A BUSINESS LETTER FROM THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM

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A Business Letter from THE EGYPTIAN Museum

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Abstract

The current paper tackles an edition of unpublished Greek documentary papyrus from the Cairo Egyptian Museum under glass 86 of the S (pecial) R (egister) Nr. 3049 with inv. 161. This papyrus is from Tampemou (Oxyrhynchite nome) and dates back to the Third Century AD. This papyrus text is a business letter. The letter preserved some details about the transport of sheep made by the official who travelled south to Tampemou in the eastern toparchy of the Oxyrhynchite Nome. The verso contains two lists of the landowners and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names. The purpose of amounts of wheat on the verso did not serve for taxation, because there is nothing to indicate the taxation. The names of the people appearing in the two lists were probably tenants, and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names may be the rentals which they paid for their leaseholds, though the rates of rent in private tenancy were usually higher. Thus it is possible that they were sharecroppers. Sharecropping is a type of farming in which the sharecropper rents small plots of land from a landowner in return for a portion of his crop, to be given to the landowner at the harvest. The sharecropper agreed to hand over a proportion between one-third and two-thirds of the crop to the landowner, instead of paying a rent. The landowner provided the sharecropper with land, seeds, and tools; these supplies were deducted from the portion of the sharecropper. 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 indicate 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, Land, Transport, Sheep, Sharecropper.
I. INTRODUCTION

This papyrus is an edition of unpublished Greek documentary papyrus from the Cairo Egyptian Museum under glass 86 of the S (pecial) R (egister) Nr. 3049 with inv. 161. The papyrus is from Tampemou (Oxyrhynchite).

Description

The papyrus is of medium brown color and it has been irregularly cut off on all sides, measuring 18.5 cm in height and 12.5 cm in width. The text is in some places badly rubbed and the ink has faded. The recto and verso are written by different hands. The text on the recto is written by a legible hand, along the fibers, in 18 lines. There are remains of two margins on the recto; at the left one cm, and at the lower three cm. The verso turned 180° opposite of the recto. The text on the verso is written by a semi-cursive hand, across the fibers, in 26 lines. There are remains of three margins on the verso; at the right 3.5 cm, at the top is one cm, and at the left one cm. Three vertical folds, across to the fibers, beginning from the right hand side are visible, while the widths of the successive folds are 4.5 cm 3.5 cm 5.5 cm, and 3.5 cm.

Date

On palaeographical grounds, it can be dated back to the third century AD., for palaeographical parallels, see: P.Oxy. X 1267 (209 AD, registration of a child); BGU I 7 (Arsinoites, 247 AD., order to retain tenants on land); P.Oxy. XIX 2241 (283-284 AD, list of rents from land).

The text of this papyrus is a business letter on the recto and agricultural account on the verso. The sender of the letter is missing, while the addressee is Onnophris son of Colophonius and his sister Sepsis. This business letter mentions Valerius Titanianus. The family of Valerius Titanianus maintained its equestrian status and its connections with the imperial administration. He was described as "warden of the great Sarapis, formerly praefectus vigilum"¹, in Philadelphia again but in 248 Valerius Titanianus with an impressive title διασημότατος (the most eminent) was represented by Nepotianus the ex-prefect’s steward². Finally, in 262, Valerius Titanianus (κράτιστος) appears as epistrategus Heptanomiae; he is certainly a close relative of praefectus vigilum, presumably his son³. There are links between the estates of Valerius Titanianus and Aurelius

¹ P. Mich. XI 620 (Arsinoite, 239/240 AD, Account of an Estate), ll. 1-2:
Οὐαλείριος [T][Σ]ειανανος νεωκόρο τού μεγάλου Σαραπίδος
ἀπὸ ἐπάρχουν οὐγούλων
²SB IV 7464 (Arsinoite, 248 AD, Complaint from a Arabotoxotes), ll. 11-12:
Νεπωτιανο Επιτρόπου το διασημοτάτου Οὐαλείριον
Τιτανιανού και Μαύρου και Αμμωνίου ἀραβοτοξοτῶν,
³ VAN RENGEN & WAGNER 1984: 348–353; P. Oxy. XVII 2107 (262 AD, order to Irenarchs), ll. 1-2:
Οὐαλείριος Τιτανιανός ὁ κράτιστος
εἰρηνάρχαι Οξυρυγχίτου χαίρειν.

