1971

Four Papyri from Second-Century Tebtunis

James G. Keenan
jkeenan@luc.edu

John C. Shelton

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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 Harphaeis 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-
souchas, 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. ἐφ' ἔτη. For the aspiration see Mayser, Grammatik 1 199 f.

The following space is sufficient for ὅν ορ τρία, of which the former is more probable inasmuch as Heron is elsewhere known to have taken on an apprentice for only two years (P. Tebt. 385).

12–13. ἀνα τῆς νεομηνίας ὥρα. Often simply ἀνα νεομηνίας (e.g., BASP 5, 1968, p. 136, line 8), but P. Tebt. 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. Tebt. 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.


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

II. Receipts for Weavers' Tax

The following three texts record numerous instalments 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 (ἐπιτηρηταῖς) of the ἔρατιμῶν ᾄνων of Tebtunis and associated villages (cf. nr. 2, 3; 3, 2; 4, 2). In this phrase ἄνων must refer to contracts for the farming of taxes; but the exact meaning of ἔρατιμα ἄνων (or perhaps rather ἔρατιμῶν ἄνων – 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. Tebt. 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.

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.

(6th hand)

["Ετους Θαυμάτου Ἀρτυράτος Κασάρας Τέτου
[Αλλίου Ἀδριανοῦ Ἀντωνίου Σεβαστοῦ Εὐσεβοῦς
[διεγραφεὶ χωρὶς καὶ μετόχων] ἐπὶ ηὐστοταῖς ἱερατικῶν ὁμών

4

Πεπτοῦν(ες) καὶ θόν συν(υπούν) καμόν Πρωτᾶς Μυςαρίων(ος)

[γέρης ἃ χῶν ὠφειλλ(ει) δημο(σίων) τοῦ ἁ(ύτου) ἲ( ἐτους) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργ(υρίου) (δραχμάς) δένα

[δοο, (γένονται) (δραχμαὶ) μ.δ. 4] λ ἁλ(ας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργ(υρίου) (δραχμαὶ) δικτὰ, (γένονται) (δραχμαὶ) η. (2nd hand) ἐμοὶ(ος)

[±5 ἁλ(ας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργ(υρίου) (δραχμαὶ) τέσσαρες, (γένονται)

(δραχμαὶ) δ. ἐπετείμη ἁλ(ας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) ἄργ(υρίου) (δραχμαὶ) τέσσαρες,

8

[θάρσει, (γένονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ. (3rd hand) Μεσοφηνὴ ἡ ἁλ(ας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) (δραχμαὶ) τέσσαρες, (γένονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ. (4th hand)

ἰ( ἐτους) Φαθωπὶ κῆς

[ἀλ(ας) ἐπὶ λ(όγου) τοῦ διελθυμ(οτος) ἴη (ἐτους) ἄργ(υρίου) (δραχμαὶ)

τέσσαρες, (γένονται) (δραχμαὶ) δ. (5th hand) 'Αθρύ (δραχμαὶ ?) δῦο

(ἀβολοῦδος δῦο),

[(γένονται) (δραχμαὶ) β (ἀβολοὶ δῦο).]
"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. ..."
δημο(σίων) : A general word for state dues of any variety (WO I, p.178). Here specifically the γερμιακόν.

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. Hathyr: October 29/November 27. The specific day is not expected after 'Αθύρ ; 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.

[Π']Έτους τετάρτου μ[η]ξί εἰκοσατραίνε Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος
[Π]έτου Α]λ]ιζου 'Αδριανοβ 'Αντωνίνου Σεβαστοῦ
Εὐκατάσθε Μεχ(ερ) Ἐχ. διέγραφεν Εὐδαίμονι καὶ μετόχ(οις)
4 Ἐπίτηθι(ρητάς) ἕρατικ(ῶν) ὑμῶν(ν) Τεπτ(ῶνες) καὶ τῶν συν(ορουσῶν)
καὶ μὴν
Πρωτάζεις Μυθοπετινον(ος) γερδ(ίος) δέρ(ίος) δὲρ' ὑμὲν δέρελε(ί) δημοσίων τοῦ
ὀυ(τοῦ)
[νδ] (Έτους) ἑπτά(λόγου) (δραχμᾶς) δέκα ἡξ[ε], (γ' χνονταί) (δραχμαί) ης.
(2nd hand) Έτους πρ]έσιν Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος [Μ]υθοπετί Αὐρήλιου
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8 ["Αντωνίου Σεβαστοῦ καὶ Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρας Λουκίου
[Αὐρίλιου Οὐκήρου Σεβαστοῦ Παχώ(ν) καὶ οὗ αὐτὸς γέρων (οὗ) ὑπὲρ

dημοσίων]

