI 8526, 14616, 20613, 23236.

Plecusa (*πλέκουσα*): V 890; VI 10001, 10002, 16988, 37830; XI 1370.

Pothusa (*ποθοῦσα*): VI 11807, 20331.

Prepusa (*πρέπουσα*): VI 6576, 19815, 20622, 37962; IX 3241; X 2890; XI 3233; XIV 475, 1443.

Spendusa (*σπένδουσα*): VI 74.

Symbiusa (*συμβιοῦσα*): VI 4162.

Sympaschusa (*συμπάσχουσα*): X 4162.

Symphherusa (*συμφέρουσα*): VI 11824, 12638, 14841, 16306 (Sumferusa), 16459, 20137, 25343, 25344, 27107 (Sypherusa), 33574; IX 4807 (Sumperusa); X 3641 (Symphærusa); XIV 4141.

Synerosa (*συνερω̄σα*): VI 6111 (Sunerosa), 27786 (Synerusa), 33543, 33544; XIV 396 (Synerusa).

Terpusa (*τέρπουσα*): V 7518; VI 29566; IX 231.

Philumene (*φιλουμένη*); in this form: VI 13663, 23303; IX 4920; XI 767. Other forms are—

Filumene: VI 2485.

Filumina: VI 28657; X 5876.

Philumena: VI 13841, 15959, 20755, 27249, 27497, 35736.

Philumina (the commonest spelling): V 2265, 7764; VI 5728, 5742, 7922, 11674, 14675, 21912, 22107 *bis*, 22384, 23378, 23954, 28734, 33089 *bis*; IX 1431, 3491, 3989, 5493, 6130; X 1154, 2246, 3970, 4174, 4277, 5458, 6045; XI 987; XIV 2182.

Pilumina: X 4251.

Thelomene (*θελομένη*): VI 7594.

(e) *Verbal Adjectives—Masculine*

Agapetus (*ἀγαπητός*): VI 15860, 24766, 38348.

Apolaustus (*ἀπολαυστός*): VI 975, 2318 *bis*, 10114, 10117, 37841.

Aratus (*ἄρατος*): VI 24853. (Compare for the meaning, "prayed for", the Hebrew *Saul, Samuel*.)

Auxetus (*αὐξητός*): VI 15580, 22291.

Boetus (*βοητός*—or does it stand for *βοηθός*?): VI 37506.

Chrestus (*χρηστός*): VI 668, 880, 975, 1929, 3555, 7460, 7846, 11707, 14058, 14433, 14805, 20770, 21531, 22837, 26157, 28324, 28659, 37672, 38735 (*Crestus*). (This is one of the many words meaning "useful" which were in regular use as slave-names. Compare *Onesimus* in the N.T., with the play on words, *Philemon* 11.)

Clitus (*κλειτός*): VI 11711.

Eglectus (*ἐκλεκτός*): VI 9098. (For the spelling, cf. *Egdechomene*, above.)

Eperastus (*ἐπέραστος*): VI 12816.

Epictetus (*ἐπίκτητος*): VI 551, 975, 12391, 13084, 13085, 13190, 15027, 15421, 23264, 29012, 29174 (*Aepictetus*), 35709.

Erastus (*ἐραστός*): VI 8518, 8875, 15728, 24776, 27452.

Glyptus (*γλυπτός*): VI 1815; XI 5056.

Graptus (*γραπτός*): VI 23087.

Heuretus (*εὐρετός*): VI 679, 9889.

Laletus (*λαλητός*): VI 6190.

Paradotus (*παραδοτός*): VI 975.

Perileptus (*περιλη(μ)πτός*): VI 27298.

Philetus (*φιλητός*): VI 574, 975 *bis*, 4894, 5303, 6549, 8582, 10089, 12348, 16125, 16151, 16279, 18162, 19891, 20075, 20189, 21407, 22279, 22876, 34227. In VI 21471 it is spelt *Filetus*.

Pistus (*πιστός*): VI 23418, 25785, 28958, 35254.

Prospectus (*προσδεκτός*): VI 1920.

Synthetus (*σύνθετος*): VI 1961.

Thaumastus (*θαυμαστός*): VI 27494.

Threptus (*θρεπτός*): VI 156 (Tr-), 975, 2334, 2374, 2466, 18969 (Trh-), 26399 (Tr-), 33770, 37589 (Tr-).

Xystus (*ξυστός*): VI 2555, 4479, 20848, 25500, 37401.

(2) ORDINAL NUMERALS, WITH DIMINUTIVE FORMS

(a) *Latin*

Prima: V 1044; VI 7794; IX 133; X 4286; XI 178; XIV 1247, etc.
 Primilla: VI 5410, 6620, 7697, 8442, 12342, 13844, 17652, 25299,
 25761, 33886, 34768, 38022; X 4125, 4808, 6155; XI 7825; XIV 1106,
 1305, 1317.

