

P. J. SIJPESTEIJN

THEOGNOSTOS ALIAS MOROS AND HIS FAMILY

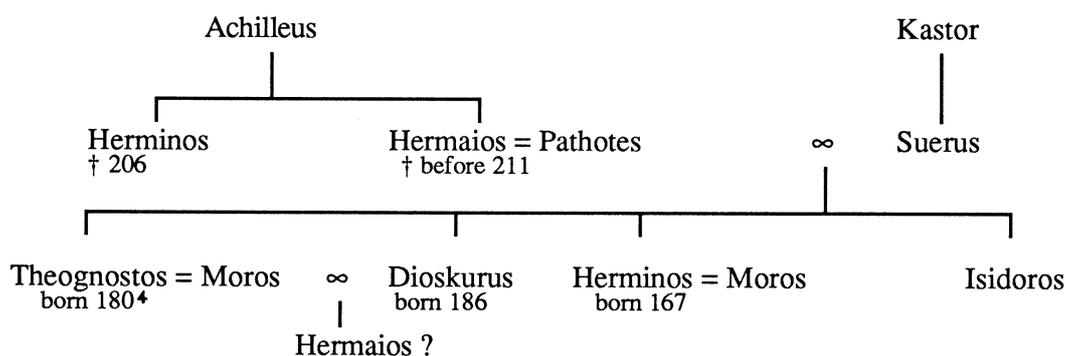
aus: Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik 76 (1989) 213–218

© Dr. Rudolf Habelt GmbH, Bonn



## THEOGNOSTOS ALIAS MOROS AND HIS FAMILY

The texts concerning Theognostos alias Moros<sup>1</sup> and the members of his family range in time from A.D. 194 (P.Lond. III 1178 [pp. 215ff.]) through A.D. 236 (P. Lond. III 947 IV a).<sup>2</sup> The following genealogy of this family<sup>3</sup> living in Hermopolis can be reconstructed:



<sup>1</sup> Theognostos alias Moros is not the eldest of three brothers and one sister around who this small archive centers but he is the person most often mentioned.

<sup>2</sup> Under P.Lond. III 947 a large number of fragments related to the family dealt with in this article have been collected. They are divided over four glass plates (P.Lond. III 947 I, II, III and IV). I have given letters (a, b, c etc.) to the fragments of each plate starting with "a" in the upper left corner.

P.Lond.III 947 IV a concerns a payment of a number of drachmas by Theognostos alias Moros possibly for a tax the nature of which escapes me. The papyrus is dated as follows (lines 1-3): β (ἔτους) Γαίου Ἰουλίου Οὐήρου Μαξιμίμου καὶ Γαίου Ἰουλίου Οὐήρου Μαξιμίμου Καίσαρων τῶν κυρίων Παχῶν κδ (such a titulature is not listed in P.Bureth, *Les Titulatures impériales*, Papyrologica Bruxellensia 2, Bruxelles 1964, 111 f.). It is a well-known fact that Maximus son of Maximinus was raised to the rank of Caesar and taken by his father as consors imperii somewhere during the latter's second regnal year (cf. X.Loriot, ZPE 11, 1973, 147ff., D.W.Rathbone, ZPE 62, 1986, 108f.). This London papyrus proves that this elevation occurred in or before May, A.D. 236.

<sup>3</sup> No mention of this family is made in the survey of archives in O.Montevecchi, *La papirologia*, Torino 1973, 247ff. Cf. P.Lond. III p.29.

<sup>4</sup> According to the editors of P.Lond.III 935 (p.30) = no.3 Theognostos alias Moros is fifty years of age in A.D. 216. In line 11 of the said papyrus they read (ἐτῶν) v. Inspection of the original revealed that the correct reading of the papyrus is (ἐτῶν) λς. With this new reading the anomaly that the elder brother is included in the return of the younger one (cf. P.Lond. III 936 [p.30] introduction. However, in the introduction to P.Lond. III 941 [p. 118] the editors speak of Theognostos alias Moros as "the second of the sons of Hermaeus") disappears and the circumstance that when Herminos alias Moros and Theognostos alias Moros operate together Herminos alias Moros is mentioned in the first place becomes understandable. At the end of line 12 of P.Lond.III 946 [pp. 31f.] we accordingly have to supplement (ἐτῶν)[v]. Theognostos alias Moros is married to his sister Dioskurus. In A.D. 216/7 they live apart (cf. P.Lond.III 935 [p.30] versus P.Lond. III 936 [p.31]. In A.D. 230/1 they live in the same house. Cf. P.Lond. III 946 [pp.31f.]). Husband and wife differ only 6 not 20 years in age (cf. M.Hombert-CI.Préaux, *Recherches sur le recensement dans l'Égypte romaine* = PLBat. V, Leiden 1952, 162).

