

A COUNTER-PLEA FROM OXYRHYNCHITE NOME

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[AR]

معارضة حكم قضائي من إقليم أوكسيرينخوس

الورقة البحثية الحالية هي عبارة عن نشر بردية وثائقية يونانية غير منشورة من متحف المصري بالقاهرة، رقم الزجاج 102 للسجل الخاص 3049 تحت رقم الجرد 238. هذه البردية تأتي من سينيبيط (إقليم أوكسيرينخوس) وتعود إلى النصف الأول من القرن الثالث الميلادي. نص هذه البردية هو معارضة حكم قضائي. كانت معارضة حكم قضائي عبارة عن رداً على التماس، أو على الإجراءات القانونية التي أعقبت التماس، وفي العصر الروماني عادة ما يتخذ شكل بيان مضاد، والذي كان مطلوباً قانونياً من المدعى عليه أنه ينوي الطعن في القضية. كان نظام الميراث المطبق في مصر الرومانية معقداً، حيث كان هناك العديد من الأنظمة القانونية وكان الأشخاص من أعراق مختلفة يخضعون لتشريعات مختلفة. تنشأ الخلافات المتعلقة بالميراث في الالتماسات: يشتكي مقدم الالتماس من أن المتهم يدعى ملكية تخصه. يتكون الميراث في الغالب من الأرض أو المنازل. غالباً ما يكون المتهم أحد أفراد عائلة مقدم الالتماس. في هذه الحالة، نتج الالتماس عن نزاع عائلي، حيث لم يتمكن الطرفان من تسوية خلافتهما في الحكم المحلي ويلجأ الملتمسون إلى السلطات لتأكيد حقوقهم، بعد تلقي الإجراء القانوني (قرار المحكمة)، يحق للأطراف رفع اعتراضات إلى وزير العدل خلال فترة عشرة أيام. تحتوي ظهر البردية على تفاصيل حول التحضير لمهرجان أو مناسبة، مثل توصيل النبيذ واستئجار قاعة مأدبة. قدمت البردية على النحو التالي: وصف عام لمحتويات البردية، أبعاد البردي بالسنتيمتر، عدد أسطر النص، الأسهم تشير إلى اتجاه الكتابة بالنسبة إلى سطح البردية، ثم نسخ النص اليوناني، وترجمة النص اليوناني إلى الإنجليزية والتعليق على أسطر البردية.

[EN] The current paper is an edition of unpublished Greek documentary papyrus from Cairo Museum under glass 102 of the S (pecial) R (egister) Nr^o. 3049 with inv. 238. This papyrus is from Senepht (Oxyrhynchite nome) and dates back to the first half of the third century AD. This papyrus text is a counter-plea (ἀντίλογος). The counter-plea was a reply to a petition, or to the legal proceedings following on a petition, and in the Roman period commonly took the form of a counter statement, which was legally required from the defendant that he intended to contest the case. The inheritance system applied in Roman Egypt was complex, as there were several legal systems, and people of different ethnicity were subjected to different legislation. The conflicts concerning inheritance occur in the petitions. The petitioner complains that the accused claims property that belongs to her/ him by legacy. The inheritances mostly consist of land and/or houses. Often the accused is a member of the petitioner's family. In this case, the petition results from a family quarrel, where the parties could not sort out their differences within the domestic context and the petitioners turn to the authorities to assert their rights. After receiving the legal proceeding (decision of the court), the parties have the right to raise objections with the ἀρχιδικαστής within ten days. The verso contains details about the preparation for a festival or an occasion, such as the delivery of wine and a lease of a banqueting hall. 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 indicating 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, inheritance, disputes, wine, festival.

I. INTRODUCTION

This papyrus is an edition of unpublished Greek documentary papyrus from Cairo Egyptian Museum under glass 102 of the S (pecial) R (egister) Nr^o. 3049 with inv. 238; the papyrus is from *Senepsta (Oxyrhynchiet)*.

SR 3049/238
3 x 9.5 cm.

Senepsta (Oxyrhynchite)
1st half of 3rd Century AD.

