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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.


1. 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 three years and nine months after the present contract.

"Year seventeen of Imperator Caesar Nerva Traianus Augustus Germanicus Dacicus,
Hathyр 13, in Tebтunis of the Polemonos Мёris of the Arsinoite Nome. Protas, son of Pete-
souchos, about forty years old, with a scar on his right wrist, has apprenticed his son Har-
phaesis 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. ..."
but such variations in age description are commonplace in papyri. The classic discussion is P. Cairo Isid. 125, 14 note.

12. ἐφικτάτοε, ἔφ.' ἔτη: For the aspiration see Mayser, Grammatik I 199 f.

ἔτη: The following space is sufficient for δῶο or τρία, of which the former is more probable inasmuch as Heron is elsewhere known to have taken an apprentice for only two years (P. Teb. 385).

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

νεομηνίας: δευτέρας is possible 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 ἐνεστάτος ἐπικαθενάτου 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. 1) The tax is in every instance paid to supervisors (ἐπιτερηταὶ) of the ἱερατικῶν ἰῶν of Tebtenis and associated villages (cf. nr. 2, 3; 3, 2; 4, 2). In this phrase ἰῶν must refer to contracts for the farming of taxes; but the exact meaning of ἱερατικῶν ἰῶν (or perhaps rather ἱερατικῶν ἰῶν - 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. Youattie, 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-

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 "Quittungsblogen" format, see P. Strassb. I, p. 29.

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.

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.
"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. Phoophi 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. Pehni 24, another four drachmas on account, = 4 dr. ...


4. [Πεπτυν(εις) και τξιν συνι(ουουν) κωμαιν:] 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 3, II 4, etc.;
48, 4. By συνιουουαι κωμαιν is meant villages such as Kerkesis which for some admin-
istrative purposes were treated together with Tebtunis; cf. P. Giss. Univ.-Bibl. 48, 6 note.
For the failure to assimilate να to γαμμα before κατα in συνι(ουουν) cf. Mayser,
Grammatik I pp. 233 ff.

5. ἀφ’ δὲν δραγγειλ(εις) 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 I, p.178). Here specifically the γυρδιακάν.

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

7. τέσσαρες : 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. Hathyri: October 29/November 27. The specific day is not expected after Ἀθύρι;
cf.nr.4, line 12.
10. Tybi 27 of year 19: January 23, A.D.156.
Payni 24: June 18.

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.

Γέτους τετάρτου μα[λι]είνοστοῦ Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος
Πίτου Α[λι]γ[ου] Ἄδριανοῦ Ἀντων[ίνου Σεβαστοῦ]
Εὐδαμίου Μεχ[ερ]οῦ. διέγραφεν ἕπεμμενεν καὶ μετόχ(οις)

4 ἑπτα[τηταῖς] ἑρατικῶν ὅνδε(ν) ὅπετ(ίνως) καὶ τῶν συν(υφοῦσιν)
καὶ μίν
Πρωτρήτος Μυσθαρίωνος(ς) γερβί(ίος) ἄπρ' ἔν ὄπειρ(ις) δη(μοσίων) τοῦ
οὗ(τοῦ)

Ινδ (γέτους ἐπὶ) λί(όγων) (δραχμάς) δέκα ἑξ(εκ), (γινονται) (δραχμαί) ις... (2nd hand)
Γέτους πρώτου Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος [Μύσθριου Αὐρηλίου
8 ["Ἀντωνίου Σεβαστοῦ καὶ Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρας Λουκίου
[Aὐρήλου Οὐγροῦ Σεβαστὸν Πατρὶ(ν) ἐκ ὧν αὐτὸς γέρδη(ος) ὑπ(ἐρ)
δη(μοσίων)
[τοῦ α(ὑτοῦ)] τοῦ ἔτους ἔπ[ὶ] λ(όγου) ἄργυρου (δραχμῶν) ὀκτά,
(γένονται) (δραχμαί) η. (3rd hand) Παῦνι δὲ ἐκλα(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου)
[ἄργυρου] (δραχμῶν) τέκσαρες, (γένονται) (δραχμαί) δ. (4th hand)
Μεσορῆ ἐπαγο(μένων) ἐκ ἑλά(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργυρου (δραχμῶν) ὀκτά,
(γένονται) (δραχμαί) η. (5th hand)
12 β (ἔτους) ὑ ὑ ὑ ὑ ὑ ὑ τοῦ διεληλυθὸντος α (ἔτους) (δραχμῶν) δύο
(ὀβολοῦς δύο), (γένονται) [δραχμαί] β (ὀβολοῦ δύο).
(6th hand)
[["ἔτους] καὶ ὑ 4 ] . . . . δ Πρωτᾶς Πρωτᾶ τοῦ Μυσθορίῳς
[γέρδη(ος)] ἀφ᾽ οὗ [ἀφε]λή(ει) δη(μοσίων) τοῦ α(ὑτοῦ) καὶ (ἔτους)
ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργυρου (δραχμῶν) ὀκτά, (γένονται) (δραχμαί) η.
(7th hand)
[φαρμάθι] ε ἑλλας ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμῶν) ὀκτά, (γένονται) (δραχμαί)
[ή. ὑ 5 ]
16 [ἑλλας] ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμῶν) τέκσαρες, (γένονται) (δραχμαί) δ.
"ἐπαγο(μένων) ἐκ ἑλλας ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμῶν) τέκσαρες,
(γένονται) (δραχμαί) δ.Υ β (ἔτους) Φαμίλι θ
[ὑπὲρ τοῦ] διεληλυθὸντος α (ἔτους) ἑλλας ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμῶν) ὀκτά,
(γένονται) (δραχμαί) η. . . . [
[ἕλλας (δραχμῶν)] ἐκ (ὀβολοῦ δύο), (γένονται) (δραχμαί)ς (ὀβολοῦ δύο).
4 ὄνημα 9 κ in ὧν corrected from σ

"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-
perator 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. Εὐδαίμωνι: An ἐπιτηρητὴς 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.


[(Δραχμᾶς) 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 Ἄθυρ 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.

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.

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"Year eleven of Aurelius Antoninus Caesar the lord, Mecheir 11. Sarapion the elder, son of Didymios, 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. 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. 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 Φαμενόθορ, 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 Willemsen ediert worden (Ath.Mitt.78,1963,110-117 mit Tafel 60 und Abb.1); Pföhl 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 Zeilenden von drei aufeinanderfolgenden Versen. In Wirklichkeit umfasste das Gedicht sechs Verse, und wir besitzen nur die Zeilenden 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 Willemsen. Da wir zwei Verse typographisch nicht in einer Zeile unterbringen können, müssen wir das Fragment etwa so drucken: