

Taubenschlag, Rafał

"Early Byzantine Papyri from the Cairo Museum", A. E. R. Boak, "Etudes de Papyrologie", VII : [recenzja]

The Journal of Juristic Papyrology 4, 387-388

1950

Artykuł został zdigitalizowany i opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez **Muzeum Historii Polski** w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

PAPYRI FROM THE BYZANTINE PERIOD

A. E. R. BOAK, *Early Byzantine Papyri from the Cairo Museum* (Extr. des *Etudes de Papyrologie* VII 35—71).

The papyri presented in this collection form the continuation of the series from the archive of Aurelios Isidoros of Karanis published in *Etudes de Papyrologie* II 1—22; III 1—45; V 85—117. They are numbered in sequence from the thirty texts which appeared so far in the afore-mentioned periodical.

No. 31 (311 A.D.) is a report of chaff-collections. In the opening line of Col. I, the document is described as ἐμβολῆς ἀχύρου ἰθ (ἔτους). Accordingly, it is an account of the collection of the chaff-tax from the harvest of the 19th year (310/11 A.D.) and destined for shipment to Alexandria or other points in Egypt, since there is no report of the transport of chaff to Rome or Byzantium. In form the report is an ἀπαιτήσιμον κατ' ἄνδρα containing entries of individual deliveries on specific dates. No. 32 (313/4 A.D.) is a register of landholders: a list of the holders of that class of government lands called ἄπρατα in the three villages of Nea Ptolemais, Bacchias and Kerkesoucha in the 22nd year (Col. I 1—3). The lands designated by the term ἄπρατα were those which were offered for sale by the government but not yet purchased (cf. Rostowzew, *Röm. Kolonat* pp. 149 ff., Oxy 1633s and note; Preisigke *Wb.* s. h. v.). They could, therefore, be held under lease and the holders of these lands appear in this list were undoubtedly state tenants. But we may suspect that perhaps they did not take up this land voluntarily and that their leases partook of the obligatory character of an ἐπιβολή of ownerless land imposed upon the villagers of Karanis and assigned to the landholders who appear in the list. No. 33 (early IV cent. A.D.) is also a list of landholders. It is probably safe to assume that the list had something to do with the assignment or collection of taxes. No. 34 (315 A.D.) is a receipt for a delivery of wood, by Aristos and Germanos, two komarchs of Karanis. No. 35 (309 A.D.) is a deed of sale of a young female donkey (cf. my *Law* I 252—254). No. 38 (early IV cent. A.D.) is a pittakion account. The significance of the term *pittakion* has been discussed by T. T. Kalèn, (*Berl. Leigh.* pp. 208—212) who has demonstrated that *pittakion* was the name of a special form of tenure of government-land, which came to be applied to such leaseholders themselves. No. 39 (309 A.D.) is a loan of

wheat. The amount of the loan is six artabas of wheat, together with a ἡμιολία of three artabas. The *hemiolia*, of course, was not actually delivered to Heras, and his acknowledgement of its receipt constitutes merely an assumption of the obligation to pay this amount as a fixed charge in consideration for the loan in kind (cf. Berger, *Strafklauseln* pp. 122—123; my *Law I* 262/3). The purpose of Heras in making the loan is not stated. It is likely that we have here to do with a delinquent taxpayer, who was unable to meet his wheat quota and so had to resort to the *sitologoi* — they are the lenders (creditors) — for a temporary loan to satisfy the tax-collectors. In other words, the *sitologoi* paid his tax and charged him with 50% interest for doing so. A loan of barley for a similar purpose, although not made by the *sitologoi*, is to be found in No. 28 (cf. however C. B. Welles, *American Journal of Philology*, vol. LXXI 1 (1950) p. 111).

Raphael Taubenschlag