

Notes on Egyptian Census Declarations, IV

For the purpose and scope of these notes, see the first installment in *BASP* 27 (1990) 1-14.¹

31. *BGU* I 58

Although corrections in *BL* 1.13 improved the text of this declaration from Karanis (census of 159/160), they made no dent in the problems of reconstructing its lost right half (about 15 letters in most cases, as Viereck already saw) in a coherent fashion. The text below incorporates these improvements along with further suggestions in an effort to recover as much of the family structure as possible from the surviving indications.

- 'Αρφα[ή]σι [κωμογρ(αμματεῖ) Καρανίδος]
παρὰ Πασόξιτο[ς Πασόξιτος τοῦ . . .]
σεως μητρὸς Θι[ν - - - - NN]
4 ἀπὸ κώ[μ]ης Κα[ρα]ν[ί]δος· ἀπογράφομαι
ἑμαυτὸν καὶ τ[ο]ῦ[ς] ἐμοὺς εἰς τὴν τοῦ
διεληλυθότος κγ [(ἔτους) Θεοῦ 'Αντωνείνου]
κατ' οἰκίαν ἀπο[γραφήν] εἰς τὸν
8 ὑπάρχον[τ]α [μοι τόπον (?)]· καὶ εἶμι
Πασόξις [Πασό]ξι[τος ὁ προγ(εγραμμένος) (ἐτῶν) .. καὶ]
τ[οῦς] ὁ[μ]οπ[α]τρ[ί]ους καὶ ὁμομη-
τρί[ο]υς μου [ἀδελφοὺς NN (ἐτῶν) .. καὶ]
12 'Αρπα[λ]ον [(ἐτῶν) .. - - - -]
.. 'Απολλω[- 15 -]
τηνα[. .]. γερ[- 15 -]
Θερμουθῶν Πτ[ρολ-- τοῦ - - -]

¹This installment is devoted entirely to papyri in Berlin. I am greatly indebted to William Brashear and Günter Poethke for their assistance and hospitality during my visit to Berlin (10-19 April 1991), during which these (and many other) papyri were studied. I have not specifically noted cases in which the bracketing practice of the early 20th century in Berlin (and elsewhere) has been tacitly corrected; much that today would be read dotted was bracketed then. But where I do not give a new text, I do not report such cases separately.

- 16 τος μητρὸς Ἡρ[--- (ἐτῶν) .. καὶ]
τὸ γεγυόταν μ[οι ἐκ τῆς γενομένης]
μοι καὶ ἀπῆλλα[γμένης γυναικὸς]
Τασουχαρίω[υ NN τοῦ NN]
- 20 μητρὸς Ταο[ρ]αε[υ]οῦφ[ε]ως υἱὸν (?) NN (ἐτῶν) ..]
καὶ τὴν γενομένην NN]
ἐκ τῆς γενο[μ]ένης καὶ ἀπῆλλαγμένης ?]
αὐτῷ γυν[αικὸς NN]
- 24 Νοωστέως τοῦ [NN θυγατέρα]
Θαισᾶν (ἐτῶν) [.. ὑπάρχει δὲ τῆ]
μητρὶ μου ἐν [τῆ κώμη --- οἰκί ()]
καὶ αὐλ() Πασόξιτ[ος. διὸ ἐπιδίδωμι.]
- 28 (ἔτους) α Αὐτοκρ[άτορος Καίσαρος]
Μάρκου Αὐ[ρηλίου Ἀντωνείνου]
Σε[β]αστοῦ [καὶ Αὐτοκρ(άτορος) Καίσαρος]
Λουκίου Αὐ[ρηλίου Οὐήρου]
- 32 Σεβαστοῦ [month, day].

7-8 τόπον: *BL* 1.13. It is not a normal locution, but I have not been able to find a better term to restore.

11 The restoration here is a bit too long, but there must be a first brother lost, perhaps with a very short name; some abbreviation is also possible.

13-14 Perhaps other brothers; in line 14, perhaps a γέρ[διον]. It does not seem possible to reconstruct these lines.

15-16 It is not clear who Thermouthas is; perhaps the wife of one of the brothers.

