



TYC H E

Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte Papyrologie und Epigraphik

Herausgegeben von

Gerhard Dobesch, Hermann Harrauer
Peter Siewert und Ekkehard Weber

Band 4, 1989

1989





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Papyrologie und Epigraphik**

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Herausgegeben von:

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INHALT

Guido Bastianini (Milano) e Claudio Gallazzi (Milano), Ancora sull'epigrafe di Tebtynis (Tafel 1, 2)	1
Gheorghe Ceausescu (Bukarest), <i>Vespasianus, princeps in melius mutatus</i>	3
Francesca Cenerini (Bologna), Veleia — la dedica pubblica <i>Nymphis et Viribus Augustis</i> (Tafel 3)	17
Angelos Chaniotis (Heidelberg), Eine spätantike Inschrift aus dem kretischen Lyttos (Tafel 4)	25
Thomas Corsten (Köln), Zur Gründung von Prusa ad Olympon	33
Gerhard Dobesch (Wien), Zur Einwanderung der Kelten in Oberitalien. Aus der Geschichte der keltischen Wanderungen im 6. und 5. Jh. v. Chr.	35
Jean-Luc Fournet (Strasbourg), Un reçu d'impôt hermapolite (Tafel 5)	87
Claudio Gallazzi (Milano) e Guido Bastianini (Milano), Ancora sull'epigrafe di Tebtynis (Tafel 1, 2)	1
Lindsay G. H. Hall (Oxford), Remarks on the Law of Ostracism	91
Ulrike Horak (Wien), Πινουρίων μουσικός und Βίκτωρ Τάραξ (Tafel 6)	101
Julian Krüger (Berlin), Die Badeanlagen von Oxyrhynchos — eine historisch-terminologische Untersuchung	109
Bernhard Palme (Wien), Eine Quittung für <i>annona militaris</i> aus dem Hermonthites (Tafel 7)	119
Bernhard Palme (Wien), Zu den Unterabteilungen des Quartiers Ἄγοραί in Theben	125
Renate Pillinger (Wien), Ein Bischofsgrab mit Psalmzitat in Stara Zagora (Bulgarien)? (Tafel 8, 9)	131
Walter Scheidel (Wien), Zur Lohnarbeit bei Columella	139
Heikki Solin (Helsinki), Urnen und Inschriften. Erwägungen zu einem neuen Corpus römischer Urnen (Tafel 10–12)	147
Gerd Stumpf (München) und Gerhard Thür (München), Sechs Todesurteile und zwei plattierte Hemidrachmen aus Dyme (Tafel 13)	171
Gerhard Thür (München) und Gerd Stumpf (München), Sechs Todesurteile und zwei plattierte Hemidrachmen aus Dyme (Tafel 13)	171
John Whitehorne (University of Queensland), Papyri from the Michigan Collection (Tafel 14 – 16)	185
Gerhard Wirth (Bonn), Alexander, Kassander und andere Zeitgenossen. Erwägungen zum Problem ihrer Selbstdarstellung	193
Józef Wolski (Krakau), Die gesellschaftliche und politische Stellung der großen parthischen Familien	221

Klaas A. Worp (Santpoort), <i>Kaisertitulaturen in Papyri aus dem Zeitalter Diokletians</i>	229
Bemerkungen zu Papyri II (Korr. Tyche 21–27)	233
Buchbesprechungen	
Luciana Aigner Foresti: P. Liverani, <i>Municipium Augustum Veiens</i> , Roma 1987	239
Luciana Aigner Foresti: A. Bosio, A. Pugnetti, <i>Le tombe di Cerveteri</i> , Modena 1986	240
Luciana Aigner Foresti: M. Bonghi Jovino, <i>Gli Etruschi di Tarquinia</i> , Modena 1986	240
Luciana Aigner Foresti: <i>Tarquinia, scavi e prospettive</i> , Milano 1987	243
Luciana Aigner Foresti: F. Buranelli, <i>La tomba François di Vulci</i> , Roma 1987	244
Gerhard Dobesch: Michael Wörrle, <i>Stadt und Fest im kaiserzeitlichen Kleinasien</i> , München 1988	245
Gerhard Dobesch: Nadia Berti, <i>La guerra di Cesare contro Pompeo</i> , Milano 1988	246
Gerhard Dobesch: Raphaela Drexhage, <i>Untersuchungen zum römischen Osthandel</i> , Bonn 1988	247
Gerhard Dobesch: Pierre Cabanes, <i>Les illyriens de Bardylis à Genthios (IV^e – II^e siècles a. J.-C.)</i> , Paris 1988	247
Gerhard Dobesch: Ursula Ortmann, <i>Cicero, Brutus und Octavian — Republikaner und Caesarianer</i> , Bonn 1988	247
Gerhard Dobesch: Bernhard Goldmann, <i>Einheitlichkeit und Eigenständigkeit der Historia Romana des Appian</i> , Hildesheim, Zürich, New York 1988	248
Gerhard Dobesch: Jochen Bleicken, <i>Geschichte der römischen Republik</i> , 3., überarb. Aufl., München 1988	249
Gerhard Dobesch: Werner Dahlheim, <i>Geschichte der römischen Kaiserzeit</i> , 2., überarb. Aufl., München 1989	249
Gerhard Dobesch: Karl Dietrich Bracher, <i>Verfall und Fortschritt im Denken der frühen römischen Kaiserzeit</i> , Wien, Köln, Graz 1987	250
Gerhard Dobesch: <i>Studien zur römischen Wirtschaftsgesetzgebung. Die Lebensmittelversorgung</i> , Stuttgart 1988	250
Gerhard Dobesch: Dorit Schön, <i>Orientalische Kulte im römischen Österreich</i> , Wien, Köln, Graz 1988	251
Gerhard Dobesch: Csanád Bálint, <i>Die Archäologie der Steppe</i> , Wien, Köln 1989	252
Gerhard Dobesch: <i>I Cristiani e l'Impero nel IV secolo. Colloquio sul Cristianesimo nel mondo antico</i> , Macerata 1988	252
Johannes Kramer: E. Trapp, J. Diethart, G. Fatouros, A. Steiner, W. Hörandner, <i>Studien zur byzantinischen Lexikographie</i> , Wien 1988	253
Indices: Johannes Diethart	257

