



P. Oxy. II 237 (after June 27th, 186 CE)

The petition of Dionysia, daughter of Chairemon

§1. Col. 1, ll. 1-5, ca. 33 lines in total. Prefect's endorsement of Dionysia's petition, with instructions to the strategos?

----- |¹ [± ?] traces δα [± 4] |² [± ?]... [± ?] ... |³ [± ?] κ. κας [ca. 20 lost lines] |¹ [...] |² α... [± 9] .ν... πον |⁴ [± ?] ... θαι ερχ[± 5] είναι δε [...] |³ [...] |⁴ [...] and be |⁵ |⁵ [± ?] ξστ[± 5] [...]

The upper part of the first column, ca. 28 lines, is lost, the papyrus being torn. Dionysia's actual petition starts at the end of l. 5 of the preserved text with her address to the prefect (infra §2). The ca. 33 preceding lines might have contained the prefect's endorsement with instructions to the strategos, Dionysia's letter to the strategos devolving the endorsed petition to him (cf. P. Oslo II 18 = SB XIV 12087, 167 CE Theadelphia) and perhaps the strategos' summons against Chairemon. The whole might have counted much less than 33 lines if our text is not a copy, and the prefect's endorsement was written in the elongated chancery style of SB I 4639, 209 CE Alexandria (albeit two decades later).

§2. Col. 1, ll. 5-17 – Col. 2, ll. 1-4. **Dionysia's petition** (her third) with her presentation of the case.

Πομπωνίω |⁶ [Φαυστιανῶ ἐπάρχω Αἰγύπτου ± ?] παρὰ Διο[νυ]σίας [Χ]αιρήμ[ο]νο[ς] τοῦ |⁷ [Φανίου μητρὸς ± ?] ἡ[γ]εμ[ό]ν[ος] κύριε [...] |⁸ ... εἰν ἐν |⁸ [± ?] σ[± 2] .α[± 2] ... ν[α] [τ[]] ἐπιβουλεύειν |⁹ [± ?] μ[] ησα εἰ [...] |¹⁰ [± ?] φιλόστοργος μὲν [...] |¹¹ [± ?] ἀδ[± 5] ... [± 2] παθου[σα] τ[ῶ]ν ἡμε[ῶ]ν |¹² [τέρων δικαίων? ± ?] ἡγαν[ακ]τ[± 2] ... δε... ἐν τῆν φι... |¹³ [± ?] ἐγενομ[εν]η |¹⁴ [± 7] ν γὰρ ἀφορ[] μ[η- ± ?] εὐάζων ξ[] σ[] [± 3] ἀζόμενος |¹⁵ [± ?] κατέσχε μοι Νθ. [τῆς μητρῶας] |¹⁶ [ούσιας? ± ?] ... κ[] ... το ἀρξάμενος ἀπὸ Λογγαίου |¹⁷ [Ρούφου ± ?] ζῶντι ἐπειθόμην. [± 4] ω[± 3] εὔομεν || ----- |¹ [± ?] εἰσεφωσ[± ?] |² [± ?] τῶν ὑπαρχ[όντων ± ?] |³ [± ?] μου τῶ . [± ?] |⁴ [± ?] μηται καὶ . [± ?]

To Pomponius |⁶ [Faustianus, prefect of Egypt ...] from Dionysia, daughter of Chairemon, son of |⁷ [Phanias, her mother being ...] My lord prefect, [...] |⁸ [...] contrive against |⁹ [...] if not [...] was [secure?] – |¹⁰ [...] affectionate and [father-loving (?)] – |¹¹ [...] (her?) suffering [...] of our |¹² [rights? ...] vexed [...] in the [...] |¹³ [...] turned [...] in fact a pre|¹⁴[text ... fabricating?] yet [...] |¹⁵ [...] he placed under lien for me 59.000 [...] of the maternal |¹⁶ [estate (?)] ...] starting from Longaeus |¹⁷ [Rufus ...] I learnt that [...] || [5 to 8 missing lines] |¹ [...] |² [...] of the belongings [...] |³ [...] |⁴ [...]

In these extremely fragmentary ca. 24 lines, of which only the left side is preserved, not always legibly, the case, initiated under Longaeus Rufus (l. 16-17) must have been once more introduced to the new prefect Pomponius Faustianus. At the beginning of the year (§ 14), he had already received through the strategos the report of the property record office and immediately afterwards (§15) Dionysia's (second) petition, resubmitted by him (§16) to the strategos, as well as in April/May Chairemon's own (second) petition (§18).

§3. Col. 2, ll. 5-13: Dionysia reproduces (part of) the **first petition of her father, Chairemon**, against her, to the former praefect Longaeus Rufus (dated before May 22nd, 185 CE: cf. §4).

|⁵ [± ? Χαιρήμων Φανίου γυ]μνασιαρχ[ή]σας |⁵ [...] Chairemon son of Phanias, former] τῆς Ὀξυρυχειῶν πόλεως ± ? |⁶ [± ?] . . . τ[ι] ± 5]σιν μητ[± ?] |⁷ [± ?] . . . τῆν μὲν Σιμιλιδος [± ?] |⁸ [± ?] . . . νόμων περὶ τοῦ ἐξε[τάζειν] of Similis [...] |⁸ [...] of the laws concerning

± ?] |⁹ μ[± ?] χε την δι' ἀρχιδικαστοῦ τιν[± ?] |¹⁰ . [± ?] . . . α καλῶνται ταῖς the examination [...] |⁹ [...] the [...] through they are summoned, to the daughters [...] |¹¹ [...] they sent a letter?] to the strategos of the Leontopolites [...] |¹² [...] so [...] |¹³ [...] all the tricks [...] he (i.e. Longaeus Rufus) wrote |¹⁴ to the strategos thus:]

§4. Col. 2, ll. 14-17. May 22nd, 185 CE (Pachon 27th of the 25th year of Commodus, continuing the regnal years of the deceased Marcus Aurelius): **Instructions of the prefect** Longaeus Rufus to Isidoros, strategos of the Oxyrhynchites, upon Chairemon's petition.

Λογγαῖος [Ρο]ῦφος Ἰσιδ[ώ]ρω στρατηγῶ Longaeus Rufus to Isidoros, strategos of the Ὀξυρυχειῶν χαιρείν. τῶν γραφέντ[ω]ν Oxyrhynchites, greetings. [Of what was written to me] |¹⁵ ὑπὸ Χαυρήμονος Φανίου [μιοι] |¹⁵ [by Chairemon, son of Phanias, former] γυμνα[σ]ιαρχ[ή]σαντος [τῆς Ὀξυρυχειῶν πόλεως ἀξιοῦντο]ς [τ]ο[υ]τ[ε] π[ε]ρὶ Oxyrhynchites, presenting a claim about a lien] κατοχῆς |¹⁶ ὡς μὴ δεόντως γενομένης |¹⁶ being not properly established, [I have ordered a] copy to be appended, [so that having taken cognisance of what he submitted] ἄντιγραφον ὑποτά[χ]θηναί ἐκέλευσα, ὅπως ἐντυχῶν οἷς παρέθετ[ε]ρ [φ]ρον[σ] |¹⁷ θῆ[ν]α[ν] τὰ [ἀ]κόλουθα |¹⁷ it is seen to it that it is dealt with according to it that it is dealt with πρῶξι[α] εἰρ[ω]σο[] (ἔτους) κ[ε] // Παχῶν [κ[ε]] 25th year, Pachon [27th].

§5. Col. 2, ll. 17-21: Dionysia's description of the **first steps taken by the strategos** Isidoros upon receiving the prefect's instructions.

[± ?] μου [± ?] Ἰσιδ[ώ]ρω δ[ώ]ρω τῶ στρατηγῶ τῶτε [...] to Isi|¹⁸doros the strategos, and the καὶ ὁ στρατηγὸς ἀπλῶς [± ?] ρα δὲ τοῦ [± ?] |¹⁹ strategos simply [...] |¹⁹ [...] of a copy of α . . . ὑ ἀντιγράφου τῶν γραφέντων ὑπὸ τοῦ what had been written by [my father? ...] of him [...] |²⁰ [not] properly established, [πατρὸς? ± ?] ὡν αὐτοῦ ὡς |²⁰ μ[ῆ] δ[ε]όντως of him [...] |²⁰ [not] properly established, γενομένη τοῖς βιβλιοφύλαξι [± ?] ὡσι αὐτὸς to the keepers of the record office [...] he οὐκ ἔλεγ[ε] [± ?] |²¹ [± 5] δ[ε]όντως ἡ κατοχῆ he himself did not say [...] |²¹ [...] the lien had γεγένηται ὁ μὴ ὁ π. [± ?] ατ[ο]ς κ[ε] . [± ?] |²² been properly established [...]

§6. Col. 2, ll. 22-37 – Col. 3, ll. 1-9: Summary of **Dionysia's own (first) counter-petition to the prefect** Longaeus Rufus, reacting to that of her father, and probably (in the preserved part of col. 3) its effect. [In green, the parts of the petition preserved not at Oxford but in a small fragment from the Köln collection]

|²² δ[ι]ὸ εὐθὺς κατέφυγον ἐπ[ὶ] τῶν |²² For this reason, I immediately resorted to the prefect Longaeus Rufus [...] defending myself [...] |²³ [...] the lien] not properly, my father in his letter [...] himself [...] |²⁴ [...] I came to know, he had written such letter [...] the prefects ordering that] |²⁵ [...] letters regarding private affairs [should not be written to the prefecture ...] |²⁶ [...] to do [...] to the



ἐμφερομένοις ὧσιν [...] π[± 12] τ[ο]ῦτο
κα[τα]β[ε]βηκέναι εἰς [± ?] |²⁷ [± 3] , γὰρ μὲν
οὐδὲν ἕτερον θηρώμενον ἢ τὸ ἐξί[] . [] μου
α[± 11] . . . αλ . . . [± 3] νη . . . σθαι τή[ν] |²⁸
ἡγεμονίαν παραγαγεῖν κα[] . [] . [] τε τὰ ἀληθῆ
τῷ Ρούφω γεγραφ[ό]τα ± 5 μάλιστα
ἐψευσε[μένον ± 5-6] . . . [± ? τὰ] |²⁹ γὰρ γράμματα
αὐτοῦ πρὸς με καὶ τὸν ἄνδρα μου καὶ πάππον
το[] . [] ε[± 8] ν[α] ὁμολογήματα δὲ τὰ
ὑποτε[] |³⁰ τα[] γ[] μ[] ε[] φα[] ἐπιστάμενο[ν] ὅτι [. . .]
ὀλίγην ἐπιστροφ[ή]ν ± 8 ἡγ[] ἐμόνες
προστ[ε]τάχασιν οὐδενί |³¹ λέ[] γ[] ει[] ν[] πρὸς τα
ἐαυτῶν γράμματα, ἔπειτα δὲ καὶ κελ[ε]υσ ± 10
Σ[] μίλιδ[ος ± 17] |³² κ[α] ἰ[] ἐ[] τ[] ἔρου
ἀρχιδικαστοῦ ὑπομήμασι καὶ ἐπιστολ[αῖς ± ?]
|³³ ἐφ' [] ο[] ἰ[] σ[] ἐπέδωκάν τινες ταῖς θυατρᾶσι
γαμουμ[έ]ν[α]ις [± ?] |³⁴ τα[] . . . [] μ' ἔδε[] ι[]
μ[η] δὲν π[α]ρ[] ἄ τοῦ πατρὸς μήτε χάριτι μήτε
ἐπι[± ?] |³⁵ μα[] . . . [] π[ρ]ο[φ] ἔρεσθα[] ι[±
5] ἀνόμ[ο]υ μητρώας σ[υ]ν[γ]ραφῆς . . . [± ?] |³⁶
κα[] . [] . [] . . . [] λ[] . [] σ[] . [± 2] σ[υ]ν[γ]ραφῶν
καθολικῶς νόμ[ο]υς καὶ ὑπο[± ?] |³⁷ τετη[± 7]
διὸ κα[] ἰ[] δι[] ἀβάλλειν ἐπιχειρῶν [τ]ήν
συνγραφῆν [± ?] || [ca. 10 lines missing] |¹ [± ?]
ὕπὸ φιλοσ[] |² [το]ργίας? ± ?] εἶπεν [± ?] ἔμῃς |³
[± ?] . [± 3] . . . [± ?] σ[ε] . . . [± 4] [± ?] μὴ ὄντ[± ?]
|⁵ [± ?] ποχῆ[± ?] τον . . . ν[] δ[] ἡμ[± ?] . . . ε[] τῶν
ἐν[] κτήσεων (l. ἐγκτήσεων) [β]ιβλιο- ± ?] γ[] μητ
[± ?] ὅπως μὲνη |⁸ μοι καὶ τοῖς ε[± ?] . . . α[] παυ . .
[± ?] λησ[] τη[± ?] . . . ντων ἕκα |⁹ τέρου τ[± ?] τ[] . σ[] μὲν
βιβλιοφυλ[α- ± 4 κα] θῶς π[± ?]

concerned [...] to go down to [...] |²⁷ [...] for he sought nothing else than [...] |²⁸ to mislead the governorship [...] he did [not] write the truth to Rufus, but most certainly lied [...] |²⁹ for his deeds for me and my husband and grandfather [...] the reciprocal agreements [appen] |³⁰ [ded], knowing that [...] little heed [...] the governors [have decreed that no one] |³¹ shall speak against his own writings, and furthermore also by the commands [...] of Similis [...] |³² and by the minutes and letters of another archidikastes [...] |³³ under which some have given to their daughters on the occasion of their marriage [...] |³⁴ [...] was required, (I received) nothing from my father, neither out of kindness nor [...] |³⁵ [...] that he alleged (regarding?) the unlawfulness of my mother's written (marriage) agreement [...] |³⁶ [...] the general laws of the written agreements, and [...] |³⁷ [...] and for this reason, attempting to disprove the written agreement || [ca. 12 lines missing] |¹ [...] due to (my) affection [...] he said [...] of mine |³ [...] |⁴ [...] not [...] |⁵ [...] |⁶ of the property |⁷ record office [...] so as it remains |⁸ for me and for the [...] of each |⁹ of two [...] the keepers of the record office, according to [...]

§7. Col. 3, ll. 10 – Col. 4, ll. 1-5: Going back in time, Dionysia summarises the aspects of the financial history of the family that led to her father's difficulties and eventually to the conflict with her.

|¹⁰ τοῦ πά[π]που . . . [± ?] γ[] μ[] ε[] ν[] ο[] ν[] καὶ πα[ρ]ο[ν]τ[± ?] . . . α[] εἰδ[ό]τα |¹¹ καὶ τὸν πάππ[ο]ν ± ?] γραφῆν τὰ κόσμια [± 3] α[] μ[] . [] τ[] . [± ?] ὡν νομί[] μ[] ως γεγενημέν[η]ν ± ?] ταῦτα χρόν[ω] ὑστέρ[ω ± 4] ἀντος αὐτοῦ ± ?] . . . ε[] ν[] τ[] ων |¹³ ὑπαρχόντων τω[± ?] τῷ πάπ[π]ω μου διαφεροντ[] π[] ε[] ρ[] ἰ[] τὸν Ἑρμοπ[ολί]την ± ?] τιμῆς |¹⁴ αὐτῶν, ἕτερα ω[± ?] μὴ ἀντιρηκ[] . [± 6] . . . τον ὑπὸ τῆς [± ?] . . . α[] . . . [] . |¹⁵ μὲνον ἔτι τῷ τ[] . [± ?] χηματα ὠνη[± ?] . . . η[] . . . [] . . . ονται |¹⁶ τοσοῦτο ὅσου γ[] . . . [] . . . ερα[± 3] εἰ[± 3] ὠνεῖσθαι μηδ' [αὐ]τὸν πεπληρωκέναι χ[± ?] . . . ε[] ναι[] μέρος |¹⁷ τῆς τιμῆς

|¹⁰ the grandfather [...] and being present [...] knowing |¹¹ also the grandfather [...] the written agreement the ornaments [...] law |¹² fully executed [...] these at a later time [...] of him [...] of the |¹³ belongings [...] corresponding to my grandfather [...] in the Hermopolite nome [...] of the price |¹⁴ of these, other [...] undisputed (?) [...] |¹⁵ [...] yet to the [...] purchase (?) [...] |¹⁶ [...]

ἀνα[π]όδοτ[ον?] δη[] . . . (τάλαντα) γ καὶ (δραχμάς) Ε. ὁ μὲν καταρχήσοτο αὐτῇ [. . .] α[] α |¹⁸ διαβάλλει δε[] ομ[] . [± 7] . . . ω[] . . . ξε μόνη εἶναι τῇ μητρ[] ὡα μου συνγραφῆ κ[± ?] κατ[] οχ[] ἡν τα . . . α . . . αγει |¹⁹ τῇ ἐμῇ λε . . . μ . . . χ[] ὁ πατ[] ἡρ μου ἐν ὧρα γάμου ἐκδέδωκέν με τῷ Ω[] ρίων[] ι νο[] ± ? (ἔτους) Χ Αὐρηλίου Κομμόδου? Α] ντωνίν[ο]υ |²⁰ Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρί[ο]υ μηνί θῶθ α ἰδίου . α . ημω οὐ μ[όν]ον τὸν [± ?] ντο . ε παν |²¹ τε καὶ μάλλον ν [± 2] . . . ν . π[] . [] ρ[] νό[] μ[] ε[] ναι τῇ [συνγρ]αφῇ . [± ?] . ε[] νται[± 3] . να |²² τὸν δε . . . τ[] . [± ?] . . . τὸ προκατεχόμενον [± 5] ομ . τ[] . [± ?] αφα . ι[± 4] ιε . . . |²³ κ[] . [] . [] ε[] δι[± ?] το ἀφελ[έ]σθαι . . . [] . . . ον τ[± ?] ιμ . νε[] . [± 5] . η . |²⁴ ος τον κοσ[] μον? ± ?] ωδῶς ἄχρη γῦν [] π[] . [] δε[± ?] σε[] ν[± ?] χορ[] η[] γ[] ἡ[] ἰ[] 25 α[] ν κ[α] τ[] ἄ το [± ?] . . . ερα (τάλαντα) γ καὶ . . . [] ε[] . [± ?] . . . [] . . . |²⁶ καν εν . [± ?] ἐκ πλήρους ἄς . [± 4] . . να[± ?] . . . [± 5] δ[] . |²⁷ τον καὶ γαμ[± ?] μενον δεξίν . εκ τῶν [] . . . [± ?] συνγρα[] φη[] . [] . [± 4] . ια . |²⁸ νῶν μάλλ[ο]ν [± ?] των παρακ[] α[] λειν γ[] . [± 4] . [] . ωσι[± ?] . . θ[] . [] . [± 3] κ[] . . . τα . |²⁹ χρόν[ο]υ διελ[θόντος ± ?] ἐπιδοχῆς ε[] ἰ[] σ[] τήν . . [± 7] . . [± ?] . . . [± 6] ε[] . . |³⁰ περιέσεσθαι ± ? γ[] υ[] μ[] νασιαρχίαν . . [± ?] . . . σ[] . [] χ[] |³¹ οὐδε[] . . . ρο[] . [] . [± ?] ο[] . [± ?] traces |³² τὸν δε ταύτης τῆ[] σ[] ἐπι[] δοχ[] η[] . . ± ?] σο . . . ε[] ν[± ?] ὑπαρχόντ[] |³³ των τινῶν πρ[] ἄ[] σεως? εἰστ[± ?] οια ἐστ[] ι[± ?] . . χεῖν || ---- |¹ [± 16] . . [± ?] |² [± 16] . . ρε[] . [± ?] . [± ?] |³ [± 14] νησεω[± 36] κατοχή α[± ?] |⁴ [ἀρχιδικαστήν πρότερον τ[± 26] . . . [] μισο ἦν μοι πρό[] τερων? ± ?] . . . |⁵ [.] . . . [] ουσιαθ[] [] δ[] ωκα . [± 14] . . γω καὶ λοιπά τῆς τιμῆς τῷ α ασ[]] λοτο

so much (or: so many) [...] buy, neither has he paid it in full [...] a part |¹⁷ of the price not repaid [...] 3 talents and 5000 drachmas [...] he spent it [...] |¹⁸ he is disproving [...] that it is to my mother's written agreement alone [...] the lien [...] |¹⁹ to mine [...] my father had given me away in the moment of the marriage to Ho[rion ... in the ... year of Aurelius Commodus] Antoninus |²⁰ Caesar the Lord, on the 1st of the month of Thoth [...] not only the [...] |²¹ and rather [...] give back, to the written agreement [...] |²² while the [...] previously put under lien [...] |²³ [...] to take away [...] |²⁴ [...] the ornament (?) [...] until now [...] the allo[] wance according to [...], 3 talents and [...] |²⁶ [...] in full, which [...] |²⁷ [...] and [...] being fitting, from the [...] written agreement [...] |²⁸ more [...] to summon [...] |²⁹ when the time elapsed [...] of the offer to the [...] |³⁰ left over [...] of the gymnasiarchy [...] |³¹ nor [...] |³² the [...] of this offer [...] |³³ of the sale of certain [belongings ?] for [...] is [...] || [ca. 4 lines missing] |¹ [...] |² [...] |³ [...] the lien [...] |⁴ the achidikastes previously (or: the former archidikastes) [...] I had a half (before?) |⁵ ... and the remainder of the price to [...]