17 τό is puzzling, and given γεγυόταν after it, it must be an error for τόν. Perhaps the writer had τέκνον in mind when he wrote, but that term is generally used only when multiple children of both sexes are to be listed.

21 NN here is one of the brothers mentioned earlier.

24 The reading at the start of the line is sound; perhaps this is the end of a name rather than its entirety.

30 See *BL* 1.13 for the correction addition of Καίσαρος to the titlature; but that gives a total of 23 letters, which is too long. Given constraints of space, one must assume either that the scribe omitted a word or that he abbreviated both. I print the latter on principle, but without any confidence that this is what was actually written.

The overall shape of the household is thus clear. The declarant, Pasoxis, registers himself, probably at least three brothers, a woman who may be the wife of one of them, his son by his divorced wife, and a daughter of one of the brothers by his divorced wife. The mention of property belonging to the declarant's mother in lines 26-27 suggests that she may have been mentioned somewhere in a lacuna, perhaps in lines 13-14.

32. *BGU I 117*

The enumeration of persons other than the declarant and his wife (lines 7-9) was not reconstructed by the editors of this declaration (census of 187/8) as far as is possible. The key is the mention of a wife of Satorneilos in line 14, even though no person of this name has been mentioned earlier in the preserved text. The two possibilities for restoring it are lines 10 and 11, but the name in 10 ends in -ιον at the start of line 11. Satorneilos, then, must be restored in 11, and the text then falls into place:

- καὶ τὰ ἐξ ἁμ-]
- 10 φότερων τέκνα, υἱὸν Ὀρίωνα γεωργὸν [(ἐτῶν) . . . καὶ
 . . .]
 .ιον ἄλλον υἱὸν γραμματέα (ἐτῶν) ιζ, καὶ [Σατορνεῖλον ἄλλον]
- 12 υἱὸν μη(τρὸς) Σαραποῦτος τῆς Ὀρίωνος γεω[ργὸν (ἐτῶν) . . , καὶ
 θυγα-]
 [τ]έρα Ἀρποκρατίαιναν μη(τρὸς) Θαισαρίου τῆς
 [προγεγραμμένης]
 [(ἐτῶν) .]. οὔσαν γυ[ναῖ]κα τοῦ Σατορνεῖλου καὶ ὀμοπάτριον
 [ἀδε]λφῆν, καὶ ἐξ ἀμφοτέρων υἱὸν Σατ[ορνεῖλον (ἐτῶν) . . καὶ]
- 16 [θυγ]ατέρα Σατορνίλην (ἐτῶν) ιδ, καὶ Ἀρτεμιδώ[ραν τὴν καὶ ?
 Διοσκο-]
 ροῦν ἄλλην θυγατ[έ]ρα Διοσκόρου τοῦ [προγεγρ(αμμένου)
 μη(τρὸς) Θαισα-]
 ρίου (ἐτῶν) κ, καὶ Τασουχάριον ἄλλην θυ[γατέρα (ἐτῶν) . . , καὶ . .
 .]
- [. .]. Θαν[. . .] . . . [. . ἀπ]άτορα (ἐτῶν) κθ [
 20 Σαραποῦν ἀπάτορα (ἐτῶν) η. διὸ ἐπιιδῶμι.]

First Dioskoros the declarant records two sons by his current wife Thaisarion, who is probably a freedwoman. The younger of them is 17. Then comes a son Satorneilos by a previous wife Sarapous; then a daughter Harpokratiaina by the current wife. This daughter is married to Satorneilos, her half-brother. The age of neither is preserved, but their son and daughter are listed, the latter being 14. We may thus expect Harpokratiaina to be in her late 20s or older. Part of her age survives in line 14. The most attractive reading palaeographically is the right part of a kappa like that in line 18, but this is obviously impossible. Zeta seems next best, though uncertain. An age of 27 would be young but not impossible; 37 is probably more likely.

There follows a 20-year old daughter of the declarant, evidently again by the current wife, and then still another daughter, probably also by Thaisarion. The next two lines preserve two fragmentary entries for ἀπότερες aged 29 and 8, whose connection to the rest must remain conjectural; they are too old to be children of Tasoucharion.

33. BGU I 118

Column I of this papyrus contains a strip from the right side of a declaration (census of 187/8), from which, Wilcken estimated, some 40-50 letters (two-thirds to three-quarters of the original) were lost at the left, making any comprehensive restoration impossible. Wilcken read the declarant's signature in line 20 as Νεμεσίλλα ἡ καὶ Ἰσι-, but another phrase in line 17 suggests a different reading. There, Wilcken read]λητη καὶ Κυρίλλα, for which he offered no restoration. A word division between λη and τη, however, suggests instead]λη τη καὶ Κυρίλλα. The letter before the first lambda is in fact almost surely another one; and, on the other hand, what Wilcken read as ισι in line 20 is actually κυ. The dative in 17 is, coming shortly before mention of some other properties but after the persons, suggestive of the normal formulation: ὑπάρχει δὲ τῇ Νεμεσίλλῃ τη καὶ Κυρίλλῃ. In line 20, therefore, read Νεμεσίλλα ἡ καὶ Κυρίλλα. Given her signing, it is likely that she is in fact the first person named in line 4, where one will restore [εἶμι δὲ Νεμεσίλλα ἡ καὶ Κυρίλλα ἡ προγε]γρ(αμμένη) (ἐτῶν) λθ.²

²The numeral in line 7 is also overlined (κη), not noted in the edition. Some other minor notes: line 10, restore γενομένη; line 21, καθάπ(ερ) > καθῶς; iii.18, δια π.[> διὰ ἐπ[ιδίωμι].

34. *BGU I 119*

This piece has only the lower right corner of a declaration from the census of 173/4, which the editor interpreted as being a report of renters, reading in line 4 κ]ατ' οίκ(ίαν) ἀπογρ(αφήν) ἐνοίκ(ων). The standard formula, however, would be τοὺς ὑπογεγραμμένους ἐνοίκους (or singular, as appropriate). And the lacuna in line 5 before διὸ ἐπιδ(ίδωμι) is not likely to have been larger than 8-12 letters, since διεληλυθ(ότος) was almost certainly abbreviated like nearly everything else in this text, perhaps even to διελ() or διεληλ().³ That is hardly enough to give a proper listing even of one person.

The solution is simple: instead of ἐνοίκ(ων), read ἐν οἷς, followed in the lacuna by [οὐδεῖς]. No one was registered in these properties. The plural points up the fact that multiple properties were declared, and in line 2 for]μαῖ read]καῖ; the half-share is at least the second property mentioned, but there may have been more.

35. *BGU I 122*

This declaration, addressed to the basilikos grammateus of the Herakleides Division, was dated by Wilcken simply to the second century. The name of the royal secretary was read as [. . .]ελη, which did not (and still does not) correspond to the name of any known holder of the office in a year when census declarations were filed. Bastianini and Whitehorne⁴ report G. Poethke's view that the eta is not certainly raised above the line, and they thus suggest reading 'Ἡρακλεῖλη as an error for 'Ἡρακλεῖδη, the basilikos grammateus in 147.

This was a very shrewd proposal. The similarity of lambda and delta in many hands, however, raises the suspicion that the fault may not be the misreading of an exemplar by an ancient scribe but of the papyrus by moderns. Under magnification, the right end of a horizontal bottom stroke is visible, perhaps all that was made. In the delta of Δίου, line 7, only a bit of the left diagonal stroke was ever made. We are therefore justified in reading ['Ἡρακλεῖδη and accepting Bastianini-Whitehorne's date of 147 (for the census of 145/6).

³The lacuna in lines 6-7 and 9 is 10-12 letters.

⁴*Strategi and Royal Scribes of Roman Egypt* (Pap.Flor. 15, 1987) 121.

36. *BGU I 131*

Although Wilcken offered a couple of restorations for this desperate scrap, broken at top, left, right, and below, more can be recovered and restored in the opening lines:

 [γραμμα]τεῦσι μ[ητροπόλεως]
 [παρὰ] Κοπρεΐ[ας Ἄ]τρῆτ[ος τοῦ NN μητ(ρὸς)]
 [. . . .]ιου ἀπὸ ἀμφό[δου ---]
 4 [. . . .] χωρὶς κυρίου χ[ρηματιζούσης]
 [κατὰ] τὰ Ῥωμαίων ἔ[θη δικαίω]
 [τέκν]ων ἀπογράφομ[αι τὴν γενο-]
 [μένη]ν μοι θυγατέρα [ἐκ τοῦ γενο-]
 8 [μένο]ν μοι ἀνδρὸς Αὐρ[ηλίου NN]
 [. . . .] ἀπελευθέρου Α[

Wilcken restored [γραμμα]τεῦσι and χωρὶς κυρίου etc. In 1, the mu of μ[ητροπόλεως] has a descender through it which probably comes from a line above. What remains obscure is why the declarant does not register herself (for there is certainly no room to restore ἐμαυτὴν καὶ in line 6).

