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Notes on Papyrus Texts with the Roman Imperial Oath

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NOTES ON PAPYRUS TEXTS WITH THE ROMAN IMPERIAL OATH

Below are offered notes on the text, date, or provenance of several published papyri of Roman and Byzantine date which include a form of the imperial oath. These are based on a collection of such texts compiled for the purpose of comparison and analysis. I have not seen the documents discussed below, nor photographs of them, except where plates have been published, and I have therefore refrained from commenting on text presented by editors as secure: Where emendations are suggested, these affect restorations in lacuna. Some are trivial, others self-evident, and some would no doubt turn out to be wrong, if it were possible to recover the original readings -- but all are based on comparisons with readings preserved in comparable texts with the imperial oath, and on the assumption that, while the ancient writers sometimes produced idiosyncratic readings, modern restorations should be based as much as possible on secure parallels. Similarly, suggestions as to date or provenance of published pieces are offered on the basis of characteristics shared with other texts where date or provenance are assured. I have tried to avoid repeating suggestions already available in the Berichtigungsliste, Vols. I - VII, and in K.A. Worp, "Byzantine Imperial Titulature in the Greek Documentary Papyri: The Oath Formulas," ZPE 45 (1982) 199-223, or P.J. Sijpesteijn's series of remarks on imperial titulature (ZPE 63, 1986, pp. 281, and earlier articles there cited).

BGU XIII 2246. In lines 9 - 11, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

[προσφωνοῦμε]ν καὶ ὀμνύομεν τὴν [Αὐτοκράτορος Κ]αἰσαρος Νέρουα Τραιανοῦ [Γερμανικοῦ] Δακικοῦ τύχην

The title $\Sigma \epsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau o \hat{v}$ should probably be inserted before [Γερμανικο \hat{v}] at the beginning of line 11. $\Sigma \epsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau o \hat{v}$ follows Τραιανο \hat{v} in Trajan's titulature in the documents where this appears in the genitive in an oath by the emperor's $\tau \acute{v} \chi \eta$ -- P.Lond III 903; P.Mert. I 13; P.Oxy. III 483; and P.Ryl. II 82 -- and this element should probably be added as well to the text of SB VI 9448.10, where it is, as here, omitted in lacuna.

<u>CPR I 224</u>. In lines 1 - 3 the imperial oath is printed as follows:

ομνυο] αυτοκρατορα θεου υ[ιον] δια ελευθεριον]

Καίσαρα can be restored before Αὐτοκράτορα in line 2, and Σεβαστόν at the beginning of line 3. This gives the normal formulation of Augustus' titulature in the imperial oath. See, e.g., P.Oslo II 26 and P.Amst. I 28, lines 1-2 with note.

<u>CPR I 225</u>. In line 7, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

ομνυμι μ]α την μαρκου [αυ]ρηλ[ιο]υ σεουηρου αλεξανδρ[ου κ]α[ι]σαρος [τυχην

If alpha is correctly read, the restoration should be $\kappa\alpha\tau$] $\dot{\alpha}$ rather than μ] $\dot{\alpha}$. The asseveration beginning with $\mu\dot{\alpha}$ never appears as part of the imperial oath, but rather in informal utterances, normally in correspondence (see P.Koeln II 110.6 with note); the imperial oath is sometimes, though only late and rarely, introduced by $\kappa\alpha\tau\dot{\alpha}$ (so P.Lond. V 1724.16 and P.Muench. I 14.93, both of the sixth century). Alternatively, read $\dot{\alpha}\mu\nu\dot{\alpha}$ $\dot{\alpha}$ $\dot{\alpha}$

<u>P.Alex.Giss. 16</u>. Lines 8 and 9 can be restored after the pattern of P.Alex.Giss. 14, 15, 18 and 22:

[....καὶ ὀμνύω τὴν] [Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος]

For the same formulation in the same year, see also BGU XI 2085 and P.Oxy. XXVII 2472.