II. DESCRIPTION

The papyrus is of medium brown color, and it is regularly cut off on the left and right parts of the papyrus, mutilated and suffers from some holes because of worms. It is written by a semi-cursive hand. The writing is on the recto, along the fibres, in 10 lines, in dark and clear ink, by a legible hand. The top margin is 2 cm. Two vertical folds, across the fibres, beginning from the right side are visible. The widths of the successive folds are 2 cm, and 1 cm. The text on the verso is written by a semi-cursive hand, across the fibres, in 8 lines. There are remains of two margins on the verso; at the top is 2 cm and below is 2.5 cm. Two vertical folds, across the fibres, beginning from the right side are visible; the widths of the successive folds are 1 cm and 2 cm.

Date

On palaeographical grounds, it can be dated back to the first half of the third century AD ¹.

The text of this *papyrus* is a counter-plea (ἀντίρροησις), the counter-plea was a reply to a petition, or to the legal proceedings following a petition, and in the Roman period commonly took the form of a counter statement, which was legally required from the defendant that he intended to contest the case. The inheritance system applied in Roman Egypt was complex, as there were several legal systems and people of different ethnicity were subjected to different legislation. The conflicts concerning inheritance occur in the petitions. The petitioner complains that the accused claims property that belongs to her/him by legacy. The inheritances consist of mostly land and/or houses. Often the accused is a member of the petitioner's family. In this case, the petition results from a family quarrel, where the parties could not sort out their differences within the domestic context and the petitioners turn to the authorities to assert their rights. Emperor Hadrian decided that Roman soldiers grant children conceived during their fathers' military service the right to inherit: in the absence of a testament of a decedent. Emperor Hadrian addressed a letter to the prefect of Egypt Q.

¹ For palaeographical parallels, see: *P.Oxy.* XLVII 3347 (216-217 AD., census return); *Chla* XI 486= *SB* I 1010 (*Oxy.* 249 AD., succession to the inheritance); *SB* VI 9298 (*Oxyrhynchus*, 249 AD., *Agnitio bonorum possessionis*). For images: <http://papyri.info/ddbdp/>.

Rammius Martialis. In this letter, the Emperor granted the illegitimate children of soldiers their possession to the kinsmen by blood². After receiving the legal proceeding (decision of the court), the parties had the right to raise objections with the ἀρχιδικαστής within ten days³. The structure of the counter-plea can be represented as follows:

Date formula

The parties to the dispute

The background of the Counter-plea:

The verb of the request

The object of the dispute

The presentation of the arguments

The desired action.

Date formula⁴.

The verso contains details about the preparation for a festival or an occasion, such as delivery of wine and a lease of a banqueting hall.

Text:

recto

Εὐτυ]χοῦς Σεβαστ[οῦ
μ]ητροὸς Φλαυῖ[ας
Α]ὐρηλίου Διδ[
διὰ αὐτὸ τοῦτο ἀξι]ῶ καὶ δέομα[ί σου τῆς φιλανθρωπίας ὅπως

² *Chr.Mitt.* 373= *BGU* 1 14 (Alexandria, 119 AD., Imperial constitution about rights of soldiers children), ll. 20-27:

ὄνπερ τοιγαροῦν
τ[ρόπ]ον οὐκ εἰσιν νόμιμοι κληρο-
[νόμ]οι τῶν ἑαυτῶν πατέρων οἱ τῶ
[τ]ῆς στρατε[ί]ας χρόνῳ ἀναλ[η]μφθέν-
τες, ὅμως κατ[ο]χῆ[ν] ὑ[πα]ρχόντων
ἐξ ἐκείνου τοῦ μέ[ρ]ους τοῦ διατάγμα-
τος, οὗ καὶ τοῖς πρὸς [γ]ένους συνγενέσι

δίδοται,

Those who were begotten during the period of (their fathers') military service are not legitimate heirs of their fathers; I order that they be allowed to claim possession of the property in accordance with that portion of the edict that grants this possession to the kinsmen by blood.

