I herewith return Mr. Hanauer's letter and note, which you were
good enough to communicate to me. No. 10 appears to me to have been
read rightly by him, except that the name of the father is really Simon.
It is the well-known Jewish name, here written Σοίμωνος (genitive)
instead of Σιμώνος, the result of the so frequent iotaism, οι = ι. In
No. 19, line 5, we must read Θανουμ = Thanoum, a transcription of the
very common Jewish name Thanum (with the regular suppression of
the Hebrew guttural k, as in Ναοῦμ = Nahum, in inscription No. 10).
All these names, Ευσας (= Εσας), Βεναμ = Benam, Πουβη, Θανουμ, Σιμων
have been already met with in the epitaphs from Joppa, published in my
“Archaeol. Res.,” vol. ii, pp. 133, 137, 143. Mr. Hanauer seems to me
to have been misled by the apparent connection of Θανουμ with Θανευ,
which has led him to a distinctly improbable historical deduction. If
Σωλα is here a proper name, there is nothing to prove that the famous
Roman of that name is concerned, the name is sufficiently common in
the Semitic and Jewish onomastics. To give an opinion upon the real
reading of lines 3 and 4 of inscription I, it would be necessary to have the
squeezes before one.

A CUNEIFORM TABLET, SARCOPHAGUS, AND CIPPUS
WITH INSCRIPTION, IN THE MUSEUM AT BEIRUT.

By Professor H. Porter, Syrian Protestant College, Beirut.

I enclose a photograph of a small cuneiform tablet from the
College Museum of Archaeology. It came to me from Mount
Lebanon, but I know nothing of where it was found or the history
of it. It may perchance be worth publishing. The tablet is
inscribed on one side only.

Also I send the photograph of a marble sarcophagus recently
discovered here and now in the Museum of the College. Its
length is 2·23 metres, and width 0·92 metre. The height to
the summit of the gable is 1·11 metres, the cover itself being
0·40 metre. It is probably Roman, as Beirut was a Roman
colony and has various remains of colonial times. There is no
inscription on the sarcophagus, but there was found in the same
excavation a cippus of limestone (of which I enclose photograph
also), height 1·07 metres, and breadth of base 0·46 metre. The
face of one side has a Latin inscription, of which I enclose a copy:—

I * O * M * H
CONSERVATORI
L * MVCIMEIVS
FORTVNATVS
DECIMINVS
V * L * A * In

J(ovi) O(ptimo) M(aximo) H(eliopolitano). CONSERVATORI. L(ucius)
MUCIMEIVS(anus?). FORTUNATUS. DEC(imanus)? V(otum) L(ibens)
A(nimo) N(uncupat).

In the third line the letters seem to be as I have traced them, but Mucimeius is a strange form, and I have ventured to read Mucianus, a well-known name. In the fifth line the letters as traced mean nothing, and I think must have been a mistake of the artist for Deciminus, and I have thus transcribed it. The letters in the last line are fairly plain except the last which is hopelessly defaced. One would expect an S, but what traces there are forbid such a restoration, and so I have supposed the single upright stroke to be the remains of an N and read Nuncupat, though I have never come across it in an inscription before. Thus amended the inscription would read: “Lucius Mucianus the fortunate tithe gatherer gladly makes a vow, to Jupiter Optimus Maximus of Heliopolis.”

Decimanus might mean soldier of the tenth cohort, thus connecting this person with one of the legions which we know were stationed at Beirut in colonial times. The worship of the Heliopolitan Jupiter was widespread, as may be inferred from an inscription on a marble tablet dedicated to him at Puteoli (see “Am. Jour. Archæology,” vol. ii, 1898, p. 374).

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NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF MODERN COLONISATION IN PALESTINE.

By the Rev. J. E. Hanauer.

The story of the colonisation of Southern Palestine during the last half century is a tale to be told with “weeping and with laughter,” as it contains many details, interesting, romantic,