§8. Col. 4, ll. 6-12. 181-182 CE (22nd year): Chairemon's financial difficulties, and the fact that Dionysia's lien (katoche) gave her control over at least part of his property, leads to a first 'reciprocal agreement' (homologema) between both, which Dionysia summarises, only to then explain that it failed.

|⁶ [± 10] . [] . [] . [± 5] . ον ὁμολόγημα διὰ δημοσίου γεγονέναι τῷ κβ (ἔτει) μεταξύ ἡμῶν μήτε τὸν πατέρα |⁷ . . . [] . μ[± 17] μ[] δὲν ἐπὶ καταχρηματισμῷ οἰκονομεῖν ἐμὲ δ[] ἐ ἀ[] π[] ο[] δ[] ἰ[] δ[] ὄ] γ[] ναι τὰ λοιπὰ τῆς τιμῆς |⁸ through a dispositive deed, and I would [ὄφ]ειλόμ[ε]να [] ν[± 11] υ[] σ[] καὶ ἀπελε[] . [. . .] ς χορηγίαν, ἐκλεγομένην ἐ[] πι[] τοῦ κγ (ἔτους) τὰς προσόδους τούτων |⁹ [τ]ῶν ὑπαρχόντων ± 11] ων ἄλλων ἀνεθέντων

|⁶ [...] a reciprocal agreement executed through the public office on the 22nd year between us, (by virtue of which) neither my father (woud) |⁷ [...] nor administer through a dispositive deed, and I would return the remainder of the price |⁸ owed [...] and [...] the allowance, (me) collecting for the 23rd year the proceeds of these |⁹ belongings [...] of the sale of other released



αὐτῶ ὑπαρχόν[τ]ων πράσεως ἀποδοθῆναι
 ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς |¹⁰ ἃ ἐδανείσατο
 συναρραφά[μένον] τῆσ' ἀπάπτου μου . . . , καὶ
 τούτου τοῦ ὁμολογήμ[α]τος αὐτῶ διὰ τοῦ
 ἐπισκοπίου παρατε|¹¹[θέντ]ος, αὐτὸν
 μηδ<αμ>ῶς ἐμμενηκ[έ]ναι τοῖς
 ἐνγεγραμμένοις ἀλλὰ μηδ' ἐπ[ί]τετροφέναι
 μοι ἐπὶ τὴν [π]ρόνοιαν |¹² [τῶ]ν ὑπαρχόντων [ν
] κατὰ τὰ συνκείμενα ἵνα τῶ Ἀσκληπιάδῃ
 ἀποδοθῆναι δυνηθεῖν. vac.

belongings of his (and) it be returned by
 my father |¹⁰ what he borrowed with my
 grandfather as signatory [...] and this
 reciprocal agreement was registered for
 him through the supervising office, |¹¹ (yet)
 he did not abide at all to what had been
 written, but neither left it to me to manage
 |¹² the belongings ... according to what had
 been agreed, so that I would be able to pay
 back to Asklepiades. (vacat)

§9. Col. 4, ll. 12-25. 182-183 CE (23rd year): After the first's failure, summary of the **second homologema** between Dionysia and Chairemon. Also this failed, so badly that distraint of the property under lien for Dionysia was only narrowly avoided.

πάλιν δέ μοι |¹³ [. . . .] . [±2]εγνηοχέναι [. . .]
 . . . [.] ὄν ὁμ[ο]λόγημα πρὸς αὐτὸν ποιήσασθαι
 ἐπὶ τοῦ κγ (ἔτους) πάλιν διὰ δημοσίου ἐπὶ τῶ |¹⁴
 . τ [. . .] ἀναδεξαμεν . . . [. . . .] η [.] . χε ς
 . ασ [± 10] [.] ἀποδοῦναι (τάλαντον) α, ἕως ἂν
 ζ πληρῆς ἐκτίσῃ. |¹⁵ [έ]ἀ[ν] μὴ ἀποδιδῶσιν . . . εχ
 . . . δε . . . [. . .] λογον . . . ος [.] τρων πρὸς
 τὰ δ . . . αι . ειδ . . . [α]ὐτῆς τη [. . .] . [. . .] ς |¹⁶ [.
] υ . μεν [.] . . . τούτων [τῶν] δανείων π[. .
] . ν [. . .] των εαν . . θ . τρ[ς] τῶ[ν] ἐν[κ]τήσεων
 βιβλιο|¹⁷φύλαξι [± 11] . . . [. . . .] . ἀλλὰ μήτε
 [.] [. .] τῶ Ἀσκληπιάδῃ [ἀ]ποδεδωκέναι μήτε
 εἰακέν |¹⁸ [μ]ε κατα[± 11] στη [.] [. .] τ]ὸ
 ἀργύριον τοῦ [ὀφλ]ήματος μὴ ἀποδόν[τ]ος
 αὐτοῦ κατὰ τὰ διὰ δημοσίου α . . |¹⁹ . μενα [.
] . μ . . . α τι . . . ειορων [.] . σεν ο . . [. . .] . φ
 Ἀσ[κ]ληπι[ά]δην κατὰ τὴν προθ[ε]σίμιν |²⁰ τὰ
 ἀργύρια μὴ ἀπέσχηκέναι αν[. . .] νομίμας [. .] .
 . ά [.] τῶν κατεχομέ[ν]ων μοι ὑπαρχόντων. ὃ
 δ[έ] καὶ παρ' ὁ[λ]η[τ]ῶν γεγενῆσθαι τοῦ γὰρ
 Ἀσκληπιάδου τῶ κδ (ἔτει) [ἀ]παιτοῦ[ν]τος καὶ
 μὴ ἀπολαμβάνοντος τὸ ὄφλημα ἀναγκάσθαι |²²
 με ὑπὸ τ[οῦ] πατρὸς τῶ κ . . ω . . . [.] . τ . . γου,
 κα[ί] ἐπίσταμένου ὅτι οὐ περιόψομαι
 ἀποσπώμενα τὰ κατεχομέ[ν]α |²³νά μοι
 ὑ[πο]τίθεσθαι, ὑποτιθέμεν[ος] αὐτὰ ταῦτα τὰ
 ὑπολειπόμενα μόνα, ἐμοῦ μὲν τῶ δικαίω χ
 . α, τῶ δὲ |²⁴ πατρὶ δι . ο [.] . αν κα [.] α θ . . . π .
 . τα ὀφειλόμενα λοιπὰ τιμῆς αὐτῶν (τάλαντα)
 . ε . και (δραχμάς) Β και τόκους ἄλλα πρὸς |²⁵ ὅλα
 (τάλαντα) ὁ[κ]τῶ μετὰ τῶν τόκων [. . .] . νων

And again to me [...] |¹³ [...] concluded [...
 another] agreement with him, executed
 in the 23rd year, again through the
 public office, under which |¹⁴ [...] undertook to [...] return 1 talent, so that
 7 would remain for the complete
 repayment; |¹⁵ should he not pay [...] to
 the agreeing parties (?) [...] of this [...] |¹⁶
 [...] of these loans [...] to the property
 record |¹⁷ keepers [...] but neither [...] has
 returned to Asklepiades, nor he has
 let |¹⁸ me [...] the money of the debt, he
 not paying back, according to the [...] executed
 through the public office |¹⁹
 [...] Asklepiades on the due date |²⁰ had
 not received the money [...] the legal [steps? ...] of the belongings under lien
 for me. And this al|²¹most happened.
 For, since Asklepiades in the 24th year
 had claimed and not received the
 amount owed, I was constrained |²² by
 my father to [...] and, knowing well that
 I will not allow the belongings reserved
 under lien |²³ for me to be hypothecated,
 he hypothecated only the remaining
 ones, and while I used (?) my right [...] to
 the |²⁴ father [...] the remaining due part
 of the price of these, [...] talents and
 2000 drachmas, and the interest, but for
 |²⁵ the entire 8 talents with the interest
 [...] repayment for the sake of the estate;

ὑπὲρ τῆς οὐσίας ἀπόδοσιν. Τὰ ἄλλα αὐτὸς ἔχη
 εἰς ὃ βούλεται.
 the rest he may have for whatever
 (purpose) he wishes.

§10. Col. 4, ll. 25-34. 183-184 CE (24th year): After the second failed attempt, **third homologema** between Dionysia and Chairemon, followed by its aftermath, **leading to Chairemon's first petition** against Dionysia: the narration thus returns to what was summarised above in §3-6.

καὶ πάλιν |²⁶ τετελε[σ]ε [.] . . . [ὁ]μολογήματα
 γεγενῆσθαι μοι πρὸς αὐτὸν τῶ κδ (ἔτει)
 διὰ δημοσίου συνχω[ρ]ούσης μου αὐτῶ
 δανείασσ|²⁷θαι τὰ (τάλαντα) δ/ε [ἐπὶ τῶ] ἐξ
 α[ρ]ύτων ἀποδοῦναι μὲν τῶ Ἀσκληπιάδῃ τὰ
 ὀφειλόμενα καὶ τοὺς τόκους, ἔχειν δὲ τὰ
 λοιπὰ εἰς |²⁸ ὃ τι ἐὰν θ[έ]λη? ατο
 . δη[μ]ο[σ]ία . [κα]ὶ ἐμοῦ τῆ προσόδω τῶν
 ὑπαρχόντων πάση . . . α . δημόσια καὶ
 δαπάνας |²⁹ ἕως ἐκκε [. . . .] . ουδεδω . . . [.
] . δανειστῆ οι τόκοι, ἀπὸ δὲ τῶν ἀπὸ τοῦ κε
 (ἔτους) ἐτήσια εἰ [.] τὰ τόκων καὶ κεφάλαιον
 (τάλαντα) ζ |³⁰ τῆς δὲ λοιπῆς [τ]ιμῆς? [.] σκα
 . . . [.] . ης αὐτὸν διάγειν ἀποδιδόντα μοι
 μόνας τὰς χορηγία[ς] κα . . . ας [π]αρ'
 ἐαυτῶν |³¹ ὄλων (ταλάντων) . . .
 γεν[ο]μέναις, αὐτῶν μὲν κ[υ]ριεύειν πάλιν
 τῶν προσόδων πασῶν ἐφ' ὅσον ἔχη χρόνον
 μόνας ἀποδιδόντα μοι |³² τὰς χορηγίας, ἐμοὶ
 δὲ ὑπείλ[η]φεν . τι [.] . ν τὰ περὶ τῆς κατοχῆς
 δίκαια. τὸν δὲ ἀγνωμονοῦ[ν]τα καὶ πρὸς
 ταύτην τὴν ὁμολογίαν, |³³ ἐπίσταμενο[ν] ὅτι
 . εν . ειασ [. . .] προσόδων ἐκάστον ἔτους
 καθ'ἑξῶς ἕως ἂν ἡ ἀπόδο[σ]ις ἐξ ἀνάγκης
 τῶν ὠρισμέ[ν]ων γέν[η]ται χρημάτων δ[. .
 .] τῶ τετολημκέναι αὐτῶ γράψαι τὴν
 ἐπιστολὴν πάν[τα] τὰ ἐν τῶ πράγματι
 ἐψευσμένον
 this matter.