P.Amst. I 28. The provenance of this text is probably Oxyrhynchite. The phrase Δ ία Ἐλευθέριον appears in the formulation of the imperial oath almost exclusively in documents from Oxyrhynchus (P.Osl. II 26; P.Rein. II 99; cf. P.Oxy. II 240 and 253, where the phrase is used of Augustus in Tiberius' titulature). The only exception known to me is CPR I 224, where the phrase appears in Augustus' titulature in a document from Soknopaiou Nesos.

P.Cair.Masp. III 299. It is possible that the words καὶ διαμονὴν should be supplied after τὴν νίκην in the lacuna in line 52. This is the normal formulation in oaths by the holy

trinity: See Worp (above, introduction) for the reign of Justinian, p. 211, formula XXVI g, and, for subsequent reigns, pp. 211-213, formulas XXVIII b, d, and e; XXX a, XXXI a and b; and XXXIV a. The additional letters leave the line longer than those immediately beside it, but by no means the longest in the document (see, e.g., lines 40 ff).

P.Fouad 22 i. In line 8, ἀποφ[]ομεθα ὀμνύοντες is given as the phrase introducing the imperial oath. ἀπο[φαινό]μεθα can be restored with certainty in line 8, after the examples of P.Mert I 13.9 and P.Oxy. XLV 3264.27, both of the late first century AD.

P.Harr. II 193. In lines 9 - 13, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

Where the titulature of Commodus in oaths by the emperor's τύχη ends with Καίσαρος, however, the words τοῦ κυρίου invariably follow (so BGU I 92; II 649; XI 2019; and P.Harr. II 71), and there seems to be insufficient space to restore this phrase at the end of line 12. Rather restore the alternative title $\Sigma \epsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau o \hat{\nu}$, as in P.Tebt. II 293.

<u>P.Harr. II 214</u>. In lines 6 - 9, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

At the end of line 6, the words [ὁμολογῶ ὀμνύων] should be restored to introduce the oath, as in two other documents addressed to the same logistes: P.Oxy. XXXVI 2767 and XLI 2969, both dated to the preceding year, AD 323.

P.Heid. III 248. The provenance of the document is probably Oxyrhynchus. Other sixth- and early seventh-century examples of the same formulation (τὸν θεῖον καὶ σεβάσμιον ὅρκον, with no further elements or references to the emperor) are almost exclusively from Oxyrhynchus (the sole exception known to me is P.Cair.Masp. I 1, AD 514). For examples recording, as here, sureties for coloni ascripticii, dates ranging from 579 to 612, see: P.Oxy. I 135; XLIV 3204; PSI I 59,61, and 62; SB XVI 12484.

An additional line, above the first preserved on this papyrus, can be restored from the documents named above:

[ὁμολογῶ ἑκουσία γνώμη καὶ αὐθαιρέτω προαιρέσει ἐπομνύμενος]

P.Lips. 8 (=M.Chr. 210). In lines 12 - 13, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

όμνύω τὴν [Μάρκου 'Αν]τωνίνου Καίσαρο[ς το]ῦ Κυρίου τύχην

The name $A\mathring{\upsilon}\rho\eta\lambda\acute{\iota}o\upsilon$ should probably be inserted after $M\acute{\alpha}\rho\kappa o\upsilon$ in the lacuna at the beginning of line 13. This produces the regular formulation of Elagabalus' name (see the dating formulae in the same text), and brings the line to a length comparable with that of others in the text.

P.Lond. V 1893 b. The provenance of the piece is probably Herakleopolite, like that of other fifth-century texts recording an oath which ends with the words $\tau \hat{\eta} \zeta$ καλλινίκου κορυφ $\hat{\eta} \zeta$: so CPR V 17; P.Rain.Cent. 106 (restored); and SB VI 9152. Where the oath ends with the words $\tau \hat{\eta} \zeta$ καλλινίκου καὶ ἀθανάτου κορυφ $\hat{\eta} \zeta$, the provenance is more likely Arsinoite: So SB I 5273 and P.Lond. I 113 i. See Worp (above, introduction), p. 215, formula XXXV a and b.

