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TWO GREEK EPIGRAMS

The papyrus here published was among those found by Sir William Flinders Petrie at Hawara in 1889 and has been strangely overlooked since¹. It was discovered during re-examination of this collection of papyri, most of which are now the property of University College London. I am glad to publish it here as a slight tribute to the great scholar of the destinies of Hellenism in Egypt.

10.5×15 cm., complete on right, at foot, and possibly at top. Traces of two lines of writing on the verso (line 2 appears to end]ωαα). At its best the hand (see plate II)² approaches a bookhand. But some of the letters are made in alternative cursive forms (e. g. α δ, which is sometimes triangular and upright, sometimes open and rounded, like a cursive ω of the 3rd century B. C.; η, contrast χρησάμενος, l. 3 and τλήμων, l. 11). Some of the letters are cursive in form throughout, notably the ε made in two strokes. The tendency to slip into cursive is particularly noticeable at the ends of the lines. The text is almost certainly a provincial copy, made for a private person. It is not a school text. I should assign the handwriting to the 2nd century B. C. In style and in some of the letter forms (e. g. α, ρ) it has resemblances to the Paris Chrysispos (reproduced in Norsa, *La Scrittura letteraria greca*, pl. 3), but other letters (especially τ, υ and the cursive ε) suggest that it is later. A closer palaeographical parallel is offered by P. Teb. 3 (probably early in the 1st century B. C.) where in addition to the α and ρ the same form of α and of ξ in three strokes recurs. About 100 B. C. would therefore seem a reasonable allocation.

¹ The majority of these papyri were published by A. H. Sayce in Petrie's *Hawara, Biahmu and Arsinoe* (1889), chap. 2; and by J. G. Milne, in *Archiv* 5 (1913), 378 ff.

² For this excellent photograph which differentiates the ink and the background more sharply than in the original I have to thank Prof. D. M. S. Watson F. R. S., Professor of Zoology in University College.

What survives is the ends of lines of two epigrams, each with a heading, the first probably a sepulchral epigram on a dog, the second addressed to Artemis. At least one epigram preceded, either above, or in an earlier column, in view of the first heading ἀλλο ἐπίγραμμα. The combination of sepulchral epigram and one addressed to Artemis excludes the possibility that this is a text to be cut on an inscription (such as that for Zeno's famous, self-sacrificing hound, P. Cairo Zeno IV 59532=Page, *Greek Literary Papyri* 109) or is a record of inscriptions in a colonnade (e. g. BKT V p. 77=Page l. c. 108). The reference to Artemis, dedications to whom in Egypt are rare, suggests that these epigrams originated not in the Egyptian χώρα, but in Alexandria or outside Egypt. Search through the *Anthology* has failed to identify these ends of lines with any surviving epigrams, and indeed in quality (in so far as any judgment can repose on fragments) they are below the high standards of the literary Hellenistic epigram. Most probably they offer another instance of an early anthology, a nameless precursor of Meleager's στέφανος, of perhaps restricted circulation. Other similar anthologies of Ptolemaic³ date known to me are:

P. Petrie II 49 (b), middle of third century B. C.

H. Weil, *Monuments grecs* 8 (1879) and plate (part 3 of the *Papyrus Didot*, the *mélange* written in the Serapeum at Memphis, 160 B. C.=Page, l. c. 104).

P. Teb. I 3, early 1st century B. C.

P. Frib. 4, late 1st century B. C.

]λλοεπίγραμμα

]ηραμεροψκακοσωλεσεδυσφ.[.]ν

]χρησάμενοσμελεως

]ακευμαφυλαξοικ[.]υθρασυφων[.]·

5]γενενκαμ[.]νο.

]ισαρτεμιν

]·ωνυμ[.]·..ατογαστηρ

]ησ.α[.]υσιν

³ The type is best represented by P. Oxy. 662 and B. T. K. V 1, p. 75 of the 1st century A. D.

]μενε¹ κ¹ονακ¹υρσης
 10]αδ¹ονη¹θησι¹αμεν
]σχ¹ατοσο¹στεα¹τλη¹μων
]..[.]σεν
].ι¹μα¹θη¹τα¹τα¹λαι¹νης
]σε[.]σου¹ς[.][.]..

