

A

Report on papyri sent by Nahman for Prof. Kelsey,
June, 1922.

These papyri come mostly, but not entirely, from the find a portion of which was bought by Prof. Kelsey in 1921, i.e. the archives of the *γραμματοφυλακή* of Tebtunis in the first half of the 1st century. With few exceptions they are well preserved, and several are exceptionally beautiful examples of papyrus documents, but for the most part the contents are not specially remarkable, all the more since they do not as a rule add much that is novel to the material acquired last year, and the prices asked are in all cases (though not to an equal extent) exorbitant. Prices have risen rapidly since 1918, and it seems clear that dealers and natives alike have been encouraged by each rise to demand much increased prices. It would in my opinion be a great mistake to pay the prices now asked, as not only are they quite out of proportion to the value of the papyri (even allowing for the general increase in prices since the war) but the inevitable result will be such a further rise as will ultimately make the purchase of papyri impossible.

In the following report a brief description of each piece is given, with the (approximate) dimensions; and since it is often interesting to know how the document was folded (or rolled) and after pressing the folds tend to disappear, I have, where possible, indicated the direct-

ion of folding. Specially interesting papyri are denoted by a star; but since I have rarely read more than enough to discover the character of a document the absence of a star must not be taken as indicating that a particular papyrus may not have a special interest of its own. I have estimated the value of each lot separately. These valuations are made with reference to the higher prices paid since the war and are what I should regard as outside prices.

- Lot 1* Division of property by Psyphis al. Harpocraton and his wife Tetosiris al. Dionysia between their children and a grandson. Dated Tebtunis, 5 Neos Sebastos, 7 Claudius (=A.D.46), and with docket of anagraphe of the $\gamma\rho\alpha\varphi\epsilon\iota\sigma\tau$ at the foot. With much interesting topographical detail. Preceded by two columns of a prographon or supplementary account of beer for the beer-shop of Tebtunis (apparently leased from the priests) for Mecheir to Pachon, of the 11th year. Practically perfect. Folded from right to left. $11\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\text{ft}.7\frac{1}{2}"$. Value £40 (Nahman ££425).
- Lot 2* Accounts, probably of the above $\gamma\rho\alpha\varphi\epsilon\iota\sigma\tau$, as the entries are notes of deeds with sums of money, presumably for the expenses of preparing the contracts, for the 7th year of Claudius (=A.D. 46-7). Perfect. Folded from left to right. $11" \times 2\text{ft}.7\frac{1}{2}"$. £40 (Nahman ££300).
- Lot 3* Accounts, probably of the $\gamma\rho\alpha\varphi\epsilon\iota\sigma\tau$, for a year (the number is not clear) of Claudius; expenses and notes of deeds (as in 2). On the recto are 24 columns; on the verso 13 columns, also of accounts. Damaged at top and bottom. Folded from both ends,

with fragments in the middle (this was a recent folding). $4\frac{1}{4}$ " x $10\text{ft}.8\frac{1}{2}$ ". L100 (Nahman LE400).

- Lot 4. Demotic sale of a share in a psilos topos, with Greek subscription and docket dated 5 Epagomene, 4 Tiberius (=A.D.18). (N.B. Demotic not read). Imperfect on left. Folded from right to left. $11\frac{1}{4}$ " x $1\text{ft}.3$ ". L8 (Nahman LE50).
- Lot 5*. Petition by a woman to Chaermon the exegetes concerning a debt of her late husband and his brothers with hypothecation (mesiteia) of catoecic land at Tebtunis and elsewhere. Dated 3 Choiach, 23 Tiberius (=A.D.36). With docket by the exegetes at the top. Practically perfect. Folded from left to right. 11 " x $1\text{ft}.3$ ". L15 (Nahman LE250).
- Lot 6. Day-book of expenses, no doubt in the household of Apollonius the dioecetes; from the Zeno archive. Dated in Apellaios, year 28 (=B.C.258-7, before Zeno left Alexandria). Perfect. Folded from the bottom upwards, and written across the fibres. $8\text{ft}.2\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4 ". L50 (Nahman LE125).
- Lot 7. Chiefly documents from the $\gamma\rho\alpha\phi\epsilon\iota\omicron\nu$, like those bought last year, but with the addition of some later and miscellaneous papyri. All no doubt from the Fayum.
- (1) Subscription to a loan of money, repayable in Tybi of the coming(1)4th year (=A.D.27-8. Dated at the top 6 Pharmouthi, 13 Tiberius. Imperfect on the left. Folded from left to right. $9\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ ".
 - (2) Subscription to a cession (parachoresis) of a catoecic kleros at Talei. 1st half of 1st cent. Imperfect at the foot. Folded from left to right. $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $1\text{ft}.1$ ".
 - (3) Subscription to a sale by four persons of half a house at Theo-

