A BUSINESS LETTER FROM THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM

By

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ABSTRACT

The current paper tackles an edition of unpublished Greek documentary papyrus from the Cairo Egyptian Museum under glass 86 of the Special Register Nr. 3049 with inv. 161. This papyrus is from Tampemou (Oxyrhynchite nome) and dates back to the Third Century AD. This papyrus text is a business letter. The letter preserved some details about the transport of sheep made by the official who travelled south to Tampemou in the eastern toparchy of the Oxyrhynchite Nome. The verso contains two lists of the landowners and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names. The purpose of amounts of wheat on the verso did not serve for taxation, because there is nothing to indicate the taxation. The names of the people appearing in the two lists were probably tenants, and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names may be the rentals which they paid for their leaseholds, though the rates of rent in private tenancy were usually higher. Thus it is possible that they were sharecroppers. Sharecropping is a type of farming in which the sharecropper rents small plots of land from a landowner in return for a portion of his crop, to be given to the landowner at the harvest. The sharecropper agreed to hand over a proportion between one-third and two-thirds of the crop to the landowner, instead of paying a rent. The landowner provided the sharecropper with land, seeds, and tools; these supplies were deducted from the portion of the sharecropper. The papyrus has been presented as follows: a general description of the contents of the papyrus, dimensions of the papyrus in centimeters, number of lines of text, arrows indicate the direction of writing relative to that of papyrus surface, a transcription of the Greek text, English translation and extensive commentary.

KEYWORDS: Greek, Papyri, Roman, Egypt, Land, Transport, Sheep, Sharecropper.
I. INTRODUCTION

This papyrus is an edition of unpublished Greek documentary papyrus from the Cairo Egyptian Museum under glass 86 of the S (pecial) R (egister) Nr. 3049 with inv. 161. The papyrus is from Tampemou (Oxyrhynchite).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SR 3049/161</th>
<th>Tampemou (Oxyrhynchite)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.5 x 18.5 cm.</td>
<td>3 Century AD.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The papyrus is of medium brown color and it has been irregularly cut off on all sides, measuring 18.5 cm in height and 12.5 cm in width. The text is in some places badly rubbed and the ink has faded. The recto and verso are written by different hands. The text on the recto is written by a legible hand, along the fibers, in 18 lines. There are remains of two margins on the recto; at the left one cm, and at the lower three cm. The verso turned 180° opposite of the recto. The text on the verso is written by a semi-cursive hand, across the fibers, in 26 lines. There are remains of three margins on the verso; at the right 3.5 cm, at the top is one cm, and at the left one cm. Three vertical folds, across to the fibers, beginning from the right hand side are visible, while the widths of the successive folds are 4.5 cm 3.5 cm 5.5 cm, and 3.5 cm.

Date

On palaeographical grounds, it can be dated back to the third century AD., for palaeographical parallels, see: P.Oxy. X 1267 (209 AD, registration of a child); BGU I 7 (Arsinoites, 247 AD., order to retain tenants on land); P.Oxy. XIX 2241 (283-284 AD, list of rents from land).

The text of this papyrus is a business letter on the recto and agricultural account on the verso. The sender of the letter is missing, while the addressee is Onnophris son of Colophonius and his sister Sepsis. This business letter mentions Valerius Titanianus. The family of Valerius Titanianus maintained its equestrian status and its connections with the imperial administration. He was described as “warden of the great Sarapis, formerly praefectus vigilum”, in Philadelphia again but in 248 Valerius Titanianus with an impressive title διασημότατος (the most eminent) was represented by Nepotianus the ex-prefect’s steward. Finally, in 262, Valerius Titanianus (κράτιστος) appears as epistrategus Heptanomiae; he is certainly a close relative of praefectus vigilum, presumably his son. There are links between the estates of Valerius Titanianus and Aurelius

1 P. Mich. XI 620 (Arsinoite, 239/240 AD, Account of an Estate), ll. 1-2:
Οὐαλεριών Τ[ι]τανιανός νεωκόρος τοῦ μεγάλοι[ου] Σαραπίνος ἀπὸ ἐπαρχ[ουν υμούλων
2SB IV 7464 (Arsinoite, 248 AD, Complaint from a Arabotoxotes), ll. 11-12:
Νεπωτιανός ἐπιτρόπου τοῦ διασημότατος Οὐαλερίου Τιτανιανοῦ καὶ Μαύρου καὶ Αμμονίου ἀραβοτοξοτῶν,
3Van Rengen & Wagner 1984: 348–353; P. Oxy. XVII 2107 (262 AD, order to Irenarchs), ll. 1-2:
Οὐαλερίους Τιτανιανός ὁ κράτιστος εἰφηνάρχας Οξυρυγχίτου χαίρειν.