And once more |²⁶ [...] reciprocal
 agreements were made by me with him in
 the 24th year through the public office, by
 which I consented that he borrows |²⁷ the 4
 (5?) talents, [under the condition that] from
 these he would pay back to Asklepiades the
 debts and the interest, and he would keep
 the remaining for |²⁸ whatever he [wants ...]
 the public duties [...] from me with the
 entire proceeds of the belongings [...] the
 public dues and the expenses |²⁹ until [...] to
 the lender the interests, from those, the
 annual ones from the 25th year [...] and the
 interest and capital 7 talents. |³⁰ Of the rest
 (of the price?) [...] he shall continue to pay
 me only my allowances [...] from the same
 |³¹ total of [...] talents [...] so that he would
 again be lord of all of the proceeds for his
 lifetime, giving me only |³² my allowances,
 while for me are kept [...] the rights of the
 lien. And he, acting inconsiderately and
 against this agreement, |³³ knowing that [...
] of the proceeds of each year, I shall keep
 until the repayment of the established sums
 perforce |³⁴ takes place [...] he dared write
 the letter to him lying about everything in
 this matter.

§11. Col. 4, ll. 35-39 –Col. 5, ll. 1-5: Summary of the **evidence attached by Dionysia to her first (counter)petition** (referred to above in §6) and of the facts it brings to light.

|³⁵ παρα[λ]αβεῖν ± 9 [] τα[ύ]τα διὰ τ[οῦ]
 βιβλειδίου ἀνενεγκούσης μου τῶ Ρούφω καὶ
 ὑποταξάσης τό τε τελευταῖον κοι|³⁶νὸν
 ὁμο[λόγημα] πρὸς τὸν πα[τ]έρ[α], ᾧ διὰ δημοσίου
 καὶ Σιμίλιδος τοῦ ἡγεῖ|³⁷[μ]ο[ν]εῦσα[ν]το[ς]
 καλλίστοι[ς] παρα[δ]εί[μ]ασ[ι] ἐπιστολὴν
 κατακολουθήσαντος Μεττίου Ρούφου
 διατάγματι περὶ τοῦ τὰς τοιαῦ|³⁸τας συναγραφὰς

|³⁵ He received [...] these things through
 the libellus which I had submitted to
 Rufus and to which I had attached the
 final com|³⁶mon agreement with my
 father, made through the public office,
 for which I have a report, as regarding
 the previous ones; and of Similis, the
 former |³⁷ prefect, with the most
 excellent examples, an epistula where he



.....σ πρ...πε...α γραμμάτων εαυτοῦ Lord, he wrote a letter in Tybi of the
[...]εχει μὲν\ |²⁹ κ[α]τ[α]... [± 20 τε]ικικαν, οὐδὲν 26th year |²⁹ [...] of his writings [...]
δὲ ἤττον συμπέμψας τῆ ἐπιστολῆ καὶ ἀντίγραφα |²⁹ [...] and not less he sent together
[τῶν π]ροσφωνῆ|³⁰σεων [± 12]λα...τα with the letter also copies of the
re|³⁰ports

§15. Col. 5, ll. 30-35. Beginning of 186 CE (cf. §14): **Second petition of Dionysia** to the prefect Pomponius Faustianus, upon the examination of the case by the strategos.

πάλιν ἐπὶ σὲ τὸν κύριον κατέφυγον, καὶ again I resorted to you, my Lord, and I
ἐνέτυχον διὰ βιβλιδίου[υ] [ἐπὶ τῷ] αὐτῷ κς requested through a libellus in the same
(ἔτει) |³¹ δ...[...].ς...ψ...ν ἐξέτασιν 26th year |³¹ [...] the examination of
ἤδη τοῦ πράγμα[α]τος γεγενῆσθαι ὑπὸ τοῦ the case has already been done by the strategos
στρατηγοῦ καθὼς σὺ [ἠθέλησ]ας τῆ γεν[ο-] as you wished, in the |³² examination carried
|³² μένη ἐξετάσει γνοῦσά σε τῆς ἐπιστολῆς out, me knowing that you [...] a copy of the
τῆς γραφείσης σοι ὑπὸ τῆς στρατηγίας letter written to you by the office of the
ἀντίγραφον...[...]. |³³[± 4] η καὶ strategos [...] |³³ [...] and write to the
γράψαι τῷ τ[ο]ῦ νομοῦ στρατηγῷ βέβα[ι]ά μοι strategos of the nomos that the [...] from my
μοι μένειν τὰ ἐκ τῆς μητρῶας μο[υ] [υ] mother's written agreement remain secure
συνγ[ραφῆς ± 3] μεν δια |³⁴ [± 9] τὰ διὰ for me [...] |³⁴ [...] the rights evidenced
χρηματισμῶν δηλούμενα δίκ[α]ια, καὶ μηδὲν through the documentation (chrematismoi),
νεωτερίζεσθαι κατὰ τῶν τα...[...].μα τῷ and that nothing is overturned regarding the
βι|³⁵[βλιοφυλακίω ± 5] καθά καὶ πάντες οἱ [...] at the |³⁵ record office (?) as also all the
ἡγεμόνες ἐκέλευ[υ]σαν. governors have ordered.

§16. Col. 5, ll. 35-43 – Col. 6, ll. 1-4: **Subscription of the prefect Pomponius Faustianus and ensuing steps** in order to secure Dionysia's rights, involving a strategos and the record office, with her hope that this closes the conflict with her father.

κα[ι] σὺ ὁ κύριος ἐντυχῶν καὶ ἀν...[...].δ... τα And you, my Lord, being informed and [...] by |³⁶ [...] of the letter of the strategos and
ὑπο|³⁶[...].φ...[...]. τῆς ἐπιστολῆς τοῦ of the report of the keepers of the record
στρατηγοῦ καὶ [τ]ῆς τῶν βιβλιοφυλάκων office and [...] |³⁷ [...] requiring, in the way
προσφωνήσεως καὶ [...] οἱ γενομε|³⁷[...].[...].[...]. ξεγω τι δεόμενον, τῆ συνή[θ]ει σου usual to your jurisdiction you subscribed
δικαι[ο]δοσία χρώμενος ὑπέγραψάς μοι τῷ the libellus for me |³⁸ as follows: "you may
[βι]βλιδίω |³⁸ [οὕτως· οἷς ἔχει(?)](?) δικάσις use the rights that you have, while the
χρησθαι δύνασθαι, ὁ δὲ στρατηγὸς τῆς λοιπῆς strategos concerning the rest of your
ἀξιώσεως σοῦ τῆν...πο...[...].πρ[ό]νοιαν |³⁹ [...].[...].[...]. προμαντευόμενος ὅτι καὶ petition [...]" [...] foresight |³⁹ [...] he
[τ]ῆς ἀ[π]ὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ βοηθείας δεόμεθα (you?), foreseeing that we also need aid
...με...[...].ἀγνην |⁴⁰ [...] ο τῶν δικαίων from the strategos [...] |⁴⁰ [...] to have
τυχεῖν καὶ μὴ ἀγνωνεῖσθαι ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρός. succeeded in the rights, and not to be
ἐξ ὧν γὰρ ἐτόλμησεν [...] τα ταῦτα |⁴¹ [...] αξ. treated unfairly by my father. For, from
...[...]. διὰ τῆς αἰρέσεως τὸν ἄνδρα. ἐμοῦ γὰρ[ρ] those that he dared [...] these |⁴¹ [...] my
τὸ βιβλιδιον ἐπὶ τῆ σῆ ὑπογραφῆ husband through his choice. For when I
παρραθεμέ[ν]ης καὶ ἀνα|⁴²[δ]ούσης διὰ τοῦ submitted the libellus to your
ἀνδρός μου τῷ στρατηγῷ, ἀξιώσάσης τε subscription and |⁴² handed it through my
καθὼς ἠθέλησας τῆς λοιπῆς ἀξιώσεως μὴ husband to the strategos, I requested as
well that, in conformity with your will, the

[ἀ]μεληθῆ|⁴³[να καὶ] ἐπιστεῖλαι τοῖς τῶν rest of the petition not be neglected |⁴³
ἐνκτήσεων βιβλιοφύλ[α]ξι βέβαιά μοι τὰ and that he send a letter to the keepers of
δίκαια τὰ ὑπόντα μένειν καθά the record office, so that my existing
[προσε]φώνησαν || ---- |¹ [±20] μως γο[rights remain secure as they were
±23] τω...[...].οκεκ...[...].μ[±11] ξεται ὑμῶν λα[2] reported || (ca. 4 lines missing) |¹ [...] to
±12]...ερος ἵνα μὴ δέητα[ι] καὶ τῆς λ[οι]πῆ[ς] you [...] |² [...] so that there is no need, and
ἀξιώσεως π[ά]σης καθά ἠθέλησεν ὁ the whole rest of the petition according to
λαμ[πρό]τος ἡ[γε]μῶν πρόνοιαν |³ the wish and foresight of the most
[...].[...]. μηδὲν νεωτερίζεσθαι [...] illustrious governor |³ [...] not to
τὸ]ν πατέρα μετὰ τὰ τοσαῦτα γράμματα τὴν overturn [...] that my father, after so many
ἡσυχίαν ἄγειν καὶ μὴ|⁴τε τῷ κυρίῳ ἐνοχλεῖν writings, keeps the peace and does |⁴ not
μῆτε ἐμοὶ ἔτι ἐπιτ[ί]θεσθαι | both the Lord nor attacks me any
longer.

§17. Col. 6, ll. 4-12. **Chairemon decides to address a new petition to the prefect** Pomponius Faustianus, moving his attack in another direction.

ὁ δὲ πάλιν ἐπιθέμενός μοι οὐκ ἔληξε[ν], ἀλλ' He, however, did not cease attacking me
ἐπιστάμενος ὅτι περὶ |⁵ τῆς κατοχῆς οὐκέτι again, but, knowing that |⁵ it is no longer
οἷόν τέ ἐστίν αὐτῷ ἐνκαλεῖν μετὰ τὰς possible for him to bring accusations
τοσαύτας ἐξετάσεις καὶ τοσαῦτα γράμματα, regarding my lien (katoche) after so many
ἐτέρω ἐπέτρεψεν τὴν |⁶ κατ' ἐμοῦ inquiries and so much correspondence, he
ἐπιβουλήν, καὶ σοῦ τοῦ κυρίου πάλιν καθ' turned in another direction |⁶ his scheme
ὁμοιότητα τῶν ἄλλων ἡγεμόνων ὑπογύως against me, and although you, my Lord, in
διαταξαμένου περὶ ἰδιωτι[κ]ῶν ζητήσεων the same way as the other governors,
ἐπιστολάς σοι μὴ γράφειν, ὁ δὲ οὐ μόνον recently again proclaimed that |⁷ letters
ἔγραψεν ἀλλὰ καὶ γράφων ἠκρωτηρίασεν concerning private lawsuits are not to be
τὸ πρᾶγμα ὡς καὶ σὲ |⁸ τὸν κύριον πλανῆσαι written to you, not only did write but when
δυνάμενος. σιωπήσας γὰρ καὶ τὴν τοῦ writing he mutilated the case, as if |⁸ he were
Ῥούφου ἐπιστολὴν ἐφ' ὅτω ἐγράφη καὶ τὴν able to deceive you, my Lord. For, not
ἐντυχίαν τὴν |⁹ ἐμὴν καὶ τὴν τοῦ Ῥούφου mentioning the letter of Rufus, the reason
{την} ὑπογραφὴν καὶ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ τὴν for it, my petition, |⁹ Rufus' subscription, the
ἐξετάσιν καὶ τῶν βιβλιοφυλάκων τὴν inquiry of the strategos, the report of the
προσφώνησιν |¹⁰ καὶ τὴν περὶ τούτων keepers of the record office, |¹⁰ the letter
γραφεῖσάν σοι ὑπὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ written about these things by the strategos
ἐπιστολὴν καὶ τὴν πρὸς ταύτην ἐμοῦ to you, my Lord, the subscription to it given
ἐντυχούσης δοθεῖσαν |¹¹ ὑπὸ σοῦ τοῦ to me upon my petition |¹¹ by you, my Lord,
κυρίου ὑπογραφὴν καὶ τὰ ἐκ ταύτης τοῖς the mandate to the keepers of the record
βιβλιοφύλαξι ἐπιστάματα ψειλῶς σοι διὰ office (arising) from it, he simply stated in
τῆς ἐπιστολῆς δεδήλωκεν |¹² τὰδε· his letter to you |¹² the following:

§18. Col. 6, ll. 12-20. April-May 186 CE: **Second petition of Chairemon to the prefect** Pomponius Faustianus, in order to exercise his alleged paternal right to withdraw Dionysia from her husband.

Χαιρήμων Φανίου γυμνασιάρχης τῆς Chairemon son of Phantias, ex-gymnasiarch of
Ἄξυρρυχίτων πόλεως· τῆς θυγατρὸς the city of the Oxyrhynchites: As my daughter
μου Διονυσίας, ἡγεμῶν κύριε, |¹³ πολλὰ Dionysia, my Lord governor, |¹³ had done many



εἰς ἐμέ ἀσεβῶς καὶ παρανόμως πράξασθαι κατὰ γνώμην Ὑρίωνος Ἀπίωνος ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς, ἀνέδωκα ἐπιστολῆν Λογγαίου Ρούφου τῷ λαμπροτάτῳ, ἀξιῶν τότε ἂ προσήνεγκα αὐτῇ ἀνακομίσασθαι κατὰ τοὺς νόμους, οἰόμενος¹⁵ ἐκ τοῦ <του> παύσασθαι αὐτὴν τῶν εἰς ἐμέ ὕβρεων· καὶ ἔγραψεν τῷ τοῦ νομοῦ στρατηγῷ (ἔτους) κε //, Παχῶν κζ', ὑπο|¹⁶τάξας τῶν ὑπ' ἐμοῦ γραφέντων τὰ ἀντίγραφα ὅπως ἐντυχῶν οἷς παρεθέμην φροντίση τὰ ἀκόλουθα πράξαι. ἐπεὶ οὖν, ¹⁷ κύριε, ἐπιμένει τῇ αὐτῇ ἀπονοίᾳ ἐνυβρίζων μοι, ἀξιῶ τοῦ νόμου διδόντος μοι ἐξουσίαν οὗ τὸ μέρος ὑπέταξα ἴν' εἰδῆς¹⁸ ἀπάγοντι αὐτὴν ἄκουσαν ἐκ τῆς τοῦ ἀνδρὸς οἰκίας μηδεμίαν μοι βίαν γείνεσθαι ὑφ' οὐτινος τῶν τοῦ Ὑρίωνος ἢ αὐ¹⁹τοῦ τοῦ Ὑρίωνος συνεχῶς ἐπαγγελλομένου. ἀπὸ δὲ πλειόνων τῶ[ν] περὶ το[ύ]των πραχθέντων ὀλίγα σοι ὑπέταξα ἴν' εἰ²⁰ δῆς. (ἔτους) κς, Παχῶν.

§19. Col. 6, ll. 20-32. **Dionysia denies** her father's accusations, and the relevance of his present and previous legal arguments

ὁ μὲν ταύτην τὴν ἐπιστολὴν ἔγραψεν, οὐδέμιαν μὲν οὔτε ὕβριν οὔτε ἄλλο ἀδίκημα εἰς αὐτὸν²¹ ἀπ' ἐμοῦ ἐφ' ᾧ μέμφεται δεῖξαι ἔχων, ἐπὶ φθόνῳ δὲ μόνον [λο]ιδροῦμενος ὡς δεινὰ πάσχων ἀπ' ἐμοῦ, λέγων ὅτι δὴ²² ὡτα παρέχω ἄνοα αὐτῷ, καὶ τὴν ὑπολειπομένης ἐμοὶ κατοχῆς τῆς οὐσίας ἵνα μ' αὐτὴν ἀποθῆναι, καὶ, τὸ καινότερον, βίαν²³ πάσχειν ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀνδρὸς μου προφερόμενος τοῦ καὶ μετὰ {καὶ με[τὰ]} τὴν πρὸς αὐτόν μου συγγραφὴν ἐν ἣ εἶχεν τὸ δίκαιον²⁴ καθαρὸν μου προσενηνεγμένον συχωρήσαντός μοι καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς μη[τ]ρῶας οὐσίας συνευδοκῆσαι βουληθεῖσαι αὐτῷ ὑποτι²⁵θεμένῳ τὴν οὐσίαν ταύτην πρὸς ὄλα (τάλαντα) η, ἀφ' οὗ με ἀπαλλ[αττ . . .] . . εἰδητασινῆκε τοῦ ἀνδρὸς με στερησάι ἐπιχειρῶν,²⁶ ἐπὶ μὴ δύναται τῆς οὐσίας, ἵνα μὴδ' ἀπ' αὐτοῦ χορηγῆσθαι

things against me impiously and unlawfully at the instigation of her husband Horion, son of Apion, I sent a letter¹⁴ to the most illustrious Longaeus Rufus, requesting to recover in accordance with the laws what I had formerly given to her, expecting¹⁵ that this would stop her from her insults against me; and he wrote to the strategos of the nomos on the 25th year, Pachon 27th, ap|¹⁶ending copies of my writings, so that having taking cognisance of what I alleged he would see to it that it is dealt with accordingly. Since¹⁷ she, my Lord, persists in her madness insulting me, I request, since such power is given to me by the law, the (relevant) part of which I have appended so that you are informed,¹⁸ to take her away against her will from her husband's house with no violence being done to me by anyone of those of Horion or by¹⁹ Horion himself, who is constantly threatening. From the numerous tried instances regarding these things I have appended for you a few, so that you²⁰ may be informed. 26th year, Pachon.

He wrote such a letter, without being able to prove either insolence or other injustice against him²¹ by me, of which he complains, only out of malice reviling me as if suffering terrible things from me, saying indeed that²² I turn a deaf ear to him, and that I do not lift the lien (katoche) of the remaining estate, and, stranger still, that he suffers²³ violence on the part of my husband, who, even after the written agreement with me in which he received the right²⁴ brought by me unimpaired, he conceded to me also regarding the maternal estate as I wished to consent to him (i.e. Chairemon)²⁵ hypothecating this same estate for a total of 8 talents, after that [...] me [...] attempting to deprive me of my husband,²⁶ since of the estate he was not able, so that I, a woman, neither am able to receive maintenance

[. . . .] . . σενε[. . .] γ δύνωμαι γυνή, ἀπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς μήτε²⁷ ἦν ὑπέσχετο προῖκα μήτε τι ἄλλο ὑπάρχον λαβοῦσα ἀλλὰ μηδὲ κατὰ κα[ρ]τὸν τὰς χορη[γ]ηθεῖσας τροφὰς ἀπολαμβάνουσα. Ὑπέταξεν²⁸ δὲ καὶ τὰς αὐτὰς κρίσεις Σ[ι]μίλιδος καὶ ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀρχιδικαστοῦ τῷ Λογγαίῳ Ρούφῳ γραφομένης ἐτέρας ὁμοίας, μηδὲ αἰδεσθεῖς ὅτι οὐδὲ²⁹ ὁ Ρούφος προσέσχεον αὐτα[ῖ]ς ἀνομοίαις οὐσαις εἰς παράδειγμα . . .[. . .]. ἐτέρων . . . αἰων. ἀλλὰ σὺ ὁ κύριος τῆ θεογνώστῳ σου³⁰ μνήμῃ καὶ τῇ ἀπλανήτῳ προαιρέσει ἀνεγκῶν τῆ[ν] γραφεῖσάν σοι ὑπὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ ἐπιστολῆν, καὶ ὅτι φθάνει τὸ πρᾶγμα³¹ ἀκρειβῶς [ἐξ]ητασμένον, πρόφασιν δέ ἐστιν ἐπιβουλῆς τὸ . . . πασθῆ[ι] εἰ οὐκ ἐξὸν κατὰ συγγραφὴν, ἀντέγραψεν τῷ στρατηγῷ³² τὰδε·

from him ... while from the father I neither²⁷ received the dowry which he offered nor any other property, indeed, I have not even received at the proper times the alimonies bestowed on me. He appended²⁸ also the same decisions of Similis and other similar ones mentioned by the archidikastes in his letter to Longaeus Rufus, unabashed that not even²⁹ Rufus himself had taken them into consideration as a model due to their dissimilarity [...] of others [...] But you, my Lord, with your divine³⁰ memory and unerring judgement, recalled the letter written to you by the strategos and that the case had already³¹ been examined in detail, and that it is a pretext for scheming ... if not allowed according to the written agreement, you wrote back to the strategos³² the following:

§20. Col. 6, ll. 32-35. May 25th, 186 CE: **Instructions of the prefect** Pomponius Faustianus to Isidoros, strategos of the Oxyrhynchites, upon Chairemon's petition, so that the matter is settled in accordance with the instructions of the former prefect Longaeus Rufus.