With the exception of P.Strasb. 573<sup>5</sup> all texts regarding this family are housed in the British Library (London).<sup>6</sup>

1) P.Lond. III 1178 (pp.215ff.). September 22, A.D. 194. Cf. BL I 289-290, 111 96, IV 44, V 55, VII 89. The most recent edition is by P.Frisch, *Zehn agonistische Papyri* (Pap.Colon. 13), Opladen 1986, Nr.6.

A diploma of membership granted to Herminos alias Moros, πύκτης, by an athletic club. The diploma was drawn up at Naples in Italy.

2) P.Lond. III 932 (pp. 148ff.). February 6, A.D. 211. Cf. BL I 283.<sup>7</sup>

Renouncement of Isidoros in favour of his brothers, Herminos alias Moros and Theognostos (who appears here without his alias), of all share in the inheritance of his already deceased father and his still living mother. His two brothers assume full responsibility for the payment of all their father's debts and for the maintenance of their mother. No reason is given for Isidoros' renouncement.<sup>8</sup> The sister Dioskurus is not mentioned as a heir of her father (cf. line 14: ἐτελεύτησεν ἐφ' ἡμεῖν τοῖς τρισι. Cf. also lines 4-5). It seems likely that her dowry has been paid out before.<sup>9</sup> From this text it becomes clear that the couple Hermaios alias Pathotes and Suerus had only 3 sons.

3) P.Lond. III 935 (p.30). March 12, A.D. 217.<sup>10</sup> Cf. BL I 274, III 95, VI 62. Herminos alias Moros registers himself and his younger (cf. footnote 4) brother Theognostos alias Moros for the κατ' οἰκίαν ἀπογραφή of the 24th year of the emperor Caracalla εἰς κτητικὸν σταθ(μὸν) τοῦ πατραδέλφου μου Ἑρμείνου Ἀχιλλέως τετελευτηκότος ἐπεὶ τῷ πατρὶ μου κληρο(νόμῳ) ὀλοκλήρου οἰκίας καὶ αὐλ(ῆς) καὶ ἀνηκόντ(ων) πάντ(ων) ἐπὶ Φρο(υρίῳ) Λιβὸς ἰδ (ἔτει) (lines 5-7). Herminos son of Achilleus died A.D. 205/6 and left his brother Hermaios alias Pathotes his heir of a house

<sup>5</sup> The editors of P.Lond. III do not exclude the possibility that also P.Lond. III 938 (p.150. An application for a lease. October 13, A.D. 225) belongs to the papers of the family under review.

<sup>6</sup> P.Strab. 573 is a copy of P.Lond. III 946 (pp.3 if.). That we are dealing with a copy is apparent from the fact that the Strasbourg text is written by one and the same hand whereas the London text shows four different hands. P.Strasb. 573 is, therefore, an ἴσον (cf. B.Kübler, SZ 33, 1933, 81) of which there is a question in the London text.

<sup>7</sup> The correction on line 20 recorded in BL I 283 is to be disregarded. The scribe wrote ἀπερισπατον. He left the sigma out as he did in the proper name Θεόγνωτος (line 3) and Θεόγνωτον (line 17). Read in line 15 μήδ' ἄλλους ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ instead of μήδε τοὺς ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ. Four crosses at the end of line 10 of this papyrus prevent anyone to make additions to the text. The same phenomenon can be seen in P.Lond. III 935 [p.30], 16, (4 crosses at the end of the line), 936 [p.31], 15 (at the end of the line and underneath it), 940 [p.118], 21 (at the end of the line and underneath it), 941 [pp. 118f.], 17 (at the end of the line and underneath it), 942 [pp. 119f.], 18 (at the end of the line and underneath it), 945 [pp. 120f.], 18 (at the end of the line and underneath it), 946 [pp.31 f.], 22 (underneath the line). In P.Lond. III 1158 [pp. 151f.] space fillers are written at the end of line 5 and underneath it is a horizontal.

<sup>8</sup> For a possible reason, see, e.g., BGU XV 2476.

<sup>9</sup> Cf. R.Taubenschlag, *The Law of Greco-Roman Egypt in the Light of the Papyri*,<sup>2</sup> Warszawa 1955, 186. Cf. no.4.