³ *P.Oxy.* XLII 3017 (176-177 AD., edict of prefect), ll. 5-8:

μετὰ

τὸ διάταγμα τοῦτο τύχοιεν, ἴστω-
σαν ὅτι ἐὰν μὴ ἐντὸς δέκα ἡμε-
ρῶν τοῦ λαβεῖν τὴν ὑπογραφήν

After this edict happened, they must know that if they do not submit the case to me within ten days of receiving the legal proceeding (decision of the court)

⁴ *P.Oxy.* XVI 1881 (427 AD., counter-plea), Introduction; HAGEDORN 2005: 177-182, WOJTCZAK 2016: 334.

5 ἐν οἰκίᾳ κοινῆς πρὸς τοὺς ἀδελφούς μου
] τοῦ καὶ Ἀπύ[γχεως
 περ]ὶ Σενέπτα ἐκ τ[οῦ
 μὴ ἀ]πολειφθῆναι [ἄχρη πέραςτος τύχη τὰ τῆς ὑποθέσεως
] δυσ[μ]ῶν Σεν[έπτα
 10 διακατοχ]ήν κληρον(ομίας) ἔ[νστασιν
verso
] Λογγεινία [. .]ρ[
 Ἡρα]κλέω Τάγχεως .[
] γ(ίνονται) κ̄δ κά(δους) ὄξ(ους) δίχ[ωρα
 λο]ιπὸ(ν) τρίχ(ουν) ἀπ[ό
 5] καὶ τιμὴν ὄνο[υ
 παρ]έ]δωκε<ν> αὐτοῖς[
 τὸ συμπ]όσιον μ[ετὰ] καὶ ε[

Corrections

1. 8 ἀπολειφθῆναι 1. 11 Λογγεινία

Translation

recto

... Felix Augustus ...
 ... his mother being Flavia ...
 ... of Aurelius ...
 ... for this very reason I ask and beseech your humanity to ...
 5 ... in the house common with my brothers ...
 ... also called Apynchis ...
 ... near Senepta from the ...
 ... not abandon it until the case has been brought to a conclusion ...
 ... on the west of Senepta ...
 10 ... (raising) an objection to the succession of an inheritance ...

verso

... to Longinia daughter of ...
 ... to Heracleus son of Tanchleus ...
 ... total 24 jar of cheap wine, .. dichora of ...
 ... remain three-chous from ...
 5 ... and price of the donkey ...
 ... he has given to them ...
 ... the banqueting hall with ...

III. COMMENTARY

It is impossible to calculate that the original sheet was missing at the right and the left.

1. 1: Εὐτυ]χοῦς Σεβαστ[οῦ: This line contains the titles Εὐτυχοῦς Σεβαστοῦ, therefore. It is difficult to define the emperor's name. These titles were found along with titles of four Roman emperors Caracalla, Elagabalus, Severus Alexander, and Gordian III. This title had appeared in the reign of the emperor Caracalla⁵.

Under the reign of the emperor Elagabalus⁶.

Under reign of the emperor Severus Alexander⁷.

Under the reign of the emperor Gordian III⁸.

So, we may date this document back to 211-244 AD.

1. 2: μ]ητροῦσ Φλαυῖ[ας: There is a number of women from this period, cf. Flavia Petronilla in *P.Ryl.* II 172 (Arsinoite, 208 AD., Offer to Lease a Palm-garden), ll. 1-4:

Φλαυῖα Πετρωνίλλη τῇ
καὶ Τιτανιάδει μετὰ κυρίου
τοῦ ἀνδρὸς Γαίου Οὐαλερίου
Πάνσα γυμνασιαρχήσαντος

*To Flavia Petronilla also called Titanias with her guardian her husband Gaius Valerius
Pansa, ex-gymnasiarch,*

⁵ See: *P. Oxy.* XLVII 3347 (216-217 AD., census return), ll. 6-8:

κδ (ἔτους)

[τοῦ κυρίου] ἡμῶν Αὐτοκράτορος Μάρκου Αὐρηλ[ί]ο[υ]
[Σεουήρου] Αντωνίνου Εὐσεβοῦς Εὐτυχοῦς Σεβαστοῦ
24th year of our Lord Emperor Marcus Aurelius Severus Antoninus Pius Felix Augustus

