

collyrium is not *HOFSUM*, as he gives it, but apparently *PHIOEBUM*. At all events there is a P, which he has omitted, before the H; and the two medial letters, which he read FS, are seemingly EB. Such is the conclusion to which the examination of the lettering of the cast itself forces me; and what is much more important, because affording far stronger evidence than mine, Mr. Akerman reads this inscription in the same way. I may add that (as I am informed by the same gentleman,) the word is copied and written as *PHIOEBUM*, in the several notices contained in the minute-books of the Antiquarian Society, and to which I have already referred; and Gough's *p* always given as Q.

Still, with all these emendations, I confess myself quite at a loss to decipher, satisfactorily, the inscription. The spelling of all the inscriptions on this stamp is executed very carelessly,—as in *crsomaclinum* for *crysmelinum*; *thalaser* for *thalasser*; and possibly the term *QUECVMO* may be a mis-spelling, by the engraver, for *LEUCOMA*. If so, the inscription would stand as

T JUNIANI PHIOEBUM AD LU
ECOMA DELICTA A MEDICIS.

“The Phoebum of T. Junianus for Leucoma, esteemed by physicians.”

I am not aware that any of the old authors have described a collyrium under the name of *PHIOEBUM*. But it looks like one of those high-sounding titles which the oculists were so fond of selecting and assuming, and we find described in their works collyria with such semi-astronomical appellations, as *Sol*, *Aster*, *Lumen*, *Phos*, &c.

I shall venture only one more remark, viz: the possibility of the term being *PHORBIUM* and not *PHIOEBUM*. ‘The Phorbium,’ observes Galen, ‘possesses attenuating, attractive, and discutient powers. They apply its seeds mixed with honey to Leucoma, and it is believed to have the power of extracting spicula of wood.’

The obvious objections to Dr. Simpson’s interpretation are:—

- 1st. That we should have had *delictum* and not *delicta*.
- 2nd. That the participles *dilecta* or *delecta* are confused with *delicta*.
- 3rd. That his interpretation requires us to regard *quecumo* as a misspelling for *leucoma*.

As the circumstances seem to warrant a resort to conjecture, I would suggest *PHOEDVM* for *PHIOEBVM*, and *QVECVMQ* for *QVECVMO*; and read the whole legend thus:—

T. IVNIANI PHOEDVM ADQV
ECVMQ DELICTA A MEDICIS.

i. e. T. IVNIANI PHOEDVM AD QVECVMQ DELICTA A MEDICIS.

It will be observed that the only conjectural variations are D for B and Q for O.

PHOEDVM, I regard as the Latinized form of *ΦΟΙΔΟΝ* or *ΦΩΙΑΟΝ*, derived from *φῶξω*, whence *φωίδες* or *φωίδες*, used by Aristotle, Probl. 38, 7, Aristophanes, Plut. 535, and Hippocrates, *Æcon.* p. 404. Ed. Foes.