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Introduction

The following four ostraca are kept in the Egyptian Museum, Cairo and all have the same inventory number (S.R 18953). They are located in D3East. The four ostraca have one temporary number (T.R 25/1/55/4). The T.R number is indicating the date on which this collection have been brought to the museum, which means they have been brought to the museum in January 25th 1955. Four of them belong to the same region "Thebes", either Syene or Elephantine. Only the third ostracon mentions the name of the village Syene. This four ostarca also are part of one big collection in different condition and sizes. Some are good and legible and others are damaged and illegible. 26 documents have been edited in PhD dissertation by the editor of this paper in April 2009. One of them stands as a good parallel for o. no. 54.

List of Names

O. Cairo S.R.18953, No. 8 6.4 x 6.1 cm

Elephantine or Syene? 2nd Cent. CE

This relatively small potsherd is a dark brown in color and It has been made of moderate quality pottery. The preserved part is generally in a good condition. The surface has suffered random scratches, minor abrasions and blackened by fire in several spots. It is broken off at the top with an average of 3 to 5 missing lines (according to the shape f the broken part). Although it seems that the left and bottom edges are softened, the potsherd is broken at these edges. Consequently, some letters are missing at both of them. While the right edge is rather roughed, yet no letters are missing. Only the middle part of the left margin is survived where the upper part is broken off, and it is broken off at bottom. The right margin is preserved. There is a large black blot at the left side, in addition to several small ones here and there. The potsherd has preserved 6 complete lines and 4 incomplete lines.

The text has been written in a dark black ink with a thick nib. The hand is of a medium-sized cursive, with tendency towards ligatures. It's a well-practiced and neat. It shows a consistency in forming the letters. The hand shows clear skills in even interlinear spaces and lines that start almost from the same point. The scribe has used superscripted letters to abbreviate the word (e.g. $\text{Ti}\theta \circ \hat{\eta}/(\zeta)$ in line 6, $\text{Hete}\chi \cdot \hat{\omega}/(v\sigma i\zeta)$ in line 7 and $\text{Hi}\psi \cdot \hat{\eta}/(\pi i \circ \zeta)$, $\text{Ha}\sigma \cdot \hat{\eta}/(\mu i \circ \zeta)$ in line 8). The hand has the following characteristics: V-shaped kappa with slanting descending stroke to right. Inconsistent size of looped *alpha* as well as *omicron* whether large circular or as small as dot. *Sigma* is lunar and formed by prolonging the horizontal stroke. The *pi*

formed with peak and two legs ending with hook. The *omega* is broad and remarkable because of the typical curved W-shape even when it is superscripted. The scribe sometimes leaves a space between words and sometimes he just prolongs the last letter of the name before starting write the following name. While the abbreviations are effected with a superscription of the last letter of the name such as the *omega* of $\Pi \epsilon \tau \epsilon \chi \sim (\nu \sigma \iota \zeta)$ in line 7 and the *eta* of $\Pi \nu \sim (\nu \sigma \iota \zeta)$ and $\Pi \sigma \sim (\nu \sigma \iota \zeta)$ in line 8. There is an obvious diaeresis on the *iota* of $\Phi \sigma \rho \sigma \iota \zeta$ in line 8. Based on palaeographical grounds this document dates back to the second century CE.

This ostracon has been preserved among another group of ostraca, which belong to Thebes (either Elephantine or Syene), which stands a logic indication to the provenance it belongs to. This documents is a list of names, the purpose of this list of names is not certain perhaps for workers involved in liturgical services? And they are not listed in alphabetical order.

The text preserves about 17 different names: Καλαμαῦς, Καλῆς, Μέλας, Πασήμιος, Πετεχεσ.(), Πετεχνοῦ(), Πετεχῶνσις, Πικῶς, Πισάις, Πνήπιος, Πνῆπις, Πτόλλις, Πεταμενὼρ, Τιθοῆς, Φαῆρϊς, Ψάις, Ὠρος. and they might be at least about 10 persons. There is exact parallel for this document. The back has no writing.

