C. IULIUS SPARTIATICUS,
“FIRST OF THE ACHAEANS”
A CORRECTION

IN A RECENT ARTICLE, discussing the imperial cult instituted by the Achaean League in the mid-1st century after Christ, I made misguided use of the words *primo Achaeon* in line 9 of a Latin inscription from Corinth (*Corinth* VIII, ii, no. 68) to argue that the honorand, C. Iulius Spartiaticus of Sparta, was the first high priest of the cult. In fact, *primus Achaeon*, or πρῶτος Ἀχαιῶν, was no more or less than an honorific title bestowed by the League, comparable to πρῶτος Ἔλληνων, a title conferred by the koinon of Asia, and so *primo Achaeon* cannot be taken, as I thought, with the immediately preceding (lines 8–9) *archieri domus Aug. [in] perpetuum*. The chronological priority of Spartiaticus as high priest, however, is conclusively established by the Athenian inscription (Dittenberger, *SIG* 790) describing him (lines 2–7) as ἀρχιερέα Θεῶν Σεβαστῶν καὶ γένους Σεβαστῶν ἐκ τοῦ κοινοῦ τῆς | Ἀχαίας διὰ βίου πρῶτον τῶν ἀπ' ἀλώνος: by another route my point is made. The view of Dittenberger, that these Θεοὶ Σεβαστοί are the first two emperors to become officially divi and that the title therefore indicates a date after the deification of the second (Claudius) in 54, would suit my argument but is not, unfortunately, conclusive.

ANTONY J. SPAWFORTH

Newcastle-upon-Tyne University
Department of Classics
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RU
United Kingdom


3 Veyne, *loc. cit.*


*Hesperia* 64.2, 1995