

## NOTES ON KARANIS PAPYRI

by

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### 1. P.NYU 17

This papyrus contains an account of payments of grain taxes for an eighth indiction, evidently 334/5,<sup>1</sup> ending with a section for Epeiph 14, with eight entries of one donkey-load each (one man appears twice). The final line, in the editor's text, reads

(γίνονται) σάμ(κοι) η πρός(ος) (άρτ.) γ ...

About this he comments, "the end of the line (should, one would expect, contain the total of artabs, but the faded remnants of writing do not lend themselves to such reconstruction." It is evident that πρός here refers to the rate, the number of artabas to a sack: that is, to a donkey load.<sup>2</sup> The rate is three artabas per sack, as one would expect.

The occasion of the photographing of the New York University Papyri for the International Photographic Archive of Papyri<sup>3</sup> has given me an opportunity to reexamine the papyrus, and I read at the end of this line, γίνονται (άρτάβαι) [κδ]. The reading of πρός(ος) is certain. A few other minor notes may be worth recording: in line 1, the scribe did write είσδοχή, but he put the delta on top of the sigma. In lines 12-13, what the editor shows with

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1 Ed. 320, but cf. *ZPE* 24 (1977) 122 and *StudPap* 17 (1978) 49-50. The dates range from Epeiph 11 to 14, i.e. 5-8.vii.334.

2 See *WB* II, s.v. πρός, 2g.

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as inserted belongs to the line above the insertion, not the one below. One would better print

11 ἐμβολή σίτου ηS ἰνδικ(τίονος) 'Πτολεμαίδος'

12 λοιπάδων 'δι(ἀ)' 'Αντιουρίου 'Επειφ

13 α' φορὰ σάκ(κοι) δ πρ(ὸς) (ἀρτάβας) γ

'Επειφ in line 12 is not erased, in my opinion, merely faint.

## 2. P.NYU 22

The date of repayment in this loan of wheat is given (lines 10-11) as follows: μηνὶ Παῦνι | [τ]ῆ[ς] τ[ρ]ῆ[ς] [ἰ]νδικ(τίονος). Now the date of the loan is 1.ix.329, and the Pauni in question was that of 330. But the indiction would be the fourth (330/1), which began for purposes of such reckoning in Pachon during the second fifteen-year cycle and all succeeding ones (see R.S. Bagnall and K.A. Worp, *Chronological Systems of Byzantine Egypt* [Stud.Amst. 8, Zutphen 1978] 10-16). On consultation of the original papyrus, which preserves only traces at this point, I believe that the following reading is compatible with the traces at the start of line 11:

[τ]ε[τ]ρ[η]ς [ἰ]νδικ//.

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