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Four Papyri from Second-Century Tebtunis

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FOUR PAPYRI FROM SECOND-CENTURY

TEBTUNIS

The texts presented here have until now been known to papyrologists only from short descriptions in the back of P.Teb.Vol.II. We print below full transcripts together with a commentary to take account of scholarship since the original publication in 1907. The texts have a common feature in their concern with weaving: nr.1 is an apprenticeship to a weaver, the remainder are receipts for weavers' tax.


I. Fragment of an Apprenticeship Contract

P.Teb.442 descr. 9.5 x 8.5 cm. A.D.113

Top portion of an agreement by which Protas, son of Petesouchos, apprentices his son Harphaesis to the weaver Heron, son of Orseus, for a period or two or three years (cf. line 12, note). The contract is of interest chiefly for its relationship to P.Teb.II 385, where the same weaver undertakes instruction of another youth some three years and nine months after the present contract.

"Year seventeen of Imperator Caesar Nerva Traianus Augustus Germanicus Dacicus, Hathyr 13, in Tebtunis of the Polemonos Meris of the Arsinoite Nome. Protas, son of Pete-souchos, about forty years old, with a scar on his right wrist, has apprenticed his son Harphaesis to Heron, son of Orseus, weaver, about twenty-five years old, with a scar in the middle of his forehead, so that he, Harphaesis, may learn the weavers’ trade in its entirety as Heron himself knows it, for ... years from the first of the month of Choiak. ..."

1-3. The date is Nov.9, A.D.113.

5. ἐξέδετο: On the uses of ἐνδίδοοθαι and similar verbs in the papyri see P. Oslo III, 141, 4 note.


8. Ὄραετι: Dative for genitive. The form suggests a genitive Ὄραετος, but Ὄραεως is used in P.Teb.II 385,8. For the mixed declension cf. Mayser I 273 f.

ὡς ἐτῶν εἶκοσαι πέντε: The restoration ὡς ἐτῶν εἶκοσαι ἐπτά in P.Teb.II 385, 8, unexplained by the editors, was presumably based on our text. The ages given in the two papyri do not agree (about 25 in our text, about 27 almost four years later in P.Teb.385),
but such variations in age description are commonplace in papyri. The classic discussion is P.Cair.Isid.125, 14 note.

12. ἐφόσον ἐφ' ἑτής For the aspiration see Mayser, Grammatik 1 199 f.

12-13. ἀνδὶ τῆς νεωμανικάς: Often simply ἀνδὶ νεωμανικάς (e.g., BASP 5, 1968, p.136, line 8), but P.Teb. II 385, 11 strongly suggests that τῆς was included here.

νεωμανικάς: δευτέρας is possibly palaeographically, but the first of the month was a common date to start apprenticeships (e.g., P.Teb. II 385, 11; BGU IV 1021, 10; BASP text cited in previous note; P.Oxy.725, 8-9; 1647, 14-15) and the second has not to our knowledge occurred.

13. Continue τοῦ ἔνεστότος ἐπτακαιδεκάτου ἔτους, κτλ.

1 Choiak of year = Nov. 27, A.D. 113.

II. Receipts for Weavers' Tax

The following three texts record numerous installments of varying size for payment of weavers' tax at the assessment of 38 drachmas, 2 obols per year which is familiar from other Fayum receipts. The tax is in every instance paid to supervisors (ἐπίτηρητα) of the ἱερατικῶν ὠνῶν of Tebtunis and associated villages (cf.nr.2, 3; 3, 2; 4, 2). In this phrase ὠνᾶς must refer to contracts for the farming of taxes; but the exact meaning of ἱερατικῶν ὠνᾶς (or perhaps rather ἱερατικῶν ὠνᾶς - the texts do not reveal which form is intended) has been the subject of considerable discussion. Our texts add nothing new in determining this point; for earlier bibliography and discussion see P.Teb. II 305 introd.; W. Otto, Priester und Tempel im hellenistischen Ägypten, Vol. II (Leipzig-Berlin, 1908), 331 f.; P. Giss. Univ.-Bibl. 47 and 48 with editor's discussion; H. C. Youtie, CW 34 (1941), p. 184; Wallace, Taxation, p. 242; J.A.S. Evans, “A Social and Economic History of an Egyptian Temple in the Greco-Roman Period,” YCS 17 (1961), 266 f.; E. Wipszycka, "IEPA-

TIKAI 'ΩΝΑΙ", JJP 15 (1965), 163 ff. and references there given.

