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"Documentary Papyri from the Michigan Collection (P. Mich. 577-602)", Gerald M. Browne, "American Studies in Papyrology", vol. VI, 1970 ; "Papyri from the Michigan Collection (P. Mich. 603-625)", John C. Shelton, "American Studies in Papyrology", vol. IX, 1971 : [recenzja]

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is mentioned for the first time in this document as recipient of birth declaration in Oxyrhynchus.

No. 2859: Contract of substitution as *dekanos*. The substitute is hired for two months for a daily wage of 250 dr. (the total amounts to 2 talents 3000 dr.) The liturgy is this of δεκανός ῥαβδούχων. A.D. 301.

Nos. 2860—2862 are private letters, the two first from the 2nd cent., the third from the 3rd. They give us, as usually, scarce information, as the questions discussed by the correspondents constitute for us mere allusions (the last of these documents No. 2862 is even characterized by the editor as “cryptic note”). No. 2860 mentions some boys, probably slaves, because in ll. 15—16 we meet the term νεανίσκοι πετευρίσται (acrobats — the word is new, attested only in Latin transcription). No. 2861 urges the addressee to speed up the collection of taxes. No. 2962 informs about the accomplishment of an order according to received instructions.

Nos. 2863—2872: group of documents connected with the activity of sitologi. Nos. 2863—2870 are orders of payment in grain from the stocks held in deposit, addressed to sitologi of different localities, ranging from 125 to 176 A.D. Nos. 2871—2872 are notices of credit stating the performance of transfer according to similar orders (A.D. 175—176 and 283—285 respectively).

The remaining documents are reprints from the former edition in *BASP V* (1968). No. 2873: Withdrawal from lease. A.D. 62. No. 2874: Lease of land. A.D. 108. No. 2875: Contract of apprenticeship of the craft or building. Early 3rd cent. No. 2876: Oath of a guard upon entering the service. Memphite nome, early 3rd cent.

[Warszawa]

Zbigniew Borkowski

Gerald M. Browne, *Documentary Papyri from the Michigan Collection* (P. Mich. 577—602). *American Studies in Papyrology* vol. VI, A. M. Hekert, Toronto 1970.

John C. Shelton, *Papyri from the Michigan Collection* (P. Mich. 603—625). *American Studies in Papyrology*, vol. IX. A. M. Hekert, Toronto 1971.

The publication of documents, contained in each of the two volumes, was the subject of doctoral dissertations of their editors. This explains the choice of texts, which allow the scholars to present their knowledge. The chosen papyri differ in provenience and datation, but are in their majority documents of interest. Both volumes present an identical composition and follow the

same editorial principles. We can only regret that the description of the papyri, both in the Table of Papyri as in the titles of texts, omits data concerning their provenience; this makes the use of the publication rather difficult.

Gerald M. Browne publishes 26 papyri (Nos. 577—602).

No. 577: Letter concerning ἀφήλικες. Provenance unknown, time of Claudius or Nero. The document contains two texts: an official form in a skillful hand concerning the exaction of *laographia* from *aphelikes*, and a letter written later over and under this form, talking also about the exaction of *laographia* from minors (according to the editor these minors begin to be subject to taxation). The author says that the tax collectors did not receive an armed guard, which may show their difficulty in collecting the dues. Both correspondents are probably tax collectors (*praktores*).

No. 578: Census list. A roll of boys who finished or approach 14 years of age, probably drawn up for poll-tax (*laographia*) purposes. The document mentions the names, patronyms, name of the mother and age, attained in the 6th or 8th year of an unnamed reign. As one of the mentioned persons, Stratippos son of Titan, is known from other documents (P. Alex. 9, P. Mich. Michael 10), the editor dates the papyrus for the times of Tiberius and states its provenance from Philadelphia. An analogical roll in P. Lond II 261 (p. 53) was set after a declaration of the year of the census and the three following years. This brings the editor to conclude that the first and earliest regular census was carried out in 19/20 A.D. (6th of Tiberius), in a later known 14 years cycle, and our document was drawn up in the 9th year of this reign, i.e. 22/23 A.D.