ἄ]λλο ἐπίγραμμα

]η¹ρα μέ¹ροψ¹ κα¹κ¹δ¹ς ὠ¹λεσε δύ¹σφ¹ρ[ω]ν
]χ¹ρησά¹μενος με¹λέ¹ως
 σκυλ]ά¹κευμα, φύ¹λαξ¹ οἴ¹χ[ο]υ θ¹ρασύ¹φω¹ν[ο]ς
 5]ν¹ ἐ¹νεγ¹κάμ[ε]ν¹ος
]ε]ί¹ς Ἄ¹ρτεμ¹ιν
].ω¹νουμ[.]..α¹το γασ¹τή¹ρ
]η¹σ. ἄ[ν]υ¹σιν
]με¹ν εἰ¹κό¹να κ¹ύ¹ρση¹ς
 10 ἀ¹μφ]α¹δ¹ὸν ἡ¹θησι¹αμε¹ν
 ἔ]σχ¹ατος ὄ¹στεα¹ τλή¹μων
]..[.]σεν
].ι¹μα¹ θ¹νη¹τὰ τα¹λαι¹νης
]σε[.] σου¹ς[α.][.]..

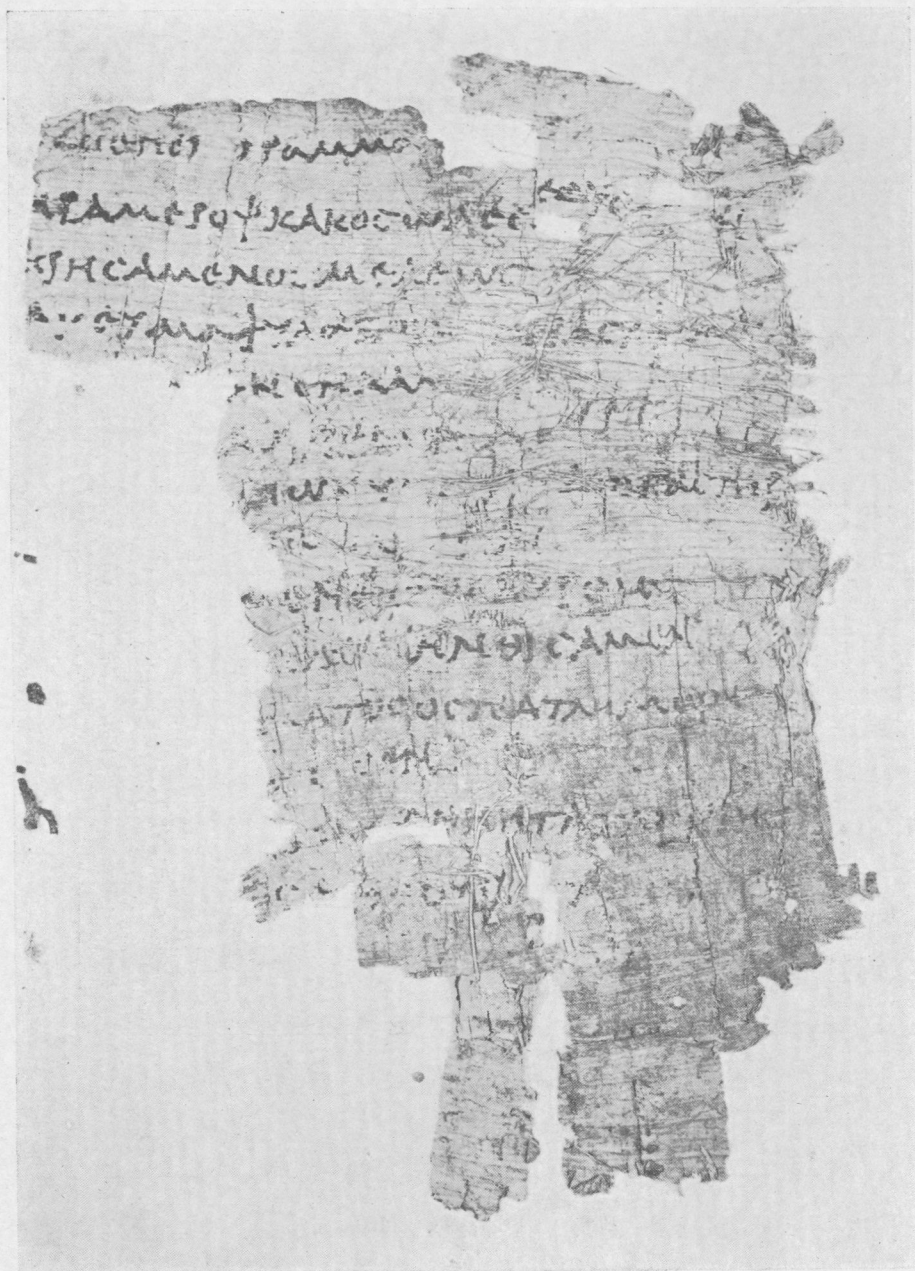
1. There is a space between *επει* and *γραμμα*.