P.Lond. V 1901, descripta. The only text given is of lines 2 and 3:

πανταχοῦ προφερομένην ἐπὶ πάσης ἀρχ[ῆς κτλ.] καὶ φρικωδέστατον ὅρκον φυλάξαι τὴν παροῦ[σαν κτλ.

The oath formulation in line 3 can be restored after the pattern of P.Strasb. VIII 720, also of the sixth century, and the only other oath formulation where the word φρικωδέστατον is preceded by καὶ:

[έπωμοσάμην τὸν θεῖον] καὶ φρικωδέστατον ὅρκον

<u>P.Michael. 55</u>. The subscript, lines 14 - 15, is printed as follows:

- 14 ἐθ]έμεθα ταύτην τὴν διαίρεσιν καὶ στοιχεῖ ἡμῖν [πάντα τὰ ἐγγεγραμμένα, καὶ ὡμόσαμεν τὸν]
- 15 ὅρκον ὡς προκ/.

The word θείον should be inserted at the end of the lacuna in line 14. The text is a sixth-century contract from the Antaeopolite, and in other such documents, where subscripts are preserved, the relevant phrase is τὸν θείον ὅρκον (see, e.g., P.Cair.Masp. I 1 and P.Mich XIII 665). The subscript reference to τὸν ὅρκον, tout court, appears in documents of the first to fourth centuries, almost exclusively in the Oxyrhynchite and Hermopolite nomes see, for the latest examples known to me, CPR VII 14 (Hermopolite, AD 305) and P.Oxy. XXXIII 2673 (AD 304).

P.Mich. XV 724. The editor observes (line 6, note) that the oath by τὸν σεβάσμιον θεῖον ὅρκον is characteristic of Oxyrhynchus. This can be stated more strongly: There are 24 published examples of this formulation securely assigned to the Oxyrhynchite, with dates ranging from AD 318 (P.Oxy. LIV 3746 ii and iii) to 373 (P.Oxy. XLVI 3308). PSI VIII 950, published as of uncertain provenance, is the only other document with this formulation known to me, and it, too, should probably be assigned to the Oxyrhynchite.

The ninth indiction referred to in the text is probably that of 335/6. After 350, the oath formula of this type regularly includes regents' names and titulature (P.Laur. IV 162; P.Oxy. XXII 2347 and XLVI 3308), which would seem to require more space than is available in the lacuna at the end of line 6. Before 350, the oath refers to the rulers by title only, in one of three forms, of which two seem too short to fill the available space in this document: τῶν δεσποτῶν ἡμῶν ἀνικήτων βασιλέων (e.g., P.Oxy. XLIII 3122) or, after 340, τῶν δεσποτῶν ἡμῶν Αὐγούστων (e.g., P.Oxy. L 3576); see Worp (above, introduction), pp. 202-204, formulas VII a, VIII a, and X c. It seems likely, then, that the editor's proposal at the end of line 6 is correct, and can be completed on the example of P.Oxy. X 1265, of AD 336:

... τῶν δεσποτ[ῶν ἡμῶν Αὐτοκράτορός τε καὶ Καισάρων]

P.Mil. I 3. If the document is correctly assigned to the reign of Augustus, as seems very likely on the basis of the fragment of titulature preserved (but see BL VII, p. 101, for the suggestion that it be reassigned to the reign of Tiberius), the words Αὐτοκράτορα θεοῦ υἰόν should be added after Kαίσα[ρα in the lacuna at the end of line 14. Augustus' titulature is somewhat variably formed, particularly during the earlier years of his reign, but where the object of the oath begins with Kαίσαρα, it normally proceeds in this way: See, for another example from the Arsinoite, P.Tebt. II 382.20-21.

P.Muench. III 1 72. This document is probably of Arsinoite provenance. The oath formulation by the emperor's τύχη and νίκη is found in ten documents, of which 7, from AD 299 to 310, are from the Arsinoite (P.Cair.Is. 3; 4; 5; and 8; P.Sakaon 1; 2; 3). The remaining three (P.Muench. III 1 72; P.Prag. I 33; P.Wuerz. 15), published as of uncertain

provenance, are, though rather later, most likely from the Arsinoite as well: See Worp (above, introduction), p. 204, formula X d, and *ZPE* 39 (1980) 172 n. 25.

