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BKT IX 17 (Xenophon, Memorabilia 1.2.4)

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BKT IX 17 (XENOPHON, MEMORABILIA 1.2.4)

This small (1.7 × 5.2 cm) fragment of a roll of unknown provenance (inv. 21117), blank on the back, in a formal round hand dated to the second/third century, does not seem to have been identified hitherto. A line held about 12 letters, and the line-length will have been about 5.5–6 cm, but the figure is more than usually uncertain, since there are several letters of which no examples survive. Seven other ancient copies of the Memorabilia have been published according to LDAB and M–P. This is the first to include this stretch of text. Apart from the scribe’s careless omission of the second ὑπέρ- in the sequence ὑπερεϲθίοντα ὑπερπονεῖν (4–5), corrected by an addition above the line in another hand, there are no points of textual interest. The supplements are taken from E. C. Marchant’s Oxford Classical Text (1921); the line divisions are conjectural.

ο[υ]κ ἦμελει
τους τα[μ]ε[λ]ουν
τα[ς ο[υ]κ ε[π]η[η]νει
to με[ν] ουν υ[π]ερ
ὑπερ
5 ἐνθο[ν]τα πο[νειν]
ἐπε[δ]ο[κυμ]αζ[ε]
to δε ο[ς η]δε[ως
η ψυχη] δεχε[ται
tαυτα ἢ]κενο[ς
10 εκπονειν ε]δο[κι

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1 By P. Orsini, Manoscritti in maiuscola biblica (2005) 54. The first editor, G. Ioannidou, places it in the second century.
2 Not recorded from any other manuscript. Z omits the first according to C. Hude’s report in his Teubner edition (1934).
3 I have used the images available at http://smb.museum/berlpap/index.php/04327/. An image of the front is included in the first edition (plate 8).