Appianus, for which accounts preserved that the estate animals were used for the transport of any commodity, and that these operations would be carried out in conjunction with other forms of transport available, in which usually wagons and teams of oxen have been used for long-distance transport⁴. The letter has preserved details about the transport of sheep made by the official who has travelled south to Tampemou in the eastern toparchy of the Oxyrhynchite Nome, and who needed to camp and purchase fodder for sheep on the journey. It is probable that sheep was used to sacrifice.

The verso contains two lists of the landowners, and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names. The purpose of amounts of wheat on the verso did not serve for taxation, because there is nothing to indicate the taxation, and the tax rate varied considerably for the various categories of land. Most private lands were taxed at 1, 1¼, 1½ or 2 artabae per aroura ⁵. The names of the people appeared in two lists, who were probably tenants, and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names may be the rentals which they paid for their leaseholds, but the rates of rent in private tenancy were usually higher. Thus it is possible that they were sharecroppers. Sharecropping is a type of farming in which the sharecropper rents small plots of land from a landowner in return for a portion of his crop, to be given to the landowner at the harvest. The sharecropper agreed to hand over a proportion between one-third and two-thirds of the crop to the landowner, instead of paying rent. The landowner provided the sharecropper with land, seeds, and tools, these supplies were deducted from the portion of the sharecropper ⁶.

Text

Recto

[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
BUSINESS LETTER FROM THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM

15 μὴ π<λ>ημελε<υ>ν τῇ πόλει [. . . . μ]έχρι ἐκ-
θέσθαι, τιμ[ής] μναν λοτίνου χόρτον λιμῷ [ 
μένην καὶ μὴ ἀναβήν[αί, ἐ]ρωμεθ<ά> τε [καὶ αὐτοί 
ἐ]ρωσο [ 

Verso

[. . . . . . . . . . Νο]μερίου (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ. 
[. . . . . . . . . . Αμμων][αρίου (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ. 
P[έ]λλιο[ς . . . . . . . Π]ετεήσι[ς Τ]εβάτος (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
5 Ἀπ[ε]ρδ[ε]ισίου (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
Σύρο[ς] Ναρμοθέσιος (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ζ 
Παμών Σόλανος (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) β 
Pανεύς Εὐ[τό]λεας (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) η 
Ἀμά[ε]ις Σιλβίου (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
10 Ἀμμωνί<ο>ς Ακίων<ο>ς (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) θ 
Ἀμά[ε]εις Απολ[λωνίου (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ 
Ἀτις κλ[ηρονόμος] Πανετβηοτός (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ζ 
Ἀπολινάρι<ο>ς Πεννιοτός (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ζ 
Ἀρψήμ[ις Σεννούφιος (ἀρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ 
15 γί(νονται) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ὡβ

vac.

[. . . . . . . . . . ]αριου χέρσου (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
[. . . . . . . . . . ]αριου (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) α 
[. . . . . . . . . . ]ος (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
[. . . . . . . . . . ][Ωρσε]νούφεως (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ 
20 [. . . . . . . . . . ]Ἀ[υ]ρήλιου (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) β 
[. . . . . . . . . . ]Κ]λόνικος (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
[. . . . . . . . . . ][Κα]τεὶς Μαξίμου (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ 
[. . . . . . . . . . ][Η] (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
[. . . . . . . . . . ][Ξ] (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε 
25 [. . . . . . . . . . ] (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) δ 
[ γί(νονται) [(πυροῦ ἀρτάβας]] λη
Corrections

**Recto** I. 4 ταυρελάτου l. 6 παραδιδόναι l. 11 ἐφαγάζ<εσ>θ(α) l. 13 ἐσφράγισα
l. 14 σήμερον l. 16 λωτίνου l. 17 μένειν

**Verso** II. 1-14 b— II.1-26 l. 12 Ῥ]) pap. ll. 15, 26 f l. 21 Κλεονίκου

Translation

To my lord Onnophris son of Colophonius
and to his sister Sepsis, oh my lady

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . of the headmen of village nor of the bull driver

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . but also they have delivered up one