P.Oxy. III 638, descripta, printed without line divisions. Following ὀμνύω, where the editor gives κ.τ.λ., there presumably appears in the accusative the regular form of Trajan's titulature: Αὐτοκράτορα Καίσαρα Νέρουαν Τραιανὸν Σεβαστὸν Γερμανικὸν Δακικόν (see, e.g., P.Fam.Tebt. 15.149 and P.Wisc. II 80.192). The oath by the emperor's τύχη occurs in Oxyrhynchus from as early as AD 70, but is greatly outnumbered for at least half a century by texts with the older form of the oath, by the emperor's name (5 examples of the former between 70 and 131; 19 examples of the latter during the same years). Reports of property purchased or inherited show the oath by the emperor's name throughout the first and second centuries (P.Oxy. I 75; III 482; SB VI 9317), with the oath by the emperor's τύχη occurring first in the third century AD (P.Oxy. XLIII 3103; PSI X 1112).

<u>P.Oxy. XII 1554</u>. Parts of three lines can be restored above the first preserved on this text:

a	[όμνύω τὴν τῶν]
b	[κυρίων Γαίου Οὐιβίου Τρεβωνι-]
c	[ανοῦ Γάλλου καὶ Γαίου Οὐιβίου]
1	['Α]φινί[ου Γάλλου Οἐλδουμνιανοῦ
2	Οὐλου[σιανοῦ Εὐσεβῶν Εὐτυχῶν
3	Σεβαστῶν τύ[χην

Third-century sureties from Oxyrhynchus invariably introduce the imperial oath with the verb ὀμνύω (so P.Oxy. XII 1555; XXXVI 2763; PSI XIII 1329), and the imperial titulature partly preserved in this place can be restored with some confidence from dates recorded on other texts in the Oxyrhynchus series: So, e.g., P.Oxy. XLII 3053. The regnal formula given for the year-date begins in this period with Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος; the formula given in the oath, with τοῦ κυρίου: Compare the oath and dating formulas in P.Lond. III 946 and C.Pap.Gr. II 1 76 (both from the reign of Severus Alexander) and P.Lips. 3 ii (reign of Valerian).

<u>P.Oxy. XXXVI 2756</u>. The rest of the oath by Vespasian can be supplied at the end of the document, from the dating formula above, and from other oaths by the same emperor: See, e.g., C.Pap.Gr. II 1 15.

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17 [ὀμνύομεν Αὐ-]
18 [τοκ]ράτορα Κα[ί]σα[ρα Οὐεσπασιανὸν
19 [Σεβαστόν . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ]
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P.Prag. I 33. The provenance of this text is probably Arsinoite: See above on P.Muench III 1 72. The words καὶ οὐράνιον should be removed from the lacuna at the beginning of line 9. The oath by the emperor's τύχη and νίκη occurs without modification in texts from 299 to 310 (e.g., P.Corn. 20 and P.Sakaon 2), and prefaced with the single adjective θείαν in 343 (P.Muench. III 1 72).

P.Ryl. IV 703. In lines 3 - 4, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

όμολογοῦμεν ὀμνύ-[οντες τὴν τῶν κυρίων ἡμῶν αὐτοκρατόρ]ων τύχην μὴ ἐπαφῖναι

The provenance of this document is probably Arsinoite. The oath by the τύχη of an unnamed emperor occurs at least a dozen times in Arsinoite documents from the third and fourth centuries (see, e.g., P.Amh. II 138, AD 326, and P.Ryl. IV 657, AD 323-24); only one example comes from outside that nome (SB I 2267, c. AD 300, Hermopolite).

The reference to the emperors in this class of documents never ends with the word Αὐτοκρατόρων: The lacuna at the beginning of line 4 should probably be expanded -- and there is room for it, as the left margin is lost to an undetermined depth -- to either Αὐτοκρατόρων τε καὶ Καισάρ]ων (so, e.g., P.Cair.Isid. 9) or Αὐτοκρατόρων Σεβαστ]ῶν (e.g., P.Sakaon 5).