Individual payments in texts 2 and 3 are recorded in a series of hands which are often difficult to distinguish. In the transcripts we have noted a change of hand only when we are certain that such a change took place. Text 4 represents two copies of a receipt presumably drawn up in similar fashion, but recopied in a single hand. For the procedure used in issuing receipts in the "Quittungsbogen" format, see P.Strassb.1, p.29.

2

P.Teb.604 descr. 10 x 12 cm. A.D.154–56

Receipts for payment of weavers' tax by Protas, son of Mystharion, for years 18 and 19 of Antoninus Pius. The same man reappears in the following text.

["Ετος") δηκωναι[δεκάτου Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος Τίτου
[Αἰλίου Ἀδριανοῦ Ἀντωνίου Σεβαστοῦ Εὐσεβοῦς
[διέγραψε] ηι καὶ μετοχ(οῖς) ἐπίτηθ(ηταῖς) ἕρατικῶν ὤν ὐ

4 [Πεπτύν(ευς) καὶ τῷ ὑπ(υ) πυ(υ) ᾑ(η) ἢ(ο) Μυ(υ) 

[Γέρδιος ἀφ’ ὄν ὑπείλ(ει) δημο(σίων) τοῦ α(ὐτοῦ) ἐν (ἔτος) ἐπὶ λ(όγου)

[ἄργυρου] (δραχμάς) δένα

[δύο, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) μ. ± 4] λα’ ἄλλας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργυρου

(δραχμάς) ὑπάτω, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) η. (2nd hand) δυοῖς(ες)

[±5 ἄλλας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργυρου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται)

(δραχμαι) δ. Ἐκείπῃ κεδ’ ἄλλας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργυρου) (δραχμάς) τεσ-

8 [τάρας, (γίνονται) (δραχμαι) Δ. (3rd hand) Μεσσηρη κὴ ἄλλας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαι) δ. (4th hand)

ιθ’ (ἔτους) Φαθαίνει, κεξ

[ἄλλας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) τοῦ διελελυθ(ότος) ἵνα (ἔτους) ἄργυρου) (δραχμάς)

τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαι) δ. (5th hand) 'Αθύρ (δραχμας ?) δύο

(δβολοῦ δύο),

[[γίνονται) (δραχμαι) β (δβολοί δύο)]

(6th hand)

["Ετους) ιθ’ 'Αντων(ηνοῦ) Καίσαρας τοῦ κυρίου Τιβι κεξ, ὃ αὐτὸς γέρδιος)

ἄφ’ ὄν

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"Year eighteen of Imperator Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius (date). Protas, son of Mystharion, weaver, has paid to NN and his associate supervisors of the contracts for farming temple taxes at Tebtunis and associated villages, out of the public dues which he owes for the same year 18, twelve silver drachmas on account, = 12 dr. (Month) 30, another eight silver drachmas on account, = 8 dr. (2nd hand) Likewise (date) another four silver drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Epeiph 29, another four silver drachmas on account, = 4 dr. (3rd hand) Mesore 28, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. (4th hand) Year 19. Phaoophi 26, another four silver drachmas on account for the past year 18, = 4 dr. (5th hand) Hathyr, two drachmas, two obols, = 2 dr., 2 ob.

(6th hand) Year 19 of Antoninus Caesar the lord, Tybi 27. The same weaver, out of the public dues which he owes for the same year 19, (has paid) eight silver drachmas on account, = 8 dr. Phamenoth 4, another ... drachmas on account, = ... dr. Pachon 29 (?), another 4 drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Payni 24, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. ...