JOHN WHITEHORNE

Papyri from the Michigan Collection*

(Tafel 14—16)

1. Petition to the Acting Strategus

P.Mich. inv. 3267

Bacchias

12.5 × 17.5 cm 205—214 (after 31 January or 1 February)

Among the papyri purchased from the collection of Maurice Nahman in 1925 and given to the University of Michigan in October 1926 by Messrs O. and R. H. Webber of Detroit.

A petition to the royal scribe and acting strategus Monimus Gemellus (here for the first time in the latter capacity) from Orsenuphis son of Sisois, about a burglary and theft by persons unknown. The back is blank.

The first 14 lines of the text are complete but the foot of the papyrus, which was repaired in modern times with three unrelated scraps in different third century hands, is broken from left to right and is very fragmentary. The bottom part of the wide right hand margin continues for some 2 cm below where the writing breaks off but shows no further traces of ink. Although this makes it appear that only one or two lines might be missing from the foot of the petition, it is much more likely that the closing lines which we expect in this type of document, giving the date of the petition, did not extend as far to the right as the body of the text. Consequently they have left no trace at the right hand edge of the papyrus.

A list of petitions of the Roman and Byzantine periods relating to theft is given by A. Lukaszewicz, JJP 19 (1983) 112—119; recent addenda are P.Oxy. XLIX 3467 (A. D. 98), P.Münch. III 73 (A. D. 150) and 74 (A. D. 158), P.Oxy. L 3561 (A. D. 165), BGU XV 2461 (A. D. 174) and 2459 = P.Turner 42 (A. D. iii), P. Harris II 200 (A. D. 236), and P.Oxy. L 3586 (A. D. v).

- 1 Μονίμῳ Γεμέλλῳ βασ(ιλικῶ) γραμματεῖ Ἄρσι(νοίτου)
- 2 Ἑρ(ακλείδου) μερίδ(ος) διαδεχ(ομένῳ) (καὶ) τὴν
- 3 στρ(ατηγίαν) τῆς αὐτῆς μερίδ(ος)
- 4 παρὰ Ὀρσενύφεως Σισόιτος
- 5 ἀπὸ κόμης Βακχιάδος.
- 6 νυκτὶ τῇ φερούσῃ εἰς τὴν ε
- 7 τοῦ ὄντος μηνὸς Μεχεῖρ ἐπελ-
- 8 θόντες τινὲς ληστρικῶ
- 9 τρόπῳ ἐξ ὑπερβατῶν διὰ

* I am most grateful to Professor L. Koenen who offered me these texts for publication.

10 τῆς ἀλλῆς, εἰς ἣν οἰκῶ
 11 οἰκίαν ἐν τῇ προκειμένῃ
 12 κώμῃ, καὶ ὑπαρῦξαντες
 13 τὴν οἰκίαν ἐβάστασαν
 14 πάντα τὰ ἐν αὐτῇ ἀποκείμε-
 15 γα. [ᾄθε]ν ἐπιδίδωμι αὐτὸ
 16 τοῦτο φ[α]νερό[ν] ποιῶν [
 17 πρ[ὸς τὸ] . . []θον δ .[. .]ξι
 18] . [] μέν]ειν μ[οι τὸν
 19 λόγον] . []

4. Ὁρσενούφωος, Σισοῖτος 12. ὑπορῦξαντες

“To Monimus Gemellus, royal scribe of the Heracleides’ meris of the Arsinoite, acting also in the strategia of the same nome, from Orsenuphis son of Sisois from the village of Bacchias. On the night before the 6th of the present month of Mecheir unknown persons, having made a thievish incursion from a point where ingress was possible via the courtyard into the house I inhabit in the aforementioned village and having undermined the house, carried off all the goods stored therein. Wherefore I submit this petition, making this matter known to you so that ... [and the guilty] be held accountable to me ...”