<u>P.S.I. V 464</u>. In lines 6 - 7, the imperial oath is rendered thus:

όμνύω [τὴν Φιλίππων ? αὐτοκρατόρων καισάρων τῶν] κυρίων τύχην

With the ending τῶν κυρίων preserved, the imperial titulature is probably that of Philip, as the editor preferred, rather than of Aurelian and Gallienus, which he regarded as less likely, and whose titulature in the oath formulation regularly ends with Σεβαστῶν (so, e.g., P.Lips. 3 ii). The portion of the formula lost in lacuna at the end of line 6 can be restored after that preserved in SB V 7634: [Μάρκων Ἰουλίων Φιλίππων Καισάρων τῶν].

P.S.I. VII 732. In lines 14 - 16, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

όμνύω - [αὐ]τοκράτορα καίσαρα [Τί]τον [Αἴλ]ιον 'Αδριανὸν ['Αντωνῖνον κτλ. μ η ἐψεῦσθαι sim. etc.

The words $\Sigma \epsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau \delta v$ E $\dot{v}\sigma \epsilon \beta \hat{\eta}$ can be restored after 'Avt $\omega v \hat{v}v v v$ in the lost last line: This is the regular formulation of the oath by the emperor Antoninus Pius (so, e.g., C.Pap. Gr. II 1 39 and 44).

P.S.I. VIII 951. Line 10 preserves a fragment of the imperial oath:

] εὐσέβειαν τῶν καλλινίκων δεσποτῶν ἡμῶν αἰω[νίων

It is possible to restore θεὸν παντοκράτορα καὶ τὴν θείαν] before εὐσέβειαν, after the pattern of other documents recording oaths where the word εὐσέβειαν stands immediately before the imperial titulature: so, e.g., P.Oxy. XVI 1880 and 1881.

PSI X 1114. In lines 9-12, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

καὶ ὀ[μνύω θεὸν τὸν παντοκράτορα] καὶ τὴν εὐσέβειαν τῶν τὰ πάντα [νικώντων δεσποτῶν ἡμῶν] Οὐαλεντινιανοῦ Μαρκιανοῦ τῶν αἰω[νίων αὐγούστων ἐπὶ τῷ με μὴ ἐν-] οχλεῖν τῆ ὑμῶν ἐντρεχία

This document is a fifth-century petition Oxyrhynchus, and the introduction of the oath by the simple ὀμνύω is a feature of the first to third or early fourth centuries. The oath should probably be formulated like other similar documents from the same time and place --with ὁμολογῶ ὀμνύς like P.S.I. VI 689 a and d, or with ὁμολογῶ ἐπομνύμενος like P.Oxy. XVI 1880 and 1881.

<u>P.S.I. X 1122</u>. The provenance of the document is probably Oxyrhynchite: See above on P.Heid. III 248.

P.S.I. XII 1257 (=SB V 7990). The rest of the oath can be restored in lacuna after τὸν ἔθιμον, line 23: See, e.g., P.Oxy. XLIII 3114 and 3136.

καὶ ὀμνύ	ομεν	τὸν	ἔθιμ	lo	<i>,</i>	[']	Po	ωļ	ıc	ιίι	οι	ς
[ὄρκον μ	ιὴ ἐψε	εῦσθ	θαι								•	

P.Stras. III 152. Lines 12 - 14 preserve fragments of the imperial oath:

[τῶ]ν κ[υρίω]ν [ἡμῶν] Διοκλ[ητιανοῦ καὶ]
[Καισάρων τύχην κτλ.]

In the lacuna at the beginning of line 12, restore [καὶ ἐξόμνυμι τὴν before τῶ]ν κ[υρίω]ν κτλ, as in other Hermopolite property declarations of the same period with an oath delivered to the censitor: So P.Flor. I 32 a and P.Lond. V 1647, where these words stand at the beginning of a line. It seems very likely that the same formatting obtained in the present text as well.