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Appianus, for which accounts preserved that the estate animals were used for the transport of any commodity, and that these operations would be carried out in conjunction with other forms of transport available, in which usually wagons and teams of oxen have been used for long-distance transport. The letter has preserved details about the transport of sheep made by the official who has travelled south to Tampemou in the eastern toparchy of the Oxyrhynchite Nome, and who needed to camp and purchase fodder for sheep on the journey. It is probable that sheep was used to sacrifice.

The verso contains two lists of the landowners, and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names. The purpose of amounts of wheat on the verso did not serve for taxation, because there is nothing to indicate the taxation, and the tax rate varied considerably for the various categories of land. Most private lands were taxed at 1, 1¼, 1½ or 2 artabae per aroura. The names of the people appeared in two lists, who were probably tenants, and the amounts of wheat recorded after their names may be the rentals which they paid for their leaseholds, but the rates of rent in private tenancy were usually higher. Thus it is possible that they were sharecroppers. Sharecropping is a type of farming in which the sharecropper rents small plots of land from a landowner in return for a portion of his crop, to be given to the landowner at the harvest. The sharecropper agreed to hand over a proportion between one-third and two-thirds of the crop to the landowner, instead of paying rent. The landowner provided the sharecropper with land, seeds, and tools, these supplies were deducted from the portion of the sharecropper.
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15 μὴ π<λ>ημελε<ι>ν τῇ πόλει [... . . . μ]έχρι ἐκ-
θέοθας, τιμ[ής] μναν λοτίν[ν] χόρτ[ον] λιμ[ώ]
μένην καὶ μὴ ἀναβήη[ν]. ἐ]θρώμεθ<ά> τε [και αὐτοί]
ἐ]θρώω[ν] [ν]

Verso

[. . . . . . . . . . Νο]υμερίου (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ.
[. . . . . . Αμιω[ναρίου (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ.
Π[έ]λλιο[ς . . . . . . . . . . (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
Πετε[να]ς Τέβάτος (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
5 Απί[ε]ς Αφοβδεισίου (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
Σύρο[ς] Ναρμούθας (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ζ
Παμών Σόλανος (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) β
Πανεύς Ε'υτόλεως (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) η
Ἀμάεις Σιλίβου (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
10 Αμμώνιο<ς Ακίων<ος (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) θ
Ἀμαεις Απολλωνίου (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ
Ἀτις κλήρονόμος Πανέπιστομος (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ζ
Ἀπολινάριο<ς Ρεπνιούτος (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ζ
Ἀρψήμις Σεννούφιος (άρούρας) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ
15 γί(νονται) (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ὃ

vac.

[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) α
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ
20 [. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) β
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) γ
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) ε
25 [. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (πυροῦ ἀρτάβας) δ
[ γί(νονται) [(πυροῦ ἀρτάβας)] η
Corrections

Recto  1. 4 ταυρελάτου 1. 6 παραδιδόναι 1. 11 ἐργάζ<eos>θ(α)ι 1. 13 ἐσφάγισα 1. 14 σήμερον 1. 16 λωτίνου 1. 17 μένειν

Verso  ll. 1-14 ἐ  ll.1-26 ἔ  l. 12 μ, pap. ll. 15, 26 ἄ l. 21 Κλεονίκου

Translation

To my lord Onnophris son of Colophonius and to his sister Sepsis, oh my lady of the headmen of village nor of the bull driver 5 but also they have delivered up one until to deliver them up of Ailourion and Valerius Titanianus which I have handed (the letter) from the courier at the south non-existent (person), lest we deliver him up and you didn’t receive him in Tampemou to work as agent (general manager) and the slave of my sister I have sealed marriage (contract), the escort of Lykarion and today the sheep of sacrificial magistrate . . .