Π[ο]μπώνιος Φαυστιανὸς Ἰσιδώρῳ στρατηγῷ [Ο]ξυρυγγε[ι]τ[ο]υ χαίρειν. τὰ γραφέντα μοι ὑπὸ Χαυρήμονος γυμνα³³ σιαρχήσαντος τῆς Ὀξυρυγγειτῶν πόλεως αἰτιομένου Ὑρειῶ[να] ἄνδρα θυγατρὸς αὐτοῦ ὡς βίαν ὑπ' αὐτοῦ πάσχ[ο]ντος³⁴ ὑποταχθῆναι ἐκέλευσα, ὅπως φροντίσης ἀκόλουθα πράξαι τοῖς περὶ το[ύ]του πρότερον γραφεῖσι ὑπὸ Λογγαίου Ρούφο[υ] τοῦ δια³⁵σημοτάτου πρὸς τὸ μὴ περὶ τῶν αὐτῶν πάλιν αὐτὸν ἐντυχάνειν. ἐ[ρ]ρωσθ(αι) εὐχομ(αι). (ἔτους) κς //, Παχῶν λ.

Pomponius Faustianus to Isidoros, strategos of the Oxyrhynchites, greetings. What written to me by Chairemon, former³³ gymnasiarch of the city of the Oxyrhynchites accusing Horion, the husband of his daughter, of violence suffered from him,³⁴ I have ordered to append, so that you see to it that it is dealt with in accordance with what previously written by Longaeus Rufus, the most³⁵ eminent, in order that he may not petition again regarding these things. Farewell. 26th year, Pachon 30th.

§21. Col. 6, ll. 35-41 – Col. 7, ll. 1-2. June 27th, 186 CE: **Hearing before the deputy strategos** of the Oxyrhynchites, Harpokration, upon Chairemon presenting Faustianus' letter, with Dionysia's husband acting for her. He argues that a decision following Rufus' instructions had already been reached, in her favour.

Ταύτην³⁶ σου τὴν ἐπιστολὴν παρεν[ε]γκόντος τοῦ Χαυρήμονος καὶ ἀναδόκτου ἐπὶ τῆς γ τ[ο]υ Ἐπειφ Ἀρποκρατίωνι βασιλικῷ γρα[μ]ματεῖ³⁷ [δι]αδεχομένῳ καὶ τὰ κατὰ τὴν στρα[τη]γίαν,

As³⁶ Chairemon brought this letter of yours and on the 3rd of Epeiph gave it to Harpokration, the royal scribe³⁷ and deputy strategos, appearing myself through my husband, I not only welcomed



παροῦσα αὐτὴ διὰ τοῦ ἀνδρός μου προσεκύνησα μὲν σοῦ τὰ γράμματα καὶ τοῖς [γ]ραφεῖσι |³⁸ ἐμμέν[ε]ιν ἡξίωσα, ἀπέδειξά τε ὅτι τὰ ἀκόλουθα ἤδη τοῖς ὑπὸ Ρούφ[ου] πρότερον γραφεῖσι ἐπράχθη. ὁ μὲν γὰρ Χαϊρήμων |³⁹ περὶ κ[α]τ[ο]χῆς ὡς οὐ δεόντως γενομένης αὐτῶ <έ>γεγράφει, ὁ δὲ Ρούφος [έξ] ὧν ἀντέγραψεν αὐτῶ καὶ ἐξ ὧν ἐμοῦ ἐντυχούσης |⁴⁰ ὑπέ[γ]ραψεν ἐξετασθῆναι ἠθέλησε[ν] εἰ δεόντως ἢ κατοχῆ γέγονέν μ[οι] καὶ τῶ στρατηγῶ περὶ τούτου ὑπέθετο. ὁ δὲ οὐκ ἡμέ[41]λη[σε]ν ἀλλ' ἐ[ζ]ήτησεν ἀκριβ[ῶ]ς [τὸ πρ]ᾶγμα ἐκ τῶν βιβλιοφ[υ]λάκ[ω]ν καὶ τῆ ἡγεμονίᾳ περὶ παντὸς δι' ἐπιστολῆς ἀνήνεγκ|
----- |¹ [±30]α [±19] . [±?] |² [±19]η [.]
[. . .] [±15]ου[. . .] . [.] . [.]ητο[±11]
] .ωσ α[.]λη . . . [. . .]

your letter and |³⁸ deemed it proper to abide by what you had written, but showed that what required by what previously written by Rufus had already been done. For Chairemon |³⁹ had written to him regarding the lien (katoche) not being properly established, and Rufus, from what he wrote back to him, and from what |⁴⁰ he subscribed to my petition, ordered to make an inquiry, whether the lien (katoche) had been properly established for me and instructed the strategos about this. And he did not |⁴¹ neglect it, but he examined the case in detail from the (evidence collected by) the keepers of the record office and he reported about everything by letter to the prefectorship || (ca. 2 lines missing) |¹ [...] |² [...]

§22. Col. 7, ll. 3-8. **Decision of the deputy strategos** Harpokration: since Chairemon's claim for daughter withdrawal (apospasis) is new and Rufus' instructions do not address it, Harpokration **authorises a new petition to be submitted to the prefect**, so that judgement may be given in accordance with his instructions

|³ χ[±17] μηδὲν τῶν γενομ[ένων]ν κο[. . .]μ . . . ου[.]πρα[. . .] ἐκ τῶν αντ[. . .] . ε[. . .]η εἰ ὀρω[. . .]δ . ρον ουβα[. . .] |⁴ σα[.]λας τούτου ἀλλὰ ἀκόλουθα πρᾶξαι τ[ὸν] ἐπι[στ]εῖλαινα τοῖς βιβ[λ]ιοφύλαξι καὶ π[ε]ρ[ι] αὐτ[οῦ] γράψαντα τ[ᾶ] εἰρημ[έ]να: ἐπεὶ δὲ |⁵ ὁ Χ[α]ρ[η]μόνων δι' ἧς καὶ νῦν πεπο[ι]ῆται παρὰ τῶ [λ]αμπροτάτῳ ἡγεμόνι ἐντυχίας ἡξίωσεν τὴν θυγατέραν ἄκ[ο]υσα ἀποσπᾶν οὐ |⁶ δὲ π[ε]ρ[ι] τούτου οὔτ[ε] δι[ὰ] τῆς τοῦ δια[σ]ημοτάτου Ρούφου οὔτε διὰ τῆς τοῦ λαμπ[ρο]τάτου ἡγεμόνος Πομπωνίου Φα[υσ]τ[ι]ανου ἐπιστολῆς |⁷ ὀρᾶται ῥητῶς κεκ[ε]λ[ε]υσμένον, . . . δύναται περὶ τούτου ἐντυχθῆναι ὁ λαμπρότατος ἡγεμῶν πάντων τῶν ἐν τῶ πράγματι πραχθέ[ν]τ[ω]ν παρατιθεμένων αὐτῶ, ἵν' οἷς ἐὰν προστάξῃ ἀκόλουθα γένηται[ι].” vac.

|³ [...] not one of the existing [...] from the [...] |⁴ [...] of this, but in conformity with (Rufus' orders?) by the instructions given to the keepers of the record office and by writing the aforesaid on this matter. But since |⁵ Chairemon through the petition which he has now sent to the most illustrious governor requested to withdraw his daughter against her will and since |⁶ regarding this question neither in the letter of the most eminent Rufus nor in that of the most illustrious governor Pomponius Faustianus |⁷ an explicit order seems to be given [...] his most illustrious governor can receive a petition concerning it giving a full account |⁸ of the facts of the case, in order that judgement may be given in accordance with his instructions

§23. Col. 7, ll. 8-19. **Dionysia therefore raises this her (third) petition** to the prefect Faustianus, so that he instructs the strategos that she must be paid her due provisions (choregia), and her father's request of apospasis is rejected as unlawful. In the form of an elenchus instrumentorum, she announces that she will append in support evidence regarding the law: (a) that wives can

remain with their husbands or not as they choose (§§ 24-27); (b) that money suits cannot be avoided by the subterfuge of counter-accusations (§§ 28-29); (c) that rights arising from registered syngraphai have been recognised by all prefects and emperors as valid and secure (§§ 30-34); (d) that no one is allowed to contradict his own writings (§ 35).

πανταχόθεν οὔν, ἡγεμῶν {ου}ν κ[ύ]ριε, τοῦ πράγματος |⁹ πρ[ο]δήλου γενομένου καὶ τῆς τοῦ πατρός μου πρὸς με ἐπιπείρας, ἐντυχᾶν σοι καὶ νῦν πάντα παρατιθεμένη τὰ ἐν τῶ πράγματι, |¹⁰ καθὼς καὶ ὁ βασιλικὸς διαδεχόμενος καὶ τὴν στρατηγίαν ἠθέλησεν, καὶ δέομαι κελεῦσαι γραφῆναι τῇ στρατηγίᾳ τὰς τε χορηγίας |¹¹ ἀποδίδοσθαι μοι κατὰ καιρὸν, ἐπισχεῖν τε αὐτὸν ἤδη ποτὲ ἐπειόντα μοι, πρότερον μὲν ὡς ἀνόμου κατοχῆς χάριν, νῦν δὲ προφάσει νό[12]μου οὐδὲν αὐτῶ προσήκοντος· οὐδεὶς μὲν γὰρ νόμος ἀκούσας γυναῖκας ἀπ' ἀνδρῶν ἀποσπᾶν ἐφείησιν, εἰ δὲ καὶ ἔστιν τις, ἀλλ' οὐ πρὸς τὰς |¹³ ἐξ ἐγγράφων γάμων γεγενημένας καὶ ἐγγράφως γεγενημένας. ὅτι δὲ ταῦ(τα) οὕτως ἔχει, ἵνα καὶ ταύτης αὐτὸν τῆς προφάσεως ἀπαλλά[14]ξω, ὑπέταξά σοι ἀπὸ πλειόνων |¹⁵ περὶ τούτου κριθέντων ὀλίγας ἡγεμόνων καὶ ἐπιτρόπων καὶ ἀρχιδικαστῶν κρίσεις, ἔτι τε καὶ νο[15]μικῶν προσφωνήσεις, περὶ τοῦ τὰς ἡδὴ τελείας γυναῖκας γενομένης ἑαυτῶν εἶναι κυρίας, εἴτε βούλονται παρὰ τοῖς ἀνδράσιν μένειν |¹⁶ εἴτε μή, καὶ ὑπόκεισθαι πατράσιν, οὐ μόνον ἀλλ' ὅτι οὐδ' ἐφείται ἐπὶ προφάσει ἐτέρων ἐνκλημάτων φεύγειν τὰς χρηματικὰς δίκας, ἀλλὰ |¹⁷ δὴ καὶ ὅτι τὰς συγγραφὰς πα[ρ]ατίθεσθαι τοῖς βιβλιοφυλακίαις νόμιμον καὶ τὰς ἐκ τούτων γενομένας κατοχὰς πάντες ἡγεμόνες |¹⁸ καὶ αὐτοκράτορες κυρίας [εἶν]αι καὶ βεβαίας τεθελήκασιν, καὶ ὅτι οὐδενὶ ἐφείται λέγειν πρὸς τὰ ἑαυτοῦ γράμματα, ἵνα κα[ί] ἐκ τούτων |¹⁹ ἤδη ποτὲ παύσῃται περὶ τῶν αὐτῶν ἐνοχλῶν ταῖς ἡγεμονίαις καθὼς καὶ σὺ γράφων ἠθέλησας. vac. σ[ε]ση(μείωμαι) vac.