1 This is the first attestation of Monimus Gemellus as acting strategus. The form of address indicates that he is an interim strategus, pending the appointment of a new strategus by the prefect, and not a temporary substitute: see M. H. Eliassen-de Kat, *Actes XVe Congrès Int. Pap. IV* 116—123. Gemellus is known as royal scribe of the Heracleides’ meris from 28 August 207 to 27 October 212, and the termini for his tenure of the office are currently November 204 and January/February 215: see G. Bastianini and J. Whitehorne, *Strategi and Royal Scribes of Roman Egypt*, Firenze 1987, 125. Of these dates we may exclude Mecheir 208 and 210—212 since strategi-in-office are known for these times. Of the remainder (Mecheir 205—207, 209, 213—214), the most likely may be 206 since this is perhaps the year when Hierax, strategus of the merides of Themistes and Polemon, is also found serving as interim strategus of the Heracleides’ meris: see Bastianini, Whitehorne, *Strategi and Royal Scribes*, 36.

4 Ὁρσενούφωος Σισοῖτος. Names found only in Bacchias, Karanis and Theadelphia (it is perhaps doubtful whether P.Münch. III 146, where Ὁρσενούφωος also occurs, is from Soknopaeou Nesus like the document on the back (P.Münch. 147): see ed. pr., introd., p. 189). The petitioner may be related to the Sisois son of Orsenuphis attested as priest of Soknobraisis at Bacchias between 171 and 204 (P.Bacch., *passim*), or a descendant of the Orsenuphis son of Orsenuphis and grandson of Sisois in P.Münch. III 136. 1—2 (early ii A. D.), also from the village.

9 ἐξ ὑπερβατῶν. Cf. P.Ryl. II 138. 16 and n.

15—16 For the formula cf. BGU I 275. 14—16, P.Lund 13. 19—23, P.Tebt. II 333. 12—14, SB VI 9203. 15—20, all of this period.

16 There is a large blot of ink at the line end. It is unclear whether σοι was written, as in P.Tebt. II 333. 12, or omitted, as in SB VI 9203. 16.

17] . [. Perhaps]ετ[. The letters are so cursively made in this part of the text that, without a context, any transcription is little more than guesswork.

]θον. It is clear that there was another phrase in this line which is not present in the parallels. Perhaps βοη]θον, as part of a request that an investigation be made by one of the assistants of the strategus.

18 The expected continuation is πρὸς τὸ μένειν μοι τὸν λόγον πρὸς τοὺς φανησομένους αἰτίους: cf. P.Tebt. II 333. 13—15, SB VI 9203. 16—19, and see Mitteis, *Grundzüge*, 33.

2. Sale of Two Cows

P.Mich. inv. 1349

Philadelphia

7.0 × 29.5 cm

June—August 225

Among the papyri purchased by the University of Michigan from Maurice Nahman in 1923.

Aurelius Sarapion of Karanis acknowledges the sale of two cows to Aurelius Ammonaspasis (the name is apparently new) of Philadelphia. The back is blank.

About three lines have been stripped off the surface of this papyrus where the price would have stood. Other examples of cattle sales (see most recently P. Rainer Cent. 62, Table II; add P. Köln I 55 (238—244?), where known prices are also listed) show a wide range of prices (obviously depending upon the condition and age of the animals) but it is perhaps worth noting that in SB XII 11152, which comes from Theadelphia and is also dated to A. D. 225, the price of a single cow is given as 300 drachmas.

- 1 ἔτους τετάρτου Αὐτοκ[ράτορος]
 2 Καίσαρος Μάρκου Αὐρ[ηλίου]
 3 Σεουήρου Ἀλεξάνδρου [υ Εὐσεβοῦς]
 4 Εὐτυχοῦς Σεβαστοῦ ε[
 5 ὁμολογεῖ Αὐρήλιος Σαρα[πίων —]
 6 τος μητρ(ρός) Ταορσενούφι[ος ἀπό]
 7 Καρανίδος ὡς (ἐτῶν) λς οὐ[λή κνη-]
 8 μίω ἀριστερῶ Αὐρη[λίω Ἀμμω-]
 9 νάσπασι ἀπό κόμ(ης) Φιλ[αδελφείας]
 10 πεπρακένε τῶ Ἀμμ[ωνάσπασι τὸν]
 11 ὁμολογοῦντα Σαραπί[ωνα τὰ]
 12 ὑπάρχοντά μοι βωι[κὰ κτήνη]
 13 δύο, μῖα μὲν ταυρί[αν πυρρό-]
 14 χρουν καὶ τῆς ἄλλης τ[αυρίαν]
 15 [— χρο]υγ καὶ ἀπέχ[ει τὴν τιμὴν]
 c. 3 lines missing
 19 [. . .] . . .
 20 νου. περὶ [δὲ τοῦ ταῦ-]
 21 τα ὀρθῶ[ς καλῶς πεπραχ-]
 22 θαι ἐπερ[ωτηθ(εις) ὁμολ(όγησεν). Αὐρή-]
 23 λιος Ὡρος [ἀπό κόμ(ης) Φιλα-]
 24 δελφείας ἔγ[ραψα ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ]
 25 ἀγραμμάτω[υ ὄντος.]

