

Taubenschlag, Rafał

"The Adler papyri", ed. by E. N. Adler, J. G. Tait, F. Heichelheim, London 1939 :
[recenzja]

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Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

1937 and printed in the *Actes du V^{me} Congr. Intern. de Papyrologie*, Brussels 1937, 497-504 the author called attention to a group of Demotic papyri in the British Museum (B. M. Eg. 10618-39) containing dedications by individuals of themselves and their children to a god. About fifteen are dated, the dates ranging from 195 B.C. to 137 B.C. The documents contain petitions to the god, the suppliant (who may be male or female) undertaking to become his servant, together with his children and grandchildren and to pay a monthly sum of money to the priests and he binds himself not to quit the precincts of the temple; and in return for these terms he stipulates that the god shall protect him from those various forms of supernatural influence which continually threatened the life of every good Egyptian. Thus the document forms a sort of moral contract between the suppliant and his god, and the fullest specimens are drawn up on the lines of a legal contract by a scribe, occasionally with a royal protocol and witness. But they were contracts incapable of legal enforcement, except, it may be, by the priests against the suppliant on his promises with regard to payment of a service-rent and the enforced residence within the precincts. The great majority of these documents are concerned with individuals having anonymous paternity. The author edits two of them: B. M. Eg. 10,622 and 10,624 with commentary. The latter contains the clause "If the amount is altered, I undertake to pay the penalty of the ἡμολία."

R. PARKER, *A late Demotic gardening agreement*. Medinet Habu Ostrakon 4038, *Journ. Eg. Arch.* XXVI (1941), p. 84ff.

The papyrus contains a *locatio-conductio operis*. Two parties, Talames and Pefumont, having come to a verbal agreement as to the cultivation of a garden, have met in the presence of a scribe, and possibly one or more witnesses, to have a written record made. This contains statements of the kind of the work to be done, statements regarding payment in wheat, gold and bronze, and provisions for the case, should the gardener be arrested. Talames promises to be surety to him. A statement regarding taxes is also inserted.

DEMOTIC AND GREEK PAPYRI OF THE PTOLEMAIC PERIOD

THE ADLER PAPYRI, The Greek texts edited by E. N. Adler, J. G. Tait and F. Heichelheim; the Demotic texts by the late F. L. Griffith, Oxford University Press, London, 1939.

The edition contains 21 Greek and 30 Demotic documents belonging

to a single family, dated between 134 and 89 B.C. The papyri centre round a certain Horus, son of Nechutes, of the Persian Epigone.

The Greek papyri pertain mostly to sales (N° 1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 21). N° 8 and 13 are *dationes in solutum* in the shape of a fictitious sale; in N° 2, 8 ὠνὴ ἐν πίστει is mentioned. N° 10 shows that in loans of money the effects of *mora* were statutory; on the gratuitous loans of Jewish people in this collection, see Taubenschlag, *Law*, 260. N° 4 is a *novatio* with change of creditor. In N° 10, 41 the record office of the Ptolemaic era is called βιβλιοθήκη; otherwise the record offices are designated as ἀρχεῖα. Perhaps the Ptolemaic administration used, as did later the Roman administration, ἀρχεῖα and βιβλιοθήκη for different purposes. As Wilcken, *Arch. f. Pap.* XIII, 221 points out, it was the habit, to keep copies of agoranomical deeds in this agoranomic archive.

The Demotic documents show greater variety. There are sales (N° 7, 13, 18, 23), loan (N° 10) and satisfaction of loan (N° 24), marriage-settlements (N° 14, 21), mortgage of land (N° 27), discharge from mortgage (N° 22), release from a mortgage (N° 20), discharge from suretyship (N° 15), lease (N° 16). N° 9 is a family arrangement concerning a vineyard (*divisio parentis inter liberos?*).

GREEK POPYRI OF THE PTOLEMAIC PERIOD

H. ZILLIACUS, *Neue Ptolemäertexte zum Korntransport und Saatarlehen*. Aegyptus XIX (1939), p. 59ff.

The papyri published derive from the archive of the royal scribe Archebes, probably from Herakleopolites, and are closely connected with BGU. 1741-1743. They deal with shipping of corn, probably to Alexandria, and offer valuable information on the control-system.

W. L. WESTERMANN, C. W. KEYES, H. LIEBESNY, *Zenon Papyri*. Business Papers of the third century B.C. dealing with Palestine and Egypt. New York. Columbia University 1940.

With this volume the publication of the Zenon-documents in the Columbia University is completed. To the Zenon papyri in this volume four Ptolemaic examples of later date are added.

The publication contains petitions, contracts, receipts, diagraphai regarding payments to a bank, letters, reports and accounts.

N° 66 (about 256 or 255 B.C.) is significant for the problem of the Greek feeling of racial superiority and the native reaction toward it. N° 83 (245 or 244 B.C.) gives important information on the legal-property