4. Πεπτύν(ες) και τζζεν συνι(ουούων) ιμαμίν: For the restoration cf. below nr. 3, 4; nr. 4, 2; P. Teb. II 305, 4; PSI X 1139, I 3, II 9; P. Giss. Univ.-Bibl. 47 I r 3, II r 4, etc.; 48, 4. By συνιουούωσις ιμαμίν is meant villages such as Kerkesis which for some administrative purposes were treated together with Tebtunis; cf. P. Giss. Univ.-Bibl. 48, 6 note. For the failure to assimilate ιυ to gamma before καππα in συνιουούωσις cf. Mayser, Grammatik i pp. 233 ff.

5. ἄφεξν ἄφεξλ(ες) δημο(σιων): For the restoration cf. PSI X 1139, 4; lines 11-12 below; nr. 3, 5 and 14. The phrase is used interchangeably with ὑπὲρ δημοσιων; cf. 3, 9; 4, 3 and 8.
δημο(σίων) : A general word for state dues of any variety (WO 1, p.178). Here specifically the γερμιακόν.

5-6. δέκα δ'ον : The restoration is required to produce the expected annual total of 38 dr., 2 obols (texts cited by Wallace, Taxation, 436 n.24).

7. τέσσαρεις : The common koine accusative of this word; cf.P.Mich.582, 11 9 note; Mayser, Grammatik I 57 and 59.

Phaophi 26 of year 19: October 24,155.
9. Hathyr: October 29/November 27. The specific day is not expected after Ἁθύρ;

 cf.nr.4, line 12.

11. Tybi 27 of year 19: January 23, A.D.156.
Payni 24: June 18.

3

P.Teb.602 descr. 19 x 18 cm. A.D.161-62

Payments by Protas, son of Mystharion, (cf.preceding text) and his son Protas for weavers' tax of year 24 of Antoninus Pius / year 1 of Marcus Aurelius and Verus. At least 9.5 cm. were left blank to the right of these receipts, as if to leave space for a future column which was never written.

Γέτος τετάρτου μ[α]ζε εἰκοσάτοι Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος
[Εὔσεβος] Μεχ(είρ) ἶε. διέγραφεν Εὐδαιμονι καὶ μετόχ(οις)

4 Επιτησι[α]ς δεσποτικῶν ὑνοῦν Ἰεπτ(ύνευς) καὶ τῶν συνι(πουσῶν)

καὶ μόνῳ

Πρωτ[άς] Μυθοφόρῳ(ος) γερμ(ίος) ἱππ' ὑν ἄμφι(ε[ς]) δημ(οσίων) τοῦ

σώ(τοῦ)

[ QE Π (Ετος) ἔτ[η]λ (όγου) (δραματικής) δέκα ἔ[ξ] (γ[ιόνται] (δραματική) ΙΣ]

(2nd hand) Γέτος πρωτού Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος [Μυθόκου Αὐρηλίου

