Sic was the course of these events; and following it, Vespasian was declared emperor by the senate also, and Titus and Domitian were given the title of Caesars. The consular office was assumed by Vespasian and Titus while the former was in Egypt and the latter in Palestine. Now portraits and dreams had come to Vespasian pointing to the sovereignty long beforehand. Thus, as he was eating dinner on his country estate, where most of his time was spent, an ox approached him, knelt down and placed his head beneath his feet. On another occasion, when he was also eating, a dog dropped a human hand under the table. And a conspicuous cypress tree, which had been uprooted and overthrown by a violent wind, stood upright again on the following day by its own power and continued to flourish. From a dream he learned that when Nero Caesar should lose a tooth, he himself should be emperor. This prophecy about the tooth became a reality on the following day; and Nero himself in his dreams once thought that he had brought the car of Jupiter to Vespasian's house. These portents needed interpretation; but not so the saying of a Jew named Josephus: he, having earlier been captured by

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1 According to Suetonius, Vesp. 5 (cf. Tac. Hist. ii. 74), the tree fell sine ullo et temperante. Boethius proposed to remove Xiphilinus' statement by supplying the negative particle before "violent."
Vespasian and imprisoned, laughed and said: “YOU AB. TO MAY IMPRISON ME NOW, BUT A YEAR FROM NOW, WHEN YOU HAVE BECOME EMPEROR, YOU WILL RELEASE ME.”

Thus Vespasian, like some others, had been born for the throne. While he was still absent in Egypt, Mucianus administered all the details of government with the help of Domitian. For Mucianus, who claimed that he had bestowed the sovereignty upon Vespasian, pleased himself greatly upon his honours, and especially because he was called brother by him, and had authority to transact any business that he wished without the emperor’s express direction, and could issue written orders by merely adding the other’s name. And for this purpose he wore a ring, that had been sent him so that he might impress the imperial seal upon documents requiring authorisation. In fact, he and Domitian gave governments and procuratorships to many and appointed prefect after prefect and even consuls. In short, they acted in every way so much like absolute rulers that Vespasian once sent the following message to Domitian: “I thank you, my son, for permitting me to hold office and that you have not yet dethroned me.”

Now Mucianus was gathering countless sums into the public treasury with the greatest eagerness from every possible quarter, thereby relieving Vespasian of the censure which such a proceeding entailed. He was for ever declaring that money was the sinew of sovereignty; and in accordance with this belief he not only constantly urged Vespasian to raise

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1 οι Ζωνες, om. VC.
2 το ξαφνικα ζα-καλεσα Ζωνες, om. VC.
3 θεος Ζωνες, θεος V, θεος C (ο πτωτος deleted).
4 Δομιτιανος Ζων (δομιτιανος), δομιτιανος VC.
funds from every source, but also continued from the A.D. 70 very first to collect money himself, thus providing large amounts for the empire and at the same time acquiring large amounts for himself.

In the province of Germany various uprisings against the Romans took place that are not worth being mentioned by me, at least,1 but there was one incident that must occasion surprise. A certain Julius Sabinus, one of the foremost of the Lingones, collected by his own efforts an independent force of his own and took the name of Caesar, claiming to be a descendant of Julius Caesar. Upon being defeated in several engagements he led to a country estate, where he descended into a subterranean vault beneath a monument, which he first burned to the ground. His parasites thought that he had perished in the flames, but as a matter of fact he remained hidden there with his wife for nine years and had two sons by her. The troubles in Germany were settled by Cæsaris in the course of numerous battles, in one of which so great a multitude of Romans and barbarians was slain that the river flowing near by was dammed up by the bodies of the fallen.

Domitian became afraid of his father because of what he himself had done and far more because of what he had intended to do; for he was quite ambitious in the time in the neighbourhood of the Alban Mount and devoted himself to his passion for Domitia, the daughter of Corbulus. He had taken her away from her husband, Lucius Lania Aelius, and at this time had her for one of his mistresses, though later he married her.

1 As Boissier points out, this relative clause is probably due to Xiphilinus.
Titus, who had been assigned to the war against A.D. 70
the Jews, undertook to win them over by certain
representations and promises; but, as they would
not yield, he now proceeded to wage war upon them.
The first battles he fought were indecisive; then
he got the upper hand and proceeded to besiege
Jerusalem. This city had three walls, including the
one that surrounded the temple. The Romans,
accordingly, heaped up mounds against the outer
wall, brought up their engines, joined battle with
all who saluted forth to fight and repulsed them,
and with their slings and arrows kept back all the
defenders of the wall; for they had many slingers
and bowmen that had been sent by some of the
barbarian kings. The Jews also were assisted by
many of their countrymen from the region round
about and by many who professed the same religion,
not only from the Roman empire but also from
beyond the Euphrates; and these, also, kept harri-
ing missiles and stones with no little force on
account of their higher position, some being flung
by the hand and some hurled by means of engines.
They also made sallies both night and day, whenever
occasion offered, set fire to the siege engines,
slew many of their assailants, and undermined the
Romans' mounds by removing the earth through
tunnels driven under the wall. As for the battering-
rams, sometimes they threw ropes around them and
broke them off, sometimes they pulled them up with
hooks, and again they used thick planks fastened
together and strengthened with iron, which they
let down in front of the wall and thus checked
all the blows of still others. But the Romans
suffered most hardship from the lack of water; for
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their supply was of poor quality and had to be procured from a distance. The Jews found in their underground passages a source of strength; for they had these tunnels dug from inside the city and extending out under the walls to distant points in the country, and going out through them, they would attack the Romans' water-carriers and harass any scattered detachments. But Titus stopped up all those passages.