No. 579: Notification of death addressed to γραμματεὺς πόλεως. Oxyrhynchos, dated paleographically *ca.* 150 A.D.

No. 580: Notification of disappearance. Oxyrhynchos 19/20. A.D. Addressed to *topogrammateis* and *komogrammateis* of Oxyrhynchos. The document states that a certain Apollonios son of Theon μηδένα πόρον ἔχων withdrew abroad (ἀνεχώρησεν). His mother reports about it through the mediation of her guardian, asking to put her son on the list of ἀναχωρηκότες.

No. 581: Petition to a strategus of the Arsinoite nome, division of Herakleides, 126—128 A.D. The strategus is Asklepiades, known from other documents. The text reports a theft of hay. The petitioner is afraid that he will be considered as responsible for it. In ll. 7—8 occurs the term δράγμα πύρι(ν)ον; the editor, in note ad loc. mentions "the same error" in SB 7665, 10, and gives only the form πύρινος in the index. The employed editorial sign < > means "omission in original" (p. X), but there is no justification for the omission by the scribe of the same letter in a word occurring in two different documents. Even if the form πύριος should be considered as erroneous, it is, nevertheless a linguistic fact. The adjective πύρινος (and other related forms: πυρίδιον,

πυρώδης, etc.) derives both from πύρ and from πυρός (LSJ). The form πύριος is asserted only as derivative of πύρ (LSJ); it should not be surprising, as the index in SB V gives only the "corrected" form πύριος.

No. 582: Tax list and draft of a petition. Philadelphia 49/50 A.D. Col. I brings the names of 17 tax payers, most of them already known from P. Princeton 13 and 14. The tax (unnamed) should be probably the *cheironaxion*, and the subsisting column might be the last of a longer roll. On the remaining free place we find a draft of petition, by another hand, of a πράκτωρ ἀργυρικῶν to an unnamed official. The petitioner requests the *hekatontarches* to compel his fellow-collector of money taxes, who is neither ἀπολύσιμος γεωργός nor ἐν λευκώματι (i.e. *album*, probably a list of those who enjoyed exemption from liturgies) to perform his duties. The aforesaid liturgy concerns the 10th year of Claudius. The same question is treated in P. Gen. inv. 211 (= SB 9224). The accused *praktor* of our text is author of a document where he states, that he is not ἐν λευκώματι, but that in the 11th year he was ἀπολύσιμος γ[εωργός] (that is a correction of our editor). The complaint in the petition P. Mich 582 seems just, as the defendant was not an "exempted cultivator" in the 10th year of Claudius.

Nos. 583—585 are documents relative to the house property of a certain Hermas, son of Ptolemaios from Bacchias. He is already known from P. Mich. 188, and P. Mich 189 brings some information about this same estate after Hermas' death.

No. 583 opens the story of this realty: Hermas buys four ninths of a house and a courtyard for 100 fr., 78 A.D.

No. 584 (Pl. I) is a contract for the division of property. The above mentioned house is divided into three equal parts belonging to four different proprietors: two of them own collectively $1/3$, Hermas has the same share, and the remaining third part belongs to a fourth partner ($2/9$) and, at the same time, Hermas owns $1/9$ of this part of the house. The contract was drawn up in 84 A.D.

No. 585 (Pl. II) is an antichretic loan of 60 dr. In lieu of interests for the lent sum, Hermas receives for one year the right of habitation in $1/27$ share of an undivided propriety, which he partly owns. 87 A.D.

No. 586 (Pl. III): Notarial contract of lease of a bakery. Tebtunis ca. 30 A.D. Its equipment is composed of a "Theban millstone with nether millstones and a grindling handle, one mortar and one oven", The lease is for two years, for a yearly rent of 80 dr. payable in four instalments every four months.