<sup>10</sup> In line 13 the scribe wrote (ἔτους) κδ which is, however, a mistake for (ἔτους) κε. Cf. BL VI 62.

and a court-yard with all appurtenances. Hermaios alias Pathotes sold<sup>11</sup> a part of his inheritance to his son Herminos alias Moros.

4) P.Lond.III 936 (p.31). March 16, A.D. 217. Cf. BLK I 274, III 95.

Dioskurus, daughter of Hermaios alias Pathotes, registers herself for the same *κατ' οἰκίαν ἀπογραφὴ* of the 24th year of Caracalla εἰς ὃν προαπέσχ[ο]ν σ[τα]θ(μὸν) - - - ιδ (ἔτει). Dioskurus received this *σταθμός* in year 14 (A.D. 205/6), i.e. in the year her uncle Herminos died and her father Hermaios alias Pathotes inherited from his brother a house and court-yard with all appurtenances. I assume that her father (probably at the occasion of her marriage to her brother Theognostos alias Moros) gave her a part of the property he had inherited from his brother (cf. no.3) and that for that reason Dioskurus is absent from the agreement preserved as P.Lond. III 932 (pp. 148ff.). Cf. no.2.

P.Lond., III 947 I n is a part of a copy<sup>12</sup> of this property return.

5) P.Lond. III 939 (pp.174f.). November 1, A.D. 225. Cf. BL I 286.

Loan of 64 drachmas given by Theognostos alias Moros to Kopreas<sup>13</sup> son of Eudaimon and Demetria (?).

One wonders whether the borrower is the same person as the Pinution alias Kopreas who assists Dioskurus when she has dealings with her brother and husband Theognostos alias Moros (P.Lond. III 943 [pp. 175f.], 1298 [p.153], 945 [pp. 120f.1]).

6) P.Lond. III 940 (p. 118). October 30, A.D. 226. Cf. BL I 280, III 95.

Affidavit, addressed to the *βιβλιοφύλακες ἐγκτήσεων* of Hermopolis by Herminos alias Moros and his brother Theognostos alias Moros, registering two-thirds of a house and court-yard with all appurtenances which they have inherited from their paternal uncle Herminos son of Achilleus. The *βιβλιοφύλαξ* notes at the foot of the document that his registers show no property left under the name of their uncle, and that there is nothing to prove that the inheritance belongs to them. As the editors rightly remark in their introduction the point is rather late in arising, since their uncle has been dead for twenty years having died in the 14th regnal year of Septimius Severus ("Caracalla" in the introduction to this text is just a slip), i.e. in A.D. 205/6. We do not know why the two brothers register their inherited property only now.

The question arises whether the property mentioned in the present papyrus is identical with the one mentioned in P.Lond. III 935 (p.30) = no.3 as the editors of the London

<sup>11</sup> F.Preisigke, WB I s.v. *κτητικός* translates *κτητικός σταθ(μός)* as "käuflich erworbene Wohnung (Hausteil)." Cf. also LSJ<sup>9</sup> s.v. *κτητικός*. If Herminos alias Moros would have inherited the *σταθμός* from his father he would have used another expression (e.g., *καταλειφθέντα*).

<sup>12</sup> The tiny fragment is incomplete at the bottom (this is true for most fragments which I identified as pertaining to the same transaction as testified in a papyrus fully published in P.Lond. III) and we can, therefore, not be absolutely certain that we are dealing with a copy (although it seems in most cases virtually certain).

<sup>13</sup> For this proper name, see S.B.Pomeroy, *Studies in Roman Law in Memory of A.Arthur Schiller*, Leiden 1986, 147ff.

papyrus believe or a different one. I believe that Herminos son of Achilleus left a house and court yard with all appurtenances to his brother Hermaios alias Pathotes and also a house and court yard with all appurtenances to his three nephews (at least that is what they pretend). First, in P. Lond. III 935 (p.30) = no.3 it is said that Herminos son of Achilleus died ἐπὶ τῷ πατρὶ μου (i.e. of Herminos alias Moros) κληρονόμῳ but in the present papyrus that their uncle died ἐπὶ τε ἡμῖν καὶ ἐτέρῳ ἀδελφῷ Ἰσιδώρῳ - - - μόνοις κληρονόμοις. Second, Isidoros owns one third of the property mentioned in the present papyrus but in P.Lond. III 932 (pp. 148ff.) = no.2 he renounces all share in the inheritance of his father. Third, in my opinion Dioskurus received in A.D. 205/6 a part of the house which her father inherited from his brother (cf. no.4).