15 don’t go wrong to the city . . . even to pay the price mina for the green crop of lotus (because of) hunger to stay and do not go on board, we ourselves are also well farewell

Verso

. . . . son of Noumerius 3 artabas of wheat for aroura
. . . . son of Ammonarius 3 artabas of wheat for aroura
Gellius son of . . . . . . . 5 artabas of wheat for aroura
Peteesis son of Tebas 5 artabas of wheat for aroura
Apeis son of Aphrodisius 5 artabas of wheat for aroura
Syrus son of Narmouthis 7 artabas of wheat for aroura
Pamon son of Solon 2 artabas of wheat for aroura
Paneus son of Eupolis 8 artabas of wheat for aroura
Amaeis son of Silibus 5 artabas of wheat for aroura
Ammonius son of Akion 9 artabas of wheat for aroura
Amaeis son of Apollonius 3 artabas of wheat for aroura
Atis heir of Panetbeus & 7 artabas of wheat for aroura 
Apollinarios son of Pennious & 7 artabas of wheat for aroura 
Harpsemis son of Sennouphris & 3 artabas of wheat for aroura 
15 Total & 72 artabas 

| Line | Name                       | Quantity of Wheat |
|------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 15   | Total                      | 72 artabas        |
|      | son of . . . . . of dry land | 5 artabas         |
| 20   | son of Aurelius            | 5 artabas         |
|      | son of Kleonikus           | 3 artabas         |
|      | son of Kaeis Maximus       | 5 artabas         |
|      | son of . . . . .           | 5 artabas         |
|      | son of . . . . .           | 4 artabas         |
| 25   | son of . . . . .           | 38 artabas        |
|      | Total                      |                   |

Commentary

1. 2: Κολοφωνίου: There is no mention in papyri of Κολοφωνίος as a personal name only in O.Claud. II 248 (Mons Claudianus, 126-175 AD, Letter from Peteneophotes to Valerius), l. 15.

1. 3: Σεψεί: The name Σεψίς is common in the papyri, for example, SB I 3875 (Panopolis, 2099 AD, mummy label), ll. 1-2:

Αρεμήψις Ἀρι- ωτου μητ(ρὸς) Σέψις

Haremephis son Haryotes his mother (being) Sepsis.

The expression ὦ κυρία μου has a parallel in P.Oxy VI 937(201-300 AD, letter of Demarchus), ll. 9-10:

وها κυρία μου ἀδελ- φή

Oh my sister lady

κυρία μου: The sender called the addressee as κυρία μου (a polite form): κύριος often was mentioned in business letters, as a man having power or authority. The polite closing formula might indicate that the addressee of the letter held a higher position than the sender.

1. 4: κωμάρχων: The office of the κωμάρχαι was re-introduced into Egypt between 245 and 247. The κωμάρχαι replaced the κωμογράμματες toward the middle of the

DICKEY 2010: 327-335.
third century\(^8\), the κωμάρχαι of the village were four in number \(^9\). The earliest order to arrest was addressed to the κωμάρχαι as chief of the village police, see: SB XVIII 13896 (Arsinoites, 242-254 AD, order to arrest). The first occurrence of the κωμάρχαι of Tampemou in P.Oxy. XLVIII 3409 (IV AD), ll. 1-3:

\[
\text{περὶ τοῦ τοὺς κωμάρχας}
\]
\[
\text{τῆς Ταμπεμοῦ ἐπὶ τὴν}
\]
\[
\text{πόλιν ἀποστ[ε]λαι}
\]

About sending the headmen of village Tampemou to the city.