TRANSCRIPTION

```
1- ....]χ[
2- Πεταμεν[ὼρ
3- Πικῶς Πετεχνοῦ() ὅς (καὶ) Καλῆς
4- Καλαμαῦς Πετεχεσ.\./()
5- Πτόλλις υἱὸς
6-ὧΩρος ὅς (καὶ) Τιθο\ῆ/(ς) ϐΩρου
7-ὧΩρος Πετεχ\ὧ/(νσις) Ψάις
8- Πνῆπις Πν\ή/(πιος) Φαῆρϊ(ς) Πασ\ή/(μιος)
9- Πισάις Μέλας
10- . λ . .]
```

TRANSLATION

```
...]ch...
Petamen[or
Pikos son of Petechnou() also called Kales
Kalamaus son of Peteches()
Ptollis the son
Horos also called Tithes son Horos
Horos son of Petechonsis grandson of Psais
Pnepis son Pnepis Phaeris Pasemios
Pisais Melas
1..]
```

COMMENTARY

Line 1:] χ [since the letter *chi* is legible and an average of the missing letters are about four letters at the beginning, the restoration is confined in limited possibilities. First the missing

part is mostly Πετε- then χ and the succeeding letters could be: - νου- to supply different suffixes: Πετεχνοῦβις, Πετεχνοῦμις, Πετεχνοῦτις Πετεχνοῦφις or -εσ-(Πετεχεσ-) to be either Πετεχεσποχράτης or Πετεχεσπισίχιος or Πετεχεσθῶτος attested only once, or -ων- and in this case there is only Πετεχῶνσις.

It is worthy to refers to that all the mentioned names in this document are of Egyptian origin except for Πτόλλις in line 5 and Μέλας in line 9. All of them have religious meaning relating to the ancient Egyptian religion; It worthy to mention the meaning of the names in the document; and they are as follows:

Καλῆς "The lame", Πασήμιος " The one of *Djeme*", Πετεχεσποχράτης, Πετεχνοῦ() and Πετεχῶνσις " who was given by *Chnoum* the child", Πικῶς " This one of (the) sacred bull", Πισάις " This one of *Shai*", Τιθοῆς "the Egyptian God Totoes", Φαῆρϊς "The one of the Comrade (demon?)", Ψάις "*Shai* (god)", 5 Ωρος "God Horos".

Line 3 Πετεχνοῦ: There are 39 attestations for this name, and there are three possible restorations for the suffix of this name: $-\beta\iota\varsigma$ has been attested 14 times, $-\mu\iota\varsigma$ has been attested 22 times, $-\tau\iota\varsigma$ has been attested twice and $-\phi\iota\varsigma$ has been attested only once. 28 documents from Thebes and the others whether from Alexandria or eastern desert. And by excluding the documents that out of range date we'll get 31 citations.

Line 4 Πετεχεσ.\./(): The first part of the name is clear and legible and the restoration is confined in four possibilities as an abbreviated suffix of this name:

1-ποχράτης, Πετεχεσποχράτης: is attested 197 times in the documents. It is also worthy to mention that the form Πετεχεσραχράτης found once in o.stras 1 790, Unknown,

Oberägypten, 1 CE - 200 CE, as another form of Πετεχεσποχράτης.

- 2 -ποκράτης, Πετεχεσποκράτης: that is another form of Πετεχεσποχράτης with interchanging of the palatal. It is attested only once in o.stras 2 845, Reçu pour l'impôt des digues et une κυνηγὶς δορκώ(νων?), Theben (Notos), 138 CE,
- 3 -πισιχις, Πετεχεσπισιχις: Is attested 4 times: o.bodl 2 1510, Unknown, Theben, 182 CE, o.bodl 2 1525, Unknown, Theben, 187 CE, o.heid 276, store receipt, Theben (Agorai), 133 CE, o.stras 1 552, Unknown, Theben, 101 CE 200 CE.
- 4 -θῶτος, Πετεχεσθῶτος: is attested only once in o.theb 81, Unknown, Theben, 107 CE. The name is found without the suffix "Πετεχεσ()" once in o.ont.mus 1 68, List of Names, Theben, 101 CE 300 CE.