No. 587: Παραμονή contract. Tebtunis 24/25 A.D. The lender accepts, in lieu of interests on a loan of 48 dr., the service of the debtors daughter during one year.

No. 588, defined by the editor as an order for payment, is a notice acknowledg-

ing the delivery of 169 *keramia* (presumably of wine) from two different vats. A general order of payment to the landowner according to the agreement does not mention any sum. Provenance unknown. Mid. 3rd cent.

Nos. 589—591 are orders for arrest. No. 589 addressed to the *archepodos* of Karanis (late 2nd-early 3rd cent.); No. 590 of unknown provenance is drawn up by the strategus to the *nomophylax* and *archepodos* (3rd—4th cent.); No. 591 from the Heracleopolite nome is sent to the *protokometai* and *eirenarchai* of a Thmoinepsi village. In relation to these three documents the editor analyses thoroughly this type of orders and compiles an actual list of 55 known documents.

Nos. 592—593 are almost contemporary military lists of two different types. The first text has all the characteristics of a *matricula*, and the second may be considered as a *brevis*. All soldiers mentioned in both have the *gentilicium* Valerius.

No. 592 (Pl. IV): Fragment of a Latin military list. 311—324 A.D. The names of the soldiers are listed according to the succession of military ranks: *tribunus*, (*centurio*), *ordin* () and *cornicularius* are listed first. Consular dates of enlistment follow every name. The mention of the *centurio* proves that the military unit concerned was either a *legio* or a *cohors*.

No. 593: Fragment of a Greek military list. Provenance unknown, 312 A.D. From this roll of cavalry soldiers three partly subsisting columns contain the name of the soldier, the consular date of his enlistment and the number of years of service (*stipendia*). On the left margin are inserted notes about the affectation to *turma*, absence or leave, special duties, etc. According to the editor these notes are difficult to read, and we can only regret that a photograph of the text is not included in the volume. From the eleven mentioned *turmae* only four names of commanding officers are considered to be reproduced in fairly sure transcription. The deciphered names are rather curious and differ of the quite common names of simple soldiers.

No. 594: Account of arrears. Philadelphia, 51 A.D. A specification, drawn up in the 12th year of Claudius, of overdue sums from the poll tax, the pig tax and the dike tax, calculated for every year, back to the 6th year of Claudius' reign (10th probably omitted). The document gives evidence of a severe economic crisis during the 1st century A.D. An extensive commentary of this crisis brings together documents relative to the symptoms of this event in Philadelphia. On the ground of the data from one document, P. Ryl. 595 (57 A.D.) the editor calculates the approximate number of people with overdue tax payments for each year and concludes that the crisis came to depression in the 7th and 8th year of Claudius' reign (46/47—47/48 A.D.). This phenomenon might be related to a famine, certified by documents and probably caused by an excessive flood mentioned by Pliny. This hunger intensified the already

existing crisis, provoked by the Roman practice of exploiting the provinces to the maximum.

No. 595: Penthemeros certificate. Theadelphia, 161 A.D. In his commentary, the editor adds 13 new documents to the list set together by P. Sijpesteijn in *Penthemeros Certificates in Greco-Roman Egypt*, P. Lugd. Bat. XII, Leiden 1964.

No. 596 (Pl. V): Two *naubia* certificates (Karanis 328 or 343 A.D.) written on the same sheet of papyrus, issued to two different persons by ναύτης χωμάτων (written ναυτος). The editor considers him as a "sailor attached to the dike works". The name of this official, known from P. New York 2: Aur. Ptoleminos is twice written as Aurelis Ptolaminos in the title of both documents, but Ptoleminos in both subscripts. Aurelis is a vulgar but banal spelling; Ptolaminos may also be vulgar, but this form deserves to be mentioned in the index, even if the editor prefers to correct this names form in the apparatus. Unindexed readings have no chance to be included in a supplement to NB.

No. 597 (Pl. VI): Receipt for dike tax (χωματικόν). Provenance unknown, 51 A.D. The text, cancelled by crossing, does not contain the name of the taxpayer. There are newly published documents of this kind, listed in the commentary, which complete the list, set together in the Wallace's *Taxation*.

