from this humiliation ; hence the stubborn struggle for these rights during the time from Augustus to Claudius, which left important traces in the literature of the period (Philo, Josephus, III. Macc.). As to the papyri, we hear the echo of this struggle in *W. Chr.*, 58 and in a fragment of the "Acts of Alexandrian Martyrs" [1] ; in both documents the connection between civic rights and the payment of laographia is most clearly emphasized.

3. *The "Jewish Tax"*.—The Jewish tax (Ἰουδαῖον τέλεσμα) was imposed on all the Jews of the Roman Empire by Vespasian after 70 A. D., this tax taking the place of the "half-Shekel" (didrachmon) paid until then by every adult Jew to the Temple in Jerusalem (*B. Jud.*, VII, 218 ; Dio Cassius, 66, 7, 2). We obtain some knowledge of this tax from a papyrus of Arsinoe in Fayum (*W. Chr.*, 67) and from 62 ostraca from Edfu. The following facts, based on the interpretation of these documents, may be learned :

1. The edict of Vespasian concerning the Jewish tax was issued in his third year (according to the Roman reckoning), which is his fourth year, with a difference of two months, according to the Egyptian calendar. Yet the collection of the tax was reckoned from the day of the destruction of the Temple, *i. e.* from the second year of Vespasian, and the Jews were therefore obliged to pay arrears for two years (*O. E.*, 40 ; *S. B.*, 5814).

2. The tax is called "the price of two dinars of the Jews" (τιμὴ τῶν δηναρίων δύο Ἰουδαίων) until the 8th year of Domitian ; from his 12th year on [2] the name is "the Jewish Tax". The first name emphasizes the connection between the new tax and the didrachmon : it was Jupiter Capitolinus (whose temple was consumed by fire in 69 A. D.) who now enjoyed the revenues of the Jewish God. The change in name denotes a corresponding change in politics, namely, the income from the Jewish tax was no longer used for the benefit of Jupiter. It may be that Domitian

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[1] W. Uxkull-Gyllenband, *Stzb. Preuss. Akad.*, Phil.-Hist. Klasse, 28, 1930, S. 664 ff.

[2] Between the 8th and 12th year of Domitian no ostraca from Edfu have been preserved.