10. πεπρακέναί 12. βοεικὰ 13. ταυρίαν

“Fourth year of Emperor Caesar Marcus Aurelius Severus Alexander Pius Felix Augustus, ... Aurelius Sarapion son of ... whose mother is Taorsenouphis from Karanis, about 36 years old, with a scar on his left leg, acknowledges to Aurelius Ammonaspasis from the village of Philadelphia that Sarapion, the party making the agreement, has sold

to Ammonaspasis the two cows which belong to me (sic), the hide of one (red?)-coloured, and the hide of the other ...-coloured. And he has received the price ... (line 20) and in response to the formal question whether this sale has been made in the right and proper manner, he has agreed. I, Aurelius Horus, from the village of Philadelphia wrote on his behalf as he is illiterate.”

4 ε[Although broken ε is sure. Read therefore Ἐ[πειφ or ἐ[παγομένων, followed by the number of the day. A survey of the other cattle sales shows that cattle sales were not confined to any particular season of the year. BGU III 986 and P.Merton II 86 attest sales in Epeiph.

7–8 ἀντικνημίφ is also possible as a supplement.

8–9 Ἄμμωνάσπασσι. Although not otherwise attested by F. Preisigke, *Namenbuch*, or D. Foraboschi, *Onomasticon Alterum Papyrologicum*, the name — a combination of Ἄμμωνᾶς and Πᾶσις — seems to be secured by the occurrence of its initial letters Ἄμμ[at the point in line 10 where the buyer's name is expected, and by the fact that there is insufficient space at the end of line 8 to allow a double name of the δ καί type.

12 μοι. In error from the subjective cheirograph form.

13 ταυρί[αν. ταυρί[κόν is excluded by the feminine forms μιᾶς and τῆς ἄλλης.

πυρρόχρουν. Exempli gratia; this is the usual colour for cattle: see P.Köln I 55. 5–6 n. Other colours of this type which are mentioned are αἰμόχρως, σιτόχρως, ὑπόχρως, and φυρόχρως (on its meaning, “dirty-coloured”, see P.Abinn. 60. 8 n.), as well as black, white, and ποικίλος.

20]νου. Probably the end of the βεβαίωσις formula; cf. P.Mich. IX 553. 2–3: [τῆς βεβαίωσεως ἔξακουθούσης μοι ἀπ]ὸ παντός τοῦ ἐπελευσο[μένου.

3. Acknowledgement of Sale and Literary Exercise

P.Mich. inv. 1954

Oxyrhynchus

19.0 × 20.0 cm

Later third century

Acquired by purchase in November 1924. On the front of this papyrus is an acknowledgement of the sale by Aurelius Demetrius to the Aurelii Serenus and Seuthes, also of Oxyrhynchus, of a house in the village of the Syrians in the Western Toparchy, which belongs to his daughter Aurelia Demetria alias Taamois. The document bears no date, but the hand is a typical third century hand and is likely to be later rather than earlier in the century.

For parallels for this type of document see O. Montevicchi, *La Papirologia*, 210, now updated in P.Vindob.Tandem 24, pp. 158–159 (add P.Mich. XIII 665 + J. Gascou, CRIPEL 7 [1985] 129–135, and P.Oxy. XLIX 3498).

On the back, written along the fibres in the upper left hand corner is what appears to be a literary exercise. Two groups of four and five lines present a series of phrases, some apparently complete (lines 2–5), whose subject matter appears to be the coming of spring. There is evidence of Epic or dialectal forms (χιμερινήν, 1; ἡφῆν?, 4; dative plural in -οισι, 9; εἰαρινῆς, 10) and of a loose metrical schema, which is choriambic or possibly dactylo-epitrite (cf. line 8). If they are to be read consecutively (something which is possible but not certain), the lines might be construed as a popular lyric of a type similar to D. L. Page, *Gr. Lit. Pap.*, 97, 98 and 100. Between the two groups is a mark of numeration (?) in the same hand.

