1971

Four Papyri from Second-Century Tebtunis

James G. Keenan
jkeenan@luc.edu

John C. Shelton

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.luc.edu/classicalstudies_facpubs

Part of the Ancient History, Greek and Roman through Late Antiquity Commons

Recommended Citation

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Publications and Other Works by Department at Loyola eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Classical Studies: Faculty Publications and Other Works by an authorized administrator of Loyola eCommons. For more information, please contact ecommons@luc.edu.

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 License.

© Dr. Rudolf Habelt GmbH, Bonn, 1971.
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.11 385, 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 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. ..."

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

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


8. Ὄραετί: Dative for genitive. The form suggests a genitive 'Ὅραετος, but 'Ὅραετ-
ως is used in P.Teb.11 385,8. For the mixed declension cf. Mayser I 273 f.

orate εἴκοσι πεντε: The restoration [ὡς ἔτων εἴκοσι] ἔπτα in P.Teb.11 385,
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. ἐφιάσατος, ἐφ' ἔτη: For the aspiration see Mayser, Grammatik I 199 f.

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

νεομηνιάς: 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 ἐνεστᾶτος ἐπικαθενάτου ἐτοῦς, 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 (ἐπιτηρηταῖοι) of the ἡρατικῶν ἀνών of Tebtunis and associated villages (cf.nr.2,3; 3,2; 4,2). In this phrase ἀνών must refer to contracts for the farming of taxes; but the exact meaning of ἡρατικῶν ἀνών (or perhaps rather ἡρατικῶν ἀνων - 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") Μετωπάτες Κατάρας Τέτομ
Αιλίου Ἄδριανοῦ Αὐτωνίνου Σεβαστοῦ Ἐυσεβοῦς
] δι(έγραψε) καὶ μετὰ(σοις) ἐπὶτ(ηρηταῖς) λεσατομῶν ὑμῶν

4
Παπτόν(εις) καὶ τῷ φυ(νυ) φημ(αινῷ) πεμ(ᾶτος) Πρωτᾶς Μυσαθρῷ(ν)ος

[γέροντος ἃρ' ὑν ὠφειλ(ει) δημο(σίων) τοῦ α(ὐτοῦ) ἑ(τοὺς) ἐπὶ λ(όγου)
др(υρίου) (δραχμάς) δέκα
[δύο, (γύνονται) (δραχμαί) μ. ± 4] λ- ἀλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) δρ(υρίου)
(δραχμάς) δικῶ, (γύνονται) (δραχμαί) η. (2nd hand) ὁμοίως(ς)
[±5 ἀλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) δρ(υρίου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γύνονται)
(δραχμαί) δ. Ἐπετρικὴ ἀλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) δρ(υρίου) (δραχμαίς) τέσσ-

8
[δαρές, (γύνονται) (δραχμαί) δ. (3rd hand) Μεσοῖρῃ ἀλ(λας) ἐπὶ
λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γύνονται) (δραχμαί) δ. (4th hand)
ιθ (ητοὺς) Φανάρι κη]

[ἀλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) τοῦ διελεπθ(ότος) ἢ (ητοὺς) δρ(υρίου) (δραχμάς)
τέσσαρες, (γύνονται) (δραχμαί) δ. (5th hand) 'Αθήρ (δραχμάς ?) δύο
(δβολοῦ δύο)
]

[γύνονται) (δραχμαί) β (δβολοὶ δύο)]

(6th hand)

["Ετος") ιθ 'Αντων(ίου) Καταράς τοῦ κυρίου Τύμι νι, δ ο αυτος γερδί(ος)
δρ' ὑν
"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. Phaophi 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|εω|ς] και τξ[έω] σ[υν|ιρουω|ν] ψωμίν: 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 1 r 3, II r 4, etc.; 48, 4. By συνιρουοίσα τώτωσι 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 ν to γαμμα before καρπα in συνιρουων cf. Mayser, Grammatik I pp. 233 ff.

5. ἄρ' δὲν δέφειλε(ει) δημο(σων): For the restoration cf. PSI X 1139, 4; lines 11-12 below; nr. 3, 5 and 14. The phrase is used interchangeably with ὑπέρ δημοσίων; cf. 3, 9; 4, 3 and 8.
δημοσίων: A general word for state dues of any variety (WO 1, p. 178). Here specifically the γεραδικάνων.

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, II 9 note; Mayser, Grammatik I 57 and 59.

Phaophi 26 of year 19: October 24,155.
9. Hathy: October 29/November 27. The specific day is not expected after 'Αθώρ; cf.nr.4, line 12.

11. Tybi 27 of year 19: January 23, A.D.156.
Paryni 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.

Γράϕοντος τετάρτου μ[α]τ[ε]ίκοσταύ Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος
Στίς Αὔγουστον 'Αδριανοῦ 'Αμυμίνου Σεβαστοῦ
[Εὔσεβος Μεχ(ε)ρ) Ἐ. διέγραφεν Εὐδαίμωνι καὶ μετόχ(οις)

Επιτησίας Λεπταίας Λεπταίαι(ῶν) ὄνυ(ν) Τετ(ύ)νεως καὶ τῶν συν(υ)πο(ῶν)

Πρω[τά]ρ(ος) Μυσθάρ(ονος) γέρθ(δος) ἀρ' ἄν ἀνε(λι)κ(εί) δη(μοσίων) τοῦ

Ιᾷ (εὐτά) ἐπιλεγμένου (δραχμάς) δέκα ἕκα, (γι-)νοῦνται (δραχμαί) λές.

