

P.J. SIJPESTEIJN

TWO LONDON PAPYRI

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TWO LONDON PAPYRI

*In memoriam John C. Shelton***(1) P.Lond. II 378¹**

Tafel IIa

↓ Σοκνοπαίου Νήσου ἄγ (ἔτους) εἰς Κερκῆ ἐπίπλ{o}ους Στοτοήτις Ἀπύγχεως τοῦ
 Στοτοήτιος
 [...] γ (ἔτους) [εἰς] πλοῖον (πρότερον) Παπειρίου Ἑρμᾶ ἀπὸ τῆς (αὐτῆς) (ἀρτάβας)
 (μυριάς) Ἐψκβ.

1 ἐπίπλ{o}ους: ου ex υς 2 α⁻ pap.; ς^α pap.

Translation:

Supercargo for Soknopaiu Nesos for year 3 to Kerke Stotoëtis son of Apynchis grandson of Stotoëtis for(?) year 3 into the ship formerly belonging to Papirios son of Hermas from the same village 12.722 art.

The nature of this succinct text is not totally clear. We might be dealing with a notice to a not mentioned person that Stotoëtis son of Apynchis grandson of Stotoëtis will serve as supercargo for Soknopaiu Nesos in Kerke where he will be responsible for the lading of 12.722 artabas (probably of wheat. Cf. P. Heid. IV 313) of the 3rd regnal year of an unknown emperor into the ship formerly belonging to Papirios son of Hermas from the same village of Soknopaiu Nesos (cf. P.Petaus 58. Cf. also P.Amh. II 123; P.Cairo Goodsp. 28). On the other hand, the possibility that this text is (the draft of) an order to or a receipt for Stotoëtis concerning the lading of the artabas mentioned cannot be excluded.

Notes:

- 1 Κερκῆ: for Kerke, an important harbour in the north of the Arsinoite nome, see A.Calderini - S. Daris, *Dizionario dei nomi geografici* III.2, Milano 1980, 111; W.Clarysse in *Studies on Ptolemaic Memphis* (*Studia Hellenistica* 24, Lovanii 1980) 96f. Our Stotoëtis was supercargo for Soknopaiu Nesos. He started his liturgy in the harbor of Kerke. He was not necessarily responsible for only the tax-grain from Soknopaiu Nesos.

ἐπίπλ{o}ους: like in πλοῖον (line 2) λο is written λo with a small omikron closely linked to the lambda. Possibly because he thought this omikron not clear enough, the scribe changed υς into ου and added a sigma (cf. F.Th. Gignac, *A Grammar* II, Milano 1981, 33f.) The ἐπίπλοος (cf. N. Lewis, *The Compulsory Public Services of Roman Egypt*, *Papyrologica Florentina* XI, Firenze 1982, 28; A.J.M. Meijer-Termeer, *Die Haftung der Schiffer im griechischen und römischen Recht*, *Studia Amstelodamensia* XIII, Zutphen 1978, 56; J. Frösén, *Arctos* 12, 1978, 5ff. [cf. P.Oxy. Hels. 20]; D. Gofas, *Symposion* 1985, 425ff.) accompanied cargos from harbors in the χώρα to Alexandria and was responsible for them.

¹ The light-brown papyrus, regularly cut off at all sides, is complete, although the ink has disappeared in places. The text runs against the fibers. The other side is blank. One horizontal and eight vertical folds are still visible. At the top 1 cm. has been left free; at the left approximately 1.5 cm. At the end of line 2, 5 cm have been left free. 20.2 x 4.5 cm. Described on p. XXXV of P.Lond. II.

I wish to thank Mr. T.S. Pattie for his kind permission to publish this text and the following text here.

Originally the ἐπίπλοοι were soldiers (the latest document with a soldier as supercargo is from probably A.D. 94 or A.D. 110: P.Oxy.Hels. 14). Once again (cf. P.J. Sijpesteijn, Customs Duties in Graeco-Roman Egypt, *Studia Amstelodamensia* XVII, Zutphen 1987, 40) the reign of the emperor Trajan has been a turning-point, since during his reign (cf. J. Schwartz, BIFAO 47, 1948, 185. For that reason PSA Athen. 63 has to be dated to the beginning of the IInd Century A.D.) a change over from soldiers to civilians to carry out this task took place. The text published here has on palaeographical grounds to be dated to the IInd century A.D. However, since there is only a question of a 3rd year without the name of an emperor being mentioned, its exact date cannot be established. Neither the name of the supercargo nor the one of the former ship-owner are of any help in this respect. D. Hobson (letter dated March 14, 1992) informs me that she knows of only one (Gaius) Papirios (Maximus) from Soknopaiou Nesos (P.Fay. descr. 244) and that for Στοτοῆτις Ἀπύγχεως τοῦ Στοτοῆτιος the possibilities are infinite, since she knows of countless people of both names. ἐπίπλοοι are already attested in the Ptolemaic period (cf. P.Ryl. IV 576,1n.). Nameless ἐπίπλοοι are attested in P.Grenf. II 46a,6 = WChrest. 431,6; P.Lond. II 301,10 = MChrest. 340,10; P.Oxy. XXXIII 2670 I 13; XLIX 3484,28; PSI XIV 1436,12 (?); P.Phil. 10,9; PSA Athen. 63,6; SB XII 11082,16: The following ἐπίπλοοι are known to us by name:

