

P. J. SIJPESTEIJN

A CONSULAR DATING OF A.D. 369

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It is a well established fact that the young Valentinianus Galates, son of Valens (cf. *PLRE* I 381), was consul in A.D. 369 together with Flavius Victor who was at that time *magister equitum* (cf. *PLRE* I 957-959). In *Consuls of the Later Roman Empire*, Atlanta 1987, the editors can only cite one papyrus, P.Strasb. 272, dated to A.D. 369. This papyrus shows in post-consular dating a confusion between regnal and consular dating, since it includes all three emperors in the consular formula (the same phenomenon in papyri of A.D. 368).

The fragmentary P.Lond. III 1138c,¹ an offer to lease an unknown number of aruras of land (?), attests for the first time the consulate of Valentinianus Galates and Flavius Victor in the papyri.

- [ύπατείας Ούαλ]εντ[ινι]ανοῦ νεωτέρου τοῦ ἐπι-
 [φανεστάτου υ]ιοῦ τοῦ δεσπότου ἡμῶν Οὐάλεντος
 [τοῦ αἰωνίου] Αὐγού[στου] καὶ Φλαουίου Οὐίκτορος τοῦ
 4 [λαμπροτά]του στρατηλάτου.
 [Φλ(αουίω)]να τῷ καὶ Ἀστερίος πολιτευομένω Ἑρμοῦ
 [πόλεως τῆ]ς λαμπροτάτης
 [παρὰ Αὐρ(ηλίου)]ιώμιος ἀπὸ κόμης Σενινῆβως τοῦ
 8 [Ἑρμοπολίτου νομοῦ χ]αίρειν· βούλομαι ἐκουσίως
 [καὶ ἀθαιρέτως μισθώσασθαι] παρὰ σοῦ ἐπ' ἐνιαυτὸν
 [ἓνα μόνον ἀπὸ καρπῶν τῆς εἰσι]ούσης τεσσαρεσδεκάτης
 [ἰνδικτί(ωνος) τὰς ὑπαρχούσας σοι] περὶ πρακτορείαν τῆς
 12 [αὐτῆς κόμης ἄρουρας x?

5 Ἀστερίω

Notes:

1-2. Valentinianus Galates is often called “nobilissimus (= ἐπιφανέστατος) puer” in the sources. Themistius' Oratio 9 is entitled “*Protrepitcus Valentiniano novo*”. Cf. the use of νέος for Valentinianus in consular datings of A.D. 376.

3-4. Flavius Victor is addressed as στρατηλάτης in Bas. *Epist.* 152 (A.D. 373) and in Greg. Naz. *Epist.* 133 (A.D. 382/3).

5. As politeuomenos of Hermupolis (cf. A. Geremek, *Anagenesis* I.2, 1981, 231ff.) N.N. alias Asterios is probably a Flavius rather than an Aurelius. The lessee (line 7) will have been an Aurelius.

7. For the village Σενινῆβις, see M. Drew-Bear, *Le nome hermopolite. Toponymes et sites* (= ASP 21), Missoula 1979, 241.

10. τεσσαρεσκαίδεκάτης: cf. F.Th. Gignac, *Grammar II*, Milano 1981, 202ff. The absence of καί should be noted.

11. For πρακτορ(ε)ία, cf. H.C. Youtie, *Scriptiunculae I*, Amsterdam 1973, 407, 29n.

Amsterdam

P.J. Sijpesteijn

¹ The description of P.Lond. III 1138a-d on p. LIX runs as follows: «Fragments of the early Byzantine period». The papyrus published here measures 9.5 x 10.8 cm. I wish to thank Mr. T.S. Pattie for his kind permission to publish this text here. The supplements in lines 8 to 12 are only exempli gratia!