P.Strass. IV 255. The provenance of the text is probably Hermopolite. The editor (p. 113) notes points of resemblance to several Hermopolite documents: In fact, komarchs appear as issuers of oath-bearing documents swearing τὸν θεῖον καὶ σεβάσμιον ὅρκον in several texts of the fourth century, all Hermopolite in origin: BGU I 21 i; P.Cair. Goodsp. 12 i; and P.Vind.Sijp. 5. P.Cair.Goodsp. 12 i preserves the same liability clause and subscript (recording τὸν θεῖον ὅρκον) as on this document.

P.Stras. VII 617. This text should be marked with an asterisk in Worp (above, introduction), p. 201 (formula III b), where a new reading of the oath formula is proposed, apparently on the basis of other Arsinoite documents of the same period, so that the oath is given by the emperors' τύχην καὶ νίκην, this phrase preceding the imperial titulature, rather than by their τύχην alone, with this element following the titulature.

P.Vind.Sal. 3. The subscript in line 23 is printed as follows:

[Στοτ]οῆ(τις) Σεταβο(ῦτος) ὀμόμοκα τ[ὸ]ν προγεγρα[μ(μένον) ὅρκον

Perhaps rather restore προκείμ[ενον] at the end of the line. This text is from the Arsinoite nome, AD 36, and there are 13 other Arsinoite documents from the first to early third centuries in which preserved subscripts record τὸν προκείμενον ὅρκον. The only published text known to me with a subscript acknowledging τὸν προγεγραμμένον ὅρκον is P. Oxy. II 251, from the first century in the Oxyrhynchite.

<u>P.Wash.Univ. I 24</u>. In lines 5 - 7, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

όμολογοῦμεν ὀμνύντες θεὸν τόν τε παντ]οκρά[τ]ορα καὶ τὴν εὐσέβιαν καὶ νίκην τῶν δεσποτῶν ἡμῶν Θεοδοσίου καὶ] Οὐαλεντινιανοῦ τῶν αἰωνίων Αὐγούστων

The particle τε can be removed from the oath formulation restored at the beginning of line 5. The oath by almighty God is expressed either by τόν τε παντοκράτορα θεόν or by θεὸν τὸν παντοκράτορα (see, e.g., BGU III 936 and CPR VI 6, both, like this text, from the reign of Theodosius).

P.Wisc. I 16. The provenance of the piece is probably Oxyrhynchite. First- and second-century documents formulated by the name of the emperor, and with subscripts recording the swearing of τὸν ὅρκον (rather than, for example, τὸν προκείμενον ὅρκον) are invariably Oxyrhynchite. Twelve examples occur, dated between AD 34 (P.Ox.Hels. 10) and AD 150 (C.Pap.Gr. II 1 39).

<u>P.Wuerz. 15</u>. In lines 4 - 5, the imperial oath is printed as below:

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[ ὁμολογῶ ὀμνύων τὴν] τύχην καὶ νείκην τῶ[ν τὰ πάντα νικώντων δεσποτῶν ἡμῶν Αὐγούστων
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With the publication of P.Muench. III 1 72, on which see above, it seems likely in a document of this date (AD 341) that the word θείαν should be added before τύχην καὶ νίκην in the lacuna at the end of line 4: See above also on P.Prag. I 33.

SB 14669. Fragments of the imperial oath are printed in lines 15 - 17:

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15 καὶ τὴν θείαν [ ]
16 τε τριάδα καὶ τὴν νίκην ταύτην (ἢ) καὶ διάμονον ζωὴν τοῦ εὐσεβεστάτου
[καὶ φιλανθρώπου]
17 δεσπότου τῆς ἡγουμένης Φλ(αουίου) Ἡρακλίου τοῦ αἰωνίου Αὐγούστου καὶ
Αὐτοκράτορος [ ]
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The word ὁμοούσιον should be supplied in the lacuna at the end of line 15: See, e.g., for the same phraseology, P.Koeln III 156.11 and P.Mich. XIII 659.257.