37. *BGU I 137: A Ghost Name?*

The lower part of this declaration from 147 is preserved only in a narrow strip at left, and reconstruction is impossible. It appears that lines 14-17 included a list of the renters whom the declarant mentioned in line 8. Line 17 is presented by Wilcken as follows:

Χαριδήμονι δω[

This is, as far as I know, the only instance yet reported from Egypt of a supposed name Χαριδήμων; whether it existed at all seems uncertain.⁵

⁵Nothing in *NB*, *Onomasticon*, Pape-Benseler, Solin, *Pros.Ptol.*, or the Duke Data Bank. Fraser and Matthews, *A Lexicon of Greek Personal Names I* 481 cite one example from Eretria, a stela which has simply the name in the nominative.

The well attested name with this beginning is of course Χαρίδημος. It is obviously tempting to separate the letters differently here: Χαρίδημον ἰδω[, a reading which has the additional advantage that the name is then in the accusative, the expected case for declared persons. The reader of census declarations will see immediately that an element beginning ἰδ- after a name is likely to be ἰδῶτης, perhaps abbreviated as in line 15, ἰδῶτ(ην). There the iota before omega is written cursively with it, in a manner identical to that here. I read, therefore, Χαρίδημον ἰδῶτ(ην).

It may be noted that in *P.Mich.* IV 224.5882 the editors refrained from expanding Χαρίδημ(), perhaps holding open the possibility of Χαριδήμων, despite their reading of Χαρίδημος in a whole series of other places. That is all the more striking in that it is there the patronymic of a Tapetheus; Charidemos son of Leonides and Tapetheus is well attested in this roll. There seems no good reason, then, not to resolve Χαριδήμ(ου).

38. *BGU I* 182

This papyrus contains a declaration from the census of 145, followed by one from that of 131. Krebs gave a semi-restored edition, with drifting margins. The following text incorporates corrections in *BL* 1.24 and 7.10, along with some new readings.

- [Μαξίμω τῷ καὶ Νεάρχῳ] στρ(ατηγῶ) καὶ Ἑρακλείδῃ β[ασιλ(ικῶ)
 γρα(μματεῖ) Ἄρσι(νοίτου)]
 [Ἑρακλ(είδου) μερίδος καὶ τοῖς γρα(μματεῦσι) μητροπόλεως
 κα[ἰ - - - -]
 [παρὰ - - - - -] τῆς Πτολεμαίου τῶν ἀπὸ τ[ῆς] μητροπόλεως
 ἀπογεγρ(αμμένης)]
 4 [δι' ἑτέρου ὑπομν]ήματος ἐπ' ἀμφόδου Ὀρίωνος Ἱερακίου
 μετὰ κυρίου]
 [τοῦ (relation) NN τοῦ] Ἑρωνος· ὑπάρχει μοι ἐ[π' ἀμφόδου - -
 (e.g.) οἰκία]
 [εἰς ἣν ἀπογρά(φομαι) τοὺς ὑπ]ογεγρ(αμμένους) ἐνοίκους εἰς
 τὴν τ[οῦ] διελ(ηλυθότος) θ (ἔτους) Ἀντωνείνου]
 [Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρίου κατ' οἰκ(ίαν) ἀ]πογρ(αφὴν) ἐπὶ τοῦ
 προκειμένου ἀ[μφόδου - - - - -]
 8 entirely lost