On all points then, my lord governor, the case |⁹ being now clear, and my father's abuse against me evident, I now once more make my petition to you, giving a full account of the case, |¹⁰ as also the royal scribe and deputy-strategos has wished, and beseech you to give orders that written instructions be sent to the office of the strategos so that the provisions |¹¹ are paid to me at the proper time, and he finally stops his attacks upon me, previously on account of an allegedly unlawful lien (katoche), and now under the pretext of a |¹² law which does not apply to him. For no law permits to drag wives away from their husbands against their will; and if there is any such one, then not against those |¹³ who come from written marriages and have become (wives) in written form. That this is so, and in order to spare him also this pretext, |¹⁴ I have appended for you, from a larger number of decisions on this issue, a few given by praefects, procurators, and chief justices, as well as opinions of |¹⁵ legal experts, regarding the fact that women who have already come of age are their own mistresses, whether they wish to remain with their husbands |¹⁶ or not, and be subjected to their fathers, and not only this, but also that it is not allowed to escape a pecuniary trial with the subterfuge of other counter-accusations, and |¹⁷ also that it conforms to the law to have written agreements recorded with the record offices and that the liens (katochai) arising from them have been recognized by all praefects |¹⁸ and emperors to be effective and secure, and that no one is allowed to contradict his own written documents. In this way too |¹⁹ he will finally cease from continually troubling the praefecture with the same demands, as you yourself wished in your letter. (vacat) I have subscribed (vacat)



§24. Col. 7, ll. 19-29. Dionysia's **first court precedent**. June 2nd, 128 CE: in the case of Antonius against his father in law Sempronius, the prefect Flavius Titianus confirms the decision of the epistrategus Bassus, according to which, despite Sempronius' wish to claim back his daughter, Antonius may remain with her if she so wishes.

ἐξ ὑπομνη²⁰ματισμῶν Φλαυίου Τειτιανοῦ τοῦ ἡγεμονεύσαντος. (ἔτους) ιβ' θεοῦ Ἀδριανοῦ, Παῦνι η', ἐπὶ τοῦ ἐν τῇ ἀγορᾷ βήματος. Ἀντωνίου ²¹ τοῦ Ἀπολλωνίου προσελθόντος λέγοντός τε διὰ Ἰσιδώρου νεωτέρου ῥήτορος Σεμπρώνιον πενθερὸν ἑαυτοῦ] ἐκ μη[τρὸς ἀφορ²²μῆς εἰς διαμάχην ἐλθ[όν]τα ἄκουσαν τὴν θυγατέρα ἀπεσπακέναι, νοσησάσης δὲ ἐκείνης ὑπὸ λοίπτης τὸν ἐπιστράτηγον Βάσσον ²³ μετριπαθῶς ἀναστραφέν]τα ἀποφαίνεται ὅτι οὐ δεῖ αὐτὸν κωλύεσθαι εἰ συνοικεῖν ἀλλήλοισι θέλοιεν, ἀλλὰ μηδὲν ἡνυκέναι· ²⁴ τὸν γὰρ Σεμπρώνιον ἀποσι[ω]πήσαντα τοῦτο καὶ τῷ ἡγεμόνι περὶ βίας ἐντυχόντα ἐπιστολὴν παρακεκομικέναι ἵνα οἱ ἀντίδι²⁵ κοι ἐκπεμφθῶσι· αἰτεῖσθαι οὖν ἂν δοκῆ μη ἀποχευθῆναι γυναικὸς οἰκειῶς πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐχούσης. Δίδυμος ῥήτωρ ἀπεκρεῖ²⁶νατο μὴ χωρὶς λόγου τὸν Σεμπρώνιον κεκρινῆσθαι· τοῦ γὰρ Ἀντων[ίου] προσεγεκαμένου θυγατρομειξίας ἐγκαλεῖν, μὴ ἐνεγκαν²⁷τος τὴν ὕβριν τῇ κατὰ τοὺς νόμους συνεχωρημένη ἐξουσίᾳ κεχρησθαι, ἡτιᾶσθαι δ' αὐτὸν καὶ περὶ [. . .] πρὸς ἐ[ν]κ[λη]μάτων.²⁸ Προκκλητιανὸς ὑπὲρ Ἀντωνίου προσέθηκεν: ἂν ἀπερίλυτος ἦν ὁ γάμος, τὸν πατέρα μήτε τῆς προικὸς μηδὲ τῆς παιδὸς τῆς ἐκδεδο²⁹μένης ἐξουσίαν ἔχειν. Τειτιανὸς· διαφέρει παρὰ τίνι βούλεται εἶναι ἢ γεγαμημένη. ἀνέγγων. σεσημ[ε]ίωμαι. vac.

§25. Col. 7, ll. 29-38. Dionysia's **second court precedent**. October 14th, 133 CE: in the case of Phlauesis against his son in law Heron, the epistrategus Paconius Felix follows the previous decision of the prefect Flavius Titianus, allowing the daughter to remain with her husband if she so wishes.

From the ²⁰ minutes of Flavius Titianus, former prefect. 12th year of the deified Hadrian, Payni 8th, at the court in the agora. Antonius, ²¹ son of Apollonius, appeared and stated through his advocate, Isidorus the younger, that his father-in-law Sempronius had been induced by his mother ²² to quarrel with him and to take away his (Sempronius') daughter against her will, and that, when she fell ill on being deserted, the epistrategus Bassus, ²³ being sympathetically disposed, declared that if they wished to live together Antonius ought not to be prevented. ²⁴ But Sempronius took no notice, and ignoring this declaration sent a petition to the praefect accusing Antonius of violence, to which he received an answer ordering the rival ²⁵ parties to appear. Antonius claimed therefore that, if it pleased the praefect, he should not be divorced from a wife with whom he was on good terms. Didymus, advocate of Sempronius, replied ²⁶ that his client had had good reason for having been provoked. For it was because Antonius had threatened to charge him with incest, and he refused ²⁷ to submit to the insult, that he had used the power allowed him by the laws, and had himself brought the action against Antonius. ²⁸ Probatianus on behalf of Antonius added that if the marriage was not cancelled the father had no power over the dowry any more than over the daughter whom he had ²⁹ given in marriage. Titianus said: 'The decision depends upon the question, with whom the wife wishes to live. I have read over and signed the judgement'." (vacat)

ἐξ ὑπομνηματισμῶν ³⁰ Πακωνίου Φήλικος ἐπιστράτηγου. (ἔτους) ιη' θεοῦ Ἀδριανοῦ, Φαῶφι ιζ', ἐν τῇ παρὰ ἄνω Σεβεννύτου, ἐπὶ τῶν κατὰ Φλαυήσιος ³¹ Ἀμμούνιος ἐπὶ παρούση Τατιχίκε θυγατρὶ αὐτοῦ πρὸς Ἥρωνα Πετεήσιος. Ἰσιδωρος ῥήτωρ ὑπὲρ Φλαυήσιος εἶπεν, "τὸν οὖν αἰτίωμενον ³² ἀποσπάσαι βουλόμενον τ[ῆ]ν θυγατέρα αὐτοῦ συνοικῶσαν τῷ ἀντιδικῷ δεδικάσθαι ὑπογύως πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τοῦ ἐ[πι]στράτηγου ³³ καὶ ὑπερθεῖσθαι τὴν δίκην ὑμῖν ἵνα ἀναγνωσθῆ ὁ τῶν Αἰγυπτίων νόμος. Σεουήρου καὶ Ἡλιοδώρου ῥητόρων ἀποκρειαμένων ³⁴ Τειτιανὸν τὸν ἡγεμονεύσαντα ὁμοίως ὑποθέσεως ἀκούσαντα [ἐξ] Αἰγυπτιακῶν προσώπων μὴ ἠκολουθηκέναι τῇ τοῦ νό³⁵μου ἀπανθρωπία ἀλλὰ τ[ῆ] ἐπι[νο]ία τῆς παιδός, εἰ βούλεται παρὰ τῷ ἀνδρὶ μένειν. Πακωνίος Φήλιξ· ἀναγνωσθητο ὁ νό³⁶μος. Αἰνα³⁶γνωσθέντος Πακωνίος [Φή]λιξ· ἀνάγνωται καὶ τὸν Τειτιανοῦ ὑπομνηματισμόν. Σεουήρου ῥήτορος ἀναγν[όν]τος, ἐπὶ τοῦ [ιβ'] (ἔτους) Ἀ[δ]ριαν[ο]ῦ ³⁷ Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρίου, Παῦνι ιη', Πακωνίος Φήλιξ· καθὼς ὁ κράτιστος Τειτιαν[ο]ς ἐκρεῖνεν, πεύσσονται τῆς γυναικός· καὶ ἐκέλευ[σε]ν δι' ἐρ[μ]ῆ³⁸νέως αὐτὴν ἐλεγχθῆν[α]ι, τί βούλεται· εἰπούσης, παρὰ τῷ ἀνδρὶ μένειν, Π[α]κωνίος Φήλιξ ἐκέλευσεν ὑπομνηματισθῆναι.

Extract from the minutes ³⁰ of Paconius Felix, epistrategus. "The 18th year of the deified Hadrian, Phaophi 17, at the court in the upper division of the Sebennyte nome, in the case of Phlauesis, ³¹ son of Ammounis, in the presence of his daughter Taichekis, against Heron, son of Petaesis. Isidorus, advocate for Phlauesis, said that the plaintiff therefore, wishing ³² to take away his daughter who was living with the defendant, had recently brought an action against him before the epistrategos ³³ and the case had been deferred in order that the Egyptian law might be read. Severus and Heliodorus, advocates (for Heron), replied ³⁴ that the late praefect Titianus heard a similar plea advanced by Egyptian witnesses, and that his judgement was in accordance not with the inhumanity ³⁵ of the law but with the choice of the daughter, whether she wished to remain with her husband. Paconius Felix said, 'Let the law be read.' When it had ³⁶ been read Paconius Felix said, 'Read also the minute of Titianus.' Severus the advocate having read 'The 12th year of Hadrianus ³⁷ Caesar the lord, Payni 8 (&c).' Paconius Felix said: 'In accordance with the decision of his highness Titianus, they shall find out from the woman.' and he ordered that she should be asked through an ³⁸ interpreter what was her choice. On her replying 'To remain with my husband', Paconius Felix ordered that the judgement should be entered on the minutes."

