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THREE XENOPHON PAPYRI. ONE SCRIBE

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In 1923 H.J.M.Milne noticed that *P.Lit.Lond.* 152 (Tafel Ia)¹ (*Smp.* 8, 6-9) belonged to the same papyrus roll as *P.Giss.* 1, 1 (Tafel Ib)² (*Smp.* 8, 15-18). Three columns of 28-30 lines with 10-15 letters per line have disappeared between the London and the Giessen papyrus. Not only the narrow columns (4.5 cm.), with an intercolumnar space of about 2 cm., and the wide upper and lower margin (at least 7.5 and 8.5 to 9 cm. respectively), but also the regular script written along the fibres (the back is blank) point to a luxury edition. The medium-sized hand is of the formal mixed style³ with a very slight slant to the right, and can be dated in the second to third century A.D. There are no lectional signs and only occasional punctuation by high and low stop.

P.Tebt. 2, 682, (Tafel Ic)⁴ a tiny piece of papyrus (4.6 x 2.9 cm.) with text from *Oec.* 18, 9, written along the fibres (the back is blank), shows a remarkable resemblance with the *Smp.*-papyri. Though there are no margins in the *Oec.*-fragment, the similarity in form and size of writing, in the space between two lines, in number of letters per line (12-15, as can be reconstructed), and in the occasional use of punctuation (only one high stop occurs in the *Oec.* pap.), points to the scribe who has written the *Smp.*-papyri. This implies that the *Smp.*-papyri, whose provenance was hitherto unknown, probably stem from Tebtunis.

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¹ *P.Lit.Lond.* 152 (Pack² 1565) is reproduced by permission of the British Library. Ed. princeps by H.J.M.Milne, A fragment of Xenophon's Symposium viii, 6-8 in *Aegyptus* 4, 1923, 41-42. H.J.M.Milne, *Catalogue of the Literary Papyri in the British Museum*, no. 152, London 1927.

² I thank Prof. Dr. M.Landfester of the Justus Liebig Universität Giessen for the photograph of *P.Giss.* 1,1 (Pack² 1565) and the permission to publish it. Ed. princeps by E.Kornemann, Eine neue Xenophon-Handschrift auf Papyrus, in *Philologus* 67, 1908, 321-325. ib., *Griechische Papyri im Museum des Oberhessischen Geschichtsvereins zu Giessen* 1, no. 1, Leipzig 1912. See also A.W.Persson, Zur Textgeschichte Xenophons, *LUA N.F. AFD.* 1, Bd. 10, 2, Lund 1915, 50.

³ Cf. p. 22 and pl. 27 in E.G.Turner, *Greek Manuscripts of the Ancient World*, sec. ed. by P.J.Parsons, *Bulletin* suppl. 46, London 1987.

⁴ The photograph of *P.Tebt.* 2, 682 (Pack² 2905) is published by courtesy of the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Ed. princeps by B.P.Grenfell/A.S.Hunt, *Tebtunis Papyri*, 2, 682, London 1907. Identified by J.Lenaerts, Un papyrus de l'Économique de Xenophon, *CE* 49, 1974, 354-355. The papyrus has been assigned to the third cent. A.D. in these publications.