In the course of these operations many on both sides were wounded and killed. Titus himself was struck on the left shoulder by a stone, and as a result of this accident that arm was always weaker. In time, however, the Romans sealed the outside wall, and then, pitching their camp between this and the second circuit, proceeded to assault the latter. But here they found the conditions of fighting different; for now that all the besieged had retired behind the second wall, its defence proved an easier matter because its circuit was shorter. Titus therefore once more made a proclamation offering them immunity. But even then they held out, and those of them that were taken captive or deserted kept secretly destroying the Romans' water supply and slaying any troops that they could isolate and cut off from the rest; hence Titus would no longer receive any Jewish deserters. Meanwhile some of the Romans, too, becoming disheartened, as often happens in a protracted siege, and suspecting, furthermore, that the city was really impregnable, as was commonly reported, went over to the other side. The Jews, even though they were short of food, treated these recruits kindly, in order to be able to show that there were deserters to their side also.

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5. When those terrors had passed, and pressing on, Titus, finding they had been thrown by one accident, set his soldiers to work, and found that the Jews had made an underground passage, which Titus had stopped up.
6 Διακοτίντος δὲ τοῦ τείχους μυχανείς κατὰ μὲν τὸῦτο οὖν ὅποι δὲ ἐκλίσατο, ἀλλὰ καὶ πᾶν πολλὸν ἐσβασμένον ἀπὸ τοῦτον ἔμπροσθε τετράποντες ἐκακούσαντες δὲ τῶν τοῖς ἄγγισεν ἀποδομάτων ἀσία καὶ ἐκ τούτου τοῦ Ρωμαίων περιτέρων, καὶ τοῦ κύκλου καταλύσατο, προεθεῖν καθῆκοντες, τὸ τε τείχος ἐλεύθηται καὶ τὸν περίβολον τὸν περὶ τὸ τείχος ἥκοντες συγκατέδειξαν, καὶ ἀνεφράξεν ἡ ἔνθιν ἡ ἐπὶ τῶν
2 νεῶν τοῖς Ῥωμαίοις, ὦ μὴ καὶ παραχώρημα διὰ τὸ δευτεραιμονήση σαράπημα, ἀλλ' ἐ' ε' ποτε, τοῦ Τίτου σφίξει κατασφυγόσωμα, εἶδος προ- χηρώσατο. καὶ αὐτοὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς πολὺ προ- βιωτέρων, ὠσπερ τε ἔργαυν τὸ πρῶτο τῇ προχωρήσαν, οἱ δὲ βοηθεῖον ἐν τῷ ἅγιαιμον, οἱ δ' ἔρημος ἐν αὐτῷ
3 τῷ μεγάρῳ τετειμένοι. καὶ οὐ προτερῶν γε ἐνεχθήσαν, καίστε ὀλίγοπερ πρὸς πόλλῃ πλέονες μαχήσαντες, πρῶτον πεπράξαντα τοῦ τοῦ νεῶν τούτου ἔθελον εἰς αὐτοὶ μὴ ξένοις σφίγνῃ τῶν Ῥωμαίων περιτέρων, οἱ δὲ ἀλλὶς ἄνθρωποι, ἀλλὰ ἐναυτῶν κατεχόμενοι, οἱ δὲ εἰς τῷ πύρ ἐνεχθήσαν. καὶ ἔδεικεν πίσι μὲν, μάλιστα δὲ ἐκείνοις, οἷς ἦν ἄνθρωπος ἀλλὰ καὶ νεῖπε καὶ συντρίβειν εὐδαιμονεῖ τε εἰς, ἢτι τῷ ναῷ εὐσκε- 7 ἄλλῳ τε καὶ ἐλέφθη τοῦ εἰς τε καὶ

1 epistulae ad flavianum.
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Barboras, their leader; and he was the only one to be executed in connexion with the triumphal celebration.

Thus was Jerusalem destroyed on the very day of Saturn, the day which even now the Jews reverence most. From that time forth it was ordered that the Jews who continued to observe their ancestral customs should pay an annual tribute of two denarii to Jupiter Capitolinus. In consequence of this success both generals received the title of imperator, but neither got that of Judaeus, although all the other honours that were fitting on the occasion of so magnificent a victory, including triumphal arches, were voted to them.

Following Vespasian's entry into Alexandria the Nile overflowed, having in one day risen a palm higher than usual; such an occurrence, it was said, had taken place only once before. Vespasian himself healed two persons, one having a withered hand, the other being blind, who had come to him because of a vision seen in dreams; he cured the one by stepping on his hand and the other by spitting upon his eyes. Yet, though Heaven was thus magnifying him, the Alexandrians, far from delighting in his presence, detested him so heartily that they would not even touch him.

For they had expected to receive from him some great reward because they had been the first to make him emperor, but instead of securing anything they had additional contributions levied upon them. In the first place, he collected large

2 Simon Bar Giora.

34 ἐπιτομής B. Steph., τόσον ἐπιτομέως ΥΣ. 271
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