The hand is an irregular medium-sized capital, roughly bilinear and sloping slightly towards the right. Somewhat comparable is R. Seider, *Paläographie der griech. Papyri*

Π, 48, except that I would date this example later, say to the end of the third or beginning of the fourth century. There are no marks of punctuation, but a number of the lines are finished with oblique or horizontal dashes (lines 2—4; 5 and 8).

Front: →

1 Αὐρήλιος Δημήτριος Αὐ[ρη]λίου Ἄμμωνος μητρὸς Διδύμη[ς ἀπὸ τῆς Ὁξυ-
 2 ρυγγχειτῶν πόλ(εως)]
 3 Αὐρηλίους Σερήνω καὶ Σεύθη ἀμφοτέροις Σαραπάτος μη[τρὸς Ν. ἀπὸ τῆς]
 4 αὐτῆς πόλεως, χαίρειν. ὁμολογῶ πεπρακεῖναι ὑμ[ῖν δικαί]ωι παντ[ί]
 5 Δημητρία τῇ καὶ Τααμόϊτι ἐκ μητρὸς Τααμόϊτος ἀπὸ τῆς α[ὐ]τῆς πόλεως [οὐ-]
 6 ση μοι ὑποχειρία κατὰ τοὺς Ῥωμαίων νόμους ἐν κώμη Σύρων τῆς λ[ι-]
 7 βὸς τοπαρχείας τοῦ αὐτοῦ Ὁξυρυγγεῖτου ἐν τοῖς ἀνά μέσον μέρε[σι τῆς]
 8 κώμης οἰκίαν καὶ αὐλὴν καὶ τὰ ταύτης χρηστήρια πάντα, ἧς γεί[το-]
 9 νες νότου πρότερον Ῥωμαίου, βορρά δημοσία ῥύμη μεθ' ἦν Διὸς ἱερὸν,
 10 ἀπηλιώτου ἐκ μὲν τοῦ ἀπὸ βορρά μέρους σύνοδος τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἱεροῦ ἐκ δ[ε]
 11 τοῦ ἀπὸ νότου Τασεῦτος καὶ μετόχων, λιβὸς ἐμοῦ, τειμῆς τῆς [α]ὐ[τῆς]
 12 οἰκίας καὶ αὐλῆς ἀργυρίου Σεβαστοῦ [νομ]ί[σ]μα[τος] δραχ[μῶν — χι-]
 13 λίων ἄσπερ αὐτόθι ὧ[ς τιμ]ῆν [παρὰ] ὑμῶν ὁμοίω[ς ἀπέσ]χον διὰ
 14 χειρὸς ἐκ πλήρους καὶ [ἐπε]ρωτηθεὶς ὑφ' ὑμῶν ἐξ ὀλοκλ[ήρου] με
 15 ἠρηθμῆσθαι ὁμολόγησα, πρὸς τὸ ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν κρατεῖ[ν] ὑμᾶς καὶ
 16 κυριεῦειν σὺν ἐκγόνοις καὶ τοῖς παρ' ὑμῶν μεταλημψ[ομένοις] τῆς]
 17 αὐτῆς οἰκίας καὶ αὐλῆς καὶ χρᾶσθαι καὶ διοι[κ]εῖν καὶ ἐπιτελεῖν π[ε]ρὶ αὐτῆς]
 18 ὡς ἐὰν αἰρήσθε ἀνεμποδίστως, μ[η]δε[μ]ίας μοι μηδὲ [ἄλλω] ὑπὲρ ἐ-
 19 μοῦ μηδενὶ ἐπὶ ταῦ[τ]ην ἐφόδου κ[α]τα[λ]ε[ι]πομένης, ἥ[ν] περ καὶ ἐ-
 20 πάναγκες παρέξασθαι βεβαίαν διὰ παντὸς ἀπὸ πάντων πάσης βεβαι-
 21 ὤσει καὶ καθαρὰν ἀπὸ τε ἀπογραφῆς ἀνδρῶν καὶ γεωργίας βασιλει-
 22 κῆς καὶ οὐσιακῆς γῆς καὶ παντὸς εἴδους καὶ ὀφειλῆς πάσης καὶ κατο-
 23 χῆς παντοίας καὶ ἀπὸ παντὸς οὐτινοσοῦν ἄλλου καὶ πάντα τὸν κα-
 24 θ' ὄνηποτοῦν τρόπον ἐπελευσόμενον ἢ ἐμποιησόμενον ἀπο-
 25 στήσιν παραχρῆμα τοῖς ἰδίοις μου δαπανήμασι καθάπερ ἐκ δίκης.
 26 παρὸν δὲ ἐγὼ ὁ τῆς Δημητρίας τῆς καὶ Τααμόϊτος ἀνὴρ Α[ὐ]ρήλιος
 27 Μέλας Μέλανος βουλευτῆς τῆς αὐτῆς πόλεως εὐδοκῶ τῆδε τῇ π[ρ]ά-]
 28 σει. κυρία ἢ πρᾶσις τρισσῆ γ[ραφε]ῖσα ἦν περ ὀπνηνικά ἐὰν αἰρήσθε
 29 δημοσιώσετε διὰ τοῦ κ[α]ταλογεῖου, οὐ προσδεόμενοι μεταλήμψε-
 30 ως ἢ εὐδοκῆσεως ἐτέρας μου διὰ τὸ ἐντεῦθεν εὐδοκεῖν, κ[α]ὶ περὶ τοῦ ὀρθῶς
 31 [καλῶς πεπραχθαι ἐπερωτηθεὶς ὑπὸ σοῦ ὁμολόγησα]