- [-----]..... [
- [----- εικο]νοθείση ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ Ἀδ[ριανοῦ
- [-----]. (ἐτῶν) ε, καὶ Ἀπίωνα (ἐτῶν) β τοὺς δύο [
- 12 [----- ὁμομ]ητρίους καὶ ὁμοπ(ατρίους) ἀδελ(φούς) Ὀνησᾶ . .
- . [
- [-----]. τοῦ Ὀνησᾶ γυναῖκα οὔσαν τοῦ [
- [-----]. υἱὸν Φήλων `καὶ` ἀναγεγρ(αμμένον) (ἐτῶν) ε· διὸ
- ἐπιδίδ(ωμι). [vacat]
- [(ἔτους) ι Ἀντωνεῖνου Κα]ίσαρος τοῦ κυρίου Ἐπειφ κῆ. vacat
- 16 [Πρωτάρχῳ στρ(ατηγῶ) καὶ Ἑρμ]ίνῳ βασιλ(ικῶ) γρα(μματεῖ)
- Ἀρσι(νοίτου) Ἡ[ρ]ακλ(είδου) [μερίδος
- [----- τοῦ προγε]γραμ(μένου) ἀμφόδ(ου) Ὀρίωνος Ἰ[ερακίου
- [-----]. τοῦ Σουχᾶ τῶν ἀπὸ τῆς μ[ητροπόλεως
- [-----]. Διοδώρου τοῦ . [
- 20 [-----] ἀπογρά(φομαι) εἰς τὴν τοῦ διελ(ηλυθότος) ις (ἔτους)
- Ἀ[δριανοῦ Καί-]
- [σαρος τοῦ κυρίου] κατ' οἰκ(ίαν) ἀπογρα(φὴν) ἐπὶ τοῦ α(ύτου)
- ἀ[μφόδου ἐφ' οὔ] καὶ τῶ β (ἔτους)]
- [Ἀδριανοῦ Καίσαρος το]ῦ κυρίου ἀπεγρα(ψάμην)· καὶ εἰμι [
-

The restoration of 16 is as suggested by Bastianini-Whitehorne 25.

39. BGU II 302

This declaration from the census of 173⁶ was submitted by a woman named Methe daughter of Panameus and Thaumastes, who describes herself as 32 years old. The loss of something less than half of the declaration at right makes reconstruction of the household difficult. From the fact that she is the declarant it is probable that Methe has no husband resident. The difficulty of reconstructing the household centers around her mother Thaumastes, who was listed in lines 16-17, and who is 48 (the eta is dotted, but no other reading seems possible). Wilcken reconstructed matters on the basis of lines 17-18, which he read

(ἐτῶν) μη, καὶ τὸν τῆς Θαυμαστῆτος [ἀ]δε[λφὸν]

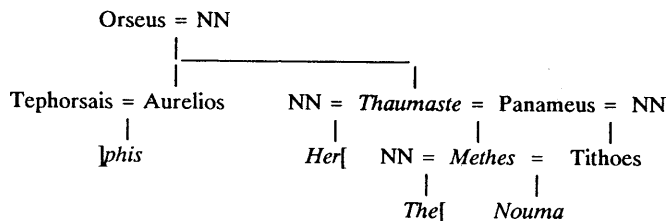
⁶The name of the basilikos grammateus has still not been read (it is badly preserved); cf. G. Poethke *ad* Bastianini-Whitehorne 131.

φιν Αύρηλίου τοῦ Ὀρσεως μητρ(ρ)ος Τεφορσά[ιτος (ἐτῶν) . .

He further assumed--it is not actually stated--that Thaumastes and Panameus had been brother and sister, and he thus restored Aurelius as Methes' grandfather's name, i.e., Panameus' patronymic.

This construction might seem plausible, even if not demonstrable. But in fact in line 16 Thaumastes' patronymic can be read: Ὀρσεως. It is clear that Thaumastes and]phis cannot be brother and sister. Since ἀδελ[is clear in line 17, the obvious solution is to restore ἀδελ[φίδου.]phis is a nephew. (He may also be kyrios of Methes, the person listed in line 5 as her συγγενής.) The rest of the family then falls into place. In lines 14-15 we find an ἀδελφ[of Methe, aged 14. Before ἀδελφ[I read ὁμο[μή]τρ[ι]ον, thus clarifying the fact that Thaumastes is called the mother of Methe καὶ τοῦ .[, where I read Ἡρ[. Her[is the brother of Methe on her mother's side but not her father's.

Thaumastes thus bore Methe when she was 16, Her[when she was 34. Methe herself has a daughter The[who is now 3; her patronymic is lost in line 10. She also has a son Nouma by her husband Tithoes, who is her brother on her father's side and probably also on the mother's (the restoration so of line 12 seems virtually inescapable). Wilcken restored her description of Tithoes as reading [τοῦ τετελευτηκότ(ος)] | μου ἀνδρός, but that is not inevitable; one might restore γενομένου or even συνόντος, if Tithoes was for some reason registered in another house. Nouma's age was not read by Wilcken, who printed a dotted alpha after his name. I think that alpha is correct, but a trace of a vertical, which I take to be part of the year sign, precedes it. The family thus apparently must be diagrammed as follows (declared persons are given in italics), leaving aside only the speculative maternal descent of Tithoes:



A text embodying all of these conclusions is the following:

- [.(.)ρα[.].νω `....' ... βασι[λικῶ γραμματεῖ]
 'Αρσι(νοίτου) Πολ(έμωνος) μερίδ[ος]
 παρὰ Μ[ε]θῆς τῆς Παναμ[έως τοῦ NN]
 4 μητρ[ὸς Θαυμαστῆτος ἀπὸ κώμης]
 μετὰ κυρίου [τοῦ] [συγ[γε]νο[ύς] φεως τοῦ]
 Αὐρηλίου· ὑπάρχει τ[ῶ] υἱῶ [μου Νουμάτι ἐν τῇ κώ-]
 μ[η] γ' μέρος οἰκοπέ[δ(ου) ἐν ᾧ ἀπογρ(άφομαι) σὺν τοῖς]
 8 ἐμοῖς εἰς τὴν τοῦ διελ(ηλυθότος) ιδ (ἔτους) Αὐρηλ[ίου]
 'Αντωνίνου]
 Καίσαρος τοῦ κυ[ρ]ίου κ[ατ'] οἰκ(ίαν) ἀπογρ[α(φὴν), καὶ εἰμι]
 Μεθῆ ἢ π[ρ]ογ(εγραμμένη) (ἐτῶν) λβ, καὶ τὴν θυγ(ατέρα) Θε[. .
 NN]
 (ἐτῶν) γ, καὶ τὸν γεν[όμε]νόν μοι ἐκ τῶν ----]
 12 μου ἀνδρὸς ὄντος δὲ ὁμοπατρίου [καὶ ὁμομητρίου (?)]
 ἀδελφοῦ Τιθοῆς υἱὸν Νουμᾶν (ἐτῶν) α [καὶ τὸν τῆς]
 Μεθῆς ὁμο[μή]τρ[ι]ον ἀδελφ[ὸν] 'Ηρ- - NN]
 (ἐτῶν) ιδ, καὶ τῆς Μ[ε]θῆς καὶ τοῦ 'Ηρ[- - - μητέρα]
 16 Θαυμαστὴν "Ορσεως μ[η]τρ[ὸς] . . . [- - -]
 (ἐτῶν) μη, καὶ τὸν τῆς Θαυμαστῆτος ἀδελ[φ]ιδου[ν]]
 φιν Αὐρηλίου τοῦ "Ορσεως μητρ[ὸς] Τεφορσά[ιτος] (ἐτῶν) . .
 ὑπάρ-]
 χει δὲ [τῆ] Μεθῆ καὶ τῶ υἱῶ Νουμάτι μέρ[η]]
 20 καὶ τῶ [Νουμάτι] πατρικὰ καὶ μητρικὰ οἰκόπ(εδα) (?). διὸ
 ἐπιδίδωμι.]

40. *BGU II 447*

The complex household recorded in this declaration from the census of 173⁷ includes twin women, aged 38, Soeris and Taos, daughters of Ptolemaios, of whom Taos has an ἀπάτωρ daughter Xanaris. The context is probably that suggested by Youtie's analysis⁸ of 'illegitimacy,' since their brother Valerius Aphrodisios is an auxiliary cavalryman, whose 30-year-old freedwoman is part of the household.⁹ Taos is thus likely to have had a soldier 'husband.' The declarant describes the twins as ο[. μο]υ in the editor's text. In fact, one can read συυ[γενεῖς μο]υ, a common term for relationships not conveniently expressed by some standard and simpler term, used on occasion in other cases where relationships not recognized by Roman law were at stake (cf. Youtie, *ZPE* 9 [1972] 133-37 = *Scriptiunculae Posteriores* I 61-65).