Primio: V 2246, 3777; VI 9069; IX 5801; X 7437; XI 1811, 4704,
 4798, 6126; XIV 2180.

Primula: V 2656, 3029, 8489; VI 5661.

Primulus: V 5521.

Primus: V 82; VI 7570; IX 463; XIV 255; etc.

Quarta: V 457; VI 14839; IX 1445; X 4589; XI 3705; etc.

Quartilla: VI 18060, 19306; IX 2832; XIV 3807, 3849.

Quartio: V 4436, 4503, 6897; VI 16448, 18685, 19927, 22993,
 24304, 26425, 33495, 37149; IX 4862; X 1403, 2776, 4934, 4986, 5247,
 5376, 6269; XI 5506, 6126.

Quartus: XIV 1521, etc.

Quinta: V 431; VI 9364; IX 2236; X 4976; XIV 4203; etc.

Quintio: VI 1025, 2171 (Quinctio), 5012, 24379, 25311, 26302,
 27207, 33704; X 947, 1327, 5372, 6269, 6502; XI 5442.

Quintus: V 4928; VI 13369; etc.

Secunda: V 2263; VI 5826; IX 671; X 487; XI 2656; XIV 358;
 etc.

Secundilla: VI 29268; IX 230.

Secundio: V 8110; VI 1964, 10335, 11906, 11907, 22368, 33263,
 36435, 38498; IX 3443; X 2511, 4279.

Secundus: V 600; VI 7861; IX 5125; X 202; XI 4382; XIV 4506;
 etc.

Septima: IX 6094.

Septimus: X 3446, 4249.

Septumus: VI 23681.

Sexta: VI 14444.

Sextia: XI 2482.

Sextio: VI 37850; IX 5388; XI 2375, 5403.

Sextus: IX 4157; X 3785, 5471; XI 3392.

Tertia: V 1884; VI 11632; IX 359; X 250; XI 1482; XIV 2187;
 etc.

Tertiolus: X 6092.

Tertius: V 163; VI 7450; IX 2515; X 910; XI 3768; XIV 1686.

Tertulla: V 2020, 2244, 5157; VI 6664, 8793, 18489, 20699;
 IX 3187 *bis*, 4351, 4470.

Tertullia: X 4135.

Tertullus: V 5487; X 6393; XI 4105.

(b) *Greek*

Deuter: VI 35066, 36414; IX 2611, 8847.

Deutera: VI 7849, 9489, 14044, 19539, 37430; XI 5724.

Deuterus: VI 34021.

Isargyrus: VI 3258, 7829, 21528, 23675, 26720, 33289, 33290, 33291, 33325.

Isochrysus: V 3926; X 2179; XI 3083, 3274.

Lychnis (which is also the name of a plant): VI 8010 (Luc-), 8053 (Lyc-), 12198, 29107, 33733 (Luc-), 35933; IX 1610, 2026 (Lucinis); X 6502; XI 1462.

Margaris: VI 21492; X 2708.

Margarita: X 3358; XIV 2726.

Marmoris: VI 16660; IX 887.

Zmaragdus: VI 975, 12492, 18257, 24454; IX 1924, 4543.

Izmaragdus: VI 156.

Izmaragdis: VI 26010.

Ismaragdis: VI 37250.

These forms with prothetic vowel illustrate the popular pronunciation which has been perpetuated in the Romance languages: e.g. Span. Portug. *esmeralda*, Fr. *émeraude*.

(5) NAMES OF ANIMALS, WITH DERIVATIVES

Aper: VI 13337; IX 2881; XI 1539.

Apicula: V 2195; VI 5702, 28812, 35879; IX 876; X 4131, 5215; XI 1030. (The diminutive was the popular form of the word, whence Span. *abeja*, Fr. *abeille*.)

Apiolus: V 2523.

Apis: VI 9185. (While this is probably just the word for "bee", it might conceivably be the name of the Egyptian calf-god.)

Apra: V 1296.

Apricus: V 6865.

Aprio: V 82, 3056; IX 5850.

Aquila: X 2096.

Aries: VI 9632, 13487, 21799, 33813.

Asellio: V 5500; XI 6700.

Capella: V 6361, 6364; VI 27170, 37916 (*Capela*).

Caper: VI 25978.

Capra: XI 1218.

Capria (= *Caprea*): IX 2499.

Capriola (= *Capreola*): VI 24582; X 2571.

Capriolus (= *Capreolus*): IX 5538; X 8059; XI 6229.

Caprius: IX 3185.

Catulus: VI 14152.

Ceruola: V 586; VI 8977 *bis*.