3 ὑμῖν 4 ὑπαρχουσιν 6 ὑποχειρία 7 τοπαρχίας 11 τιμῆς 16 ἐκγονως overwritten as ἐκγονοις, ὑμῶν
 21 βασιλικῆς 25 ἀποστήσειν

“Aurelius Demetrius son of Aurelius Ammon, his mother being Didyme, from the city of the Oxyrhynchites, to the Aurelii Serenus and Seuthes, both sons of Sarapas, their mother being N, from the same city, greetings. I acknowledge that I have sold to you

with every right from henceforth for all time the house and courtyard and all its appurtenances belonging to my daughter Aurelia Demetria alias Taamois, her mother being Taamois, from the same city, who is under my power in accordance with the laws of the Romans, in the village of the Syrians in the Western Toparchy of the same Oxyrhynchite in the middle part of the same village, of which the neighbours are: on the south, the property formerly of Romaeus; on the north, a public street beside which is the temple of Zeus; on the east, in the northern part, a meeting house of the same temple, and in the southern part the property of Taseus and her co-owners; on the west, property of mine, at a price for the same house and courtyard of *n* thousand drachmas of Imperial silver, which likewise I have forthwith received from you as payment from hand to hand in full, and in response to the formal question by you I have agreed that I have had counted out the money in full, so that from now on you with all your descendants and successors may have possession and ownership of the same house and courtyard, and use, deal with, and act concerning it however you may choose without impediment, no right of proceeding against it remaining to me or anyone else on my behalf. And I shall necessarily deliver it over guaranteed in perpetuity against all claims with every guarantee and free from liability for personal service and cultivation of royal and domain land and from every impost and every debt and every sort of lien and from everything else whatsoever. And every person, who in any manner whatsoever shall proceed against or make a claim upon you, I shall at once repel at my own expense as if in consequence of a legal decision. I, Aurelius Melas son of Melas, councillor of the same city, the husband of Demetria alias Taamois, being present consent to this sale. The sale is valid, being written in three copies, and whenever you choose you may publicly register it through the record office, without requiring any further concurrence or consent from me by virtue of my consent herein. And in response to the formal question whether this sale has been made in the right and proper manner, I have agreed.”

1 The spacing seems to be insufficient to allow the title ἡ λαμπρὰ καὶ λαμπροτάτη, unless in a very abbreviated form. As this form of titulature was normally used after 272 (see D. Hagedorn, ZPE 12 [1973] 277—292), this may indicate a somewhat earlier date for the present text.

1—2 As far as I am able to ascertain, none of the parties to the sale is known from elsewhere.

6 ὑποχειρίῳ. For the exercise of patria potestas in Roman Egypt, see R. Taubenschlag, ZSS 37 (1916) 177—230, N. Lewis, RIDA 17 (1970) 251—258.

9 This is the first evidence of a temple of Zeus in the village of the Syrians; it is not otherwise attested in the references given by P. Pruneti, *I centri abitati*, Firenze 1981, 186, or G. Ronchi, *Lexicon Theonymon*, Milano 1974 ff. s. v. Ζεύς.

26—27 Aur. Melas son of Melas is not in the list of bouleutae given in A. K. Bowman, *Town Councils*, Toronto 1971, Appendix 1. He may be identifiable with the Aur. Melas son of Melas, who was one of the members of the board of the phylarchy in Oxyrhynchus in A. D. 285: P.Oxy. XLVI 3295. 1—5.

29 For the supplement cf. P.Oxy. IX 1208. 25.

Back ←

1] . ὑρη . ῥοσθωνί
2]μεταχιμερινήν///
3]ῶρης κλυε γῆς/
4]τοφερηγηφην/

] . ὑρη . ῥος, Θωνί,
]μετὰ χιμερινήν
]ῶρης κλυε γῆς
]τὸ φέρη ἡφῆν.

5	] ξ	
6	] γησλευκοτατης	ἐκ]γῆς λευκοτάτης
7	] .εφαιοστατης	ἤ]δὲ φαιο{ο}τάτης
8	] ουσηλιου/	φά]ους ἡλίου
9	] ερμοισιπορος	θ]έρμοισι πόρος
10	] οσειαρινης/	ἀλ]ὸς εἰαρινῆς

1 First letter perhaps ο; before ος the crossbar of π or τ, with space for another letter.

2 “After the winter”, sc. ὥρην?