No. 598 (Pl. VII): Receipt for weavers' tax payed by master weaver Pausiris son of Ammonios, already known from P. Mich. 170—172 and P. Lugd. Bat. XVI 4 (all concerning apprenticeship). Oxyrhynchos, 49 A.D.

No. 599: Receipt for the rent of usiac land, formerly belonging to the confiscated property of a certain Antonius Theon, paid to the πράκτωρ ούσιακῶν by the supervisor of usiac lands, in charge of the leasing of the estate of Antonius Theon (ἐπιτηρητῆς ούσιακῶν μισθώσεως Ἀντωνίου Θ.).

No. 600: Receipt for τιμή πυροῦ. Philadelphia, 304 A.D.

No. 601 (Pl. VIII): Business letter concerning viticulture in which vine cutting for planting (κλήματα, ξύλα) is mentioned. Possibly from the Zenon archives, ca. 250 B.C.

No. 602: Private letter concerning transport of barley from the Oxyrhynchite nome. Early 3rd cent. A.D.

The noticed printing errors are of slight importance: Achmin for Achmim (p. 51 n. 29); P. Brooklyn gr. 7 (p. 68 n. 1) is quoted on the same page, in the paragraph which precedes the note; the end of l. 3 of the Greek text does not appear in print on p. 74.

The volume published by John C. Shelton contains 23 texts from P. Mich. 603—625.

No. 603 (Pl. I): Hire of scribes. Arsinoe, A.D. 134. Contract between the *grammateis* of the metropolis and nine scribes who undertake to prepare copies

of population lists in summary (λαογραφία ἐν κεφαλαίῳ) for the 18th year of Hadrian. They undertook earlier, as mentioned in the contract, to compile also other lists: a house-by-house registration (κατ' οἰκίαν ἀπογραφή), a roll person-by-person (λαογραφίαι κατ' ἄνδρα), lists of catoeci (λόγοι κατοίκων) and lists of minors and of those excluded from the tax estimation (ἀπολογισμοὶ ἀφ' ἡλικίων καὶ ἐκτὸς συνόψεως). The lists are to be compiled on the basis of records of the 17th year, furnished together with clean papyrus by the metropolitan secretaries. The lists are to be prepared in single copies. Such a compilation was a task for specialists. The great number of lists was surely bound with the census of the 16th year of Hadrian.

No. 604: Hire of a secretary. Oxyrhynchos, A.D. 223. Two men charged with sitology liturgy hire a secretary whose duties are fixed by the contract. They consist in the receiving of grain, the delivery of receipts to the payers, the preparation of monthly reports for the strategus, the expedition of corn through the intermediary of *naukleroi*. The amount of the salary is not specified.

No. 605: Antichretic loan. Bacchias, 117 A.D. The document belongs to the Hermas archives (cfr. P. Mich. 583—585) and is strictly parallel to P. Mich 585. In lieu of interests of the borrowed sum of 60 dr., Hermas is entitled for one year to the right of habitation in 4/27 share of a house, of which he is co-proprietor.

No. 606: Loan of money. Theadelphia, 224 A.D. The sum of 152 dr. is lent for one year without interests. Lender is Aur. Hieron, freedman of L. Septimius Aurelius Poseidonius, an eminent Alexandrian, *ex-hypomnematographos*, known from several documents (P. Stras. 143 = SB 8258, SB 8899 = P. Med. 63, O. Mich. 94, BGU 1617, P. Flor. 16).

No. 607: (Pl. II): Loan of money. Antinoopolis, A.D. 569. Fl. Christodoros, herald (πραίων = *praeco*) of the *officium* of the *praeses* in Antinoopolis, borrows one golden solidus minus six carats at the interest of 250 silver talents per month (in the commentary to ll. 22—23 the editor discusses the actual interest rate in the context of already known opinions). The loan is to be repaid on the creditors demand.