ταυρελάτου: There are details recorded about the monthly όψώνιον paid to a bull-driver, and the editor suggests that their salary was taken as an expense \(^10\). The bulls were used for agricultural tasks such as traction, ploughing, turning waterwheels, and transport animals\(^11\).

l. 8: δρομέως: The messages were hand-delivered using a variety of methods, including couriers (foot messenger), homing pigeons and riders on horseback\(^12\). The δρομεύς is distinguished from ordinary mail services by features such as speed and security, see P.Ryl. IV 627 (Hermoupolis Magna, 301-325 AD, Memoranda and Accounts) l. 99:

\[
\text{k[ai ἀπὸ] Ἐρμοῦ δρομέως κν[δ(ια)] δ}
\]
\[
\text{and from Hermes the courier, 4 knidia}
\]

l. 9: [ἀν]ὑπάρκτον: The exact meaning is not clear, it could mean that land once cultivated has been swept away by floods or covered by desert sand, see; P.Giss. 7 (Apollonopolites Heptakomias, 117 AD, petition), Col. 2, ll. 15-18:

δεομένου

τοῦ μὲν ἀν(ὰ) ε ἰβ´ (ἀρούρης) η´ καὶ τοῦ ἀν(ὰ) β´ (ἀρούρης) δ´

περὶ Πῶιν ἀνυπάρκτων ὄντων ἀπο-λυθῆναι,

I request to be exempted from the eight of an aroura at the rate of 5 1/12 and from the quarter of an aroura at the rate of 2 near Pois, which are non-existent

It might refer to an incorrect name, under which the petitioner had been appointed unlawfully to a public service, see: P. Mich VI 426 (Karanis, 199-200 AD, petition), ll. 11-12;

\(^8\)THOMAS 1975: 111-119; YOUTIE 1976: 99-109.
\(^9\)BENAISSA 2008: 53-61= P. Gen. II 1 66 = Chr.Wilck. 381 (Philadelphia, 374 AD, lease land ), ll. 1-4:

Αὐ(ἱ)λιοι Αμωνιανός Ἐκό[σίς]
[kai Α]λλονόι Τ . . . . η . θ[ίου] καὶ Τιμ[αγ]έ[νιος]
[Ασάϊνθος (?) και Αμούν Ατρη, ἀμοῦτερο(ο)ι κωμάρ(χαι)
[τής] κόμης Φιλαδελφίας
\(^10\)P. Oxy. LXII 4343 (301-400 AD, Estate Account) ll. 11-12:

Λέοντι ταυρελάτη ὑπὲρ όψωνιον (ἀστάβαι) κ
\(^11\)ADAMS 2007: 62ff.
\(^12\)REMIJSEN 2007: 127-140.
As Horos, son of Apolinarius, a fictitious name which I do not know

It could refer fraudulent in a business letter from Severus to Apollonianus, see: PSI XII 1260 (Oxyrhynchus, 200-300 AD, business letter), ll. 13-14;

the land hasn’t been delivered to non-existent names

It might refer to faulty recording, see: P.Oxy. XVII 2131(207 AD, attestation of a copy of a petition with reply), l. 12:

ςβιχις άρμισισ μητρός τασεύτος, σωματίσαντός μοι ἀνύπαρκτον πόρον
Sbichis son of Harmiusis his mother is Taseus, and he has been registered to me (as having) a non-existent property qualification

ll. 10-11: Τα-μπέμου: Tampemou was located in the eastern toparchy (ἀπηλιώτης τοπαρχίας) \(^\text{13}\).

\(^{13}\text{P. Oxy. X 1285 (III AD, list of village payments), l. 85; Pruneti 1981: 187-188; Benaissa 2012: 363-366.}^\)
| STATUS                      | NAME                | SOURCE                                                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tampemou                    | Ταμπέμου            | [http://www.trismegistos.org/geo/detail.php?tm=2903: Dizionario IV, 334-335;](http://www.trismegistos.org/geo/detail.php?tm=2903) |
| Occupations and Officials   | σιτολόγος           | P. Lips. II 141 (133 AD) l. 2.                                        |
|                             | ἀρχέφοδος           | PSI XV 1538 (II cent. AD), l. 1.                                     |
|                             | ὀνηλάτης            | P. Köln IX 381 (260 AD), l. 6.                                        |
|                             | σιππουργός          | P. Gen. IV 175 (335 AD), l. 1.                                        |
|                             | ἀλιεὺς              | P. Oxy. XLVIII 3423 (IV cent. AD), l. 8.                              |
|                             | εἰρήναρχος          | P. Oxy. XII 1505 (IV cent. AD), l. 2.                                 |
|                             | ἐπισφραγιστής       | P. Oxy. XII 1491 (IV cent. AD), l. 12.                                |
|                             | κομάρχαι            | P. Oxy. XLVIII 3409 (IV cent. AD), l. 7.                               |
|                             | φύλαξ                | P. Oxy. IX 1193 (IV cent. AD), l. 3.                                  |
|                             | γεωργός             | P. Oxy. XIX 2243(a) (590 AD), l. 47.                                  |
|                             | μειζότερος          | P. Oxy. XIX 2243(a) (590 AD), l. 39.                                  |
| Noteworthy landowners       | Ἀπ ων ἐπο κιον       | P. Oxy XVI 2032 (540/541 AD).                                         |
|                             | τάπιον ἐποίκιον     | P. Oxy. XIX 2244 (558 AD).                                            |
|                             | στεφανικά           | P. Oxy. XIV 1659 (218-221 AD), l. 1.                                  |
|                             | ἀννώνη              | P. Oxy. L 3584 (III cent. AD), l. 1.                                  |
|                             | ἀναβολικόν          | P. Oxy. XLVIII 3408 (IV cent. AD), l. 12.                            |
| Animals                     | μόσχειος            | P. Oxy. XXIV 2422 (290 AD), l. 1.                                     |
|                             | χοίρος              | P. Oxy. VI 901 (336 AD), l. 5.                                        |
|                             | βούς                | P. Oxy. LIV 3771 (336 AD), l. 16.                                     |
|                             | ὀνος                | P. Oxy. IX 1193 (IV cent. AD), l. 3.                                  |
| Buildings                   | δημόσιον            | P. Dubl. 5 (87-88 AD), l. 1.                                          |
|                             | ψυλοί τόποι         | P. Oxy. III 501 (187 AD), l. 14.                                      |
|                             | αὐλή                | P. Oslo. III 108 (III cent. AD), l. 5.                                |
|                             | ἐργαστήριον        | P. Oxy. VI 989 (III/IV cent. AD), l. 2.                               |
| Irrigation                  | Μηχανή              | P. Oxy. VI 901 (336 AD), l. 7.                                        |
|                             | ἱδραγαγωγός        | P. Oxy. VI 901 (336 AD), l. 7.                                        |
|                             | λάκκος              | P. Oxy. XIX 2244 (558 AD), l. 34.                                     |
| Categories of land          | κλήρος              | P. Oxy. III 501 (187 AD), l. 11.                                      |
|                             | παράδεισος           | P. Oslo. III 108 (III cent. AD), l. 5.                                |
|                             | ἐποίκιον            | P. Oxy. VI 989 (III/IV cent. AD), l. 2.                               |
| Agricultural Products       | χλωρά              | P. Oxy. III 501 (187 AD), l. 16.                                      |
|                             | πυρός               | P. Oxy. III 501 (187 AD), l. 15.                                      |
|                             | σίνος               | P. Oxy. XIX 2244 (558 AD), l. 88.                                     |

[TABLE 1]: Attestations of Tampemou in the papyri
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1. 13: προπομ[π(όν)]: the best parallel seems at first sight to be P.Lips. I 35 = ChLA 12 524 (Hermopolis, 375-378 AD, duplicate), l. 5; προπομπόν τιρώνων (escort of recruits), but P.Osl. III 88 (Oxyrhynchos, 370 AD, letter concerning the collection of taxes) suggests that the escort is the escort of taxes (χρυσός τιρώνων) rather than of the recruits, which may be correct. Another case of the word relates to escort of wheat in P.Michael 114 (panopolis, 201-250 AD, order for payment), l. 1-3:

δός εἰς τὴν προπομπήν
πυροῦ ἀφτάβας
η.
give to the escort 8 arتابae of wheat

Another occurrence of the word relates to escorts of goods in kind, see: SPP XX 84 (Hermopolite, 286-305 AD, account), Verso, Col. I, ll. 1-5:

οἶνου
eις Λάτων
διὰ Ασκληπιος Τέρακος ἐγμελ(ητού) (ξεστών)
ἀυ. [π]ητο[ποιοί]·
5Αχιλλεύς Ωρίωνος
of wine to Laton through Asklus son of Hierax the overseer of cups which escorts Achilleus son of Horion

And προπομποί κρέως in SPP XX 84 (Hermopolite, 286-305 AD, account), Verso, Col. II, ll. 1-4:

κρέως όμοιώς
εις Συήνην διὰ ΄Ερμού Πινουτίωνος λιτ(ρῶν) μ(υριάδες) β
ἀν προπομποί·
Κοπρεύς Μέλανος
alike of meat to Syene through Hermes son of Pinoution 20,000 pound, which escorts Kopreus son of Melas

ἐσφράγισα: The seal was used to secure the contents of the document against alteration 14.

1. 14: τὰ πρόβατ[α]: The registration or declaration of animals was required in the Ptolemaic and Roman period 15, probably the registrations of sheep were linked to the pasture tax 16. There is a declaration of sheep, which registers a number of 3200 sheep, 53 goats 17.

14VANDORPE 1997: 231-291; KEENAN & MANNING & YIFTACH 2014: 234-236.
15KEENAN 1989: 175-200.
16The registrations of sheep for the pasture tax, see; BGU XVI 2578-2587 (Herakleopolites, 14-5 BC., declaration of sheep and goats) P. Oxy. LV 3778–3779 (20-21 AD, registration of sheep and goats).
17BGU XVI 2586 (Herakleopolites, 5 BC., declaration of sheep and goats),l. 17:
(γινονται) τὰ προκ(ειμενα) πρόβα(τα) Γε αίγ(ες) νγ
Ibrahim Mohamed El Said Mohamed Abdou

[ἱεροποιός: The ἱεροποιός has had the duty of offering sacrifices in the religious ceremonies or/sacred rites\textsuperscript{18}.

1. 16: λωτίνοι[ν χόρτον: For the meaning of λωτίνον is most clearly understood through P.Mich. II 121 (Tebtynis, 42 AD, abstracts of contracts), 2, ν: in which λωτίνον is to be sown as a fodder crop for sheep (εἰς λωτίνον(ν) σπορ(ὰν) καταβ(ρώματα) προβάτων).

1. 18: ἐξαρασε[ο]: this formula appeared at the end of the first century AD\textsuperscript{19}.

Verso: ll. 1-14: (ἀρούρας) (πυρ ο ἀρτάβας): The symbols at the end of the line are very faint and abraded. For the closest parallel wording see: BGU II 217 (Arsinoites, 201-300 AD, list of landowners with payments of grain), l. 10: BGU II 575 (Arsinoites, 201-300 AD, Accounts), l. 9: BGU VII 1623 (Philadelphia, 201-300 AD, a list of landowners with details of property for tax), ll. 9-10

1. 10: Ἀμμώνιος Ἀκουής (ἀρούρας) (πυρ ο ἀρτάβας) θ: This line reveals the higher productive of the land in the list.

1. 12: Ἐ<=(κληρονόμοι) ιονύς Ολυμπιοδώρου (ἀρτάβαι): This line is not fully visible, but seems to refer to a list of property owners.

1. 15: (ἀρούρας) (πυρ ο ἀρτάβας): The same abbreviation is found in BGU XIX 2776 (Hermopolis, 351-400 AD, Shipping List), Col. II, l. 17: κλ(ηρονόμοι) Διονυσίου Όλυμπιδώρου (ἀρτάβαι) θ. And see also P.Lond.Herm. 1 (Hermopolis, 546-547 AD, Tax Register from the Hermopolite Nome), Col. 5, Verso, l., 23: Ἰωσήφ(ις) κλ(ηρονόμος) Παύλ(ου) κ(εράτια) Ἐχ.

ll. 15, 26: γ(νονται): It can be a substantive meaning “reckoning”, from the total measurements of the land.

1. 16: χέρσου: It is an adjective meaning land liable to taxation\textsuperscript{20}. Land so described was “dry” only in the sense that it could not be irrigated in that particular year by digging canals from the flooded section of any nearby basin.

\textsuperscript{18}EKROTH 2002: 324; MIKALSON 2016: 205-214.

\textsuperscript{19}KOSKENNIELI 1956: 151-154.

\textsuperscript{20}CHRISTENSEN 2017: 8.
II. CONCLUSION

• The conclusion does refer to introducing new information about:
  Valerius Titanianus (κράτιστος) *epistrategus Heptanomiae*.
  Onnophris son of Colophonius.
  *Tampemou* in the eastern *toparchy* of the *Oxyrhynchite Nome*.

• The letter has preserved details about the transport of sheep.

• Sharecropping is a type of farming in which the sharecropper rents small plots of land from a landowner in return for a portion of his crop, to be given to the landowner at the harvest. The sharecropper agreed to hand over a proportion between one-third and two-thirds of the crop to the landowner, instead of paying a rent.

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[FIGURE 1]: Egyptian Museum in Cairo under glass 86 of the Special Register
Nr. 3049 with inv. 161 recto.
[FIGURE 2]: Egyptian museum in Cairo under glass 86 of the Special Register

Nr. 3049 with inv. 161 verso.
A BUSINESS LETTER FROM THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM

رسالة عمل من المتحف المصرى بالقاهرة

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ملخص

الورقة البحثية الحالية هي تجربة عن نشر بردية ثانوية يونانية غير منشورة من متحف المتحف المصرى بالقاهرة، رقم الزجاجة 86 للسجل الخاص 30 تحت رقم الجرد 121. هذه البندية تأتي من طامبيو (إقليم أوكسيرينوسوس) وتعود إلى القرن الثالث الميلادي. نص هذه البندية هو خطاب عمل. احتفظ الخطاب بعض التفاصيل حول نقل الأغام، التي قام بها المسؤول الذي سافر جنوبًا إلى طامبيو في القسم الشرقي لإقليم أوكسيرينوسوس. تحتوي البندية على قائمتين لفصول الأراضي ومخصصات من القمح مسجلة بعد أسمائهم، الغرض من كميات القمح على ظهر البندية لم تخدم الضرائب، لأنه لا يوجد ما يشير إلى الضرائب. ظهرت أسماء الأشخاص في قائمتين يحتمل أنهم كانوا مستأجرين، وقد تكون مقايد القمح المسجلة بعد أسمائهم هي الإيجارات التي دفعوها مقابل إيجاراتهم، لكن معدلات الإيجارات في الإيجارات الخاصة كانت أعلى عادة. ومن ثم فمن الممكن أنهم كانوا مزارعين. المزارعة هي نوع من الزراعة حيث يقوم المزارع واستئجار قطع صغيرة من الأرض من مالك الأرض مقابل جزء من محصوله، يتم إعطاؤه لمالك الأرض عند الحصاد. وافق المزارع على تسليم نسبة تراوح بين ثلث وثلثي المحصول إلى مالك الأرض، بدلاً من دفع إيجار. قدم صاحب الأرض للمزارع الأرض والبذور والأدوات، وقد تم خصم هذه الإمدادات من جزء المزارعة. قدمت البندية على النحو التالي: وصف عام لمحتويات البندية، أبعاد البردى، HLS/16-17، عند أستر النص، وتمثل إلى إنجاز الكتابة بالنسبة إلى سطح البندية، ثم نسخ النص اليوناني، وترجمة النص اليوناني إلى الإنجليزية والتعليم على أستر البردية.

الكلمات الدلالة: البندى، اليوناني، مصر، الرومانية، النقل، البري، الأغانى، المزارعة.