Chelido: V 2575 (C-), 2594 (C-); VI 1892, 4830, 5778 (*Chelidon*), 7017 (*Chilido*), 7883, 11779, 11988, 13503, 16780, 17644, 21528 (C-), 21801, 26254, 26720 (C-), 28748, 28962, 29560, 33289, 33290; IX 4919; X 3488, 5095, 5493; XI 3991, 6061, 7337, 7707.

Cycnus: V 162; VI 17516.

Damale: V 2618.

Damalis: VI 14529, 18603, 22131, 23223, 23559; XIV 473.

Sorex: V 5496; X814; XI 1221.
 Tauriscus: VI 34473, 34493.
 Taurus: VI 9011, 24796; X 1734.
 Vitulus: V 7255; VI 27743; X 5547.
 Ursa: V 369, 422; VI 28098.
 Ursilla: VI 14073.
 Ursio: V 8247; IX 351, 2965; X 4962; XI 6238.
 Ursula: V 1144, 1339; IX 3058.
 Ursulus: VI 21877; X 3940.
 Ursus: V 5859.

In this list, names of Greek and Latin origin are about equally common.

(6) NAMES OF PLANTS AND PARTS OF PLANTS, WITH DERIVATIVES

Abies: XIV 5182.
 Acanthus: V 964, 3120; IX 4809.
 Amaracus: VI 978.
 Amarantus (Amaranthus): see under 1 (g).
 Amarantina: V 1725.
 Ampelis: VI 3158, 21723, 23962 (Ampælis); IX 2790.
 Ampelium: X 3738.
 Anthedo: VI 12035. (But perhaps = Melissa; or may be derived from Anthedon in Boeotia.)
 Anthemis: V 133.
 Anthimus: V 475; VI 28700.
 Anthio: VI 24769 (Antio).
 Anthis: VI 4405, 14211, 14212, 21528, 22137, 23675, 26720, 29713, 33289, 33290, 33291, 35296.
 Anthullus: VI 14616 (Antullus).
 Anthus: V 3484, 4101; VI 1829, 2170, 2171, 5785, 9491, 12033, 12166, 12246, 13844, 14680, 17501, 17941, 19832, 21228, 21646, 23992, 24768, 26947, 27137, 27160, 27162, 27163, 27810, 28603, 37582, 38049; IX 4366, 4818, 5017; X 692, 1403, 6638 *bis*, 7300; XI 4109, 6700, 7530, 7812; XIV 394, 412, 1112, 1127, 3539.
 Arbuscula: VI 10374, 12214, 12692, 14297, 21369, 21653, 21836, 23523, 23524, 25603, 25631, 28348 (Arbuscla), 28720; 34730, 39622; IX 1905, 3394, 3635, 3944; X 2171, 4245, 4927, 5972; XI 3050, 3482, 3748, 5450, 5852 *bis*, 6561; XIV 1587, 3363.
 Blaste: VI 26865.
 Blastus: V 612; VI 5729, 25878, 29144, etc.; IX 5880; XIV 2743.
 Botryo: X 1403 (Botrio).
 Botrys: VI 22047, 34287 (Botrus); XIV 1138 (Botrus).
 Calamus: VI 14151, 14954, 29531; XI 1953. (This may be, of course, the name of a secretary, derived from the secondary sense "reed-pen". It might, again, be the name of one who played on the reed-pipe; or, perhaps, of someone whose bodily proportions reminded the beholder of a reed.)

Myrtale: VI 8818, 12589, 15010, 16752, 22541, 25606; IX 3448, 4788; XI 528, 4914, 6578.

Myrtis: V 358; VI 11383 (Mu-), 11799 (Mu-), 21757, 22713, 24187, 24882 (Mu-), 33325 (Mu-), 39551.

Narcissus: V 6641; VI 44, 2511, 5773, 9035, 9044, 9138, 17141, 27601; X 908, 1151, 2558, 2661, 4917, 4944, 8042; XI 1650, 6843; XIV 2727, 4900. (From the mythological character rather than the flower.)

Nardis: X 3968.

Nardus: X 1076.

Oenanthe: VI 29376.

Palmesis: XIV 255.

Petale: V 2123. (A feminine formed from *πέταλον*.)

Phaselus: X 6493.

Phyllis: V 229, 1415 (Pyllis).

Pinus: VI 16239, 24731, 33393, 33395, 37303.

Platane: VI 26126.

Platanus: IX 5336.

Rhoda: VI 25428 (Roda); XI 7709 (Roda).

Rhodine: VI 6657 (Ro-), 23776; IX 3985 (Ro-); X 2407; XIV 2148.

Rhodinus: X 4734; XIV 358.

Rhodium: V 7811.

Rhodo: VI 23795 (Ro-), 23964, 24732; IX 4830; XI 6860.

Rhodon: IX 2365.

