

Six Papyri from the Museum of Antiquities at Cairo *

During a stay in Egypt in September 1974 we studied a number of papyri kept in the Museum of Antiquities at Cairo and summarily described by B. P. Grenfell and A. S. Hunt¹. The six texts² published here have not been selected because of their great importance, but rather to make their contents available to anyone interested in this field.

1

S. B. 14 12000

Crocodilopolis 9 × 9.5 cm. Second century B.C.
P. Cairo Inv. No. 10374

Παρά Πετεύριος.
διεθέντος μου δι-

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¹ *Service des Antiquités de l'Égypte. Catalogue général des Antiquités Égyptiennes du Musée du Caire. Nos. 10001-10869. Greek Papyri* by B. P. GRENFELL and A. S. HUNT (reprint Amsterdam, 1972).

² The texts have been gummed down and it is impossible to say what, if anything, was on the other sides.

ἂ τῆς σῆς σπουδῆς
 ὑπάρξει σοι εἰς στέ-
 5 φανον χαλκοῦ τάλαντα
 πέντε, (γίνεται) (τάλαντα) ε.
 εὐτύχει.

Translation :

From Peteuris. If I am released through your efforts there will be for you as a reward five talents of copper, total 5 tal. Farewell.

P. Grenf. I 41 and P. Cairo Goodspeed 5 are similar notes from Peteuris.

U. WILCKEN, *Archiv* II, 1903, pp. 578f. has given a very attractive interpretation of the above texts. Στέφανος has nothing to do with the *aurum coronarium* (on this subject see H. C. YOUTIE, *Scriptiunculae* II, p. 838, footnote 86 and the literature cited there) but it has the meaning of "reward".

2

S. B. M. 11001

Crocodylpolis

10.1 × 10.5 cm.

12.5.129 B.C.

P. Cairo Inv. No. 10377

6 Ἔτους μα Φαρμοῦθι κα. ἀπέδοτο
 Παχνοῦβις Τορσονοῦτος Πέρσης
 τὴν ὑπάρχουσαν αὐτῶι γῆν ἐντός
 περιστάσει Παθύ(ρεως) ἥς μέτρα (ἀρούρης) εἰς
 10 ἥς αἰ γεινναίαι δεδήλωνται

διὰ τῆς συγγρα(φῆς) ἦν ἔωνῆσατο
 Θράσων καὶ Ἄρειος καὶ Πτολεμαῖος
 καὶ Ἀσκληπιάδης χαλκοῦ (δραχμῶν) Δ.

Translation :

Year 41, Pharmuthi 21. Pachnubis, son of Torsnus, Persian has sold the land which belongs to him in the neighbourhood of Pathyris of which the measurements are 1/16 of an arura and of which the neighbours are as indicated in the deed of sale. The buyers are Thrason and Areius and Ptolemaeus and Asclepiades at (a price of) 4.000 copper drachmas.

The above text is an abstract of a contract of sale, constituting the first column of the document. See, for instance, UPZ II 181 (plate no. 8 in E. BOSWINKEL-P. J. SIJPESTEIJN, *Greek Papyri*, Amsterdam, 1968).

Above line 6 of the papyrus there are five washed out lines. With the exception of the day-number, line 1 is identical with line 6. At the end of line 4 can still be deciphered Πεπεροῆρις, and in line 5 Πατῆρος. The other lines are so thoroughly deleted that no words are any longer discernable.

Notes :

7) Παχνοῦβις Τορσνοῦτος Πέρσης: not mentioned in the survey of Πέρσαι τῆς ἐπιγονῆς, given by P. W. PESTMAN, *A proposito dei documenti di Pathyris, II*, *Aegyptus* XLIII, 1963, pp. 29 ff.

Τορσνοῦτος: this proper name is also found in SB V 7597,8.

11-13) ἔωνῆσατο: singular, although there are a number of buyers; cf. KÜHNER-GERTH, I, p. 79.

Hermopolite nome (?) 8.3 × 8.4 cm. Third century A.D.