The family also included slaves. The first was, in the editor's text, Κοπρ[ῆν (ἐτῶν) μ]. But since there follows immediately καὶ Σαρρατιάδα ἔγγο(νον) αὐτῆς (ἐτῶν) κ, restoration of the name as the masculine Kopres cannot be right. One must presumably read Κοπρ[εῖαν, for which the space is adequate. The restored age is immediately puzzling--where could it come from?--but it seems to reflect only the editorial conventions of another era, bracketing where we would dot. One can see (ἐτῶν)] μ on the papyrus. Kopreia also had a son Dioskoros, whose age in line 25 I read as (ἐτῶν) ς.

41. *BGU II 524*

In the editor's text of this declaration from the census of 159, the list of persons declared disintegrates after the names of the declarant, his wife, and their daughter, into a morass of brackets and dots. Patient examination yields more, and I present here a revised text for lines 13-20:

⁷See Bastianini-Whitehorne 31, recording G. Poethke's correct affirmation of the editor's reading of the year as ις, 16, hence fall 175, or 4-6 months later than normal.

⁸*Le monde grec: Hommages à Cl. Préaux* (Brussels 1975) 723-40.

⁹No age was read by the editor, who printed a text indicating the total omission of age, but that is most unlikely. I read in line 13 Σαρρατιά[δ]α (ἐτῶν) λ.

- καὶ τὴν
- γυναῖκάν μου θερμούθις τῆς
 [Π]ασοκ[νοπα]ίου (ἐτῶν) κ. [ἄσ]η(μον), καὶ τὴν
 16 ἐξ ἀμφοτ[έρ]ων θυγατέραν θερ-
 μούθι[ν] (ἐτῶν) . ἄση(μον)] καὶ τὸν ὀμοπάτριον καὶ
 [ὀμομήτριόν μου] ἀδ[ελ]φ[ὸ]ν Βη-
 σ[ᾱ]ν (ἐτῶν) κ[.] ἄσημ(ον), καὶ ἰ ἀδελφὴν Τηρουχῶ(νσιν)
 20 (ἐτῶν) ἰδ ἄσημ(ον), [καὶ] τὸν τοῦ κατὰ πατέρα μου
 κτλ.

The wife's age is probably 24, delta being the most likely reading of the second digit. The name Teonchonsis is scrunched in before the end of the line and rather abraded, and even under high magnification the strokes are not entirely clear. The start of it, however, seems fairly clear.

42. BGU III 971

Though much will no doubt always remain obscure about the collection of documents assembled on this sheet, it must have been compiled in or after 245 in connection with some procedure concerning status, most likely epikrisis. The earliest document, occupying lines 1-7 (and the lost part of line 8) is dated to 195/6 and appears to concern a request for epikrisis of twin boys who reached the age of 14 in that year. The second (lines 8-15) is a declaration from the census of 229/230 submitted by one of those boys, now presumably a man of 48 (one may restore (ἐτῶν) μη in line 12 with plausibility if not absolute certainty), declaring himself, his wife, and a daughter. The final document is a declaration from the next census, that of 243/4, by which time the man had died, leaving his widow and a minor son, i.e., one born after the census of 229/230. The daughter is not mentioned in the surviving portion, but she could have been listed later or, perhaps more likely, was now married.

Two points in this last declaration require clarification. First, in line 19 the editor's text reads ἐπ' ἀμφόδου] Ἐρμουθιακῆς τῶν κ.[...] It is hard to see what this could mean. In fact, however, the papyrus has (instead of τῶν κ.[...]), ἐν ᾧ κατο(ικῶ), the normal phrase, which is then logically followed by the statement that she was also registered in that amphodon in the previous census.

The enumeration of persons begins, naturally, with the declarant Thermoutharion. The editor prints:

καί εἶ[μι Θερμουθάριον]
[ἡ προγεγρα(μμένη) ὡς (έτων) γυνή] Ἄμμωνίου τοῦ
Δωρ[ᾶ τοῦ τετελευτηκότος . . .