Λούκιος Οὐκλάτιος στρατιώτης	2 B.C.	Oxy.	SB VI 9223
Λούκιος Καστρίκιος στρατιώτης	2 B.C.	Oxy.	SB VI 9223
Σέκτος Ἀντίσιος (στρατιώτης)	15 A.D.	Ars.	P.Lond. II 256 = WChr. 443
Κλαύδιος Κέλερ στρατιώτης	77 A.D.	Oxy.	P.Oxy. II 276
Γάιος Λογγίνος στρατιώτης	94/110 A.D.	Oxy.	P.Oxy.Hels. 14
Ἰώθης s. of Σενπικῶς	I A.D. ²	?	SB V 7737
Ἀμμώνιος s. of Ἀμμώνιος	127 A.D.	Oxy.	P.Oxy. XXXIII 2670 I
Παποντῶς s. of Παποντῶς	127 A.D.	Oxy.	P.Oxy. XXXIII 2670 I
Σαρῶς ἀπελευθέρως Διφίλου	139 A.D.	Oxy.	P.Oxy.Hels. 20
Ἀφροδίσιος s. of Ποτάμων (?)	138-161 A.D.	Ars.	SB XII 11082,16 ³
Ἐκῦσις (συγγενῆς Παβούτος Στοτοῆτιος)	185 A.D.	Ars.	P.Lond. II 342
Ἀπύγχις (συγγενῆς Παβούτος Στοτοῆτιος)	185 A.D.	Ars.	P.Lond. II 342
Πασῦς s. of Ὀννώφρις and Ταῦρις ἐπικαλούμενος ὁ τοῦ Θεοδώρου	± 185 A.D.	Ars.	P.Petaus 58
Ῥωρος s. of Ὀννώφρις and Τανεσνεῦς	± 185 A.D.	Ars.	P.Petaus 58
Πτολεμαῖος s. of Πανομιεῦς	II A.D.	Ars.	P.Cairo Goodsp.28
Στοτοῆτις s. of Ἀπύγχις gds. of Στοτοῆτις	II A.D.	Ars.	P.Lond. II 378
Ἀλεξῶς s. of Ἐκῦσις	II/III A.D.	Ars.	P.Amh. II 123
Κοπρῆς s. of Πουβλίε (?)	II/III A.D.	Ars.	P.Amh. II 123
Ἀνρήλιος Τύραννος s. of Βῆκις and Τροῦς	325 A.D.	Herm.	P.Charite 13

2 There is a space for two letters at the beginning of this line. If anything has been written here one could think of ὑπ(έρ).

ἀπὸ τῆς (αὐτῆς): the scribe may mistakenly have taken the symbol for ἀρτάβας (Ⲁ) as α(ὐτῆς). Cfr. CPR XVII A 17a,3 for ἀπὸ τῆς (αὐτῆς) without κόμης.

² Probably to be dated to the (beginning of the) IInd century A.D.

³ Supplement in the lacuna at the beginning of line 17 τοὺς instead of τοῖς.

(μυρίας): the same form also in, e.g., PSI VII 792,16; P.Oxy. XVII 2125,4. Cf. W.M. Brashear, ZPE 60, 1985, 239ff.

L. Casson, *Ships and Seamanship in the Ancient World*, Princeton 1971, 164, footnote 40 lists 4 kerkouroi carrying 12.000 artabas, 1 carrying 16.000 artabas and 1 even carrying 18.000 artabas as burden (cf. also P.Erasmiana II [Studia Amstelodamensia XXXII], Amsterdam 1991, pp. 77ff.; CPR XVII A 7, 2n.). It is, therefore, possible that the ship formerly belonging to Papirios was a large carrier of more than 12.000 artabas on the Nile and Stotoëtis' duty restricted to only one trip from Kerke to Alexandria. On the other hand, the ship in question may have made several trips downstream (cf. P.Oxy. XXXIII 2670). If the latter is true it looks as if Stotoëtis was in some way responsible for a total of 12.722 artabas of wheat. In that case the wheat may have come from Soknopaiou Nesos.