P. Cairo Inv. No. 10585

Traces

- / Εύβουλίων
 / Σιλβανός Πετώτος Ἀρτέμιτος
 / Λῶϊς Ἑρμαίου
 5 / Κελεῦθις Ψίτος
 / Σίρις Σόιτος
 / Πεκῦσις ἀπὸ Ἰβίωνος
 / Πατήρις Σιλβανοῦ
 / Ἑρμῖνος Ὠροῦ
 10 / Πόλλων ἀπὸ Πανίσκ(ου)
 / Πόλλων ἀπὸ Ἰσιδώρου
 / Συραῖ . []ω . []

5 Ψίτος 8 Πατήρις

The purpose of this list of names (in most cases the name of a person followed by the name of his father) can no longer be determined. The entries are ticked off by a heavy downward stroke at the left of the name (cf. P. Princ. I, Introduction, p. XIV).

Notes :

3) This is the only instance of the name of the mother also being mentioned.

Fragment of ancient papyrus with several lines of handwritten text in a cursive script. The fragment is heavily damaged, with several large holes and irregular edges. The text is mostly illegible due to the damage and fading.

P. Cairo inv. 10374

Fragment of ancient papyrus with several lines of handwritten text in a cursive script. The fragment is heavily damaged, with several large holes and irregular edges. The text is mostly illegible due to the damage and fading.

P. Cairo inv. 10377

Fragment of ancient papyrus with hieroglyphic text, showing several lines of writing. The fragment is heavily damaged and stained, with significant portions missing, particularly in the center and bottom. The hieroglyphs are arranged in approximately 10 horizontal lines, though many are obscured by the damage. The fragment is oriented vertically on the page.

P. Cairo inv. 10694

Fragment of a papyrus scroll with several lines of ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs. The text is written in a cursive style and is partially obscured by a large, irregular hole in the center. The fragment is dark and shows signs of significant wear and tear, with frayed edges and some discoloration.

5) Ψίτος : a proper name Ψίτος or Ψίς is unknown (cf., however, the proper names Ψῆς, Ψείς). It is possible that under the influence of iotacism the scribe wrote Ψίτος instead of Ψῆτος ; cf. P. Rend. Harris 93 column II (published in the Appendix, pp. 109 f.), where Ψῆτος could be the genitive of the proper name Ψῆς.

7) ἀπό Ἰβίωνος : cf. lines 10 and 11. As ἀπό indicates the place of origin, we must assume that in these three cases the place where the person in question lived was given as a distinguishing mark. We know of a χωρίον Ἰβίωνος and of a χωρίον Πανίσκου in the Arsinoite nome, and of a κώμη Ἰσιδώρου in the Hermopolite nome.

12) Συραι. : in PSI VII 831,1 the proper name Συραίνα occurs. Instead of a σ, it would be possible to read an ο.

4

G. B. 14. 12003

Provenance unknown 10.4 × 7.7 cm. Third century A.D.
P. Cairo Inv. No. 10435

Αἴας Λογ'γίνω τῷ υἱῷ

χαίρειν.

ἔγραψά σοι ἄλλοτε περὶ

τῶν ἐριδίων καὶ οὐκ ἔ-

5 πεμψάς μοι αὐτά. δὸς αὐ-

τὰ Σαραπάμμωνι 'αὐτά' καὶ

ψωμία καὶ εἶπε Εὐτύ-

χη ὅτι τίς σε ἐσύλησαι

καὶ πέμψον μοι φάσιν.

10 τοσαυτάκις γὰρ ἔγραψα
 περὶ τούτου. ἐρώσθαι
 [σε εὐχομ]αι. πασα..
 []. σικλ.

8 ἐσύλησε 11 ἐρώσθαι

Translation :

Aias to his son Longinus, greetings. At an other occasion I have written to you about the fleeces but you did not send them to me. Give them to Sarapammon and (also) the morsels and say to Eutyches : "Who plundered you ?" and send me information since I have written you so many times about him. I pray that you be well. — — —

After the greeting-formula the addresser added something else, impossible to decipher due to the mutilation of the papyrus.

As so often with letters, we must assume that Longinus knew what Aias was talking about, but for us the situation is far from clear.

In line 8 it is also possible not to accentuate τις, τούτου in line 11 might be neuter.

5

S. B. 14 12000

Hermopolite nome (?) 14 × 5.6 cm. Fourth century A.D.
 P. Cairo Inv. No. 10694

Θη]βαῖδος

]ς χαίρειν.

τῷ κυρίῳ μου

]δεόντως ἄνδρα

5]προέταξεν αὐτὸν

]ἡ ἱεροῦν τὸ προσ-

]. ἡ τὸν προειρη-

[μένον]προς μετὰ προσ-

10 α]γ'γελείαν αὐτῷ

]. [. . .]στα[

Although the text is complete at the top, the bottom, and the right-hand side, it is not clear what this text is about. At the left-hand side at least half of the text is missing. In all probability we are dealing with a petition.