(2nd hand) Ἐπούς πρότομον Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος [Μιδρόμου Αὐρηλίαν]
Four Papyri from Second-Century Tebtunis

8  ["Αντωνίου Σεβαστού καὶ Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρας Λουκίου
[Αὔρηλου Οὐζήρου Σεβαστῷ Παχώ(ν) καὶ οὐτὸς γέρδ(ίος) ὑπ(ἐρ)
δῆ(μοςίων)
[τοῦ αὐτοῦ] ἂν (ἐτοὺς) ἐπὶ (λόγῳ) ἄργυρῳ (δραχμᾶς) ὅκτῳ,
(γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ) ἡ. (3rd hand) Παῦνι καὶ ἐλλάς ἐπὶ λόγῳ
[ἀργύρου] (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ. (4th hand)
Μεσορή ἐπαγο(μένων) ἐλλάς ἐπὶ λ.ἀγ. ἄργυρῳ (δραχμᾶς)
ὅκτῳ, (γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ) ἡ. (5th hand)
12  β (ἐτοὺς) ἡ ὀμήρῳ τοῦ διεληλυθὸς αὐτοῦ (ἐτοὺς) (δραχμᾶς) δύο
(ὀβολοὺς δύο), (γίνονται) [δραχμαὶ] β (ὀβολοὶ δύο).
(6th hand)

[("Ετοὺς) καὶ 4 ἦν Πρωτᾶς Πρωτᾶ τοῦ] Μυσθαρίωνος
[γέρδ(ίος)] ὄργ. ἔν [ἀργυρίῳ] δῆ(μοςίων) τοῦ αὐτοῦ καὶ (ἐτοὺς)
ἐπὶ λ.ἀγ. ἄργυρῳ (δραχμᾶς) ὅκτῳ, (γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ) ἡ.
(7th hand)
[Φαρμοθη] ἐλλὰς ἐπὶ λ.ἀγ. (δραχμᾶς) ὅκτῳ, (γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ)
[ἡ ἕ 5]
16  ἐλλάς ἐπὶ λ.ἀγ. (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ.
ἐπὶ λ.ἀγ. (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες,
(γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ., β (ἐτοὺς) Φαβερίδ. ἦ
[ὑπὲρ τοῦ] διεληλυθός αὐτοῦ αὐτοῦ ἐλλάς ἐπὶ λ.ἀγ. (δραχμᾶς)
ὅκτῳ,
(γίνονται) (δραχμαὶ) ἡ. .... [
[ἐλλάς] (δραχμὰς) ἐξ (ὀβολοὺς δύο), (γίνονται) (δραχμαῖς) ς (ὀβολοὶ δύο).

4 ἰτύνιν 9 ἔκ in μς 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 ἐπιτηρητῆς 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.


[[δραχμ]δ]ς τέσσερες: 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 Ἀθόρ 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
Four Papyri from Second-Century Tebtunis

of Didymos, for year 11 of Marcus Aurelius. Incorrectly ascribed to the reign of Antoninus Pius in the editors' description of P.Teb.603.

"Ετοὺς ἔνδεκατοῦ Ἀυρηλίου Ἄντωνίνου Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρίου
Μηχείρια

[διαγραμματικά] Εὐδαμίων καὶ μετόχως ἔπιτηντητας ἵερα(τιμῶν
ἀγὼν Τεπ(τόνεως) καὶ τῶν συνκ(υροῦν) κω(μῶν)

Σαραπ(ι)ῶν πρεσβ(υτερος) Αἱδόμου γέρ(διος) ὑπ(ερ) δὴ(μοσών) τοῦ
α(ϋτοι) ια (Ĥτους) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) ὅκτω, (γ'νονται)
(δραχμαὶ) η.

Φιλαρ(μοθῆ) ο Ἐλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γ'νονται)
(δραχμαὶ) δ. Παύνι κη Ἐλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γ'νονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ.
Μεσορῆ δ

Ἐλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γ'νονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ.
[ι.β] (Ĥτους) Θωθ δ. ὑπ(ὲρ) τοῦ διελ(ηποθος) ια (Ĥτους)
(δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γ'νονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ. Φαώη

[⒈] Ἐλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γ'νονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ.
Ἀθώρ (δραχμάς) δύ[ο] (ἄβουλος δύο), (γ'νονται) (δραχμαὶ) β
(ἄβουλοι δύο).

8 ["Ετοὺς δ' Μех(είρ)ια] Σαραπ(ι)ῶν πρεσβ(υτερος) γέρ(διος) ὑπ(ερ)
δὴ(μοσών) τοῦ α(υτοι) ια (Ĥτους) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) ὅκτω,
(γ'νονται) (δραχμαὶ) η

Φαώη(μοθῆ) ο Ἐλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γ'νονται)
(δραχμαὶ) δ. Παύνι κη Ἑλ(λας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γ'νονται)
(δραχμαὶ) δ. Μεσορῆ δ.
182

J. G. Keenan - J. C. Shelton

"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 Φαμενοθ or, 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.
Fragment eines alten attischen Epigramms


Das Epigramm ist von Willemse 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 Publikationen muss ein Leser, der nicht auf der Hut ist, den Eindruck gewinnen, wir hätten die Zeilennenden von drei aufeinanderfolgenden Versen. In Wirklichkeit umfasste das Gedicht sechs Verse, und wir besitzen nur die Zeilennenden 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 Willemse. Da wir zwei Verse typographisch nicht in einer Zeile unterbringen können, müssen wir das Fragment etwa so drucken: