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Notes on Miscellaneous Documents IX

aus: Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik 225 (2023) 225–230

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Notes on Miscellaneous Documents IX1

120. BGU III 867

This is a customs receipt from Soknopaiou Nesos assigned to the second/third century. Its most remarkable feature is the lack of a date by a regnal year. After BL I 75 and P.Customs, p. 176 (\approx BL IX 23), lines 3–6 run $\frac{2}{3}$ (άγων?) $\frac{2}{3}$ (π) καμ(ήλφ) | $\frac{2}{3}$ (π) φοίνικ(ος) $\frac{2}{3}$ (ας) δύο | // Άδριανοῦ | τρίτη, γ; an earlier reading of the last two words of l. 4 was φοίνικ(ας) δύο (BL I 75). Here are ll. 4–5:



The year, however, is not missing: at the end of the line, the papyrus has $L\beta$, i.e. ($\xi\tau\sigma\nu$ c) β . What is exceptional is that the two dashes normally added after the year-number are written in the next line. This year 2 would be of Septimius Severus, Macrinus, or Elagabalus: 29 November 193, 217, or 218.

What to do with φοινικ()? There are customs receipts in which the quantity of the product transported is not specified. Among those from Soknopaiou Nesos, cf. e.g. P.Amh. II 117.3–4 (182?) ἐξ(άγων) ἐπὶ ὄνοι ἐνὶ | λαχαν[ό]cπερμ(ον), or P.Customs 448.2–4 (202?) ἐξ(άγων) | ὀρόβου ἐπὶ ὄνοι | δυςί. Grammar requires the accusative, but it is unclear what the writer intended. For a similar but more grammatical construction, cf. P.Grenf. II 50m.6–8 (212) ἐξ(άγοντες) | φοίνικ(ος) καμήλους πέντε.

121. BGU XII 2146

This Hermopolite lease of 457 concerns ἀρούρας τέςςαρας ήμιςυ ἐν ͺ ω . (1. 10); the editor observes that perhaps ἐν γ[ε]ωρ|[γίφ is to be read. To judge from the online image, the papyrus has ἐν τῷ, and nothing else was written after it. This may have been followed by ἀπηλιώτη τῆς πόλεως in the lacuna at the start of 1. 11; cf. BGU XII 2149.10 (470) ἀρούρ[α]ς τρεῖς ἐν τ[ῷ] ἀπηλι[ώ]τη. The lessee is Fl. Ioannes son of Taurinus, whose son Taurinos possessed land 'in the east of the city'; cf. BGU XII 2164.9 (494) and 2172.8 (498?).

122. P.Athen. 38

This petition of 141 seems to concern a theft of barley. The editor printed κρι[θη̄c] πραlγμάτων []ηκοντα in ll. 4–5; the note records Zucker's suggestion to read δραlγμάτων, which however did not find favour. Inspection of the original shows that Zucker was right: δ is much more likely than π. For sheaves and barley, cf. P.Ryl. II 147.21–2 (39). A number, the first part of which is lost, is written in l. 5. There is room for 5–6 letters in the lacuna; δραlγμάτων [ἑβδομ]ήκοντα would suit best.

In 1. 7 we find Π αχ[ών· ὅθεν] ἐπιδίδ[ωμ]ι. The papyrus has a slightly different text, though the sense is the same: Π αχων· διὸ ἐπιδίδωμι.

123. P.Athen. 49

The papyrus first received critical attention from H. C. Youtie in *TAPhA* 71 (1940) 636 n. 49 (= *Scriptiun-culae* I 76; cf. BL III 210), who established that it contains parts of 'a day book of money payments, but preserves no indication of the tax to which they were credited'. G. M. Parássoglou, *EAAHNIKA* 29 (1976) 56 (cf. BL VII 230), offered further refinements, including the important observation that columns ii and iii in the edition are the left and right parts of one and the same column (col. ii). Numerous difficulties

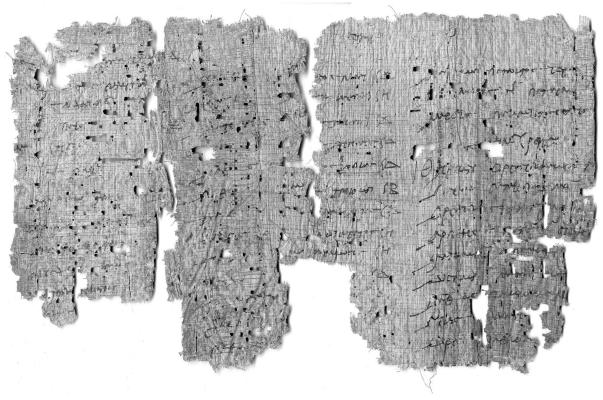
¹ Continued from *ZPE* 220 (2021) 186–91. The online images mentioned in these notes are accessible through papyri.info. Credits for image clippings: **120**, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Ägyptisches Museum und Papyrussammlung (P 8783); **124** and **129**, Princeton University Library; **125**, DVCTVS, Universitat Pompeu Fabra; **126** and **131**, Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana; **131**, Universitätsbibliothek Erlangen-Nürnberg / Papyrus Portal. I thank Graham Claytor and Gabriella Messeri for comments on a draft of **123**, and Bernhard Palme for thoughts on a draft of **127**.

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have remained, largely due to the physical state of the papyrus, which is considerably abraded. There are several names not known from elsewhere, and some of them look outright questionable. Even though it is not always possible to offer improvement, I propose a new text for columns ii and iii, to make them more usable than their previous state; many of the new readings were suggested by W. G. Claytor and G. Messeri (indicated by their initials). Column i is too damaged to allow significant progress.

The Arsinoite name was doubtfully indicated as the provenance of this papyrus. The presence of so many people called Petheus in this register points to Karanis; cf. P.Athen. 48, re-edited in *CE* 96 (2021) 114–20, another tax register from Karanis in the same collection.

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______ λλ _____ [ c.5^{\circ} ] _ [ _ ] ος Πάπου (δραχμαὶ) δ ______ Νεφερῶς Πεταοῦτος ὑδροφ(ύλαξ) ______ ι [ c.3^{\circ} ] _ [ c.4^{\circ} ] ____ Καςανού(φεως) (δραχμαὶ) η ______ Α ____ μ _ cις νε(ώτερος) Πετερμ ___ [
                                                                      , Νεφερῶς Πεταοῦτος ὑδροφ(ύλαξ) [
      Πετ ις ι [ ]ς Ταβανου( ) (δραχμαὶ) δ
                                                                      / Μαρρῆς Πεκμήιτος ςαλλις[
      [ ] [ ] [ - - - ] \dot{c} Annoûtoc (δραχμαί) δ
                                                                      (γίνονται) τῆ(ς) ἡμέ(ρας) (δραχμαί) ρος
                                                                      ιθ , "Ηρων 'Ορςενούφεως [
5
       \int Πεθ[εὺ]c [ c.5^{\circ} ] ος κοπίας (δραχμαί) δ
       Πεθ[εὺς c.3^{?}] [] τες ων (δραχμαὶ) β Α . . . [ - - - ] υ λαξὸς (δραχμαὶ) δ
                                                                      , Πεθεύς Καταβοῦτος Πεθ(έως) [
                                                                      / Όρε ένουφιε Ἡρακλή(ου) . . . . . [
       ΄Άμ ςις ....[...]βανου ταρετος (δραχμαί) η
                                                                      , Άρπάητις Πανεςνέ(ως) . . . . [
       / Ἡρα.... Π[ετ]εαρμωτις (δραχμαί) η
                                                                      Ασνομγε(νc) Άρπαγάθου [
10
                                ] (δραχμαί) δ
                                                                      , Διει... Πε..... ε [
       / . . . . γε. . [ - - - ] . . (δραχμαὶ) δ
Θεων[ ] . . [ - - - ] (δραχμαὶ) η
                                                                      , Πεθεύς Πακύςεως ακ[
                                                                      Εὐκᾶς Θέωνος [
                                                                      _ Ωρος Πεθέως [ ] [
       Πεθεύς [
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Col. ii

2 Καcανού(φεωc): Καράνου *ed. pr.* A variant of the name Kosanoupis (TM Nam 3709), otherwise attested only in Ptolemaic Fayum.

3 Πετ ιις ιι [ι]c Ταβανου(): ... π ... [- - -] c Γαβήνου *ed. pr.* The abbreviation is suggested by the enlarged υ. Ταβανου() does not match any known name. Ταβαιτου(cιc) may be an alternative.

5 Πεθ[εὺ]c [c.5] ος κοπιας: . . . []α[- - -]ος ο . . . ed. pr. κοπιας must be an occupation. A mummy label may offer a clue: P.Coll.Youtie II 111.1–2 Άρειῆεις νεώτ(ερος) | Πατεεῶτ(ος) κοπιατ(), the last word read as κοπιάτ(ης), 'gravedigger', by Ch. Armoni, ZPE 144 (2003) 175–6 = BL XIII 62. LSJ report a variant, κοπιᾶς, -ᾶτος, but it is uncertain whether it is the same word (Armoni, 176 n. 14).²

6 τες...ων: Τέςκων *ed. pr.*, but there is too much ink for κω. This recalls no known name or other word. -ων, a nominative ending, suggests that it is an occupation.

7] ... υ λαξός (GM):] ... υλ[ι]πος ed. pr.

8 Ἄμ ςτο [] βάνου cαρετος (δραχμαί) η. The editor read c at the start of the line and skipped the second part of 1. 8 (then in col. iii). The name is probably not Ἄμάςτος the traces of the letter after $\alpha\mu$ suit ϕ better than α . c might also be read as ε , but Ἄμο(ε)το is not common in the Fayum.]βάνου would be the ending of a name such as Cιλ]βάνοῦ, but I am baffled by cαρετος. P.Fouad 68.18 (Tebt.; 180) ἐπ(ικαλούμενος) Cαρετ() may be relevant. Cαρᾶτος does not seem to be a possible reading.

9 Ἡρα : Ἡρ [ed. pr. Perhaps Ἡρᾶς, but then it would be difficult to account of the other traces.

 Π [ετ]εαρμωτις:] ... [...] ... ερμωνος *ed. pr.* Πετεαρμωτις (TM NamVar 12911), suggested by GM, is a common name in the Fayum but has not occurred in Karanis previously.

11–12 The sums at the end of the line were not transcribed in the ed. pr.

13 Πεθεύς: Πεθως ed. pr.

Col. iii

1 Πετάουτος (GM): Πετοῦτος ed. pr. I had earlier considered Πετώυτος, but this now seems less likely.

 $\dot{\nu}$ δροφ($\dot{\nu}$ λαξ): $\dot{\nu}$ ξρ[ed. pr. The putative ϕ is mostly lost, but there is a trace of the foot of phi's stem well below the line.

2 Å ...μ ctc: []λώςτε ed. pr. Perhaps -ρμάςτε, but I do not see how to reconstruct the full name. νε(ώτερος): νε ed. pr.

Πετερμ...[. A high trace close to the edge suggests that the name was abbreviated, but it is hard to match the traces with the expected $ov\theta(ιoc)$.

3 Πεκμήιτος: Πεκμήτος ed. pr.

 $c\alpha\lambda\lambda\iota c[: C\alpha\lambda\eta c\ ed.\ pr.$ Unclear. c may also be read as γ ; for the shape of sigma, cf.]εκαπιc in col. i 11 (v may be read there instead of π). What was read as $C\alpha\lambda\eta\tau o[c]$ at i 2 is written differently.

4 The reading of this line is after BL III 219, adjusted by Parássoglou, ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ 29 (1976) 56.

6 Πεθεύς . . . Πεθ(έως) (WGC, GM): Περνοῦς . . . $\mu \overline{\theta}$ ed. pr.

7 Ἡρακλή(ου) (WGC): Ἡρακλει[αν]οῦ ed. pr. What follows is too damaged for any reading to be confirmed.

8 Πανεςνέ(ως) (WGC): Παν [ed. pr.

9 Φανομγε(ὺς) Άρπαγάθου (WGC): Φανίων Άρπαήςιος ed. pr.

10 Διεί ... Γε c: Διείων M [ed. pr. $c\tau$ might be considered instead of $c\iota$; then $\mu\iota^{\omega}$ rather than ωv . Apparently not Διδυμίω(v).

11 Πακύςεως (WGC): Πακήμιος ed. pr.

12 Εὐκαc. The reading seems secure but the name has not been attested otherwise.

124. P.Monts. Roca IV 72

The papyrus bears two tax receipts, the first of them complete and dated by the Oxyrhynchite era: ($\xi \tau \sigma \nu c$) $\varphi \zeta \xi \epsilon X \nu \kappa \iota \alpha$ (l. 5), 'year 96/61, Choiak 11', converted to 8 December 419. X $\nu \kappa$ would be an odd spelling

² In T.Mom. Louvre 555, Θονχεν $|\pi$ νούθης | Παχούμιος | Κονιατοῦ, the last word must be an occupation, not a name, i.e. κονιάτου; on this word, see P.Louvre III, p. 338. It is also conceivable that π should be read instead of ν (κο π ιάτου), but there is no photograph available.

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of Χοιακ. Inspection of the published reproductions removes the oddity and yields a reading that puts the date a few years back: (ἔτους) ρα ξ Ἐπιφ α. What was read as X stems from taking as ink a dark area in the photograph which is due to a hole. The only difficult part is the letter after koppa, previously read as sigma, but we need alpha. I take this stroke to be the tail of alpha raised high and becoming almost a horizontal; there are traces of ink under it, which would belong to alpha's bowl. Year 91/60, Ep(e)iph 1, corresponds to 25 June 415; see $CSBE^2$ 140, 164.



125. P.Princ. II 99

Some time in the late third or early fourth century, an eirenarch ordered the comarchs of Philadelphia to 'come up to the city' (i.e. Arsinoe) on account of a certain symmachus. The order continues: ἰ δὲ μὴ πέμπουςι τυμμάχους | ἐπεὶ ὑμᾶς καὶ μήτε ἐγοχλῖςθαι πάντως ἀνέρχεςθαι ἐπεὶ τὴν πόλιν | ἐπεὶ ὑρτῃ τῆς ἰρήνης, 'if they do not send symmachi to you and you are not harrassed, by all means come up to the city at the festival of peace' (II. 3–5). There are several common orthographic errors, but ὑρτῃ for ἑορτῃ is more serious; if the reading were correct, this festival would be a point of interest. Inspection of the online image, of which I reproduce a clipping, has shown that the papyrus has ἐπειστάτῃ εἰρήνης at the start of I. 5:



A second order begins in this line, addressed to an ἐπιστάτης εἰρήνης: [μὴ] ἐνοχλῖςθαι περὶ ὑμῶν καὶ παραστης άτω | ὁ ἀρχέπους τὰ πάντ[α. What follows is very damaged and it is hard to obtain continuous sense. I am not aware of a similar arrangement; in all other summonses that refer to them, ἐπιστάται εἰρήνης are mentioned together with comarchs. Their different treatment here means that the summons was issued only for the comarchs.

126. PSI V 479

I discussed a textual point in this fifth-century letter in ZPE 208 (2018) 190, no. 64 of this series. At that time, I overlooked a problem in 1. 6, where the edition has ἀλλὰ τὴν coῦ κ[υ]ρίαν ⟨?⟩ μὴ ΰ[. The question mark indicates uncertainty over κ[υ]ρίαν; the phrase would be odd Greek. The online image, a clipping of which is reproduced below, shows that the papyrus does not have coῦ κ[υ]ρίαν but coτηρίαν (1. cω-); the cluster τη has the same form as that in τήν. There is writing after coτηρίαν not recorded in the edition: coυ, I believe. A DDbDP search yields four examples for the phrase τὴν cωτηρίαν coυ, two of them from the later period.



127. SB III 7656

This is a letter of the sixth century (BL XIII 197), in which 'bleiben uns, wie so oft in Briefen, manche Fragen, zu denen er anregt, unbeantwortet' (U. Wilcken, APF 12 (1937) 247). One of these questions relates to the identity of the two correspondents; the mounting of the papyrus on paper has hidden its back (*ed. pr.* wrongly reports that 'the verso is blank'). The abstracts ἀρετή (1, 9) and ἀνδρεία (3, 10, 14), applied to the recipient of the letter, indicate an army man, not of higher standing than the writer, who may be a military commander; he writes, 'I am intending to go to the Mareotic nome and give my attention to the soldiers

stationed there' (ll. 8–9). The writer is also a friend, who stood as surety in a loan of 6 solidi. I reproduce an extract:

γινως κέτω ςου ἡ ἀρετὴ ὥς τι ἀπητήθην τὰ εξ χρύς ινα, ἄπερ ἀντεφών η[ςα]
τῷ κυρίῳ Χρής τῷς τῆς τῆς τῆς ἀνδρίας οὐ τυνεχώρης έν με γὰρ ἐξελθῖν ἐ[πὶ]
τὴν Μέμφιν εἰ μὴ ἐποίης έν με ἀντιφωνῆς αι αὐτῷ ἀποκρότως Ἀνουβίωνι ...[.]
β[...] Θως τῶν νουμεραρίων καὶ πρὸς τῷ γνῶναί του τὴν ἀρετὴν ἔςπευτα γράψ[αι]
κα[]αθε[]φ[]ρον τάδε.

According to the editor, JEA 21 (1935) 56, 'αὐτῷ [l. 11] should perhaps be emended to αὐτό, as the two datives are awkward, though we should have expected αὐτά.' The image shows that the papyrus has the expected αὐτά. As for the unread part of l. 13, the editor notes: 'Dr. Schubart writes that ... there are only three letters before the θ , in place of which δ might also be read.' The papyrus has καὶ $\delta \varepsilon [\acute{\upsilon}] \tau [\varepsilon] \rho \upsilon$. The translation of the last sentence (ἔςπευςα κτλ.) would be, 'I hastened to write this for the second time.'

More interesting is the reference to *numerarii* in 1. 12, which follows $\beta[\ldots]$. $\theta\omega$. Here too the transcription may be improved. The lacuna after β cannot have taken away more than one letter; the top of an h-shaped η follows. After $\theta\omega$ (θ needs no dot), there is no sigma; ω has a small extra leg, and the high horizontal is the top of τ of $\tau \hat{\omega} \nu$. I propose to read $\beta[0]\eta\theta\hat{\omega}$. $\tau\hat{\omega}$ may have stood at the end of the previous line, but the reading cannot be confirmed on the image.

There is no other reference to an assistant of *numerarii* in our sources; we knew that *numerararii* had assistants, but the plural is curious; it is difficult to think of a single assistant of more than one *numerarius*. I have wondered whether this was an informal way of referring to the *scrinium* headed by a *numerarius*. There is a somewhat similar construction in the case of the β on θ oì τ ôv κομμέντων, described with reference to the *scrinium* to which they belonged, but here the genitive expresses the function.⁴

I append notes on some other points of detail. The edition does not indicate that text is headed by π, centred in relation to the rest. In 1. 1, for οἶδ' read οἶδα. In 1. 5, ἀλλ' ὅμως θαρςῶ ὡς τι πλειόνως ευγκροτοῦνται, the papyrus has ὡς ὅτι, a construction that recurs in 1. 9 and was missed there too (read ὡς ὅτι ἀπητήθην); for these combined conjunctions, see G. Di Bartolo, *Studien zur griechischen Syntax dokumentarischer Papyri der römischen Zeit* (2021) 107f. In 1. 9, γινωςκέτω is followed by δέ, omitted from the transcription. In 1. 7, for παρασχεῖν read παρασχῖν, and for τέςεαρας read τέςεαρα (ed. pr. had read τοὺς δέκα καὶ τέςεαρας; Wilcken, ibid., corrected τούς to τά, but τέςεαρας remained unchanged).

128. SB XII 11130 (= P.Mich.Mchl. 28)

Towards the end of this letter, assigned to the second-century, the writer exclaims: $\hat{oi}\delta\alpha$ γὰρ ἐγώ τι κεχίμαςμε (II. 27–8). The articulation ἐγώ τι makes one pause; the editor's translation shows his understanding of the passage: 'For I know that I have gone through quite a rough time.' If κεχίμαςμε conveyed an indirect statement, however, there would be no conjunction to introduce it. τι, apparently taken as an accusative of respect, is an interrogative pronoun, introducing an indirect question, as often with $\hat{oi}\delta\alpha$. We only need to modify the accentuation of two words and the translation slightly: $\hat{oi}\delta\alpha$ γὰρ ἐγὼ τί κεχίμαςμε (l. -αι), 'for I know what a rough time I have gone through'. For the construction of the passive with the accusative, cf. BGU III 844.4–5 (83) ἐχειμάςι[θ]ην πο[λ]λὰ ὑπὸ ερέος.