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . until to deliver them up

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . of Ailourion and Valerius Titanianus
which I have handed (the letter) from the courier at the south

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . non-existent (person), lest

we deliver him up and you didn’t receive him in
Tampemou to work as agent (general manager)
and the slave of my sister I have sealed
marriage (contract), the escort of Lykarion
and today the sheep of sacrificial magistrate . . .

don’t go wrong to the city . . . even to
pay the price mina for the green crop of lotus (because of) hunger
to stay and do not go on board, we ourselves are also well

farewell

**Verso**

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . son of Noumerius 3 artabas of wheat for aroura

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . son of Ammonarius 3 artabas of wheat for aroura

gellius son of . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5 artabas of wheat for aroura

peteesis son of tebas 5 artabas of wheat for aroura

5 Apeis son of Aphrodisius 5 artabas of wheat for aroura

Syrus son of Narmouthis 7 artabas of wheat for aroura

Pamon son of Solon 2 artabas of wheat for aroura

Panoeus son of Eupolis 8 artabas of wheat for aroura

Amaeis son of Silibus 5 artabas of wheat for aroura

10 Ammonius son of Akion 9 artabas of wheat for aroura

Amaeis son of Apollonius 3 artabas of wheat for aroura
Atis heir of Panetbeus
Apollinarios son of Pennious
Harpsemis son of Sennouphris

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>7 artabas of wheat for aroura</th>
<th>3 artabas of wheat for aroura</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>72 artabas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of . . . . of dry</td>
<td>5 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>land</td>
<td>1 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of . . . .</td>
<td>5 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of . . . .</td>
<td>3 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of Orsenouphis</td>
<td>2 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>. . . . son of Aurelius</td>
<td>5 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of Kleonikus</td>
<td>3 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of Kaeis Maximus</td>
<td>5 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of . . . .</td>
<td>5 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>. . . . son of . . . .</td>
<td>4 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>. . . . son of . . . .</td>
<td>38 artabas of wheat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Commentary**

1. 2: Κολοφώνιος: There is no mention in papyri of Κολοφώνιος as a personal name only in *O.Claud.* II 248 (Mons Claudianus, 126-175 AD, Letter from Petenephotes to Valerius), I. 15.

1. 3: Σεψις: The name Σέψις is common in the papyri, for example, *SB* I 3875 (Panopolis, 2099 AD, mummy label), II. 1-2:

   Ἀρεμήφις Ἀρυ-<br>ωτοῦ μητ(ρὸς) Σέψις

   *Haremephis son Haryotes his mother (being) Sepsis.*

   The expression ὦ κυρία μου has a parallel in *P.Oxy* VI 937(201-300 AD, letter of Demarchus), II. 9-10:

   ὦ κυρία μου ἀδελ-<br>φή

   *Oh my sister lady*

   κυρία μου: The sender called the addressee as κυρία μου (a polite form): κύριος often was mentioned in business letters, as a man having power or authority. The polite closing formula might indicate that the addressee of the letter held a higher position than the sender.

1. 4: κωμάρχαι: The office of the κωμάρχαι was re-introduced into Egypt between 245 and 247. The κωμάρχαι replaced the κωμογραμματεύς toward the middle of the

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©Dickey 2010: 327-335.
third century\textsuperscript{8}, the κωμάρχαι of the village were four in number \textsuperscript{9}. The earliest order to arrest was addressed to the κωμάρχαι as chief of the village police, see: SB XVIII 13896 (Arsinoites, 242-254 AD, order to arrest). The first occurrence of the κωμάρχαι of Tampemou in P.Oxy. XLVIII 3409 (IV AD), ll. 1-3:

περί τού τοὺς κωμάρχας
tῆς Ταμπεμοῦ ἐπὶ τὴν
pόλιν ἀποστ[ε]λαί

*About sending the headmen of village Tampemou to the city.*

ταυρελάτου: There are details recorded about the monthly ὀψώνιον paid to a bull-driver, and the editor suggests that their salary was taken as an expense \textsuperscript{10}. The bulls were used for agricultural tasks such as traction, ploughing, turning waterwheels, and transport animals\textsuperscript{11}.

l. 8: δρομέως: The messages were hand-delivered using a variety of methods, including couriers (foot messenger), homing pigeons and riders on horseback\textsuperscript{12}. The δρομεύς is distinguished from ordinary mail services by features such as speed and security, see P.Ryl. IV 627 (Hermoupolis Magna, 301-325 AD, Memoranda and Accounts) l. 99:

κ[αὶ ἀπὸ] Ἐρμοῦ δρομέως κνι[δ(αι)] δ
and from Hermes the courier, 4 knidia

l. 9: [ἀν]ὑπαρκτον: The exact meaning is not clear, it could mean that land once cultivated has been swept away by floods or covered by desert sand, see; P.Giss. 7 (Apollonopolites Heptakomias, 117 AD, petition), Col. 2, ll. 15-18:

δεομένου
tοῦ μὲν ἄν(α) ε ἰβ´ (ἀρούρης) η´ καὶ τοῦ ἄν(α) β´ (ἀρούρης) δ´
περὶ Πῶιν ἀνυπάρκτων ὄντων ἀπο-

I request to be exempted from the eight of an aroura at the rate of 5 1/12 and from the quarter of an aroura at the rate of 2 near Pois, which are non-existent

It might refer to an incorrect name, under which the petitioner had been appointed unlawfully to a public service, see: P. Mich VI 426 (Karanis, 199-200 AD, petition), ll. 11-12;

\textsuperscript{9}BENAISSA 2008: 53-61 = P. Gen. II 1 66 = Chr.Wilk. 381 (Philadelphia, 374 AD, lease land ), ll. 1-4:

Αὐξήθησοι Ἀμωνιανός Ἐκύ[σις]
[καὶ Α]λλων ου                    η     θ *ου+ καὶ  ι μ *αγ+έ*ν+ο (υς)

\textsuperscript{10}P. Oxy. LXII 4343 (301-400 AD, Estate Account) ll. 11-12:

Λέον τι ταυρελάτῃ ὑπὲρ ὀψω-

\textsuperscript{11}ADAMS 2007: 62ff.
\textsuperscript{12}REMIJSEN 2007: 127-140.
as Horos, son of Apolinarius, a fictitious name which I do not know

It could refer fraudulent in a business letter from Severus to Apollonianus, see: PSI XII 1260 (Oxyrhynchus, 200-300 AD, business letter), ll. 13-14;

the land hasn't been delivered to non-existent names

It might refer to faulty recording, see: P.Oxy. XVII 2131(207 AD, attestation of a copy of a petition with reply), l. 12:

Sbichis son of Harmiusis his mother is Taseus, and he has been registered to me (as having) a non-existent property qualification

ll. 10-11: Tampemou was located in the eastern toparchy (απηλιώτης τοπαρχίας) 13.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occupations and Officials</td>
<td>σιτολόγος</td>
<td>P. Lips. II 141 (133 AD) l. 2.</td>
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<td>ἀρχέφοδος</td>
<td>PSI XV 1538 (II cent. AD), l. 1.</td>
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<td>ὄντηλατς</td>
<td>P. Köln IX 381 (260 AD), l. 6.</td>
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<td>σιππουργός,</td>
<td>P. Gen. IV 175 (335 AD), l. 1.</td>
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<td>ἀλευς</td>
<td>P. Oxy. XLVIII 3423 (IV cent. AD), l. 8.</td>
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<td>εἰρήναιρχος</td>
<td>P. Oxy. XII 1505 (IV cent. AD), l. 2.</td>
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<td>φύλαιξ</td>
<td>P. Oxy. IX 1193 (IV cent. AD), l. 3.</td>
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<td>P. Oxy. XIX 2243(a) (590 AD), l. 47.</td>
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<td>P. Oxy. XIX 2243(a) (590 AD), l. 39.</td>
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<td>Noteworthy landowners</td>
<td>Ἀπων ἐποκιον</td>
<td>P. Oxy XVI 2032 (540/541 AD).</td>
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<td>P. Oxy. XIX 2244 (558 AD).</td>
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<td>P. Oxy. XIX 2243(a) (590 AD).</td>
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<td>P. Oxy. XLVIII 3408 (IV cent. AD), l. 12.</td>
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<td>P. Oxy. VI 901 (336 AD), l. 5.</td>
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<td>δημόσιον</td>
<td>P. Dubl. 5 (87-88 AD), l. 1.</td>
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<td>αὐλή</td>
<td>P. Oslo. III 108 (III cent. AD), l. 5.</td>
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<td>ἐργαστήριον</td>
<td>P. Oxy. VI 989 (III/IV cent. AD), l. 2.</td>
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<td>Μηχανή</td>
<td>P. Oxy. VI 901 (336 AD), l. 7.</td>
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<td>λάκκας</td>
<td>P. Oxy. XIX 2244 (558 AD), l. 34.</td>
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<td>Categories of land</td>
<td>κλήρος</td>
<td>P. Oxy. III 501 (187 AD), l. 11.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ἐποίκιοι</td>
<td>P. Oxy. VI 989 (III/IV cent. AD), l. 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Products</td>
<td>χλωρὰ</td>
<td>P. Oxy. III 501 (187 AD), l. 16.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>πυρός</td>
<td>P. Oxy. III 501 (187 AD), l. 15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>οἶνος</td>
<td>P. Oxy. XIX 2244 (558 AD), l. 88.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Table 1]: Attestations of Tampemou in the papyri
l. 13: προπομ[π(όν)]: the best parallel seems at first sight to be P.Lips. I 35 = ChLA 12 524 (Hermopolis, 375-378 AD, duplicate), l. 5; προπομπὸν τιρῶνων (escort of recruits), but P.Osl. III 88 (Oxyrhynchos, 370 AD, letter concerning the collection of taxes) suggests that the escort is the escort of taxes (χρυσὸς τιρῶνων) rather than of the recruits, which may be correct. Another case of the word relates to escort of wheat in P.Michael 114 (panopolis, 201-250 AD, order for payment), l. 1-3:

δός εἰς τὴν προπομπῆν
πυρόν ἀρτάβας
εὴ.
give to the escort 8 artabae of wheat

Another occurrence of the word relates to escorts of goods in kind, see: SPP XX 84 (Hermopolis, 286-305 AD, account), Verso, Col. I, ll. 1-5:

οἴνου
eis Λάτων
διὰ Λακτυσ ῾Ερακος ἐπιμελ(ητού) (ξεστῶν)
5Αχιλλεὺς Ωρίωνος
of wine to Laton through Asklus son of Hierax the overseer of cups which escorts Achilleus son of Horion

And προπομποί κρέως in SPP XX 84 (Hermopolis, 286-305 AD, account), Verso, Col. II, ll. 1-4:

κρέως ὑμοίως
εἰς Συήνην διὰ ᾿Ερμοῦ Πινουτίωνος λιτρῶν (μυριάδες) β
ἄν προπομποί.
Κοπρεὺς Мέλανος
alike of meat to Syene through Hermes son of Pinoution 20.000 pound, which escorts Kopreus son of Melas

ἐσφράγισα: The seal was used to secure the contents of the document against alteration 14.

l. 14: τὰ πρόβατ[α]: The registration or declaration of animals was required in the Ptolemaic and Roman period 15, probably the registrations of sheep were linked to the pasture tax 16. There is a declaration of sheep, which registers a number of 3200 sheep, 53 goats 17.

16The registrations of sheep for the pasture tax, see; BGU XVI 2578-2587 (Herakleopolites, 14-5 BC., declaration of sheep and goats) P. Oxy. LV 3778–3779 (20-21 AD, registration of sheep and goats).
17BGU XVI 2586 (Herakleopolites , 5 BC., declaration of sheep and goats), l. 17: 
(γίνονται) τὰ προ(κείμενα) πρόβατ(α) Γε αἰγ(ες) νγ.
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[ἱεροποιός: The ἱεροποιός has had the duty of offering sacrifices in the religious ceremonies or sacred rites18.

1. 16: λωτίνο[ν χόρτον: For the meaning of λωτίνον is most clearly understood through P.Mich. II 121 (Tebtynis, 42 AD, abstracts of contracts), 2, v: in which λωτίνον is to be sown as a fodder crop for sheep (εἰς λωτίνον(ν) σπορ(ὰν) καταβ(ρώματα) προβάτων).

1. 18: ἔφωσο: This formula appeared at the end of the first century AD19.

Verso: ll. 1-14: ἀρούρας (πυρ ο ἀρτάβας): The symbols at the end of the line are very faint and abraded. For the closest parallel wording see: BGU II 217 (Arsinoites, 201-300 AD, list of landowners with payments of grain), l. 10: BGU II 575 (Arsinoites, 201-300 AD, Accounts), l. 9: BGU VII 1623 (Philadelphia, 201-300 AD, a list of landowners with details of property for tax), ll. 9-10

1. 10: Ἀμμώνιος Ἀκων (ἀρούρας) (πυρ ο ἀρτάβας) θ: This line reveals the higher productive of the land in the list.