gonis. 1st half of 1st cent. Perfect. Folded from right to left. $11\frac{1}{2}'' \times 11\frac{1}{2}''$.

- (4) Beginning of a petition to Tib. Claudius Chrysermus, strategus of the Arsinoite nome, from an inhabitant of Tebtunis. 1st half of 1st cent. Folded from the top downwards. $4'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$.
- (5) Sheet made up of two sheets stuck together in reverse directions (i.e. each side is half verso, half recto). A(one side): much damaged conclusion of a contract (perhaps a draft) dated 27 Neos Sebastos, 3 Claudius (=A.D.42). B(other side): two columns, considerably damaged. The second, perhaps the whole, is a division of property. 1st half of 1st cent. Circ $8'' \times 12''$ (not relaxed).
- (6) Loan of money, Tebtunis (?). Dated 4 Caius (=A.D.39-40). Cancelled by lines across it. Much damaged and imperfect at the foot. $7\frac{1}{4}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$.
- (7) Recto. Abstract of deeds (leases). Portions of three columns. Verso. Apparently similar. 1st half of 1st cent. $11\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{1}{4}''$.
- (8) Abstracts of deeds. 1st half of 1st cent. Imperfect on the left. $11\frac{1}{2}'' \times 7\frac{1}{2}''$.
- (9) Subscription to a sale of a psilos topos. 1st half of 1st cent. Imperfect on the left. $10\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8''$.
- (10) Release, with subscription, of oikopeda. Tebtunis, 30 Epeiph, 4 Claudius (=A.D.44). Slightly imperfect on the left. Folded from left to right. $11\frac{1}{4}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$.
- (11) Subscription to a sale of psiloi topoi. 1st half of 1st cent. Perfect. $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9\frac{1}{2}''$.
- (12) Subscription to a sale of house property. 1st half of 1st cent. Rubbed in places. $10\frac{1}{2}'' \times 11''$.

- (13) List of names; the purpose is obscure. Imperfect at top and bottom. 1st half of 1st cent. $8\frac{1}{4}" \times 11\frac{1}{2}"$.
- (14) Petition to Apollonius, strategus of the Arsinoite nome, from an inhabitant of Talei. 3 Mecheir, 8 Claudius (=A.D.48). Perfect. $11\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{4}"$.
- *(15) Register of contracts dated at the top Sebastos 4, 2 Tiberius (=A.D.15). One column, complete but somewhat damaged, on the verso of the papyrus; on the recto a docket or note. See also 16 and 17. $11\frac{1}{2}" \times 7\frac{1}{4}"$.
- *(16) Recto. Subscription to a contract of apprenticeship (weaving). Above, various notes, 42 Augustus (=A.D.12-13). Almost perfect. Verso. Like 15. Probably from the same roll. Folded from left to right of recto. $11\frac{1}{4}" \times 5\frac{1}{2}"$.
- *(17) Recto. Much defaced contracts (probably two), the second mentioning the 42nd year (of Augustus, =A.D.12-13). Verso. Like 15 and 16 and presumably from the same roll, which was apparently formed by sticking together several documents. $11\frac{1}{2}" \times 9"$.
- (18) On both recto and verso apparently notes and abstracts of contracts (loans, etc.), many of them cancelled by lines across them. In one the 20th year of Tiberius (=A.D.33-4) is mentioned. $9\frac{3}{4}" \times 11\frac{3}{4}"$.
- (19) Subscription to declaration of assent to a sale of psiloi topoi. 1st half of 1st cent. Perfect. Folded from left to right. $11\frac{1}{4}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$.
- (20) Subscriptions to (1) sale of house property at Tebtunis, (2) loan of money by the purchaser to the vendor and his wife; the whole perhaps a mortgage. 8 Claudius (=A.D.48). Slightly damaged.