⁶ See: *P. Laur.* II 22 (Arsinoite, 219-220 AD., Κατ' ἄνδρα di sitologi allo strategos), ll. 8-10:

γ (ἔτους) Μάρκου

[Αὐρηλίου Αντωνίνου Ε]ὐσεβοῦς Εὐτυχοῦς Σεβαστοῦ
3rd year of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Pius Felix Augustus

⁷ See: *P. Oxy.* XLIV 3176 (222-235 AD., Request for Payment), ll. 18-20:

[(ἔτους)] . Αὐτοκράτορος Καίσαρος Μάρκου

[Αὐρηλίου] Σεουήρου Ἀλεξάνδρου.

[Εὐσεβοῦς Εὐ]τυχοῦς [Σεβ]α[στοῦ],

Year Emperor Caesar Marcus Aurelius Severus Alexander Pius Felix Augustus.

⁸ See: *P. Oxy.* XIX 2231 (241 AD., Notification of Succession), ll. 35-38:

[(ἔτους)] δ.

Αὐτοκράτ[ο]ρ[ο]ς Κ[αί]σ[α]ρ[ο]ς

Μάρκου Αντωνίου Γορδιανού

Εὐσεβοῦς Εὐτυχοῦς Σεβαστοῦ

4th year of Emperor Caesar Marcus Antoninus Gordianus Pius Felix Augustus.

Flavia Tamerylla with the same name⁹& Flavia Marcella with the same name¹⁰.

I. 3: Α [ὕρηλιου Διδ]: For completing of the name, there are nouns such as: Διδυμεύς, Διδύμαρχος, Διδυμέος, Διδυμέων, Δίδυμος. But if he is Δίδυμος, he could be one of these possibilities, the first possibility; Aurelius Didymus could be the *strategus of Arsinoite nome*¹¹.

The second possibility; Aurelius Didymus could be the *ex-exegetes*¹². The third possibility; Aurelius Didymus could be the *ex-exegetes, senator, and administrator of the corps of the city of Oxyrhynchus*¹³.

I. 4: διὰ αὐτὸ τοῦτο ἀξι] ὦ καὶ δέομα[ί σου τῆς φιλανθρωπίας ὅπως: The formula expected can be inferred from *P.Abinn. 48= P.Lond. II 242 (Arsinoite, 346 AD., Petition), ll. 13-15:*

διὰ αὐτὸ τοῦτ[ο] ἀ[ξι]ῶ καὶ δέομαί σου [τῆς] φιλανθρω-
πίας ὅ[π]ω[ς] τούτο]υς συλλαβόμε[ν]ος {καὶ} [ἀ]ναγκά-
σης

For this very reason I ask and beseech your humanity to apprehend these men and compel (them)

⁹ See: *P.Oxy. XLVII 3347 (216-217 AD., census return), ll. 1-2:*

παρὰ Τίτου Φλαυίου Ἑρμ [. .] υ[σ]πουρίου μητρὸς
Φλαυῖας Ταμερούλλης.

From Titus Flavius Herm..., illegitimate, his mother is Flavia Tamerylla.

¹⁰ See: *P. Oxy. XII 1460 (219-220 AD., Revision of Lists of Land- owners), ll. 4-5:*

παρὰ Φλαυῖας Μ[α]ρκέλλης χρημα[τιζούσης]
χωρὶς κυρίου

from Flavia Marcella, acting without a guardian

¹¹ See: *BGU I 35 (Arsinoite, 222 AD., petition), l. 1:*

Αὐρηλίω Διδύμω στρα(ατηγῶ) Ἀρσι(νοίτου)
To Aurelius Didymus the stratêgos of the Arsinoite nome.

¹² See: *P.Oxy. XLIII 2569 (225-226 AD., Application to Join the Gerusia), ll. 1-2:*

[Αὐρηλίω Διδύμ]ω ἐξηγητεύ-
[σαντι]

To Aurelius Didymus, ex-exegetes

¹³ See: *P. Ryl. IV 599= SB V 8032 (Oxyrhynchus, 226 AD., Application for Admission to the Gerousia), ll. 1-4:*

Αὐρηλίω Διδύμω τῶ καὶ Διο-
σκουρίδη ἐξηγητεύσαντι
βουλ(ευτῆ) διέποντι καὶ τὰ στέμματα
τῆς Ὀξυρυγχειτῶν πόλεως

To Aurelius Didymus also called Dioscurides, ex-exegetes, senator, and administrator of the corps of the city of Oxyrhynchus

P.Abinn. 49= P.Lond. II 403 (Arsinoite, 346 AD., Petition), ll. 15-18:

διὰ αὐ-
τὸ τοῦτο ἀξιῶ καὶ δέομαί σου τῆς φιλανθρωπί-
ας ὅπως τούτους συλλαβόμενος {καὶ} κατα-
ναγκάσης αὐτούς

For this very reason I ask and beseech your humanity to apprehend these men and compel them

P.Abinn. 53= P.Lond. II 407 (Arsinoite, 346 AD., Petition), ll. 9-12:

δ[ιὰ αὐτὸ τοῦτο]
ἀξιῶ κα[ὶ] δέομαί σου τῆς φι[λανθρωπίας]
ὅπως τοῦτον συλλαβόμε[νος] [{καὶ} κατανα]-
γκάσης αὐτόν

For this very reason I ask and beseech your humanity to apprehend this man and compel him

1. 5: ἐν οἰκίᾳ κοινῆς π[ρὸς τοὺς ἀδελφούς μου]: The house was the key of the conflict, probably the deceased was the paterfamilias, inheritors who came into conflict with persons claiming the inheritance for themselves from the same family¹⁴.

1. 7: περὶ Σενέπτα ἐκ τ[οῦ]: It can be restored, cf. *PSI I 73* (Oxyrhynchus, 201-300 AD., land lease), ll. 9-11:

ἐκ τῶ]ν ὑπαρ-
χόντων αὐτῇ περὶ Σενέπ(τα) ἐκ τ(οῦ)
Δι[ο]νυσοφ(άνου) κλήρου

From her property near Senepta from the estate of Dionysophanes

Σενέπτα: The name of *Senepta*, rendering the Egyptian name (the lake/place of Ptah)¹⁵. *Senepta* was attested 71 times in Greek *papyri* and *ostraca* from the 3rd century BC. to the 6th century AD. The largest concentration of texts is found in the third century AD¹⁶. *Senepta* belongs to Middle toparchy (Σένεπτα τῆς μέσης τοπαρχίας)¹⁷.

¹⁴KELLY 2011: 56-57; BRYEN 2013: 272-279.

¹⁵BENAISSA 2012: 314-318.

¹⁶ See <http://www.trismegistos.org/geo/detail.php?tm=2891>

¹⁷ *P.Berl.Mölerl 2= SB IV 7339* (69-71 A.D.), l. 7, *P.Oxy. I 72* (90 A.D.), ll. 5-6, BENAISSA 2009: 188-189.