Line 6 $\delta \zeta$ ($\kappa \alpha i$): The relative pronoun is legible, then a horizontal superscripted stroke has been placed over the *sigma* that mostly refers to the conjunction $\kappa \alpha i$ that is not symbolized in this form elsewhere. In this case the person called also Horos son of Horos *alias* Tithes son of Horos, which was common.

Line 8 Πνῆπις Πν\ή/(πιος) "from Πνῆφις": this Egyptian name has been attested only twice in the documents: o.bodl 2 713, unknown, Thebes, 137 CE and o.bodl 2 1664, unknown, Thebes, 115 CE - 155 CE. Only *phi* changes to be *pi* and not *vice versa*, see Gignac, A Grammar of the Greek Papyri (Vol. I Phonology), 1975, p. 89.

Φαηρις: Egyptian, The one of the Comrade (demon?) 270 documents most of them belong to Thebes and the others either

unknown or uncertain. They are dated between 1 and 200 CE are 222 doc.

One could expect as the end of the document a phrase such as: (γίνονται) ἄνδρες.

Receipt for Money-Tax on a Palm-Grove
O. Cairo S.R.18953 , No. 54
Syene
12.5 x 12.2 cm
138 CE - 161 CE

This semi-triangular shaped ostracon, with a base at the top and its vertex at the bottom. It is of light brown color and moderate quality. It is in a good condition and the surface generally is smooth; nevertheless it is marred and partly damaged by scratches, abrasion and brownish decay. The writing is partly faded at line 7, and it is completely illegible at line 8. The left edge is regularly cut (mostly in the antiquity), while the top and right edges are broken off. Yet, the upper margin is preserved, as well as the lower margin. The ending of lines 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are missing. This ostracon has preserved 8 lines.

The text has been written in dark ink with comparatively thick nib. The scribe occasionally dipped the pen into the inkwell. The hand is neat, fast but careful. The letters characterized by long descenders and they are of medium-sized

cursive with a tendency towards ligatures. The interlinear spaces are narrow, and some letters with long descenders invaded the interlinear space to the following lines. The hand has a general characteristics of the 2nd century CE, the *iota* is long vertical stroke sometimes with a beak, th*e omicron* is mostly as small as a dot. The *delta* usually extends above the body of the letter sometimes with a hook on top of its left bar. The inconsistent *rho* formed by a sloping stroke or spine with incomplete head at the top and either with or without a serif. The *nu* is formed by two parallel stems with a crossbar begins from the top of left stem and extends to cut the right stem just before its top. The scribe abbreviated the words with a superscripted letter. There is no Punctuation or other diacritical marks in the document.

The document dates back to the reign of Emperor Antoninus Pius (see comment on line 5, 6), and during the office of the ¹tax-collectors: Ἰούλιος Κορνηλιανὸς καὶ Πεμαρμᾶς πράκτορες.

Depending upon the text of the unpublished document this text definitely belongs to Syene in Thebes Region. This document is a Receipt for Money-Tax on a Palm-Grove. The name of the tax-payer is in the missing part of the ostracon, yet the name of person (Π etop ζ μ $\hat{\eta}$ θ ι ς) who paid by his name is preserved. O.stras 1 285, Unknown, Elephantine, 148 CE - 149 CE stands for a good parallel for this document, yet it belongs to Elephantine. There is no writing on the back.

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¹ These two tax-collectors are mentioned with a specific date(November 12th 153 CE) in unpublished document in PhD dissertation, Magdy A.I Aly, A Group of Unpublished Greek Documentary Papyri and Ostraca from the Egyptian Museum and the University of Michigan. A Study and Investigation. Supervised by Prof. Sayed M. Omar and Prof. Alia H. Hassanein, 2009, Ain Shams University.

Transcription

- 1- Ἰούλιος Κορνηλιανὸς καὶ
- 2- Πεμαρ(μᾶς) πράκτ(ορες) διεγράψει ΝΝ
- 3- μις ύπερ ὀνόματος
- 4- Πετορζμῆ\θ/(ις) καὶ οιαδ[υπὲρ τι-
- 5- μῆς δη(μοσίου) φοίνικο(ς) [γενήματος number + year
- 6- 'Αντων(ίνου) καίσαρο[ς
- 7- τοῦ κυρίου 'Αδριανοῦ
- 8- ...c

Translation

Ioulios son of Cornelianos and Pemarmas the collectors have received in the name of Petorzmethes for the payment of the assessment of dates of the crop for the ... year of Emperor Caesar Antoninus the lord

Commentary

Line 1-2: Ἰούλιος Κορνηλιανὸς καὶ Πεμαρ(μᾶς) πράκτ(ορες) these two tax-collectors are mentioned in the document for the second time. They have been attested only in O. No. 20, dated on 153 CE (See foot note no. 1), which has the following text is:

Ίούλιος Κορνηλιανός

καὶ Πεμαρμᾶς πρά(κτορες) ἀργ(υρικῶν) Συ(ήνη) ἀν

διεγράψ(ε) Θιμεοῦς ὑπὲρ ὀνο-

ματ(ων) Άννιος Βασοῦς καὶ Άγα-

θοδόρου ύπερ γεωμετρίας Άπολ-

λωνοπολίτου (δραχμή) α (δυόβολον) (ἔτους) ις

Άντωνίνου Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρίου

Άθύρ ις Pa-mr-iH sA PA- ti-iry-Hms-nfr

Traces of another demotic line

The name $\Pi \epsilon \mu \alpha \rho(\mu \hat{\alpha} \varsigma)$ is Egyptian. According to W. Clarysse (cf. Willy Clarysse, Greek Accents On Egyptian Names, ZPE, 119, 1997, pp. 177-184), and the ending of this name, the accent should be put on *ultima*.

Line 5, 6: υπὲρ τιμῆς δη(μοσίου) φοίνικο(ς) γενήματος, for the construction and restoration of this phrase see, o.bodl 2 1003, Unknown, Elephantine, 146 CE, o.bodl 2 1004, Unknown, Elephantine, 149 CE, o.stras 1 285, Unknown, Elephantine, 148 CE - 149 CE, o.wilck 172, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 139 CE, o.wilck 227, Unknown, Elephantine, 155 CE, o.wilck 255, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 163 CE, o.wilck 257, Unknown, Elephantine, 165 CE, o.wilck 288, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 101 CE - 200 CE, o.wilck 1273, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 143 CE, p.brook 53, Τιμὴ Δημοσίου Φοίνικος, Elephantine, 155 CE - 156 CE.

Line 6,7 'Αντων(ίνου) καίσαρο[ς τοῦ κυρίου 'Αδριανοῦ: The document dates back to the Emperor Antoninus Pius Who reigned from Wednesday 10 July 138 to Friday 7 March 161 CE. The number of the year lies in the missing part of the potsherd at the end of line 5.

Receipt for Trade-Tax

O. Cairo S.R.18953, No. 4 Syene 8.2 x 5.4 cm Thursday June 6th 142 CE

This quadrilateral potsherd has a light-tan color. It seems that the ostracon has been broken from a fine quality of pottery. Except for minor scratches and tiny deposits of salt in several parts on the surface, the preserved part of this potsherd is generally in a good condition. In spite of some minor damages at top, left and bottom edges, it seems that they have been regularly cut and softened the draughtsman. The right side is broken off. While is preserved a small margin at the left and top side, a relatively vast margin has been preserved at the bottom. This ostracon has preserved 8 lines, only the last line is complete.

The text has been written in black ink with a thick nib. The hand is of medium-sized cursive with tendency towards ligatures such as the *delta* and *rho* in the abbreviated $\delta \rho \alpha \chi(\mu \alpha c)$ and *alpha* and iota in καίσαρος. The hand seems to have bradygraphic idiosyncrasies such as the small contracted letters that do not ended with prolonged finials. it seems that the scribe is welltrained and has a business hand. The characteristics of the letters reflects the features of the second century CE. *Eta* is formed by two stems and crossbar. The *delta* is generally forms a ligature with the following letter, it has a serif on top of its right bar. The chi is a simple two crossed diagonal strokes without the usual hook in its endings. The *iota* is a simple vertical stroke without serif or finial. The interlinear spaces are not even, it narrower at the header and tend to be wider at the rest of the document. Some words are linked, except if the previous was abbreviated. The scribe has abbreviated words by superscripted and separated the last letter. Only year and monetary signs are attested. The

document dates back to the 5th year of the reign of Emperor Antoninus Pius (see comment on line 6). It belong to Syene, Thebes, Ombite nome. It is a Receipt for Trade-Tax.

The persons mentioned in this document are: Ἡρακλίδης and Ἰσίδωρος (in the missing part of the potsherd) the tax-collectors. Παχομψᾶχις the assistant and Κορνήλις the tax-payer.

The following documents stand as a good parallel for this document: o.bankes 17, Receipt for μερισμός, Elephantine, 141 CE, o.bankes 43, Receipt for γειρονάξιον, Elephantine, 142 CE, o.bodl 2 1066, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 143 CE, o.wilck 181, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 141 CE, o.wilck 182, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 141 CE, o.wilck 183. 141 Unknown, Elephantine Syene, CE, o.wilck 188, Elephantine CE, Unknown, or Syene, 142 o.wilck 189, Elephantine Unknown, or Syene, 142 CE, o.wilck 190, Elephantine Syene, 142 CE, o.wilck 191, Unknown, or Elephantine Syene, 142 CE, o.wilck Unknown, or 193. Elephantine or Syene, 139 CE - 143 Unknown, CE. p.eleph.wagner 1 30, Receipt of capitation, Elephantine or Syene, 141 CE, p.koeln 2 115, Receipt for Trade Tax, Elephantine or Syene, 142 CE, p.worp 46, Double Receipt for Trade-Tax, Elephantine, 139 CE - 143 CE, sb 6 9545 20, Steuerquittungen: ..., Elephantine or Syene, 143 CE.

There is no writing on the back.

TRANSCRIPTION

- 1- Ἡρακλίδη[ς καὶ Ἰσίδωρος
- 2- μισθ(ωταί) πύλη[ς Σοήνης διὰ Πα
- 3- χομψᾶχις β[οηθ(οῦ) διέγρα(ψεν) Κορ-
- 4- νήλις Άσκλᾶτ[ος ὑπ(ὲρ)
- 5- δ (ἔτους) δραχ(μὰς) δέ[κα καὶ ἑπτὰ
- 6- (γίνονται) (δραχμαί) ιζ (ἔτους) ε ['Αντωνίνου
- 7- καίσαρος τοῦ [Κυρίου Πα-
- $8 \hat{\upsilon} v \iota \overline{\iota \beta}$

CORRECTIONS:

L 2, 3: Παχομψᾶχις → Παχομψάχιος

TRANSLATION

Heracleides [and Isidoros the tax-farmers of the Gate (custom-house) of Syene through the assistant Pachompsachis. Cornelis son of Askl[as], paid for the fourth year seventeen drachmas total 17 drachmas the year 5th of Emperor Caesar Antoninus the lord, Pauni 12th.

COMMENTARY

Line 1 Ἡρακλίδη[ς καὶ Ἰσίδωρος: There are about 12 missing letters at the broken part of the end of line 1, which has the name of the second tax-farmer. There are 15 receipts of tax have been cited for these two tax-farmers together, all of them. The μ ισθωταὶ begin to appear in the ostraca in the reign of Trajan

and they were issuing receipts for several taxes from 121 to 171 CE²

Line 2-3: δια Παχομψαχις βοηθου: Pachompsachis has been attested in the documents as assistant to the tax-farmer 299 times the earliest is in 28. Apr. 138 (o.berl 39, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 138 CE), and the latest is in 15. July 146 (o.wilck 206, Unknown, Elephantine or Syene, 146 CE).

He has been cited along with Ἡρακλίδης καὶ Ἰσίδωρος 13 times between 139 and 143 CE. He was involving to collect several types of taxes such as: Receipt for μερισμός, Receipt for χειρονάξιον, Receipt for capitation.

