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TABERNAE CIRCA FORUM: the shops that were built in the forum valley when that became the market-place for the settlements on the surrounding hills, assigned by tradition to the first Tarquin (Liv. i. 35; Dionys. iii. 67). They belonged to the state and were let out to tenants (Non. 532; Liv. xxvi. 27; xxvii. 11; xl. 51; Fest. 230; Dig. xviii. 1. 32), who were at first dealers in provisions, especially butchers, from whom the shops were called *tabernae lanienae*. At some time before 310 B.C. these occupants were banished to the district north of the forum (see *MACELLUM*) and the shops turned over to money changers and bankers, *argentarii* (Varro ap. Non. 532: hoc intervallo primum forensis dignitas crevit atque ex tabernis lanienis argentariae factae). In 310 B.C. an attempt was made at decoration of the forum, and gilded shields were distributed to the domini argentariarum (Liv. ix. 40. 16). *Argentariae* appears to have been the designation of these *tabernae* until 210 B.C. when some at least of them were burned (Liv. xxvi. 27. 2: eodem tempore septem tabernae quae postea quinque, et argentariae quae nunc novae appellantur, arsere). In the following year the septem tabernae were rebuilt (Liv. xxvii. 11. 16), and those called *novae* afterwards, but for any definite notice of this building we are dependent on a corrupt passage in Festus (230). This, with Müller's emendations, reads: <plebeias tabernas no>vas vocant nos<tra aetate, ut dicunt V tabern>as<sup>1</sup> esse et septem feruntur olim fuisse. plebeias appellamus a genere magistratus. eas enim faciendas curaverunt M. Iunius Brutus Q. Oppius aediles plebis.<sup>2</sup> This emendation is probably sufficiently correct to warrant the conclusion that the shops burned in 210 and not rebuilt in 209 were reerected before 192 and called *plebeiae* or *novae*. The first name, however, if it ever existed, did not come into common use, for we find no other instance of its occurrence. These *tabernae* were called *argentariae novae* (Liv. xl. 51. 5), or *novae* alone (Liv. iii. 48. 5). Once the old designation, *argentariae* alone, is used (Vitr. v. 1. 1). In distinction from the *novae*, others were called *veteres*, a name that occurs first in Plautus (Curc. 480: sub veteribus ibi sunt qui dant quique accipiunt faenore). Thenceforth sub *veteribus* (Plin. NH xxxv. 25, 113) and sub *novis* (Varro, LL vi. 59; Cic. de or. ii. 266) were regularly used to designate the opposite sides of the forum, as is proved by a passage in Cicero (Acad. pr. ii. 70: ut ii qui

<sup>1</sup> Lindsay omits this supplement.

<sup>2</sup> They were praetors in 192 (Liv. xxxv. 23. 24).