6

S. B. 16. 17005

Andromachis 15.5 × 26.2 cm. Fourth century A.D.

P. Cairo Inv. No. 10432

Φαμενώθ // ιβ".

κώμης Ἄνδρομαχίδως δι(ὰ) Μέλα(νος) ἐπιτρόπου
χρυσίου νομ(ισμάτια) δύο μόνα. Ῥωμανὸς ζυ(γοστάτης).

ιε ὁμοίως νομισμάτια δύο καὶ μυριάδας τρισχιλίας ἑκατὸν
τριάκοντα ἕξ,

5 νομ(ισμάτια) β καὶ (δηναρίων μυριάδες) Γρλς μόνον. Ἡλείας

καὶ Ῥωμανός. Ἑρμείας σ(εσ)η(μείωμαι).

ὁμοίως μυριάδας τρισχιλίας [πεντακο]σίας, (δηναρίων μυ-
ριάδες) Γφ μόνα. Ἑρμείας σ(εσ)η(μείωμαι).

ις' ὁμοίως χρυσίου νομισμάτων ἔν καὶ μυριάδας τρισχιλίας,
νομισμάτων) α καὶ (δηναρίων μυριάδες) Γ μόνον.

Ἡλείας καὶ Ῥωμανός. Ἑρμείας σ(εσ)η(μείωμαι).

ιη'' ὁμοίως χρυσίου νομισμάτων δύο καὶ μυριάδας δισχιλίας δια-
κοσίας πενήκοντα

νομ(ισμάτων) L
(δηναρίων 10
μυριάδες) Απς

χρ(υσίου) νομισμάτων) β καὶ (δηναρίων μυριάδες)

Βσν μόν(α). Ἡλείας καὶ Ῥωμανός δι' ἔμοῦ

Ἑρμεία βοηθοῦ σ(εσ)η(μείωνται).

κγ'' ὁμοίως χρυσίου νομισμάτων δύο, χρ(υσίου) νομισμάτων) β
μόνον. Ἡλείας καὶ Ῥωμανός. Ἑρμείας σ(εσ)η(μείω-
μαι).

2 Ἄνδρομαχίδος 3 δύο

Translation :

Phamenoth 12. From the village of Andromachis through Melas the overseer two gold solidi only. Romanus public weigher. 15. Likewise two solidi and three thousand hundred thirty six myriads, 2 solidi and 3.136 myriads of denarii only. Eleias and Romanus. I, Hermeias, have signed. Likewise three thousand five hundred myriads, 3.500 myriads of denarii only. I, Hermeias, have signed. 16. Likewise one gold solidus and three thousand myriads, 1 solidus and 3.000 myriads of denarii only. Eleias and Romanus. I, Hermeias, have signed. 18. Likewise two gold solidi and two thousand two hundred and

fifty myriads, 2 gold solidi and 2.550 myriads of denarii only. Eleias and Romanus have signed through Hermeias their assistant. 23. Likewise two gold solidi, 2 gold solidi only. Eleias and Romanus. I, Hermeias, have signed.

In margine : $\frac{1}{2}$ solidus, 1086 myriads of denarii.

The above papyrus contains a survey of the payments made by the village of Andromachis between the 12th and the 23rd of the month of Phamenoth. The officials charged with collecting the amounts are Eleias and Romanus, who sign (except on the 12th) through their assistant Hermeias (cf. line 10). Melas makes the payments for the village.

We cannot ascertain why the payments — of varying amounts — were made.

The papyrus is complete.

Notes :

2) Ἀνδρομαχίδως cf. A. CALDERINI, *Dizionario geografici dell'Egitto*, I, 2, pp. 35f.

3) ζυ(γοστάτης) : cf. L. C. WEST - A. C. JOHNSON, *Currency in Roman and Byzantine Egypt*, Princeton, 1944, pp. 190 f.

5) (μυριάδες δηναρίων) : also in lines 6,7 and 10 (twice). For the symbol, see the article "Siglae" in PW-RE, Bd. II a (Bilabel). In our papyrus the symbol lacks the horizontal stroke through the χ : χη.

10) The words added in margine are written by the same hand. They may represent a second payment made on the 18th (cf. line 6), or they might give an amount which has to be added to the amount already paid on the 18th.

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