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SPP 22 60 Revisited

Roger S. Bagnall

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- §1 This beginning of a request for anakrisis¹ came to my attention in the course of looking critically at the reported ages at the time of sale for male slaves in Roman Egypt. The data from the census declarations shows that no male slaves over the age of 32 are reported, and one over the age of 30. It therefore seems likely that all men were manumitted by around 30, unlike women, who often remained in servitude until the end of their childbearing years.² The table of ages of slaves at the time of sale in [Straus \(2004: 264\)](#), however, lists four supposed male slaves at higher ages, namely 40, 50, and 51 (?). The first two are suspiciously round numbers, but the reading of the age 40 in [P.Oxy. 1 94.9 = M.Chr. 344](#), in the “fine semi-uncial hand” mentioned by Grenfell and Hunt, is not doubtful.³ On the other hand, the other slave included in that papyrus is said to be 30, which only increases one’s suspicions about accuracy. The same is true of [P.Thmouis 1 113.18](#), the 50-year-old slave, another round number but unimpeachable reading.⁴ The reading in the case of the last of these, however, is far from secure.
- §2 This was published by Carl Wessely in SPP 22, and dated to the second-third century. Apart from one minor note rejecting Wessely’s correction of [ὠ]νομένη in l. 7 (BL 3.238, Lewald), no critical attention was paid to it until P.J. Sijpesteijn devoted a few lines of a brief note on “Nachlese zu Wiener Texten” to it ([Sijpesteijn 1983: 134](#); BL 8.483), providing a corrected text of ll. 8–10, with small corrections to ll. 1 and 13–14. He did not, however, call into question the supposed age 51 in l. 13. Both digits are dotted in Wessely’s text, however, and it seemed worth checking the correctness of this reading. In the process, a few other points proved to need correcting.

¹ So [Lewald \(1952: 436-437\)](#), cited approvingly by [Straus \(2004: 10\)](#), although with some hesitation on the basis of l. 14.

² [Bagnall and Frier 1994: 71, 158](#).

³ See www.bl.uk/manuscripts/ for an image.

⁴ See www.psi-online.it/images/ for an image.

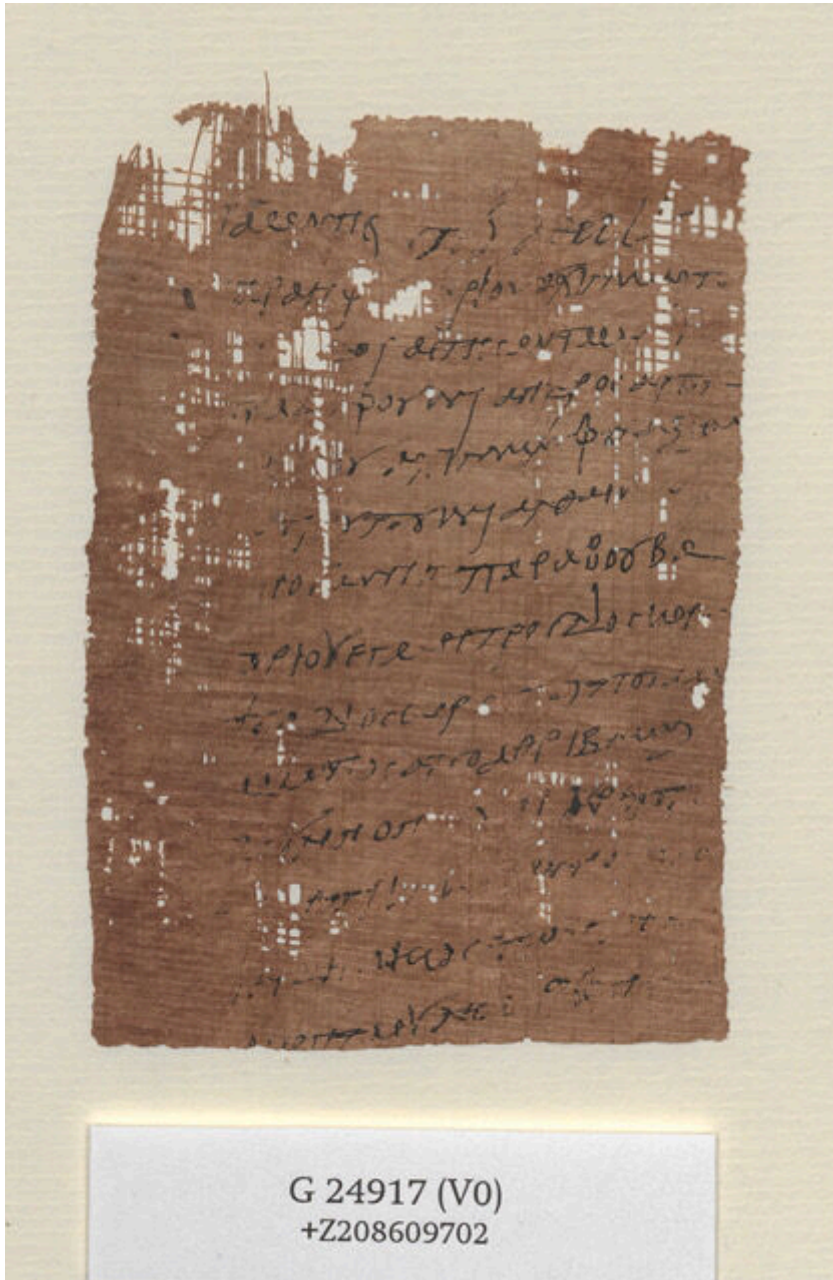


Fig. 1: P.Vindob. Inv. G 24917 (= SPP 22 60). © Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Papyrussammlung