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8 ["Αντωνίου Σεβαστοῦ καὶ Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος Λουκιοῦ
[Aὐρήλου Οἰκήρου Σεβαστοῦ Παχω(ν) καὶ οὗ αὐτὸς γέρδ(ιος) ὑπ(ἐρ)ι
δη[μοσίων]
[toῦ α(υτοῦ)] α (ἐτοῦς) ἐπὶ ι(rapy)] ἄργ(υρίου) (δραχμᾶς) ὅκτω,
(γενονται) (δραχμαί) η. (3rd hand) Παῦνι καὶ ἡ Ἑλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(άγου)
[ἀργ(υρίου) (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες, (γενονται) (δραχμαί) δ. (4th hand)
Μεσορη ἐπαγο(μένων) ἡ Ἑλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(άγου) ἄρ[γ(υρίου)] (δραχμᾶς)
ὅκτω, (γενονται) (δραχμαί) η. (5th hand)
12 β (ἐτοῦς) ἧ ὑπ(ἐρ) τοῦ διελευθ(ῶτος) α (ἐτοῦς) (δραχμᾶς) δύο
(ἵψιλοὺς δύο), (γενονται) [δραχμαί] β (ἵψιλοι δύο).
(6th hand)
[("Ετοῦς) καὶ ἰ ἤ 4], ..., δ Πρωτᾶς Πρωτὰ τοῦ Μυσθαρίωνος
[γέρδ(ιος)] ἀρ' ἄν [ἀφεῖ]λε(ει) δη[μοσίων] τοῦ α(υτοῦ) καὶ (ἐτοῦς)
ἐπὶ λ(άγου) ἄργ(υρίου) (δραχμᾶς) ὅκτω, (γενονται) (δραχμαί) η.
(7th hand)
[Φαρμοζθι ἡ Ἑλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(άγου) (δραχμᾶς) ὅκτω, (γενονται) (δραχμαί)
[η., ἰ ἤ 5]
16 Ἑλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(άγου) (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες, (γενονται) (δραχμαί) δ.
Ἐπαγο(μένων) ἡ Ἑλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(άγου) (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες,
(γενονται) (δραχμαί) δ. β (ἐτοῦς) Φαβεί θ
[ὑπὲρ τοῦ] διελευθ(ῶτος) α (ἐτοῦς) Ἑλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(άγου) (δραχμᾶς) ὅκτω,
(γενονται) (δραχμαί) η..., []
Ἑλ(λας (δραχμᾶς)] ἤξ (ἵψιλοὺς δύο), (γενονται) (δραχμαί)ς (ἵψιλοι δύο).

4 ὄνων 9 κ ἐν ἑς corrected from 5

"Year twenty-four of Imperator Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius,
Mecheir 5. Protas, son of Mystharion, weaver, has paid to Eudaimon and his associate
supervisors of the contracts for farming temple taxes at Tebtunis and associated villages,
out of the public dues which he owes for the same year 24, sixteen drachmas on account,
= 16 dr.
(2nd hand) Year one of Imperator Caesar Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Augustus and Im-
operator Caesar Lucius Aurelius Verus Augustus, Pachon 26. The same weaver (has paid) for public dues of the same year 1 eight silver drachmas on account, = 8 dr. (3rd hand) Payni 27, another four silver drachmas on account, = 4 dr. (4th hand) Mesore, 5th epagomenal day, another eight silver drachmas on account, = 8 dr. (5th hand) Year 2 (date) two drachmas, two obols for the past year 1, = 2 dr., 2 ob.

(6th hand) Year 24, ... 4 (?), Protas, son of Protas, grandson of Mystharion, weaver, (has paid) out of the public dues which he owes for the same year 24, eight silver drachmas on account, = 8 dr. (7th hand) Pharmouthi 5, another eight drachmas on account, = 8 dr. (Date) another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. 5th epagomenal day, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Year 2, Phaophi 9, another eight drachmas on account for the past year 1, = 8 dr. (Date) another six drachmas, two obols, = 6 dr., 2 ob.

1-3. The date is January 30, A.D.161.

3. Εὔδαιμωνι: An ἐπιτυπητῆς of the same name occurs ten years later in the following text, line 2 (A.D.171), but the two are not likely to be identical.

7-9. The date is May 21, A.D.161.


11. Epagomenal day 5: August 28.


[(δραχμάς) τέσσαρες:] This restoration is required to make the payments total 38 drachmas, 2 obols. See above nr.2, 5-6 note.

Phaophi 9 of year 2: October 6, A.D.162.

17. The mutilated word may be Ἄθωρ or Χοίακ, but the exiguous remnants do not really permit a reading. One or two letters may be completely lost at the end of the line.