Stacte: VI 5322, 7635, 20690, 23362, 29412, 32678, 33660.

Staphyla: VI 21704; XI 3982.

Staphyle: VI 16458; IX 6245.

Staphylus: XI 3347.

Viola: V 1462; VI 1819, 8055, 17933, 20917, 24777, 35886, 37660; IX 375, 1783, 4793, 4816.

Violus: XI 4724.

Viticia: VI 14391.

Vitacula: IX 1774, 1897.

Urtica: VI 22200, 26132 (Hurtica).

Urticia: XI 5455.

In this list by far the greater number of names are Greek.

(7) SLAVE-NAMES IN *-io*

In this class several groups of varying origin have fallen together, including three groups in particular—

(a) Latin diminutives and intimate names in *-io* (e.g. Buccio— from Bucca; Amabio—from Amabilis; etc.)

(b) Greek diminutives and intimate names in *-ίων*.

(c) Greek diminutives in *-ιον*, mainly names of women. These appear in Latin with the ending *-ium* as well. Thus *Φιλημάτιον* takes in Latin the forms *Philematium* and (as here) *Philematio*.

- Eleusio: VI 28819 (written FLEVSIO; perhaps for ELEVSIS).
 Ephesio: VI 6050.
 Epistolio: VI 22381, 28649.
 Eucalio: VI 39053.
 Eudamion: VI 975.
 Euphemio: VI 6655, 7804.
 Felicio: VI 538, 5854, 11536, 18362, 20731, 21085, 21412, 37513;
 IX 4335, 4351; X 1403 *decies*, 4295, 7844; XI 437, 4455, 6700 *ter*.
 Galatio: VI 35556.
 Gallio: V 313, 1832, 2958; VI 16081.
 Gymnasio: VI 27587, 34695 *bis* (Gum-).
 Hedylio: VI 20491, 33142 (Hedulio), 34497.
 Helenio: VI 44.
 Heraclio: VI 18078, 20049. (Compare Heracleo: VI 29487,
 Herculeo: X 557.)
 Hermadio: VI 8447, 10718, 15904 (-ion), 28322, 29215.
 Hesychio: VI 34998.
 Hibricio: VI 24400.
 Hilario: V 236, 1255, 1333, 1786, 2621, 3624, 8252; VI 975,
 4281, 5787, 6744, 12836, 16658, 20497, 23567, 24407, 28739, 29468,
 33968, 37814; IX 4079; X 3982, 5248.
 Homuncio: V 4233 (Omuncio); X 2162, 8269.
 Iconio: VI 7221, 7725, 10449, 27001, 33548, 35975 (all women).
 Isio: VI 4962, 7192, 22834, 25347; X 7403.
 Iucundio: V 108, 8489.
 Iuvenio: VI 2127.
 Labrio: IX 1445.
 Lucrio: V 6845, 8825; VI 155, 975, 1812, 2363, 5157, 5771, 7786,
 7877, 11320, 12317, 15786, 17639, 19682, 20114, 21026, 22610,
 23076, 24479, 24896, 27735, 29619, 34020, 35972, 37642, 38667,
 IX 5204 *bis*, 5623, 5673, 6079, 6250; X 1327, 1403, 1744, 1941,
 3789, 3974, 4005, 4181, 6122, 8056; XI 1147, 4912, 6700, 7602,
 7856; XIV 1305, 4141, 4948, 5018.
 Lusario: XIV 717.
 Malchio: VI 1939, 4963, 9170, 9933, 20972, 22082, 23690, 25177,
 26167, 31183, 35669, 35972 (-cio), 36127, 36218, 37171, 38965;
 IX 4416; XI 5974; XIV 358, 428, 717, 2144.
 Marcio: VI 975 (-ion), 19087, 33837.
 Mascellio: V 5536.
 Miccalio: VI 23159.
 Miccio: VI 4528.
 Minio: VI 33837.
 Moschario: VI 35633.
 Narion: VI 165.
 Nicario: VI 39039 (woman).
 Nicasio: VI 14609, 27197 (-ion).
 Nicebio: VI 34280.
 Offellio: VI 19538.

Telesphorio: VI 7582.

Terio: X 1302.

Thermutario: VI 4169.

Treptio (for Threptio): VI 12402.

Trophimio: VI 8155, 38147.

Turpio: V 2569; VI 26556, 28037; XI 767, 6867.

Ver(g)ilio: XI 4493.

Vernio: IX 2190; X 1403.

V(i)rilio: VI 11732.

Virillio: XI 3953. (These two refer to the same person.)

Vitalio: VI 693, 3553.

Unio: XIV 2605.

Upilio: VI 26326.

Uranio: VI 19116, 27838, 37671.

Ursio: V 8247; IX 351, 2965; X 4962; XI 6238.

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