Παμμένει στρ(ατηγῶ) Ἀθριβ(ίτου)
 παρὰ Ἡφ[α]ί[σ]ταρίου Ἀχιλλέως το[ῦ]
 [Λε]φ[νί]δου ἀστῆς μετὰ κυρί[ου]
 [τ]οῦ ἀδελφοῦ καὶ ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς
 5 [...]ου Φυλαξίθα-
 [λα]σίου Ἀλθαιέως.
 [ῶ]νουμένη παρὰ Βουβα-
 [σ]ταρίου ἐγ μητρὸς Διοσκοροῦ-
 τος Διοσκόρου τοῦ Ποτάμ-
 10 μωνος ἀπὸ Ἀθρίβεως

δοῦλον ὄν[όμ]ατι Κρεισπί-
 ν[ον] ἐπικεκ[λη]μένον Ἡρα-
 [κ]λείδην ὡς ἐτῶν τρεῖ-
 ἄκοντα οὐλήν ἔχοντα
 -- -- -- --

2 [π]αρά prev. ed. Ἡφ[αιστα]ρίου prev. ed. 3 [Λεωνί]δου prev. ed. κυ[ρίου] prev. ed. 4 [το]ῦ
 ἀδ[ελ]φοῦ prev. ed. 5 [.....]ου Ἀχιλλέως prev. ed. 6 Φυλαξιθα|[λασ]σίου τοῦ καὶ prev. ed. Ἀλθαιέω[ς]
 prev. ed. 8 Βουβα|[στ]αρίου prev. ed. ἰ. ἐκ 9 Διοσκορ[οῦ]τος prev. ed. 11 [δο]ῦλον ὄν[όμ]ατι prev.
 ed. 12 Χρηστ[ὸν] | [τὸν καὶ] prev. ed. ἐπικ[ε]κ[λη]μένο[ν] prev. ed. 13-14 ἰ. τρι|άκοντα

To Pammenes, strategos of the Athribite, from Hephaistarion daughter of Achilleus granddaughter of Leonides, citizen, with as her guardian her brother and husband NN son of Achilleus, of the Phylaxithalassian tribe and Althaiian deme. Purchasing from Boubastarion whose mother is Dioskoros daughter of Dioskoros, granddaughter of Potammon, from Athribis, a slave named Crispinus nicknamed Herakleides, about 30 (?) years old, ..., with a scar ...

- §3 1 [Π]αμμένει ed.pr., Παμένει Sijpesteijn, BL 8.483. It is true that the first mu is lacking one hump, but there is too much for Sijpesteijn's reading to be correct; στρS Ἀθριβ/.
- §4 7 [ὠ]νουμένη l. [ὠ]νουμένης ed.pr.; [ὠ]νουμένη Lewald.
- §5 9-10 Διοσκοροῦ[τος] Ποταμ|μωτος ed. pr.; Διοσκόρου τοῦ Ποτάμ|μωνος Sijpesteijn
- §6 11-12 Χρηστ[ὸν] | [τὸν καὶ] ed. pr. This is implausible; it requires too much lost to be at left in l. 12, and τὸν καὶ ἐπικεκλημένον is an idiom never found in the papyri (the one apparent example, in *P.Fam.Tebt.* 25.5-6, is restored). The name that stands, or most likely only begins, at the end of l. 11 has undergone correction. The initial kappa is corrected, but not from Wessely's chi; the traces look more like gamma or pi. Wessely's eta is rather the diphthong ει. After that, it seems that a descending letter was written, then written over with a sigma.
- §7 12-13 .]ο|[.]μειδην ed. pr.; Ἡρα|[κ]λείδην Sijpesteijn.
- §8 13-14 να | [ὄς ὑπ]ουργεῖ μύλη ο (l. ὄν) [ἔ]σχο[ν]... ed. pr. The form μύλη is absent from the papyri, and we do not want an expression of this kind in the description of a slave. I owe οὐλήν ἔχοντα to Rodney Ast. Usually we find the simple οὐλή, but *P.Oxy.* 69 4750.10-11 offers a rare parallel: οὐλήν ἔχο[ν] <τα> ἐπ<ι> τοῦ δεξιῶ ποτός (l. ποδός); there is another (for a woman) in *M.Chr.* 171.12. What precedes this phrase should be an adjective describing the slave. It has certainly undergone correction.

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Bagnall, Roger S.

GND: <https://d-nb.info/gnd/124747213>

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9817-3326>

ISAW, New York

rsb331@nyu.edu