STATUS	NAME	SOURCE
Senepta	Σενέπτα	http://www.trismegistos.org/geo/detail.Php?tm=2891 ; <i>Dizionario</i> IV, 259, 262-263; <i>Suppl.</i> 1, 235; Pruneti, 1981, <i>Ossirinchte</i> , 162, 165-166.
Occupations and Officials	τροφεία δεκανός σταθμοῦχος σιτολόγος παιδάριον κτηνότροφος κωμογραμματεὺς κροταλιστρίς γεωργός κέραμος προνοητής πράκτωρ	<i>PSI</i> III 203 (87 AD), l. 5. <i>P.Oxy.</i> II 387 (I cent. AD), l. 4. <i>P.Oxy.</i> II 387 (I cent. AD), l. 2. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XXXVIII 2866 (123 AD), l. 3 <i>P.Oxy.</i> IV 730 (130 AD), l. 14. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XVIII 2182 (165 AD), l. 10. <i>P.Oxy.</i> IV 718 (181 AD), l. 26. <i>P.Oxy.</i> II 475 (182 AD), l. 24. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLIV 3169 (212 AD), l. 71. <i>P.Oxy.</i> L 3595 (243 AD), l. 4. <i>PSI</i> XIII 1338 (299 AD), l. 23. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XVII 2140 (III cent. AD), l. 7
Religion	Σεβαστή προφήτης έορτή μοναστήριος	<i>P.Oxy.</i> II 387 (I cent. AD), l. 1. <i>P.Oxy.</i> II 387 (I cent. AD), l. 5. <i>P.Oxy.</i> II 475 (182 AD), l. 17. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XVI 1912 (566 AD), l. 75.
Military	ίππεύς ἀπολελυμένος	<i>P.Oxy.</i> XLIX 3482 (75 BC), l. 3. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XII 1508 (II cent. AD), l. 3.
Taxes	σύνταξις ἐπικλασμός	<i>P.Oxy.</i> LXII 4334 (94-95 AD), l. 12. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLIV 3169 (212 AD), l. 12.
Categories of land	κάτοικος παράδεισος κλήρος κτῆμα ἐποίκιον	<i>P.Oxy.</i> XLIX 3482 (75 BC), l. 3. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLIX 3482 (75 BC), l. 18. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XII 1508 (II cent. AD), l. 8. <i>P.Oxy.</i> L 3595 (243 AD), l. 6, <i>P.Oxy.</i> VI 909 (225 AD), l. 16. <i>P.Oxy.</i> L 3595 (243 AD), l. 6.
Irrigation	χώμα ὄργανον	<i>P.Oxy.</i> VI 909 (225 AD), l. 15. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLVII 3354 (257 AD), l. 16.
Noteworthy landowners	Αὐρηλία Λεονταροῦς	<i>P.Oxy.</i> L 3595 (243 AD), l. 1.
Animals	κτῆνος ταῦρος βοῦς ὄνος	<i>PSI</i> X 1119 (156 AD), l. 12. <i>PSI</i> X 1119 (156 AD), l. 12. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLIII 3109 (256 AD), l. 22. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLVII 3354 (257 AD), l. 11.
Agricultural Products	Χόρτος ράφάνινος ἄκανθα ἄμπελος πυρός κάλαμος κριθή οἶνος φοῖνιξ κολοκύνθης λάχανον σίκυος	<i>P.Oxy.</i> IV 730 (130 AD), l. 14. <i>PSI</i> VII 731 (II/III cent. AD), v. l. 5 <i>P.Oxy.</i> VI 909 (225 AD), l. 17. <i>P.Oxy.</i> VI 909 (225 AD), l. 15. <i>P.Oxy.</i> VI 909 (225 AD), l. 27. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLVII 3354 (257 AD), l. 8. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLVII 3354 (257 AD), l. 32. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLVII 3354 (257 AD), l. 28. <i>P.Oxy.</i> XLVII 3354 (257 AD), l. 29. <i>PSI</i> XIII 1338 (299 AD), l. 9. <i>PSI</i> XIII 1338 (299 AD), l. 8. <i>PSI</i> XIII 1338 (299 AD), l. 9

[TABLE. 1]: Attestations of Senepta in the papyri l. 8: μὴ ἀπολει[φθ]ήναι[ι] ἄρχι ©Done by researcher

πέρατος τύχη τὰ τῆς ὑποθέσεως: The expression was used in a similar context in *P.Oxy.* XVI 1881 (427 A.D., counter-plea), l. 19:

μὴ ἀπολειφθῆναι ἄχρι πέρατος τύχη τὰ τῆς ὑποθέσεως
Not abandon it until the case has been brought to a conclusion

l. 10: διακατοχ]ήν κληρον(ομίας): the similar context was used in inheritance cases, see: *P.Oxy.* IX 1201 (258 AD., succession to an inheritance), ll. 5-9:

Αὐρήλιος Εὐδαίμων Κατιλλίου ἐπιδέδωκα
 αἰτούμενος διακατοχὴν κληρονομίας
 τοῦ πατρός μου τῶν κατὰ διαδοχὴν κλη-
 ρονομηθέντων ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἀδιαθέτου τετε-
 λευτηκότος.