No. 608: Sale in advance of wine (200 five-sexterii jars), barley (18 art.), wheat (18 art.) and vegetable seeds (4 1/2 art.) for 4 solidi. The crops are to be delivered in Pauni and the wine in Mesore. The seller assures the quality and durability (καλ(λ)ονήν καὶ παραμονήν ll. 14—15) of the wine. The editor's transcript of the first of these adjectives contradicts with his commentary ad loc.: it is not an "omission in the papyrus" (cfr. p. XIII), but a "simplification of the double lambda"; the same applies to προκεγραμ(μ)ένος in l. 19; cfr. also the remark to P. Mich 581 (above). Provenance unknown, 6th cent.

Nos. 609—611 are leases of land. In 609 (Arsinoite nome, 244 A.D.) 2 1/2 arourae in the vicinity of Tebetny village are rented for cultivation of vegetables

for a tenure of the half of vegetable seed. The lessor is to supply three yokes of oxen and to pay the taxes on the land. The lessee supplies the seeds and covers the costs of their culture. The text brings a new term: *λικμήσις* which means "a method of separating out the vegetable seed in a process similar to the winnowing of wheat" (editor's commentary on 1.22). 610 (Oxyrhynchos, 282 A.D.) is a lease of flax-land in the vicinity of the Ision Panga village (the amount of leased arourae is lost) for one year at 1600 dr. per aroura. The lessor is a senator and *ex-gymnasiarch* (the editor does not say, if already known); The lessee *κωμαστής προτομῶν τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Πρόβου Σεβ. καὶ Νείκης αὐτοῦ*.

611: A one-year lease of a water wheel together with 30 3/4 arourae served by it. The rent in kind is fixed as follows: 15 arourae planted in wheat pay 120 art. of wheat, 5 arourae of barley — 40 art. of barley, 2 arourae of vegetables — rent 6 1/2 art. 4 choinikes of vegetables and 3 4/8 of grass — rent of 8 3/4 arourae cultivated in grass. The landowners are heirs of a hitherto unknown Phoibammon ἀπὸ δουκῶν. Oxyrhynchos, 412 A.D.

No. 612: Lease of a house. Oxyrhynchos, A.D. 514. The yearly rent amounts to 5 solidi less x carats (in lacuna). The lessor is a minor, son of a deceased deacon, and the house was formerly owned by the principal church in the town (*εὐαγγελιστὰτη καθολικὴ ἐκκλησία*). The boy's guardian (*κουράτωρ*) is styled *βίαρχος* = "commissaire du service des vivres", as the editor qualifies him, following Maspero (note ad l. 5).

No. 613 (Pl. III) concerns the *alimonia* of Alexandria. Heracleopolis, A.D. 415. Fl. Kyrillos. *princeps officii praesidis provinciae Arcadiae* (this praeses is Fl. Origines, hitherto not mentioned) declares to two senators from Alexandria, that he received from them 150 solidi from the alimony fund (*ἀλιμονικοῦ λόγου* — *addendum lexicis*) for the purchase and delivery of 9,000 sexterii of radish oil, and he commits himself by oath to deliver the goods to the harbour of Arsinoe.

No. 614 (Pl. IV): Petition to the strategus concerning the repayment of a loan. Oxyrhynchos, ca. 256 A.D. The heirs of the creditor claim their right to the repayment of a loan of 6 1/2 artabae of wheat with interests amounting to 100 per cent, with *hemiolia* and an addition for the overtime. The strategus is a hitherto unknown Aur. Serapion.

No. 615: Petition concerning an unrealised contract of sale of wine, paid in advance of delivery. Fragmentary. Provenance unknown, ca. 259 A.D.

No. 616: (Pl. V): Petition from an *epiteretes* of a large estate. Oxyrhynchos, ca. 182 A.D. An unaddressed draft. The petitioner Gemellus, freedman of Helen, whose property was sequestered for debts to the fiscus (3 tal. 1,253 dr.), contracted 8 (?) years earlier, when he was appointed superintendent of *κτήσεις Μοσχιανή*, tries to clear himself. The details are lost, together with the ending of the text.

