

Book IX.  
Title XXI.

As to the Visellian law.  
(Ad legem Viselliam.)

9.21.1. Emperors Diocletian and Maximian and the Caesars to Bacchus.

The Visellian law punishes freedmen, if they attempt to usurp honors or titles belonging to free-born persons, or attempt to ace as decurion, unless they have the right of the gold ring granted by the emperor, for then they obtain, while they live, not the (true) status of a free-born person, but the image thereof and they may then, without peril, perform the duties of free-born persons. 1. But a freedmen who declares himself free-born may not alone be sued civilly, in connection with the civic work which he performs, but he may also be accused criminally under the Visellian law. If he meddles in the curia, a fine and infamy is inflicted upon him. But there is no doubt that they are bound to perform the personal duties which becomes such men, in the native city of their patron. Promulgated at Antioch February 11 (300 ?).