I, Aurelius Eudaemon son of Catillius, have presented (this petition) asking for the succession of an inheritance of my father, namely the property inherited in turn by him, having died intestate.

Verso l. 1: Λογγινία [. .]ϱ]: The name Λογγινία seems to be common name in middle Egypt¹⁸.

l. 3:]γ(ίνονται): The word was written abbreviated¹⁹.

κά(δους): The κάδος is a jar or container, the κάδος was used in the Greek and Roman world primarily to store and transport wine, as well as to draw water from the well²⁰.

ὄξ(ους): The ὄξος (poor wine, vinegar) is a kind of wine, the mixture of sour wine or vinegar and water which the Roman soldiers were accustomed to drink, is attested in various texts concerning the production and trade of wine, also in the guarantee clauses²¹.

δίχ[ωρα]: The term δίχωρον is a unit of measure used for wine, the δίχωρον equaled 2 μονόχωρα = 8 χόες = 96 κοτύλαι. The μονόχωρον a wine measure to be equivalent to about 7.3 liters, and that a donkey load was 8 μονόχωρα²².

l. 6: παρέ]δωκε<v> : The usual verb in the receipts for deliveries²³.

¹⁸ See: *P. Yale* III 137 (Philadelphia, 216-217 AD., Account), l. 19; *BGU* II 614 (Arsinoite nome, 217 A.D., Account), ll. 5, 14.

¹⁹ See: *P.Lond.* III 1177 (Arsinoite nome, 131-132 AD., Accounts), l. 75; *BGU* XIX 2834 (Hermopolis, 590 AD., Delivery of wine), l. 12.

²⁰ BONATI 2016: 59-85.

²¹ TCHERNIA 1986: 11-13, KRUIT 1992: 265-276.

²² KRUIT & WORP 1999: 96-127; MAYERSON 2000: 169-172; MAYERSON 2000: 105-109; TERPSTRA 2012: 109-118.

²³ See: *O.Leid.* 342, l. 7; *O.Mich.* III 1098, l. 3.

l. 7: τὸ συμπύσιον μ[ετὰ] καὶ ε[: This phrase could be restored as follows²⁴.

[συμπύσιον: The συμπόσιον from the verb συμπίνειν (to drink together) was a banquet that took place after the meal, when drinking for pleasure was accompanied by music, or dancing. The συμπόσιον was rented to be used as banqueting hall. Husson has shown that in some leases the συμπόσιον no longer indicates a dining room, but had a broader meaning, that of an apartment, since it included other rooms, such as a κέλλα (store), or a κοιτών (bedroom)²⁵.

IV. CONCLUSION

The conclusion covers the following:

- The papyrus offers new insight on the counter-plea, which was legally required from the defendant that he intended to contest the case.
- The inheritance system applied in Roman Egypt was complex.
- The inheritances mostly consist of land and/or houses.
- Often the accused is a member of the petitioner's family.
- The papyrus gives papyrological evidence for *Senepsta* (*Oxyrhynchite*).
- The papyrus gives papyrological evidence for the preparation for a festival

²⁴ see: *P.Yale I 71* (Oxyrhynchus, 456 AD., lease of a drinking room and bedroom), l. 18:

μεμίσθωμαι τὸ συμπύσιον μετὰ καὶ τοῦ ἐντὸς κοιτώνος

I have leased the banqueting hall with the bedroom within

²⁵*P.Oxy. LXXI 4832* (436 A.D., lease of a symposium), commentary l. 14; HUSSON 1983: 267-271; SARDI 1998: 17-43; ROBINSON 2016: 97.

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[FIGURE 1]: Egyptian Museum in Cairo under glass 102 of the S (pecial) R (egister) N^o. 3049 with inv. 238 recto.



[FIGURE 2]: Egyptian Museum in Cairo under glass 102 of the S (pecial) R (egister) N^or. 3049 with inv. 238 verso.