[toῦ αὐτοῦ] a (ἐτοὺς) ἐπὶ (λῆγιού) ἄργυρου (δραχμᾶς) ὁκτά,
(γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) ἦ (3rd hand) Παῦνι καὶ ἀλλακτὶ ἐπὶ λῆγιού
[ἄργυρου] (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες, (γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) δ. (4th hand)
Μεσορή ἐπαγομένων ἐξ ἀλλακᾶς ἐπὶ λῆγιον ἄργυρου (δραχμᾶς)
ὁκτά, (γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) ἦ (5th hand)

12 β (ἐτοὺς) Ἰ ἐξ ἐπὶ (εἰς) τοῦ διεληλυθὸς (τὸς) a (ἐτοὺς) (δραχμᾶς) δύο
(ἄβολος δύο), (γίγνονταί) (ἐδραχμαί) β (ἄβολος δύο).
(6th hand)

[("Ετοὺς) καὶ ἤμισυ Πρωτὰς Πρωτὰ τοῦ] Μυσθαρίωνος
[γέρου] ἀν [δραχμῆς] δημοσίων] τοῦ αὐτοῦ καὶ (ἐτοὺς)
ἐπὶ λῆγιον ἄργυρου (δραχμᾶς) ὁκτά, (γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) ἦ.
(7th hand)

[Φαρμουθὸς] ἐξ ἀλλακῆς ἐπὶ λῆγιον (δραχμᾶς) ὁκτά, (γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ)
[ἐπὶ λῆγιον] (δραχμᾶς) ὁκτά, (γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ)

16 [ἀλλακῆς] ἐπὶ λῆγιον (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες, (γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) δ.
᾿ἐπαγομένων ἐξ ἀλλακᾶς ἐπὶ λῆγιον (δραχμᾶς) τέσσαρες,
(γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) δ. β(ἐτοὺς) Φαθέω θ[...

[ἐπὶ Πρωτὰ] διεληλυθὸς (τὸς) a (ἐτοὺς) ἀλλακῆς ἐπὶ λῆγιον (δραχμᾶς) ὁκτά,
(γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) ἦ.......
[ἀλλακῆς (δραχμᾶς) ἐξ (ἄβολος δύο), (γίγνονταί) (δραχμαῖ) ς (ἄβολος δύο).

4 ὁνέων 9 κ. ἐκ κ. κατεργασμένος ἐξ αὐτῶν

"Year twenty-four of Imperator Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius,
Mecheir 5. Pratas, 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. Ἐδωιμωνί: An ἐπιτηρητής 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.


[(δραχίας 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 'Αθύρ or Χοζακ, 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
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of Didymos, for year 11 of Marcus Aurelius. Incorrectly ascribed to the reign of Antoninus Pius in the editors' description of P. Teb. 603.

["Ετους ἐνδεξάτου Αὐρηλίου Ἁντωνίνου Καζάρας τοῦ κυρίου
Μεξείρ τα'
[Βιεὴγρ(αφεν) Εὔδαμων καὶ μετόχ(οις) ἐπίτηδηταις] ἵερα(τινῶν
ἀγῶν Τεπ(τώνως) καὶ τῶν συνκ(ουρου) μι(μών)
[Σαραηθ(ων) πρεβθ(ὺτερος) διδύμου γέρδ(ιος) ὑπ(ερ) δη(μοσίων) τοῦ
α[ῦτοι] ᾿τά (Ετοὺς) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) δικτά, (γίνονται)
(δραχμαί) η.

Φιλαρ(μοθθ) ᾿Ο ᾿Ελλ(λας) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται)
(δραχμαί) δ. Παξα(φυ τᾶ ξη(λας)
ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) δ. Παξα(νι ἡ
ἐξ(λας) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) δ.
Μεσορῆ δ.

[Ελλ(λας) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) δ.
[1β] (Ετοὺς) Θάλ(δ) ὑπ(ερ) τοῦ διελ(ηλυθ(οτο) ᾿τα (Ετοὺς)
(δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) δ. Φοι(ψι
[1.] ᾿Ελλ(λας) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) δ.
᾿Αθὴρ (δραχμάς) δῦ[α] (δῆλους δῦ[ο]), (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) β
(δῆλοι δῦ[ο]).

8 ["Ετοὺς τα ᾿Μεξ(είρ) ᾿τα] Σαραηθ(ῶν) πρεβθ(ὺτερος) γέρδ(ίος) ὑπ(ερ)
δη(μοσίων) τοῦ α(ῦτοι) ᾿τα (Ετοὺς) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) δικτά,
(γίνονται) (δραχμαί) η
Φοι(μοθθ) ᾿Ο ᾿Ελλ(λας) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται)
(δραχμαί) δ. Παξα(φυ τᾶ ξη(λας)
[Ελλ(λας) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) δ.
Παξα(νι ἡ ᾿Ελλ(λας) ἐπί λ(όγου) (δραχμάς) τέσσαρες, (γίνονται)
(δραχμαί) δ. Μεσορῆ 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 Φαυμυθορ, 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); 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 Willemsen. Da wir zwei Verse typographisch nicht in einer Zeile unterbringen können, müssen wir das Fragment etwa so drucken: