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drachmas for two arouras of land; it is a mandate (see my *Law I* 298, II 93/4). The interest is to be collected from, not paid to, the woman to whom the money is paid. It would appear, therefore, that the transaction is really a mortgage (cf. my *Law I* 216) or rather a loan on the security, and with interim use by the lender of two arouras. Since no interest can have accrued at this stage, the directions for it must refer to the future: Dionysius is to arrange for its collection when due, and is bidden not to receive less than a year's interest i. e. not to take payment at shorter intervals than one whole year. For the exorbitant interest charged, see note on l. 10 ff. No. 24 (200 A.D.) is a business letter perhaps written to a partner in a *μισθωσις*. The letter in No. 32 (early fourth cent.) may perhaps allude to an *ὥνῃ ἐν πίστει* (cf. my *Law I* 206). No. 38 (IV cent. A.D.) is a letter to a landlord, announcing, that he paid the messengers acting on behalf of Sabinus and Naraous their wages in full up to to-day (mandate). No. 46 (VI cent. A. D.) is a letter of a tax collector, addressed to his superior by a harassed tax-collector, in arrears of money and hard pressed for time owing to a colleague's death. Nos. 27, 40, 42, 50 are accounts. In No. 40 the term *γενέθλια* is used. The edition ends with an appendix: Claudius Firmus *Ἐπανορθώτης* (cf. my *Law I* 372).

DAVID S. CRAWFORD, *Fuad I University Papyri* (*Publication de la Société Fouad I de Papyrologie*. Société des Publications égyptiennes, Alexandrie 1949).

The papyri published in this edition belonged previously to the late Prof. Gradenwitz. No. I (227/6 B.C.) is the beginning of a legal document. No. II = SB 6286. No. III (III cent. B.C.) contains the phrase *Let us decide before Heracleides* (arbitration?). No. IV (181 B.C.) resembles SB 5675. No. V (I cent. B.C.) consists almost entirely of village and personal names. No. VI (III cent. A.D.) a private letter, similar to that in Oxy. 1069 (v. 6) mentions *ὀλίγα ξένια καὶ ἐγγαρέας*. No. VII (II cent. A.D.) is an invitation to dinner on the occasion of the writer's daughter wedding. No. VIII (II cent. A.D.?) shows that the writer or his correspondent (perhaps his wife) is in need of cash and that the writer is suggesting means of raising it, mentioning a number of articles of some value that could be sold. No. IX (III or IV cent. A.D.?) mentions *βιβλίδια* — *[ἐ]σφραγισμένα*. No. X (217/8 A.D.) presumably refers to the substitution of money, or objects of equal value, for the

ἐμάτια which were, by a marriage contract, part of a dowry. No. XI (III cent. A.D.) is a letter rather than a mere account. No. XII (III cent. A.D.) is a private letter dealing with a variety of subjects. No. XIII (297/8 A.D.) is a registration of a child with a *systates* of Oxyrhynchus. The document differs from those concerning Roman children (see my *Law* I 81) and shows that after the C.A. the peregrine form was further observed. The *systates* is known in the 4th cent. as a *delegate of appointments* with the duty of nominating men to perform liturgies. No. XIV (III cent. A.D.) is of considerable interest for the problems it presents concerning the meaning of ἐπ' οἷζει and θυρώνες. No. XV (IV cent. A.D.) appears to be part of a letter from an ἐπείκτης (collector) to the komarch of Paeimis. No. XVI (IV/V cent. A.D.) appears to be a letter or petition to an exactor, and to be concerned among other things with liturgies (v. 11) ἀπο- or ὑπο-κλέπτειν might mean *to suppress the proof of slavery*; προνωήσασθαι = *to provide for*. No. XVII (Byzantine) (v. 1) mentions a σκρίβα, Latin *scriba*.

Nos. XVIII to XXIV are contracts, deeds of sale etc. No. XVIII (II cent. A.D.) is an acknowledgement of debt in connection with some wine, perhaps a mortgage on the wine which is mentioned in l. 3. as the principal security. No. XIX (145/6 A.D.) is a contract (v. 7) doubtless giving power to the purchaser to lease the land or reap the crops herself; v. 8 probably referring to the responsibility of the vendor for paying all taxes or dues *for* (or *from*) *all previous time up to the present ninth year*; (v. 9/10) refer to the guarantee against all future claims to the land. The general sense is that neither the vendor nor others acting on her behalf may proceed against the purchaser or her successors to the land, on pain of paying damages, expenses and fines. No. XX (III cent. A.D.) concerns a cession of land. Characteristic is the clause in v. 7—9; its sense is that the cessor accepted responsibility for all taxes and duties up to and including those for the past and current years; after which the crops and profits belonged to the cessee to whose charge fell all future taxes. No. XXI (258 and 260 A.D.) is a sale or cession of land. No. XXII (276—282 A.D.) is a fragment of a contract. No. XXIII (283 or 284 A.D.) concerns a house and a wine- or oil-press. No. XXIV (251—262 A.D.) is a part of a legal document but its nature cannot be determined; v. 4 reads παρήλικος μετ' ἐκδίκου; cf. on ἐκδικος my *Law* I 11627. No. XXV to XXVII are private accounts. No. XXVIII (III or IV cent. A.D.)

is probably an *apographe* or registration: ἀπογρ]άφομαι κεκτῆσθαι ἐπτ[ά (see on ἀπογραφαί in the Byz. period my *Law* II 40). No. XXIX (IV cent. A.D.) appears to be concerned with the finances of a city or nome and not with the receipts or payments of individuals. No. XXXI (I—II cent. A.D.), a letter containing tax assessment, includes the following phrase: *Please see that a public announcement is made about the poll-tax when we come (or since we are coming) to-morrow*. Heraclides is expected to arrange for the town-cries to make announcement about the collection of the poll-tax. No. XXXIII (II—III cent. A.D.) is part of a list of taxes on garden land received on the account of a certain Athenodorus with references to the original documents and register entries from which these particulars have been extracted. No. XXXIV (42 A.D.) is a customs-receipt. No. XXXV (120 A.D.) is a receipt for arrears of the corn tax, paid in cash to the corn-practors more than a year they were due.

No. XXXVI to XLIII are Miscellaneous Papyri. No. XXXVI (119 A.D.) is a frg. of a document containing an oath. No. XXXVII (III cent. A.D.) is a letter, petition or disposition, referring, among other matters, to the concealment of a slave and to a sale (cf. my *Law* I 63); on v. 5 (ἀκολου)θεῖς τόν νόμον τοῦ μετὰ τήν πρᾶσιν see νόμοι concerning slaves in my *Law* II 386. No. XXXVIII (III cent. A.D.) concerns a farm, property thereon, and a lease, but it does not seem to be a contract. Perhaps it is a fragment from the correspondence between a landowner and his agents. No. XXXIX (270—275 A.D.) is a receipt or contract (?). In XL (III cent. A.D.) the word ὀλυμπιονίκης is to be found; it occurs also in SB 1070, SB 5725 and PSI 456. Perhaps this document is concerned with privileges of the successful *athletai*. No. XLI (III cent. A.D.) perhaps a decree of, or a letter to, the Council of Oxyrhynchus, the subject-matter is perhaps a loan, possibly to the municipality. Appendix I contains some notes on previously published papyri in the Fuad I University Collection. Cat. No. 1 = Jules Nicole, *Arch. f. Pap.* IV (1908) p. 269. Cat. No. 2 = SB 5675 an official letter (royal πρόσταγμα) dated 184 B.C. No. 3 = SB 5680. No. 4 is a duplicate copy of the same document. Cat. No. 25 was published by Gradenwitz, *Arch. f. Pap.* III 205 and by Comparetti in *Papyri Greco-Egizii Florentini* No. 135 (III cent. A.D.). Cat. No. 29 = SB 5670 (147 A.D.). In Cat. No. 30 = SB 5673 Isidoros has made a deposit (ἀρράβων) of 80 dr. with his bid, and this was

repayable if the bid was not accepted. The repayment of this direct by the actual purchaser would save trouble at the bank.

PAPYRI FROM THE ROMAN PERIOD

J. SCHWARTZ, *Bull. de l'Inst. franç. de l'Archéologie Orientale* t. XLVII p. 196 (Appendix).

Pap. A (89/90 A.D.) contains an oath sworn by the Τύχη. It is the most ancient instance amongst the known ones. It gives us an oath of guarantee and the same part of the papyrus contains an ἀντίγραφον ἐγγυήσεως as announced in v. 6. The people who have to swear the oath are [οἱ] προκεχ[ε]ρισμένοι ὑπὸ τῶν τῆς κώμης... σιτολόγων πρὸς καταγωγήν κτλ. The object of the sworn obligation, was nothing else than the delivery of wheat to Neapolis. Pap. B (first half of the III cent. A.D.) is a receipt for a delivery of wheat. It is not necessary to insist on the well known wording of this receipt for wheat that was to be transported to Alexandria (cf. Oxy. 1259 and 1225). The *bouleutes* to whom the receipt is to be delivered is probably an inhabitant of Oxyrhynchus. He seems to assume the functions of a *sitologus*.

P. BENOÎT, O. P. et J. SCHWARTZ, *Caracalla et les troubles d'Alexandrie en 215 après J. C.* (Extr. des *Etudes de Papyrologie* t. VII).

The papyrus contains fragments from the minutes of a public session presided by 'Antoninus Sebastos'. Three persons appear speaking: Antoninus Sebastos, Herakleitos and Haraxos. Two other persons are mentioned as having spoken: Italikos and one hekaton-tarch whose name is not given. One Herakleites prefect of Egypt, and one Italikos, acting high priest, both 215 A.D. are known personages. The presiding Emperor is Caracalla, who came to Egypt in the same year 215 A.D. (Dio Cass. 77, 22). The mention of Alexandria (Dio Cass. II 10) and of Canope (Dio Cass. I 7) allow us to determine the place of the session. The visit of Caracalla has won celebrity, owing to a very serious incident, about whose repercussions the papyrus gives us new details.

The financial difficulties of the Empire and the decrees of the Emperor depreciating at the same time golden and silver currency seem to have provoke a riot among the contractors bound to deliver statues. They saw that their statues were not to be paid for at all and at least they would be paid for in a depreciated