

Nbn. 659 — This text does not seem to have attracted much research interest in the past. I became interested in it because it allegedly contains the first reference to *kaspu ša ginnu*, which I would interpret as the name of the Persian coins, the so-called Croeseids and sigloi. There are three references to the use of this kind of silver during the reign of Cyrus and at least 130 more from the reign of Darius. One wonders what kind of silver this unique reference under Nabonidus could refer to. The date of the tablet is, however, broken and only MU 12 has remained, without the name of the ruler. It is unclear why Strassmaier opted for Nabonidus. The only way to try to guess the date is to rely on prosopography but unfortunately all the names given in the text are without patronymics and belong to the most common types (Arad-Bēl, Ardija, Buļtāja etc). Nevertheless, a conclusion can be reached. All the people named in our tablet do occur in texts dated to the Achaemenid period as well, and they are not mentioned together in any other tablet dated to Nabonidus. However, most of them occur together once more, this time in a tablet dated to Darius 15th year (Dar. 414). Therefore, there can be little doubt that tablet Nbn. 659 was wrongly attributed to Nabonidus and belongs to Darius 12th year.

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