This is most unlikely. A widow is no longer the wife of the deceased. The mention of the deceased, rather, should be part of the description of the boy. I restore, therefore:

καί εἶ[μι Θερμουθάριον]
[ἡ προγεγρα(μμένη) (έτων) . . καὶ τὸν γενόμενόν μοι ἐκ τοῦ
γενομένου μου ἀνδρός] Ἄμμωνίου τοῦ Δωρ[ᾶ υἱὸν NN
κτλ.]

The precise wording may have varied somewhat, naturally. This of course points to a longer restoration at left than the editor supposed, but nothing elsewhere in the text provides any objection to such a length.

43. *BGU* XI 2018

A thorough discussion of this text by H.C. Youtie, *ZPE* 9 (1972) 133-37 (= *Scriptiunculae posteriores* I 61-65), produced a number of improvements, most notably the information that three women called *apatores* were kin, συγγενεῖς, rather than "daughters," θυγατέρας, of the declarant (cf. above on *BGU* 447). Their distribution over a 21-year span (ages 25, 15, and 4) led to interesting speculations about their parents' union, which in turn helped inform Youtie's classic article on illegitimacy.¹⁰

The editor expressed surprise that the declarant, who identified himself as a laborer, ἐργά(της), "scheint aber ein ziemlich vermögander Mann gewesen zu sein, da er außer dem einen Haus in Karanis, in dem er wohnt und das er von seinem Vater geerbt hat, noch mehrere Häuser und Anteile an Häusern besessen hat." Youtie (137 n.20) dismissed this

¹⁰Above, n.8.

concern with the remark that other resolutions of ἐργα() were possible, giving ἐργα(στωνάρχης) as an example.

A new examination of the papyrus shows that what the editor read as ἐρ is actually ζ. The scribe may have intended ς originally and erased a part of the curving vertical stroke, but the final result is zeta. The declarant's age is thus 57 rather than 50. That leaves the editor's γα. Unremarked, however, is an omega written above alpha, not easy to disentangle from the messy descenders from line 7, especially since καί was squeezed in right on the edge. Now γαω does not suggest much, but if the 'gamma' is taken instead as a rather vertical lambda, λαω(γραφούμενος) may be read, with trivial interchange of omicron and omega. Arsinoite village declarations in fact do not usually give occupations, so the revised text is in better conformity with the standard formula.

44. BGU XI 2019

This difficult papyrus includes two Memphite declarations, the first (at least) of which comes from the village of Moithymis. They are both topped by the numerals assigned them in a *tomos synkollesimos*: τλε and τλ[ς], as I read them instead of the editor's doubtful πε and πς. Both are addressed to Dionysios the strategos (στρα(τηγῶ)) can be securely read in column I).

The freedwoman declarant registers her daughter from an unmarried union, whose name is given by the editor as Σεναμοῦνι(ν) Αβί, which is translated simply as Senamounis Abi. The presence of a second name with no other indication (such as ἡ καί) is not common and arouses suspicion. In fact, the word is ἀργ(ήν), 'idle' or 'unemployed.' It is precisely a characteristic of Memphite returns to use this term, cf., e.g. *P.Vindob.Sijp.* 24, where the declarant Tetanoupis describes herself as ἀργήν.

At the end are four (or perhaps five) lines not transcribed because they were deemed 'unleserlichen.' They are indeed faint and hard to read, but in line 41 I read Σισόις at the start, and in 43, ὑπ(ἐρ) αὐτῆς, suggesting that we have (unsurprisingly) the clause indicating that someone had signed, beginning in line 37, for the illiterate Herakleia. The hand is shaky, though not extremely slow.¹¹

¹¹Minor notes: In 5, for Μ(εμφίτου) read α(ύτου); probably also α(ύτου) at the start of line 8.

Column II has resisted my efforts at decipherment, though at first glance it does not seem impossible. The declarant's identification (line 4) is παρὰ Μάρωνος Μάρωνος; the lines down to 15 seem largely occupied with details of property holdings. If any information on individuals was included, it is lost in lines 16-22, after which the scanty traces of nine more lines yield nothing useful.

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