3 “Heed the season of the earth”, or perhaps “of Ge”, writing Γῆς here and Ἡλίου in line 8.

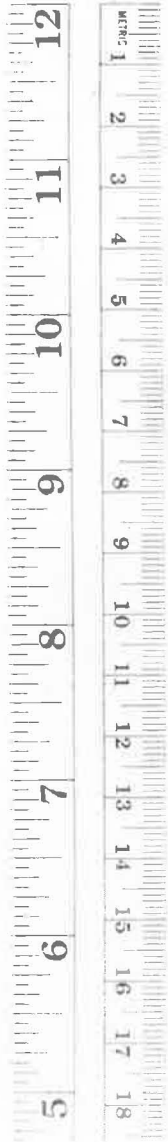
4 ἠφῆν for ἀφῆν? “the fact it brings its lighting?” The form is not otherwise attested, but seems to make sense in the context of spring’s return.

5 Written in fainter ink, but possibly by the same hand.

6 ff. Supplements *exempli gratia*: “after the very white and grey land, by the warmth of the sun’s light there comes the passage of the spring sea”. After winter, when the land is bare or covered with snow, the return of spring brings the opening of the sailing season. I owe these suggestions to T. Gagos, whom I thank for discussing these lines with me.

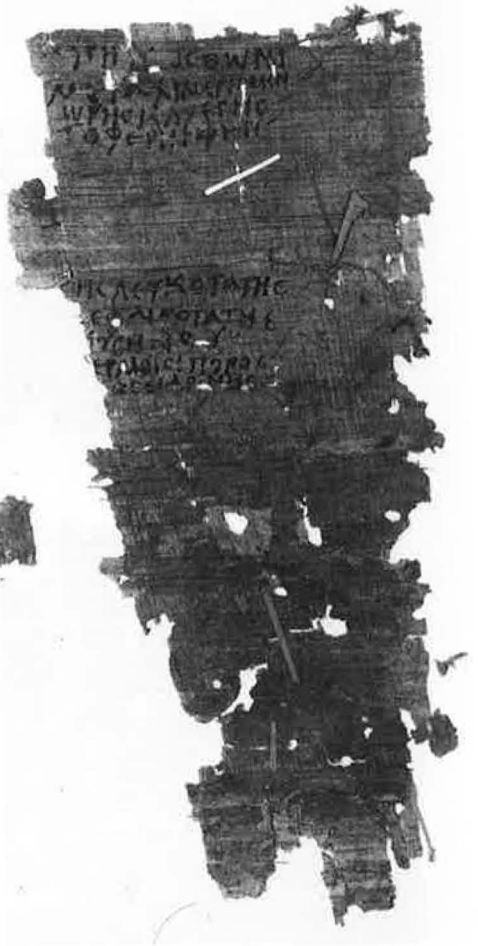
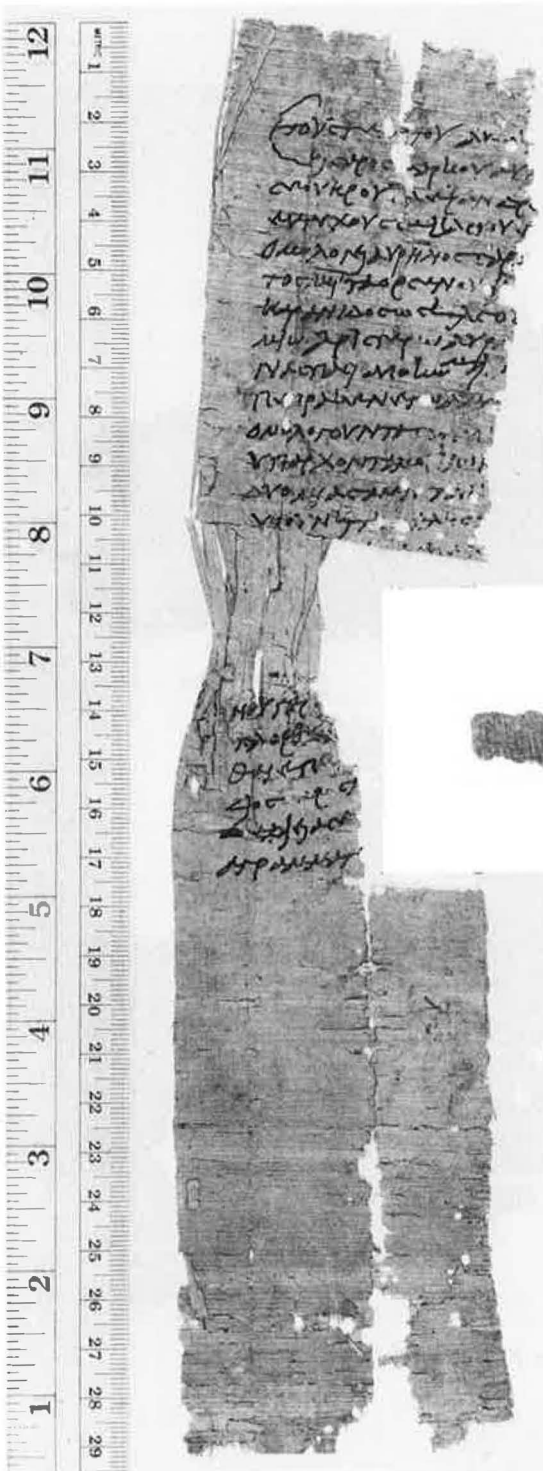
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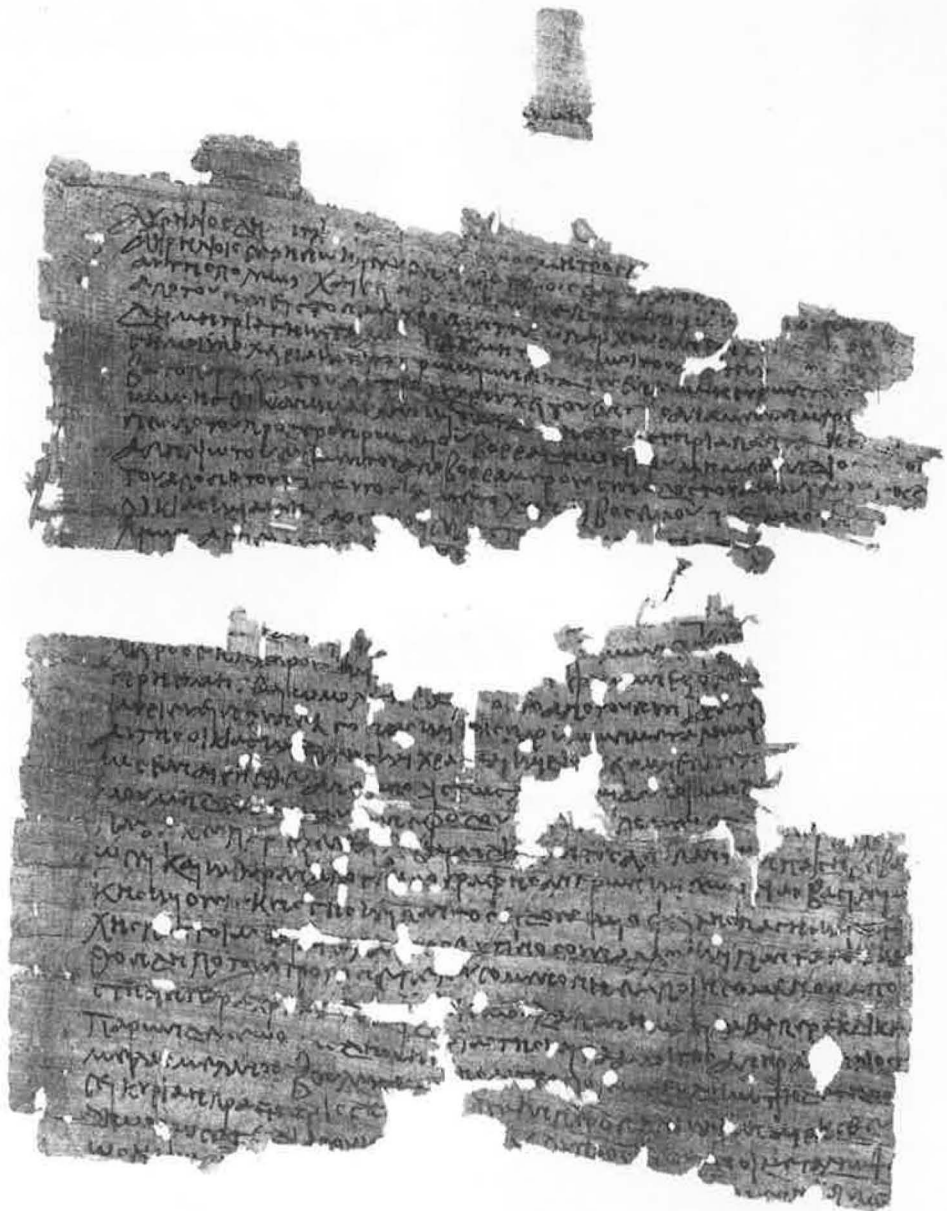


Fragment of a papyrus scroll with handwritten text in an ancient script, likely Demotic. The text is arranged in approximately 15 horizontal lines. The fragment is dark and shows signs of wear and damage, particularly along the right edge and bottom. The script is cursive and difficult to decipher due to the fragment's condition.

Whitehorne, Nr. 1



Whitehorne, Nr. 2 und Nr. 3 (back)



Whitehorne, Nr. 3 (front)