(2) P.Lond. II 425⁴

This text contains the right-hand side of a document which on palaeographical grounds has to be dated to the IVth century A.D. The nature of the text cannot be established any longer with certainty. One or more columns preceded the preserved one and at least one more column followed it. We may be dealing with a (semi-)literary text (e.g., Christian martyr acts). The interesting form ἠκουκώς (line 3), the neologism καμηλισμός (line 5) and the hope that the missing parts may be discovered somewhere sometime warrant its publication.

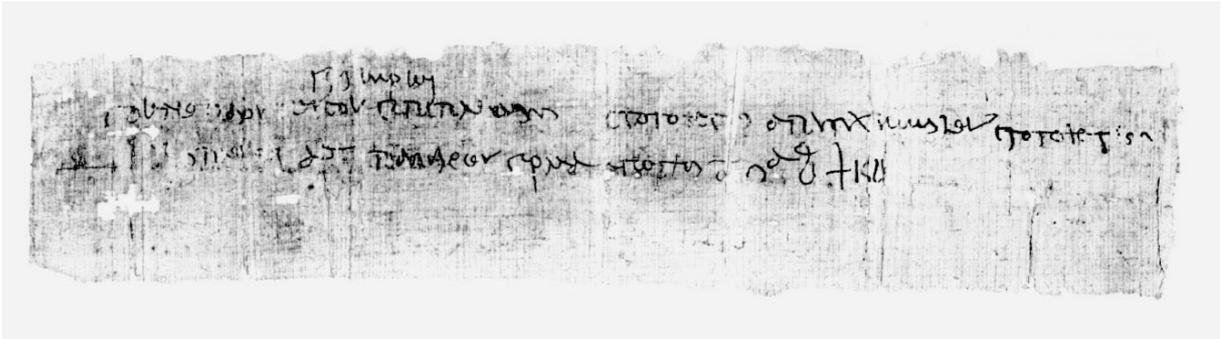
		τα]ῦτα· εἶπαν δὲ ὅτι ἂν καὶ σὲ εὐρο-	Tafel IIb
	[μεν	]αραν εἰς τὸ μέσον τοῦ πυρὸς	
		].. ταῦτα δὲ ἠκουκῶς ἀνε-	
4		] ἀναχωρήσέ με κέκαυτε	
		]ουσα δὲ κατὰ τὸν καμηλισμὸν	
		]·υ τηνάρια ἑπτὰ εἰ(ς) χίλεια πεντα-	
	[κόσια	]·ρανθ...[.]οκουρωσι ὁ προκο-	
8		]α καὶ τῷ ἐπιτρόπῳ Ὁρίωνι	
		]·ι Ἡρακλάμμοнос ἐν τῷ βαλα-	
	[νεῖφ	]ου καὶ ἐφώνησεν αὐτὸν ὁ ἐπί-	
	[τροπος	] ὅπερ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτὸ ὅτι ἔστι σοι	
12		]..λατα καὶ εἶπεν αὐτὸς τῷ ἐπιτρό-	
	[πφ	οῦκ] ἐγὼ μόνος εἶπον ταῦτα ἀλλὰ ὄλη	

3 ἠκουκῶς: ς ex τ (?) 4 ἀναχωρήσε: second α ex corr.; ἀναχωρήσαι; κέκαυται 6 δηνάρια; χίλεια 8 τῷ ἐπιτρόπῳ, also in lines 12-13 9 τῷ 10-11 ἐπίτροπος 11 αὐτός or αὐτῷ (?) 13 ἐγὼ