129. SB XX 14115

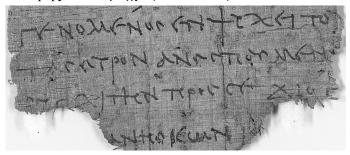
The papyrus preserves the top of a private letter assigned to the second century. The main part begins, γενόμενος ἐν Ψύχει τοῦ [- -]|τας εὖρον ἀνεςπαςμένα[ς - -]|πολίτην πρὸς ςέ διὸ ν[ῦν (Il. 3–5). The editor notes (*Aegyptus* 70 (1990) 36): 'Since a village called Ψῦχις is attested in the Memphite, Cynopolite, Hermopolite, Heracleopolite, and probably Oxyrhynchite nomes ..., the provenance of this text cannot be

³ Cf. B. Palme, AnTard 7 (1999) 110: 'Jeder numerarius erwählt aus den scriniarii seines scrinium mehrere, jeweils für ein Jahr bestellte adiutores und chartularii.'

⁴ There were four financial scrinia in the officium of the praefectus Africae, each headed by a numerarius (Palme p. 107).

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established.' πολίτην at the beginning of l. 5 refers to a nome, but the online image, a clipping of which is given below, reveals that the papyrus has ρυγχίτην, not πολίτην.



I propose to read εἰc Ὁξυ]|ρυγχίτην. The length of the lacuna would not have been very large; cf. the line ends of the prescript (II. 1–2), $C\alpha\rho\alpha\pi$ ίων[ι τῶι] and χα[ίρειν]. This does not solve the problem of the location of Psychis but rules out the Oxyrhynchite nome and makes the Memphite less likely. The sender of the letter would have been in one of the nomes abutting the Oxyrhynchite, namely the Heracleopolite, Cynopolite, or Hermopolite. The remaining problems are the lacuna in 1. 3 and the subject of the participle in 1. 4. The reading ἀνεcπαcμένα[c is conditioned by ταc at the beginning of the line; α is plausible though not certain. Dr K. Maresch observes that in place of α[one could see 'ein kleines, etwas höher angesetztes Omikron ... Dazu würde davor του[passen. Entsprechend würde ich in der Endung]ταc einen Akk. Pl. der Maskulina der a-Deklination sehen wollen', e.g. κωμήταc. We would then have: γενόμενος ἐν Ψύχει τοὺ[c c.5] ||τας εὖρον ἀνεςπαςμένο[υς εἰς Ὀξυ]|ρυγχίτην πρὸς cέ, 'when I went to Psychis, I found the ... hauled to the Oxyrhynchite towards you.'

Other points of note: In l. 5, ν [$\hat{\nu}$ v should be abandoned; the letter on the edge of the break is γ . In l. 6,]ανηκων[will not yield anything meaningful unless emended; ($\hat{\nu}$ πο?) μ 1] μ νήκων [would be acceptable.

130. SB XX 14506

This is a fragment of a private letter originally assigned to the sixth century. The appellation δέcποτα πάτρον in l. 10 received comment by D. Rathbone, *BASP* 45 (2008) 196 n. 26, who placed the date of the text 'probably' in the fourth/fifth century. A check of the online image supports this earlier dating, and removes another curiosity. In the endorsement,]ωνύχω would refer to the addressee; 'Επ]ωνύχω, a name mostly found in the south of the country and in earlier times, is strongly suggested, but it is curious that the editor left it without comment. This name, however, was not part of the address; the papyrus has]ω γεούχω. For another person addressed as a patron and landowner in a contemporary letter, cf. P.Princ. II 104.3 πάτρωνι γαιούχου (SB XX 14506 is also a Princeton papyrus, but these are two different texts).

One other point of note: in 1. 7, for εὐτύχοντα read εὐτυχοῦντα.

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