4

P.Teb.603 descr. 17 x 13 cm. A.D.171-72

Two copies of a receipt recording payments for weavers' tax by Sarapion the elder, son
of Didymos, for year 11 of Marcus Aurelius. Incorrectly ascribed to the reign of Antoninus Pius in the editors' description of P.Teb.603.

\[\text{"Ετους ἑξακόματου Ἁλφῆλλου ἰ' Αντωνίνου Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρίου Μεχετίρ η'}.\]

[Διε]γρ(αφέν) Εὐδαμωνι καὶ μετόχιξ(ων) ἐπιτ(ημητας) ἱπα(τιων ὕγιων ἤπειρον] ὑπ(ερ καὶ τῶν συν(υσκου)ι(ων) μη(μιν)]

[Σαραπ(ε)ν πρεβ(ερο)ς] Διδύμου γέρδ(ιος) ὑπ(ερ) δη(μος(ων) τοῦ ι(ωτο)ύ ι(α) έπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) δικτύ, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) η.

4 \[±5\] Ἕλλας ἐπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. Φιδρο(μοθι) τι Ἕλλας ἐπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. Παῦνι η' Ἕλ(λας) ἐπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. Μεσορή δ. \[±5\] Ἕλ(λας) ἐπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. \[1] β (ἴτους) Θαῦ δ. ὑπ(ερ) τοῦ διελ(ημιθύτος) ια (ἴτους) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. Φαώφι.

8 \["Ετους ια Μεχ(ετίρ)ια] Σαραπ(ε)ν πρεβ(ερο)ς γέρδ(ιος) ὑπ(ερ) δη(μος(ων) τοῦ ι(ωτο)ύ ι(α) έπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) δικτύ, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) η] \[±5\] Ἕλλας ἐπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. Φαρ(μοθι) τι Ἕλλας ἐπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. Παῦνι η' Ἕλ(λας) ἐπι λ(ῶγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνοντα) (δραχμαί) δ. Μεσορή δ.
Year eleven of Aurelius Antoninus Caesar the lord, Mecheir 11. Sarapion the elder, son of Didymos, weaver, has paid to Eudaimon and his associate supervisors of the contracts for farming temple taxes at Tebtunis and associated villages, for public dues of the same year 11, eight drachmas on account, = 8 dr. (Date) another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Pharmouthi 1, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Pachon 10, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Payni 28, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Mesore 4, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Year 12, Thoth 4, four drachmas for the past year 11, = 4 dr. Phaophi . . . , another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Hathyr, two drachmas, two obols, = 2 dr., 2 ob.

Year 11, Mecheir 11. Sarapion the elder, weaver, (has paid) for public dues of the same year 11 eight drachmas on account, = 8 dr. (Date) another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Pharmouthi 1, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Pachon 10, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Payni 28, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Mesore 4, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Year 12, Thoth 4, four drachmas for the past year 11, = 4 dr. Phaophi . . . , another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. Hathyr, two drachmas, two obols, = 2 dr., 2 ob."


4. Restore an abbreviation of Фαμενθο, less probably, a date in Mecheir later than the 11th (line 1).

Pharmouthi 1: March 27.

Pachon 10: May 5.

5. Payni 28: June 22.

Mesore 4: July 28.

6. Thoth 4 of year 12: September 2, A.D.171.


Das Epigramm ist von Willemens ediert worden (Ath.Mitt.78,1963,110-117 mit Tafel 60 und Abb.1); Pfohl hat es wiederholt (Greek Poems on Stones, Leiden 1967, nr.29). Ich will nicht sagen, dass ihre Drucke verkehrt wären; aber aus diesen Publicationen muss ein Leser, der nicht auf der Hut ist, den Eindruck gewinnen, wir hätten die Zeilenenden von drei aufeinanderfolgenden Versen. In Wirklichkeit umfasste das Gedicht sechs Verse, und wir besitzen nur die Zeilenenden der Verse 1, 3 und 5; die rechts danebenstehenden Verse 2, 4 und 6 sind verloren. Sie standen auf einem zweiten Block; die Anschlussstellen sind an dem erhaltenen Block sichtbar, siehe die Zeichnung bei Willemens. Da wir zwei Verse typographisch nicht in einer Zeile unterbringen können, müssen wir das Fragment etwa so drucken: