The various explanations, that had been proposed up to 1842, were collected by Mr. Wellbeloved in his *Eboracum*, and are given in my " Britanno-Roman Inscriptions " in an extract from that work. To these I there added Mr. Kenrick's recent interpretation of GVBER as *Gubernator*, scil. pilot or steersman, "having charge of the vessels, by means of which the legion communicated with places on the Ouse, or the rivers that fall into it." The only suggestions, which I offered, were—the reading of the first line, as MAT·AFLIA·GAV, *i.e. Matribus Afliabus Gavadiis*, (see Henzen, nn. 5929, 5937), and the reading of the second line, as M·MINV·NANDE, instead of M·MINV·MVDE or M·MINV·ANDE, which had been proposed by others—with the remark that I regarded Mr. Kenrick's explana- tion of GUBER· as more satisfactory than any of which I was aware. I indicated, however, that I was not satisfied that the correct reading had been found. I have therefore occasionally made other attempts, and now submit the result of these efforts as more satisfactory than the explanations that have hitherto been proposed. As to the first line, I adhere to the reading which I suggested, MAT· AFLIA·GAV, as the most probable of which I am aware; although it has since occurred to me that the last letters may have been CA or CAM· for *Campestribus*. The second line I would read also as be- fore—M·MINV·NANDE, but instead of taking *Nande* for the name of a place, I would separate the letters thus, NAN·DE. GVBER seems to me to be used in the same sense, as it is found in the *Fasti Antiatini*, ed. Henzen, n. 6445, on which[*] that able Epigraphist re- marks : [GVBER·] "*Ita scriptum pro* gibber, *qui ut* pumilio (n. 5411,) *in familiis nobilium colebatur, ut ludicro ejus spectaculo delec- taretur.*" My view then is that this altar was erected by the hunch- back dwarf of the sixth legion, called by the soldiers in fun, from his size, *Minutius*[†] *Nanus*;[‡] and hence we may explain the unusual

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[*] Mommsen, however, takes GVBER in that passage for *gubernator*, for which, he ob- serves, it is often placed.

[†] Similar applications of names were not uncommon amongst the Romans. It is well known that some of the *cognomina* were derived from personal characteristics, and we are not without examples of *nomina* given in jest, *e. gr. Censorinus*, as we learn from Trebellius *Pollio, Triginta Tyranni*, was called *Claudius*, with reference to his lameness, *Scurrarum joco*.

[‡] The practice of having *pumiliones* or *nani* may be illustrated from Suetonius, *Tiberius*, c. 61:—*Interrogatum eum subito et clare a quodam* nano, *adstante mensæ inter copreas;* Juvenal, viii. 32· Nanum *cujusdam Atlanta vocamus;* and Lampridius, *Alexander Severus*, 34.—Nanos et Nanas, *et moriones populo donavit.* In addition to these, already cited by Facciolati, see Pliny, vii. 16; Suetonius, *Augustus*, 43; Propertius, iv. 8, 41; and compare Xiphilinus, lxvii. 8; Horace, *Sat.* ii. 3, 308; and Statius, *Silv.* i. 6, 57.

It may be that NAN was used in jest, as if it were the abbreviation of a tribe, *i.e., Marcus Minutius Nania* tribu.