1. 12: ἔφωσε: The same abbreviation is found in BGU XIX 2776 (Hermopolis, 351-400 AD, Shipping List), Col. II, l. 17: κλ(ηρονόμοι) Διονυσίου Ὀλυμπιοδώρου (ἀρτάβαι) θ. And see also P.Lond.Herm. 1 (Hermopolis, 546-547 AD, Tax Register from the Hermopolite Nome), Col. 5, Verso, l., 23: Ἰωσῆφ(ις) κλ(ηρονόμος) Παύλ(ου) κ(εράτια) θ(τάλαντα) Εχ.

ll. 15, 26: γ(νονται): It can be a substantive meaning “reckoning”, from the total measurements of the land.

1. 16: χέρσου: It is an adjective meaning land liable to taxation20. Land so described was “dry” only in the sense that it could not be irrigated in that particular year by digging canals from the flooded section of any nearby basin.

20CHRISTENSEN 2017: 8.
II. Conclusion

- The conclusion does refer to introducing new information about:
  Valerius Titanianus (κράτιστος) epistrategus Heptanomiae.
  Onnophris son of Colophonius.
  Tampemou in the eastern toparchy of the Oxyrhynchite Nome.
- The letter has preserved details about the transport of sheep.
- Sharecropping is a type of farming in which the sharecropper rents small plots of land from a landowner in return for a portion of his crop, to be given to the landowner at the harvest. The sharecropper agreed to hand over a proportion between one-third and two-thirds of the crop to the landowner, instead of paying a rent.

HOW TO CITE

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BIBLIOGRAPHY


[FIGURE 1]: Egyptian Museum in Cairo under glass 86 of the S (pecial) R (egister)

Nr. 3049 with inv. 161 recto.
[FIGURE 2]: Egyptian museum in Cairo under glass 86 of the Special Register
Nr. 3049 with inv. 161 verso.
رسالة عمل من المتحف المصري بالقاهرة

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ملخص

الورقة البحثية الحالية هي عبارة عن نشر بردية ثانوية يونانية غير منشورة من متحف المصري بالقاهرة، رقم الزجاجة 86 للسجل الخاص 3049 تحت رقم الجرد 1211. هذه البردية تأتي من طاميبو (إقليم أوكسيرينخوس) وتعود إلى القرن الثالث الميلادي. نص هذه البردية هو خطاب عمل. احتفظ الخطاب ببعض التفاصيل حول نقل الأغام، التي قام بها المسؤول الذي سافر جنوبًا إلى طاميبو في القدم العليا الشرقي لإقليم أوكسيرينخوس. تحتوي ظهر البردية على قائمتين لملكي الأراضي وكميات من القمح مسجلة بعد أساماتهم. الغرض من كميات القمح على ظهر البردية لم تخدم الضرائب، لأنه لا يوجد ما يشير إلى الضرائب. ظهرت أسماه الأشخاص في قائمتين بحتمل أنهم كانوا مستأجرين، وقد تكون مقدار القمح المسجلة بعد أساماتهم هي الإيجارات التي دفعوها مقابل إيجاراتهم، لكن معدلات الإيجار في الإيجارات الخاصة كانت أعلى عادة. ومن ثم فمن الممكن أنهم كانوا مزارعين. المزارعة هي نوع من الزراعة حيث يقوم المزارع باستئجار قطع صغيرة من الأرض من مالك الأرض مقابل جزء من محصوله، يتم إعطاؤه لمالك الأرض عند الحصاد. وافق المزارع على تسليم نسبة تتراوح بين ثلث وثلثي المحصول إلى مالك الأرض، بدلاً من دفع إيجار. قدم صاحب الأرض للمزارع الأرض والنذر والأدوات، وقد تم خصم هذه الإمدادات من جزء المحصول. قسمت البردية على النحو التالي: وصف عام لمحتويات البردية، أعداء البردي بالاستمتاع، عدد أساطر النص، الأسماء تشريحة إلى اتجاه الكتابة بالنسبة إلى سطح البردية، ثم نسخ النص اليوناني، وتترجمة النص اليوناني إلى الإنجليزية والتعليق على أسطر البردية.

الكلمات الدالة: البردى، اليوناني، مصر، الرومانية، النقل، البري، الأغنام، المزارعة.