Line 4: The construction of the sentence refers to a name of the tax and preceded by the undoubtedly abbreviated preposition $\dot{\nu}\pi(\grave{\epsilon}\rho)$; as it has consistently attested. Depending upon the length of line 1, 2 and 3 the average missing letters in the broken right side is ca. 12 letters; where the rest of lines have symbols and can't be taken as a standard length of line.

Consequently, the type of the tax could be deduced where the end of the name of the tax payer and the preposition $\upsilon\pi(\grave{\epsilon}\rho)$ in addition to the name of "abbreviated" tax should be 12 letters, in this case we should have either "assessment" $\mu\epsilon\rho\sigma(\mu\circ\hat{\upsilon})$ or "trade-tax" $\chi\epsilon\iota\rho\sigma(\nu\alpha\xi\acute{\iota}\circ\upsilon)$, but since the value of payment is 17 drachmas, the restoration mostly is $\chi\epsilon\iota\rho\sigma(\nu\alpha\xi\acute{\iota}\circ\upsilon)$ (See, p.worp 46, Double Receipt for Trade-Tax, Elephantine, 139 CE - 143 CE), rather than $\mu\epsilon\rho\iota\sigma(\mu\circ\hat{\upsilon})$, which has been cited with less value.

² See: Wallace, S. Taxation in Egypt from Augustus to Diocletian (Princeton 1938), p299

Double Birth certificate?

O. Cairo S.R.18953, No. 56

Elephantine or Syene?

6.4 x 14 cm

Saturday September 28th 143 CE

This semi quadrilateral potsherd is of dark radish color. It is broken off at the top and right edges and has no margins at these sides. The surface is smooth but marred, without serious affection on the text, by numerous small dots of deposit salt in addition to discoloration that affecting the legibility of the text particularly at lower part. Although the left edge is broken off as well, yet no letters are missing. It seems that the lower side is regularly cut in the antiquity, nevertheless there is no preserved margin at that side. This ostracon has preserved 8 lines; 4 are incomplete and 4 are complete. The ink almost is entirely faded in some words and partly in others. The text has been written on the recto "common softened used side" (i.e. the convex side) with brown ink and a thick nib. It seems that the scribe regularly dipped the pen into the inkwell to provide ink that refers to regularity of his penmanship.

The hand is of medium-sized cursive with almost no ligatures. The hand is slow and careful. Faulty orthography of dittography occurs in line 2, and interchanging between liquid letters in line 6. The characteristics of this hand represent in: *Theta* is enlarged and oval with a crossbar sometimes extends to link the following letter. The curved *epsilon* with its tongue drawn in a separate stroke going out from the middle to connect to the following letter. The *upsilon* is formed consistently as a Y-Shape. The *nu* drawn with two parallel stems and a dished crossbar with tiny serif attached to the right stem. The *sigma* is lunar with a short finial. The *alpha* in the beginning of the name

of the emperor has been formed as a typical *theta* in an oval shape.

The interlinear spacing are not even. The scribe remarkably kept a fairly space between words. Only numeral and the year sign are attested in the document. There is no punctuation or other diacritical marks. This document dates back to September 27th 143 CE during the reign of Emperor Antoninus Pius. This document mostly belong to Thebes, yet it not certain either Syene or Elephantine!

It is a Double Birth certificate? of two girls. Two persons have been mentioned in this document: Ταχρείος and Ταμήτ. Bothe of them begin with the prefix Tα- that refers to a female name. Although it is not the same topic, but p.tebt.tait 50, Horoscope of Sarapammon, Tebtynis (Arsinoites), 145 CE stands for a good parallel of this document. The back has no writing.

Transcription

```
1- γένεσις Ταχρείος [N
2- ἔτους ζ 'Αντω {ν} νίνου
3- θεοῦ μ[η] νὶ Θ[ὶ θ λ
4- ωρας β τῆς νυκτός
5- γένεσις Ταμὴτ . . . . \/
6- c (ἔτους) Αὐληρίων 'Αντωνίγου [καὶ 7- Οὐήρου τῷν κυρίων θὼθ
8- λ
9- ωρ . .
```

Translation

The "official" birth of Tachres of the 7th year of Antoninus the God, in the 30th of the month Thoth, in the second hour of the night, the "official" birth of Ta-mtr of the 6th year of Aurelius Antoninus and (Aurelius) Verus the lords, in the 30th of the month Thoth, ...

