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NOTES ON TWO PAPYRI

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(1) P.Flor. III 284 (cf. Tafel XX)

This Florentine papyrus is a, at the bottom mutilated, surety originating from κόμη Ἀφροδίτης situated in the Antaiopolite nome. It is dated to September 28, A.D. 538.

Several persons whose names are only partly recoverable,¹ since the lower part of the papyrus is partly lost partly too mutilated to be read, give a guarantee to the *riparius* Claudius Apollon for a certain Αὐρήλιος Παπῶς² son of Abraham and Apostolia.

According to the editor the guarantors guarantee Παπῶς - - - ἐπὶ τῷ αὐτὸν παραμεῖναι ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ κόμῃ καὶ μὴ | εὐρεθῆναι κατ' αὐτὸν³ γενόμενον οἰωδήποτε συναλ(λ)άγματι φανῆναι καὶ κρυφία | ἢ πλαστῇ ἢ οἰωδήποτε σωλυτω(?) ἢ σφάλματι ἀπρεπές. - - - and he rightly remarks: “8sq. non intendo.” Instead of λυτῶ I read λόγῳ.⁴ For a while I thought that it was possible to read ἐὰν in front of λόγῳ but I must concede D. Hagedorn that σω is a much easier reading and that even with a reading - - - οἰωδήποτε ἐὰν λόγῳ - - - the whole sentence still does not make sense. I am afraid that we have to wait for a parallel to appear before we can understand this stipulation totally.

In line 4 the papyrus has ἕκαστος (read: ἐκάστου) ἐνεχομένου instead of ἐκάστους ἐνεχομένους.

(2) P.Oxy. XIV 1660

This text, on palaeographical grounds dated to the IVth century A.D., contains an account of taxes in kind (wheat, wine and meat). The first three lines are transcribed as follows:

διὰ τε τῆς β' δηληγατίωνος ἐκελε[ύσθησαν πεμφθῆναι
εἰς τὴν Ἀλεξάνδρειαν ἥτοι Λ[εοντόπολιν
σίτου ἀπὸ ἐξουβερ(αντίας) κτητόρ(ων) (ἀρτάβαι) [...

For Λ[εοντόπολιν the editors refer to Stephanus Byzantius (Vth? century A.D.)⁵ s.v. Ἀλεξάνδρεια where as one of the names of Alexandria, Leontopolis is mentioned. They remark that this alternative name of Alexandria does not seem to have occurred previously in the papyrus (and it has not since 1920). It seems highly unlikely to me that the writer of an account of taxes

¹ One of the guarantors is called Αὐρήλιος Ἰωσήφ Φίου (?) (line 14), another one is Αὐρήλιος Ἰωάννης | Ψοίου (lines 15-16). At the beginning of line 17 one can still read: ἔγραψα ὑπὲρ αὐτῶν. Read at the beginning of line 15: ἐγγυῶμαι τὸ[ν].

² On the verso (cf. the editor's note to line 16) one can read: † ἐγγύη γενομένη ὑπ(ὲρ) Παπῶτος vacat εἰς χρ(υσοῦ) νο(μίσματα) ιβ (cf. ll.12-13). For the latter part which was not read by the original editor, cf., e.g., P.Cairo Masp. III 67328 I 22. In line 6 the correct reading is: Α(ὐρήλιον) Παπῶς (read: Παπῶτα) Ἀβρααμίου. The proper name Πῶκ (F. Preisigke, NB 352) can be deleted. Παπῶς is a well attested proper name (cf. D. Forboschi, *Onomasticon Alterum Papyrologicum* 235b).

³ κατ' αὐτὸν is a little strange. It is excluded that the guarantors stipulate that nothing unbecoming done against Papos (κατ' αὐτοῦ !) will be discovered. They guarantee that Papos will not perform anything unbecoming. One would expect ὑπ' αὐτοῦ. Since these words are placed immediately after εὐρεθῆναι, the writer may have used κατ' αὐτόν = concerning him (cf. LSJ⁹ s.v. κατά B IV.2) instead.

⁴ σωλυτῶ in F.Preisigke, WB II 565 and σωλύτος in S. Daris, *Il lessico latino nel Greco d'Egitto*, Barcelona 1971, 110 have to be deleted.

⁵ Cf. A. Calderini, *Dizionario I.1*, Cairo 1935,58.

would use an alternative, very seldom attested name for Alexandria. However, there cannot be a real doubt about the lambda at the end of line 2.⁶

In the expression X ἦτοι Y, ἦτοι can have the meaning “more specifically, und zwar”.

Grain sent to Alexandria was destined either for export overseas or for home consumption. For export overseas the eastern or Great Harbour seems to have been mostly used while to the western or Eunostos Harbour (used almost exclusively today) goods for home consumption were transported.⁷

I assume that the grain mentioned in the Oxyrhynchus text under discussion had to be transported to Alexandria and more specifically to one of the two main harbours and I, therefore, propose to read and supplement line 2 of P.Oxy. XIV 1660 as follows:

εἰς τὴν Ἀλεξάνδρειαν ἦτοι λιμένα μέγαν / τοῦ Εὐνόστου.⁸

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⁶ At my request J. Bingen inspected the Oxyrhynchus text under discussion which is now housed in the Musées Royales at Brussels (inv. no. E 5999) and confirmed that the last letter preserved in line 2 is in all probability a lambda.

⁷ Cf. P.M. Frazer, *Ptolemaic Alexandria II*, Oxford 1972, p.77, note 181.

⁸ It is possible that the Lake Harbour, λιμὴν λιμναῖος, where goods due for home consumption were unloaded, has to be supplemented (cf. P.M. Frazer, *op. cit.* I, Oxford 1972, 143f.)