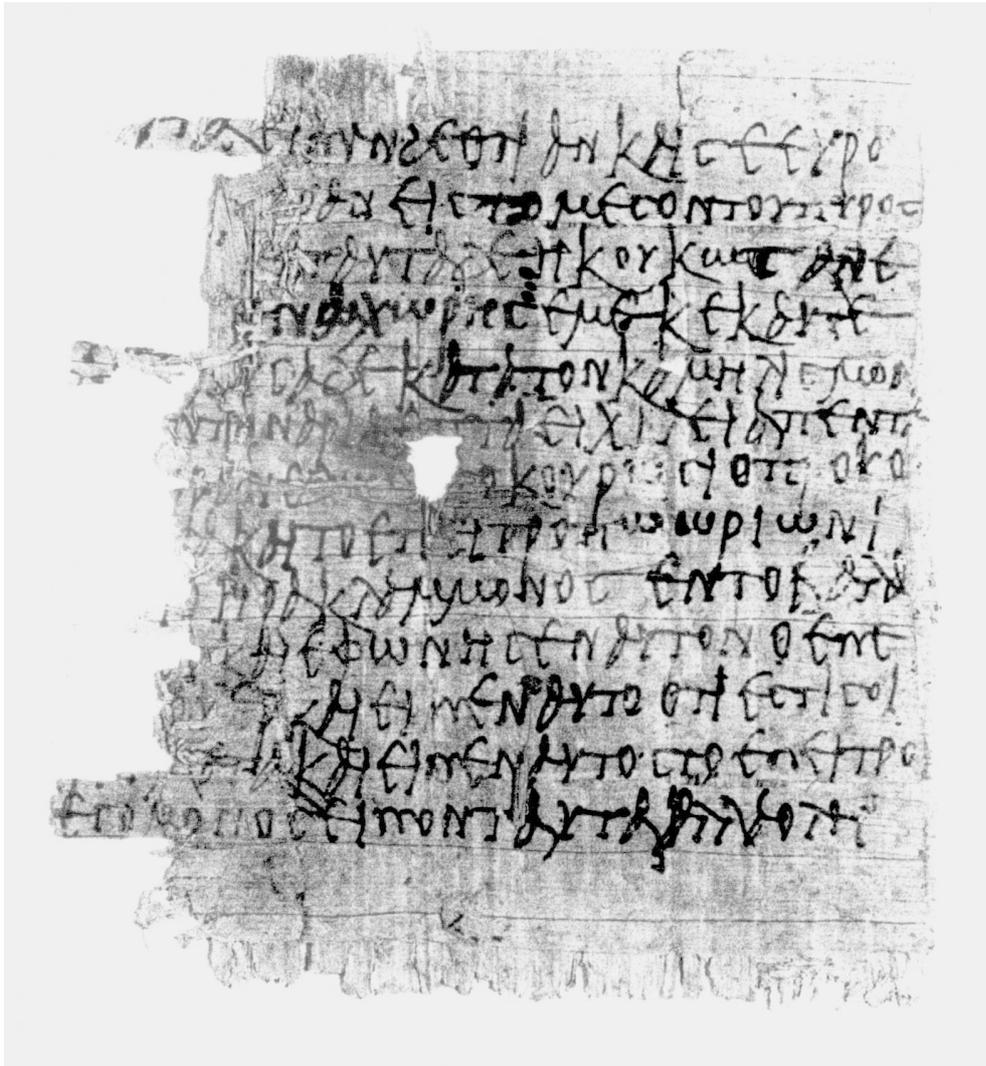
⁴ The papyrus is described on page XXXVIII of P.Lond. II. Its provenance is unknown. The text, with the exception of the left side regularly cut off at all other sides, measures 10.7 x 10 cm. There is a κόλλησις exactly at the right border. The other side is blank. At the top there is a free margin of approximately 1 cm. and at the bottom one of approximately 2 cm. I am not sure (cf. the introduction) that we are dealing with "a letter on private matters". The present text profited from a discussion per litteras with D. Hagedorn.

Notes:

- 1-2 εἶπαν: cf. B.G. Mandilaras, *The Verb in the Greek Non-Literary Papyri* § 317 (3). However: εὔρομεν.
- 2 Tantalizing words are preserved here! Only *exempli gratia* we could think of: τότε γ]ὰρ ἂν εἰς τὸ μέσον τοῦ πυρός | [σε εἰσεβάλομεν. Cf. also κέκαυται (or κέκαυ(σ)ται ?) in line 4.
- 3 ἡκουκός: F.Th. Gignac, *A Grammar II*, Milano 1981, 299 lists ἡκουκα from P.Giss.Bibl. 31,21-22 (also from the IVth century A.D.). Naturally we are not dealing with a dialectical -κ- perfect (*ibidem*, 297, 299) but with another example of ‘simplification/unification’ of the language.
- 4 καμηλισμόν: this word appears here for the first time. Particularly in the form -ισμός the suffix -μός was extremely productive in the Koine (cf. L.R. Palmer, *A Grammar of the Post-Ptolemaic Papyri I*, London, 1964, 99ff.). I would translate this word as ‘behaving like a camel’ (cf. Ἀττικισμός, Ἑλληνισμός) but I do not know which quality of character (stupidity, endurance = stubbornness?) is indicated by this word. The verb καμηλίζω occurs in *Heliodorus Eroticus* 10,27.
- 6-7 Possibly 7 denaria were paid/exchanged for 1.500 (+?) objects. On the other hand, it is extremely likely that δηνάρια ἑπτακισχίλια πεντακόσια was meant.
- 7 Perhaps we have to read:]ρ ἀνθ’ ὧν [ἀ]ποκυρώσει κτλ. However, the verb is not frequently attested and instead of ω the better reading may be η.
- 10 The epitropos called someone by a name. Cf. Ev. Jh. 13,13: ὑμεῖς φωνεῖτέ με ὁ διδάσκαλος καὶ κύριος.
- 13 ἀλλὰ ὅλη *exempli gratia* ἡ πόλις. This would provide a good opposition to οὐκ] ἐγὼ μόνος. But ἀλλὰ ὅλη- is also possible.



a)



b)

- a) Text mit Erwähnung eines Epiplous (P.Lond. II 378),
- b) Christliche Märtyrerakten ? (P.Lond. II 425)