Commentary

Line 1: γένεσις Ταχρείος, Ταχρείος gen of Τάχρης, This Egyptian name has been attested once in p.lond 2 257, unknown, Ptolemais Euergetis (Arsinoites), 94 CE - 95 CE. A *patronymic* name mostly is in the missing part.

Line 2 -3: ἀντω $\{v\}$ νίνου θεοῦ, It is not common to see the name of the emperor as a deity in this sequence, but rather vice versa.

Line 4: ἄρας β τῆς νυκτό[ς]: "the second hour of the night" The day starts from sunrise at about 6 a.m. till sunset at about 6 p.m., is divided into 12 hours (Cf. P. Lond. 7 1973). The night is divided in the same way (i.e. starts from sunset at about 6 p.m. till sunrise at about 6 a.m.). Consequently, the baby girl has been born according to the document about at about 8 p.m. of local time on Saturday September 28^{th} 143 CE.

Line 5: γένεσις Ταμὴτ . . . \/ The name of the second child, which is also a girl is an Egyptian and is undeclined. It means "the one of the sacred emblem (of *Chnoum*)". The *patronymic* name is illegible and abbreviated and doubted letters

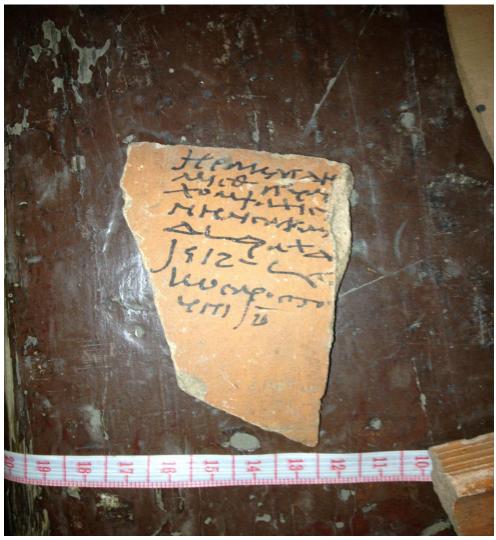
could be figured out: σαυτα(). It seems that the baby girl Ta-mtr in the same time and date of Tachres (See note on line 9).

Line 6: Αὐληρίων 'Αντωνίνου: Αὐληρίων, The title has been cited with interchanging between the two liquid vowels 43 times in the document. For this common error of the liquids interchanging (*lambda* and *rho*) see Gignac, A Grammar of the Greek Papyri (Vol. I Phonology), 1975, p. 104. Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus, ruled together from Saturday 8 March 161 to Sunday 23 January 169, and the 6th year of the reign of the two emperors is Saturday September 28th 143 CE.

Line 9: There are traces of doubtful *omega* and illegible *rho*, is there is a possibility to be $\omega \rho \alpha \varsigma$, that would refers to another time in which the second baby was born and they were not born in the same time.



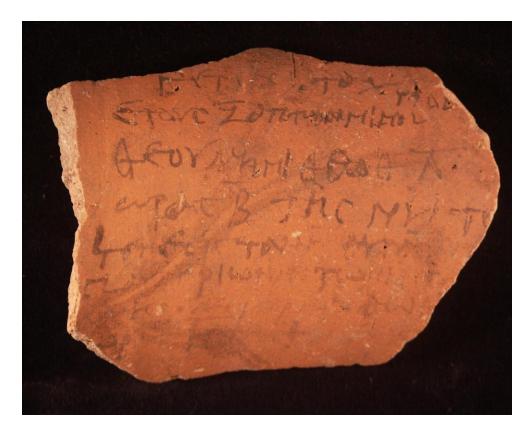
O. No 8 List of Names



O. No 4 Receipt for Trade-Tax



O. No. 54 Receipt for Money-Tax on a Palm-Grove



O. No 56
Double Birth certificate?