Folded from right to left. $9\frac{3}{4}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ ".

- (21) Subscription to a sale of orchard land. 6 Claudius (=A.D.45-6). Somewhat damaged. Folded from right to left. $10\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\text{ft.}3\frac{1}{2}$ ".

The following numbers were described by Nahman as "Fragments" and were not included in his numeration, but they include several perfect papyri.

- Fragm.(22) Two receipts for the price of wine (and, in the 2nd, oil), in different hands, on the same sheet of papyrus. Dated 15 Mesore, 3 and 1 (sic) of Diocletian and Maximianus (=A.D.287) and Tybi, 9 and 8 of the same (=A.D.293). Perfect. $9\frac{3}{4}$ " x $2\frac{1}{4}$ ".
- Fragm.(23) Receipt for money (rent?). 14th year. 3rd cent. Imperfect at the top. Folded from right to left. $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $3\frac{3}{4}$ ".
- Fragm.(24) Date (3 Neos Sebastos, 6 Claudius =A.D.45), with notes of sums of money in another hand. Practically perfect. 7" x $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- Fragm.(25) Acknowledgement of a lease of land at Tebtunis. Dated 8 Hathyr, 2 Philippi (=A.D.244). Almost perfect. $11\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- Fragm.(26) Lease at Tebtunis. Dated 17 Hyperberetaios =Mesore, 12 Tiberius (=A.D.26). Imperfect in the lower part. Folded from left to right. (?). $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{4}$ ".
- Fragm.(27)*Letter on agricultural matters (dates and oil), rather interesting. 2nd-3rd cent. Damaged, and imperfect at the foot. Folded from right to left. $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{4}$ ".
- Fragm.(28)*Receipt from an official of the Imperial quarries (Κυριακὸς Ἰατομίας) to the people of Philoteris for ropes for hauling stones. Dated in the 4th year of the Philippi (=A.D.246-7). Slightly imperfect on the right. 6" x $3\frac{1}{4}$ ". (N.B. I have copied this papyrus, and if it is purchased should be glad to send my transcript.)

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Fragm.(29) Conclusion of a document in a very cursive hand, dated 4 Epeiph, 4 and 3 Diocletian and Maximian(=A.D.288). Folded from left to right. $5\frac{1}{4}$ " x $3\frac{1}{8}$ ".

Fragm.(30) Strip from the middle of lines of a lease of land at Samar(ia). 3rd cent. $6\frac{1}{4}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Fragm.(31) Conclusion of a document with the date 4 Payni, 7 Claudius(= A.D.47). $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Fragm.(32) Portion of account of receipts and expenses. 9 Marcus Aurelius and Verus (=A.D.168-Jan.169). On verso of papyrus. 4" x $5\frac{3}{4}$ ".

Lot 7 L160 (Nahman LE400).

Lot 8. Recto. About 36 receipts, in different hands, for various products (wheat, barley, meal). The same person, of Karanis, seems to occur throughout. Verso. One column of accounts and 7 small notes or receipts. The same person occurs. 4th cent. Rolled from left to right (of recto). Complete but broken. $6\text{ft.}0\frac{1}{2}$ " x $10\frac{3}{4}$ ". L45 (Nahman LE200).

Total L 458 (Nahman LE 2325).

(Signed) H. I. BELL.

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British Museum.