7) P.Lond.III 1158 (pp. 151f.). December 11, A.D.226. Cf. BL I 283.

Herminos alias Moros (at this time 58 years of age) sells his one third of the property which he inherited from his paternal uncle Herminos son of Achilleus (cf. no.6) for 300 drachmas to his brother Theognostos alias Moros.

8) P.Lond. III 941 (pp. 118f.). July 29, A.D.227. Cf. BL I 280.

Affidavit, addressed to the βιβλιοφύλακες ἐγκτήσεων of Hermopolis by Theognostos alias Moros, registering one-third of a house and court yard with all appurtenances bought by him (probably from his brother Herminos alias Moros. Cf. no.7). The property was inherited from their paternal uncle Herminos son of Achilleus.

9) P.Lond. III 943 (pp. 175f.). July 31, A.D. 227. Cf. BL I 286-7.

Theognostos alias Moros receives from his sister Dioskurus a παραθήκη of 600 drachmas. He probably used this money to buy the shares of his brother Herminos alias Moros (cf. nos. 7 and 8) and of his brother Isidoros (cf. no.10) in the property they inherited from their paternal uncle Herminos son of Achilleus (cf. no.6).

P.Lond. III 947 I a and c are parts of copies of this agreement.

10) P.Lond. III 942 (pp. 119f.). July 31, A.D. 227. Cf. BL I 280.

Affidavit, addressed to the βιβλιοφύλακες ἐγκτήσεων of Hermopolis by Theognostos alias Moros, registering one third of a house and court-yard with all appurtenances bought from his brother Isidoros which the latter had inherited from his paternal uncle Herminos son of Achilleus. By now Theognostos alias Moros has become sole owner of the property left to him and his two brothers by their paternal uncle Herminos son of Achilleus.

P.Lond. III 947 I d and f are parts of copies of this affidavit. <sup>14</sup>

11) P.Lond. III 946 (pp.31f.). May 12, A.D. 231.Cf. BL I 274, II 2.82, III 95, VI 62, VII 87.

Theognostos alias Moros registers himself and his sister and wife Dioskurus for the κατ' οἰκίαν ἀπογραφή of the 9th year of Alexander Severus.

<sup>14</sup> It cannot be excluded that these two fragments belong to one and the same text. Read in line 3 of P.Lond. III 942 (pp.119f.) Ἀχιλλέω[ς Ἐρμοπολι(ίτου) ἀναγρ(αφομένου) ἐ]πὶ κτλ., in line 5 μετ' εὐδοκ[ήσ]εως τ[οῦ ? Ἰ]σιδώρου, and in line 7 ζ (ἔτει) μηνὶ [Μεσ]ο[ρ]ῆ κτλ.

Not only P.Strasb. 573 (cf. footnote 6) but also P.Lond. III 947 I i<sup>15</sup> are parts of copies of this property return.<sup>14</sup>

12) P.Lond. III 1298 (p.153). (July)/August<sup>16</sup>, A.D. 231.

Dioskurus buys one third of a house and court-yard with all appurtenances from her brother and husband Theognostos alias Moros. We are dealing with a part of the property of which Theognostos alias Moros became sole owner in A. D. 227 (cf. no. 10). It is not to be excluded that this sale has to be connected with the παραθήκη which Theognostos alias Moros received in A.D. 227 from his sister and wife Dioskurus (cf. no.9).

13) P.Lond. III 945 (pp. 120f.). August 11, A.D. 231. Cf. BL I 280.<sup>17</sup>

Affidavit, addressed to the βιβλιοφύλακες ἐγκτήσεων of Hermopolis by Dioskurus, registering the property which she bought from her brother and husband Theognostos alias Moros (cf. no.12).

P.Lond. III 947 I g and III a<sup>18</sup> are parts of copies of this affidavit.

14) P.Lond. III 944 (p.53). (March 26, A.D.228 and) February 10, A.D. 233. Cf. BL I 276.