No. 617 (Pl. VI): Petition to a strategus. Theadelphia, A.D. 145/6. The document concerning the negligence of an *aigialophylax* and a *katasporeus* in

supplying water to the marsh leased by the petitioner, shows that the situation, already known from the complaint of the same man lodged one year earlier (P. Lugd. Bat. XVI 34 and 35, A.D. 144) did not improve.

No. 618: Petition to an epistrategus, Bacchias, *ca.* 166—169 A.D. Addressed to Luceius Ofelianus, whose term of office allows to date this text. The document concerns improper assignment by the *komogrammateus* serving also as *chomatekboleus* to work on the dike *corvée*. The claimant is a priest, exempted by prefect Sempronius Liberalis from the liturgy because of his feeble sight.

No. 619 (Pl. V): Household account on the free margins of the draft of a petition (No. 616), probably of the same hand. Most of the items are food stuffs. *Ca.* A.D. 182.

No. 620 (Pls. VIII—IX): Account of an estate. Arsinoite, A.D. 239—240. Fourteen columns (seven on the recto and seven on the verso), in total more than 330 lines. The text is composed of two pieces: P. Corn. Inv. II, 25 (published by N. Lewis, *Mnemosyne*, ser. IV 16, 1963, pp. 257ff.) and the Michigan papyrus. The estate belongs to Valerius Titanianus, *neokoros* of great Serapis, *ex-praefectus vigilum* and tax-exempt from Alexandrian Museum. The included parcels of land are situated in the vicinity of Dionysias, Alexandrou Nesos and Theadelphia.

No. 621: Communication to a *nomographos*. Tebtynis, A.D. 37. The former owner of two parcels of *catoecic* land informs the *nomographos* that he had ceded the land, received the whole price and the transferee was registered as owner through the office of *catoecic* registry. We know the further history of this possession from P. Mich. 326 and P. Mich 353, issued eleven years later. The later of them shows that the formalities related to the cession reported by P. Mich 621 were not performed in due time.

No. 622: Letter to a strategus. Philadelphia, *ca.* 298—300 A.D. Two collectors, whom the strategus requests through the *oreophylax* to show him their accounts explain, that the financial report has already been sent by an official of the strategus' office.

No. 623: Official letter concerning the requisition of sacrificial bulls for sacred games (*ἄγων*). Provenance unknown. The *prytanis* (?) informs the supervisor of the municipal funds that *dioiketes* Ummidius (unknown) ordered through the strategus Cl. Ischyriion, called also Artemidoros (unknown too) to collect the monies owed for the sacrificial bulls for the 54th games. The contest is almost certainly the Capitoline Games. Therefore the editor dates the document on 299 A.D.

No. 624: Business letter. Early 6th cent. Both correspondents are most probably members of the same *officium* (praesidial rather than ducal). The addressee is a cleric—*exceptor*. The document mentions the *praeses* (*ἄρχων*), the *ab actis*, the *conductor*, the *numerarius*, the *scholasticus*, the pagarchs and

curiales. A reference to the construction of the columns of a basilica (ll. 12—13) is of interest.

No. 625 (Pl. VII): Receipt for taxes on an ἐνοίκησις contract. Bacchias, A.D. 121. The contract, preserved in P. Mich. 188, is an antichretic loan of 300 dr. on an ἐνοίκησις term. In the present text the creditor pays taxes for “establishing and renewing” (τέλος θέσεως ἐνοικήσεως καὶ ἀνανεώσεως) the loan. The editors commentary deals mostly with the analysis of these terms.

Some slight printing errors, found in this volume, are brought to the attention of the students: p. 6 note ad 18: κατασχε instead of κατεσχε (cf. the text p. 4 and Pl. I); p. 50 note ad 6—7: Μοσγιαχός for ~νος.

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