<u>SB VI 9087.</u> The provenance of the piece is probably Arsinoite. Up to the end of the second century, all surviving sureties with the oath by the emperor's $\tau \acute{\nu} \chi \eta$ are from the Arsinoite: BGU III 891 v (AD 144); XI 2037 (first half of the second century); XIII 2248 (AD 196).

SB VI 9448. In lines 10 - 11, the imperial oath is printed as follows:

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καὶ ὀμνύω τὴν [τοῦ Αὐτο]κράτορος Καίσαρ[ος Νέ]ρουα Τρα[ιαναῦ Γερ-]
μανικοῦ Δακ[ικοῦ . . τύχην
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The title $\Sigma \epsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau o \hat{v}$ should probably be added after $T \rho \alpha [\iota \alpha v o \hat{v}]$ in the lacuna at the end of line 10: See above on BGU XIII 2246. The length of the lines in this document has not been established, due to the loss of text on the right side.

<u>SB XII 11023</u>. The first four lines (date -- well restored -- and then names and titles of parties to the communication) are badly preserved. Here are lines 5 (end of exchange of names and titles) and 6 -7 (the imperial oath):

- 5 [-] ἐπιμελετ[αῖς σίτου λαμπροτάτης 'Αλεξ]ανδρίας
- 6 [ὁμολογῶ ὀμνὺς τὸν θεὸν τὸν παν]τοκράτορα καὶ τὴν [εὐσέβεια]ν το[ῦ τὰ πάντα
- 7 [νικῶντος δεσπότου ἡμῶν Θεο]δοσίου αἰωνίου Αὐγούστου

The first τὸν restored in the lacuna at the beginning of line 6 may be removed: See above on P.Wash.Univ. I 24.

The first word preserved in line 5 should probably be read as ἐπιμελητ[ῶν] -- probably governed by a lost παρά -- rather than ἐπιμελητ[αῖς]. It is very rare for the addressee to be named after the issuer in a document containing the imperial oath, and while epimeletae are often named as recipients of oath-bearing lading receipts (see below, on SB XIV 11550), they are invariably in that case named before the issuer of the receipt. For epimeletae as issuers of receipts, named in both cases after the addressee, see P.Oxy. XXXVI 2766 and P.Ryl. IV 657, both issued to the strategos; see also P.Wash.Univ. II 82, with introduction.

SB XIV 11550. This lading receipt is probably addressed to an epimeletes, like several other oath-bearing fourth-century receipts for transport of goods: See P.Flor. I 75; P.Laur. IV 162; P.Mich. XV 724; and P.Stras. VII 654. The ἐπιμελητὴς κριθῆς is often so designated, without additional titulature (see, e.g., from the fourth century, P.Char. XV 2.24; and P.Sakaon 15.2 and 31; the much earlier SB XII 11133 is a document issued by ἐπιμεληταὶ κριθῆς, but their names at the top of the text appear in the dative, as if from a formula for documents submitted to them). Line 1 of this document can plausibly be restored with the name of the addressee's father, and then his title:

Αὐρηλίω 'Αρποχρατί[ωνι -- father's name -- ἐπιμελητῆ κριθῆς]

<u>VBP IV 75a</u>. The word Σεβαστοῦ] should be supplied after 'Aδριαν[οῦ at the end of line 16. This is the normal form of Hadrian's titulature in the imperial oath: See, e.g., from the same year, P.Oxy. XLVII 3336 and P.S.I. VII 766. This addition brings the line to a length of 32 letters, roughly comparable to that of the line before.

<u>C.Pap.Gr. II 120</u>. The imperial titulature in lines 21 - 24 can be restored from P.Oxy. I 74:

ώμνύω Αὐτοκράτορα Καίσα[ρα Νέρουαν] Τραιαν[ὸν "Αριστον] Σεβα[στὸν Γερμανικόν.]

P.Oxy. I 74 dates to AD 116 -- and cf. Sijpesteijn (above, introduction) on P.Oxy. XII 1454 -- but the title "Αριστος appears earlier in Trajan's dating formula: See O.Strass. 500, AD 100.

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