2. Point is given to *μέροψ* only if *σκυλάκευμα* is taken literally as *pup, hound* (= *σκύλαξ*, in Kaibel, *Epigrammata Graeca e lapidibus coll.* 329, 2). The word occurs twice in the *Anthology* in a transferred sense (III 7, neutral; VII 433=Plutarch, *Mor.* 241 a, as term of abuse) and apparently nowhere else. *]ηρα* may be exclamatory ἦ ῥά, perhaps following address to the dog in the vocative; or an accusative of the type *θηρητ-]ηρα*, so that the line might begin Ἄργον φρουρητ-]ηρα or the like. Suggestions for restoration must however be governed, as Prof. T. B. L. Webster points out to me, by the structure of l. 4—5. If *σκυλάκευμα* is correctly restored (and to me it appears certain), it is hard to conceive of the preceding as anything but an adjective. It is therefore likely that the whole quatrain is one sentence, l. 4 is vocative, with a *σέ* preceding (probably in l. 3, e. g. *τόξοισίν σε πι-*

- κροίς), and that the verses opened with an address to the dog in the vocative. If so, there is no opportunity to mention the owner's name. δὲσφρ[ω]ν at the end of l. 2 is an inevitable reading in spite of its flatness. After φ traces of foot of a letter reconcilable with ρ.
3. μελέως this adverbial form (= *misere*) is not attested.
 4. θρασύφωνος is cited in *L. S. J.* only from Pollux = θρασύστρομος. The end of line shows a trace of ink only. Of οἴκ[ο] the κ is doubtful, but the only other palaeographical alternatives η or γ are unpromising.
 5. There are only traces of last letter, but ς (i. e. ἐνεγκάμ[ε]γος, to go with last noun, φύλαξ) is possible. For preceding word e. g. μίσθον, ἄθλιον (e. g. οἶον ἄρ' ἐκ θήρας μίσθον ἐνεγκάμενος).
 - 6 ff. This epigram is probably occasioned by the death of a mother in childbirth. *Anth. Pal.* VII 530 (Antipater of Thessalonica) πληρώσει γαστήρ μία σὸν σκάφος might however suggest a reference to Niobe; but l. 11 ἔσ]χατος ὅσ τεα πλήμων accords ill with Niobe's petrification. In view of uncertainties of reading of the tattered crossfibres attempts at restoration are hazardous. *Exempli gratia*: παιδ' ὅτε Δωροθέας, Ε]βόνουμ[ε], κύσατο γαστήρ (for. Εβόνομος as title of Artemis, cf. Ἐφημ. Ἀρχ., 1914 p. 28—9, no. 225, Thessalian dedication of c. 300 B. C). But the first surviving letter has hardly sufficient slant for]ο and is more probably]ν or]ι, while the third letter could be κ (?) κυμ[αίν]ατο γαστήρ, cf. Nonnus 8, 7). The traces read as μ[might also be σ[; ;[or ε[but not π[(therefore not e. g. ὑπελόσατο, ὑπεδέξατο etc.).
 9. After]μνε, ι above line; then κ (κενα cannot be ruled out) or possibly σ or μ; for κ of κύρσης, β or π is possible (i. e. πύρσης, βύρσης).

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