Receipt recording a payment for the annona by Theognostos alias Moros.<sup>19</sup>

Of the remaining fragments assembled under P.Lond. III 947<sup>20</sup> the following provide us with some information concerning the family dealt with in this article:

a) P.Lond. III 947 I k. Notice of birth, directed to two persons (? Possibly the γραμματεῖς μητροπόλεως of a son who in an unknown year of Alexander Severus<sup>21</sup> is 1 year old. The declaration is made by one person only (cf. τὸν γεννηθέντα μοι υἱὸν in line 7). The declarant may be Dioskurus or her husband and brother Theognostos alias Moros (Ἐρμαῖο[υ in line 2, μητρός Σουερ]οὔτος; in line 3).

b) P.Lond. III 947 I m. Declaration, directed to γραμμ[ατεῖ / γραμμ[ατεῦσι μητροπόλεως] by one of the sons or the daughter of the couple Hermaios alias Pathotes and Suerus (lines 2-4: παρὰ [ Ἐρμαίου τοῦ καὶ Παθώ]του Ἀχ[ιλλέως μητρός

<sup>15</sup> In line 7 we still read τοῦ λαμ[προτάτου στρ[ατηλάτου which, if necessary, confirms P.J.Parsons' supplement for line 8 of P.Lond. III 946 (pp.31f.). Cf. Proceed. 12th Congr.Pap., ASP 7, Toronto 1970, 389ff. = BL VI 62.

<sup>16</sup> Since Dioskurus registers this acquisition on the 11th of August of the same year (cf. no. 13), it seems more likely that she bought this one third in August than in July.

<sup>17</sup> ἀ[ναγγραφομένω]ν / ἀ[πογγραφομένω]ν (BL I 280) is much too long for the available lacuna. The papyrus has, however, ἐν [Ἐρμου]πόλ(ει).

<sup>18</sup> P.Lond. III 947 III e belongs to the right of this fragment.

<sup>19</sup> α in line 6 of this papyrus stands for Α(ὐρήλιος).

<sup>20</sup> Some fragments are too small or too abraded to yield any information. Not on all fragments a name of a member of the family under review (or of a person connected with it) appears. I assume that the circumstances of the acquisition and the handwriting will have induced to the editors of P.Lond. III to collect all these fragments under P.Lond.III 947.

<sup>21</sup> In lines 5-6 we still read: εἰς] τὸ ἐνεστὸς ἔτος and [Ἄλε]ξάνδρου]. The titlature of Alexander Severus has been struck out (the same phenomenon on P.Lond. III 947 I e and f) which points to damnatio memoriae (cf. F.Vittinghoff, Der Staatsfeind in der römischen Kaiserzeit, Berlin 1936). Cf. H.Temporini, Die Frauen am Hofe Trajans, Berlin-New York 1978, 229 and footnote 161.

Σουερούτος Κά-]στορο[ς]. In line 6 there is a question of ι[δ]γ (ἔτος). Since no κατ' οἰκίαν ἀπογραφή was hold in a 13th regnal year (of the titlature of the emperor only Καίσαρ[ος is preserved in line 7), we must be dealing with another kind of declaration. May-be another notice of birth.

c) P.Lond. III 947 II a. Offer to lease a parcel of land, directed to Ἀϋρηλί(ω) Ἀσκληπι[ ] Ἐρμοπόλ(εως) by Ν.Ν.Πτολεμαίου Σω[σικος]μίου τοῦ κ[αὶ] Ἀλθαιέως καὶ Ἐρ[μαίου] τοῦ καὶ Παθ[ώτου] Ἀχιλλέως.<sup>22</sup> This is the only document in which the father of Theognostos alias Moms plays a direct role.

d) P.Lond.III 947 II c. Receipt of a wet-nurse (Ἀϋρηλία Ν.Ν. μητρὸς Θατρ[ῆτος ?) for τροφή, ἔλαιον, and ἱματισμός, directed to Theognostos alias Moros ὑπὲρ ο[ῦ] τ]ετρόφ[ευκα ] υἱοῦ [σο]υ Ἐρμ[αίου] ? (line 5). The wet nurse is assisted by her husband.<sup>23</sup>

e) P.Lond. III 947 III c. This papyrus seems to contain a list of payments (for tax purposes ?). Theognostos alias Moros (and possibly other members of the family) is mentioned.

f) P.Lond. III 947 III d. Subscription of a document (certainly a copy) by an unknown member of the family. There is a question of an official called Ἀϋρηλί(ος) Ὀρίω[ν].

University of Amsterdam

P.J.Sijpesteijn

<sup>22</sup> Since neither Hermaios alias Pathotes nor his partner bear the nomen Aurelius, this offer was made at a date before the promulgation of the Constitutio Antoniniana. The person to whom the offer was directed and who was probably an official at Hermopolis received the civitas Romana before A.D. 212 (there are, however, serious doubts about the reading Ἀϋρηλί(ω)).

<sup>23</sup> Cf. B.Adams, Paramoné und verwandte Texte, Berlin 1964, 146ff. P.Lond. III 947 I 1 is probably also a receipt of a wet-nurse (Ἀϋρηλία ].σέρμη) also assisted by her husband.