§26. Col. 7, ll. 39-43 - Col. 8, ll. 1-2. Dionysia's **third court precedent**. February-March 87 CE: case of Didyme against her father Sabinus, before the iuridicus Umbrius, on the paternal power over their daughters, their dowries and their belongings.

³⁹ ἐξ ὑπομνηματισμῶν Οὐμβρί[ου] δικαιοδότη. (ἔτους) ς' Δομειτιανοῦ, Φαμεν[ῶ]θ Ν] Διδύμη ἧς ἕκδικος ὁ ἀνὴρ Ἀπολλωνίος πρὸς Σαβεῖνον ⁴⁰ τὸν καὶ Κάσιον, ἐκ τῶν ρεθέ[ν]των· Σαραπίων μετ' ἄλλα· "τὰ πρόσωπα Αἰγ[ύ]πτιαι ὄντα παρ' οἷς ἄκρατός ἐστιν ἡ τῶν νό⁴¹μων ἀποτομ[ί]α· αἱ δὲ διοριζόμενοι γάρ σοι λέγω [ὅ]τι Αἰγ[ύ]πτιοι οὐ μόνον τοῦ ἀφελῆσθαι τὰς [θυγατ]έρ[ας]

³⁹ From the minutes of Umbrius, iuridicus. 6th year of Domitian, Phamenoth []th Didyme, defended by her husband Apollonius, against Sabinus ⁴⁰ also called Cassius, from the proceedings. Sarapion, after other things: 'The individuals being Egyptians, the severity of the laws is untempered. ⁴¹ For I declare to you that the Egyptians have power to deprive their



ὧν ἔδωκαν ἔξουσίαν, ἔχουσιν δὲ καὶ ὧν ἂν
 καὶ ἴδια |⁴² κτήσωνται μεθ' ἑτερα·
 Οὐμβριος Σαβείνου· εἰ ἔφρακας ἀπαξ
 προῖκα δ[οὺς τῆ θυγατρὶ σου,
 ἀποκατάστησον. Σαβείνου τ]οῦτον μα
 . . . ἀ|⁴³τοῦμαι. Οὐμβριος τῆ θυγατρ[ί] δῆ.
 Σαβείνου· τούτω τῷ ἀνδρὶ οὐθὲν [προσ]ήκ[ει]
 συνῆναι. Οὐμβριος· χεῖρόν ἐστι ἀνδρὸς
 ἀφαι[ρεῖσθαι] || ---- |¹ ἀντ[. . . .]νε [±14
]εμε . [. .]ησιζω[±12] . κο . σι[. .] . εὐδαμ[. . . .
 . . .]ς[. .] . . . [. . .] . . . |² μην[. . . .] . ο . . |² ...
 δ[ε]δω[. . . .]

daughters not only of what they have given them, but also of whatever they may |⁴² acquire as their own.' Umbrius to Sabinus: 'Once you have already granted a dowry to your daughter, you must deliver it.' Sabinus: 'This ... I |⁴³ request ...' Umbrius: 'To your daughter of course.' Sabinus: 'It is not proper that she lives with this man.' Umbrius: 'It is worse to take her away from her husband ...' || (ca. 2 lines missing) |¹ ... |² ...

§27. Col. 8, ll. 2-7. **Opinion of Ulpius Dioscourides, legal expert** (nomikos), February 14th 138 CE. (another fragment, in Col. 9, ll. 18-24, infra §33), on the import of the (written or unwritten) type of marriage and the giving of the bride by her father (ekdosis) on the paternal power (exousia). For Dioscourides, cf. BGU XX 2863 (133-137 CE Arsinoites), SB XX 15147 (ca. 138 CE unknown provenance), P. Fouad 25 (144-149 CE Tebtynis), PSI V 450 (2nd CE Oxyrhynchos) Col. 2.

ἀντίγραφον προσφωγ[ήσεως νομ]ικοῦ. |² Copy of the opinion of a legal expert. Ulpius Οὐλπίος Δ[ι]οσκ[ο]υ[ρίδης] τῶν Διόσκουριδος, former agoranomos, |³ legal ἡγορανομικός³ των νομικός expert, to his most esteemed Salvastius Σαλουιστ[ί]ω Ἀφρικανῶ ἐπάρχῳ Africanus, commander of the fleet and στόλου καὶ [ἐπὶ τῶν] κεκριμένων τῶ (appointed) for judicial matters, greetings. Since τιμω[τά]τω χαίρειν. Δ[ι]ονυσία |⁴ ὑπὸ Dionysia |⁴ has been given away in marriage by τοῦ πατρὸς ἐκδοθεῖσα [πρ]ὸς γάμον ἐν her father, she is no longer under the father's τῆ τοῦ πατρὸς ἐξουσί[α] οὐκέτι power. For even though her mother lived with γε'ίναται. καὶ γὰρ εἴ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτῆς τῷ her father in an unwritten way, |⁵ and for this πατρὶ ἀγράφως |⁵ συνώκησε [κ]αὶ διὰ reason seems to be issue of an unwritten τοῦτο αὐτῆ δοκεῖ ἐξ ἀγράφων γάμων marriage, by the fact of her having been given γεγενῆσθαι, τῷ ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτὴν away in marriage by her father, she is no longer ἐκδόσθαι πρὸς γάμον οὐκέτι |⁶ ἐξ |⁶ from an unwritten marriage. It is probably ἀγράφων γάμων ἐστίν. πρὸς τοῦτο ἴσως about this issue that you write to me, my good γράφεις, τιμώτα[τε]· καὶ δι' friend. Moreover, there are minutes of trials ὑπομνηματισμῶν ἡσφά[λι]σταί περὶ τῆς which regarding the dowry protect the girl |⁷ πρ[ο]ϊκὸς ἡ παῖς |⁷ ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς, καὶ against her father, and this too can help her. τοῦτο αὐτῆ βοηθεῖν δύναται. vac. (vacat) 22nd year of the deified Hadrian, (ἔτους) κβ θεοῦ Ἀδριανοῦ, Μεχειρ κ. vac. Mecheir 20th. (vacat)

§28. Col. 8, ll. 7-18. **Edict of the prefect Valerius Eudaemon, 142 CE**, regarding debtors who refuse payment by claiming forgery (of the debt document), false pretence or fraud.

ἀντίγραφον διατάγ[α]τος. Οὐαλέρι|⁸ος Copy of an edict. Valerius |⁸ Eudaemon, Εὐδαίμων ἑπαρχος Αἰγύπτου λέγει· καὶ praefect of Egypt, proclaims: Following a most παραδείγματι τῷ καλλίστῳ χρώμενος excellent example, the opinion of his highness γνώμη τοῦ κρατίστου Μαμερτείνου, |⁹ καὶ Mamertinus, |⁹ and having myself from my own αὐτὸς ἴδια πεφωρακῶς ὅτι πολλοὶ τῶν observation discovered that many debtors

χρήματα ἀπαιτουμένων τὸ τὰ δίκαια when pressed for payment refuse to satisfy the ποιεῖν τοῖς ἀπαιτοῦσι ἀφέντες |¹⁰ ἐπ' just claims of their creditors, |¹⁰ and by the ἀνατάσει μειζόνων ἐνκλημάτων threat of bringing a more serious charge, παντελῶς διακρούεσθαι ἢ παρατείνειν attempt either to evade altogether or to τὴν ἀπόδοσιν ἐπιχειροῦσι, οἱ μὲν postpone payment, some because they |¹¹ κατα|11πλήξιν τοὺς τάχα ἂν expect to terrify their creditors who perhaps φοβηθέντας τὸν κίνδυνον καὶ διὰ τοῦτο may be induced through fear of the danger to ἐπ' ἐλάττονι συμβήσεσθαι accept less than the full amount, others προσδοκῶντες, οἱ δὲ {τῆς} ἐπ' because they |¹² hope that the threat of an ἀνα|¹²τάσει τῆς δίκης ἀπαυδήσειν τοὺς action will make their creditors renounce their ἀντιδίκους οἰόμενοι, παραγγέλλω τῆς claims, I proclaim that such persons shall τοιαύτης πανουργίας ἀποσχέσθαι, abstain from this form of knavery, and shall ἀποδιδόντας |¹³ ὅσα ὀφείλουσι ἢ pay |¹³ their debts or use persuasion to meet πείθοντας τοὺς δικαίως ἀπαιτοῦντας· ὡς the just demands of their creditors. For any εἴ τις χρηματικῆς συστάσης δίκης person, who, when an action for the recovery ἀπαιτηθεὶς καὶ μὴ |¹⁴ παραυτίκα of a debt is brought against him, does not |¹⁴ ἀρνησάμενος ὀφείλειν, τοῦτ' ἔστιν, μὴ immediately deny the debt, that is, does not παραυτίκα πλαστὰ εἶναι τὰ γράμματα immediately declare that the documents are εἰπῶν καὶ κα[τ]ηγορήσειν γράφας εἰ εἴτε forged |¹⁵ and write that he will bring an πλασ|¹⁵τῶν γραμμάτων ἢ ῥαδιουργίας ἢ accusation, but subsequently attempts to make περιγραφῆς ἐνκαλεῖν ἐπιχειρῆ, ἢ οὐδὲν a charge either of forgery or false pretences or αὐτῷ τῆς τ[ο]ιαύτης τέχνης ὀφελὲς ἔσται, fraud, either shall derive no advantage from ἀναγκασθήσεται [δὲ] |¹⁶ ἀποδοῦναι such a device and be compelled |¹⁶ at once to εὐθέως ἂ ὀφείλει, ἢ παρακαταθέμενός τε pay his debt; or else shall place the money on τὸ ἀργύριον ἔν' ἐν βεβαίῳ τὸ ἀναλαβεῖν deposit so that recovery of what was due may ὀφειλόμ[ενα] ἢ, πέρας τῆς χρηματικῆς |¹⁷ be assured, and then, when the pecuniary ἀμφισβητήσεως λαβούσης, τότε' ἐάν lawsuit |¹⁷ has come to an end, if he has θαρρῆ τοῖς τῆς κατηγορίας ἐλέγχους, τὸν confidence in the proofs of his accusation, he μειζονα ἀγῶνα ἐ[ι]σελεύσεται, ο[ὐ]δ[ε] [ε] shall enter upon the more serious trial. And τότε ἄθῃος |¹⁸ ἐσόμενος, ἀλλὰ τοῖς even so he shall not be immune, |¹⁸ but shall be τεταγμένοις ἐπιτέμιοις ἐνεχόμενος. vac. subject to the prescribed penalties. 5th year of (ἔτους) ε θεοῦ Αἰλίου Ἀντωνίνου, Ἐπειφ of the deified Aelius Antoninus, Epeiph 24. κδ. vac. (vacat)

§29. Col. 8, ll. 18-21. **Dionysia's fourth court precedent.** September 13th, 151 CE: before the prefect Munatius Felix, Flavia Helena against Flavia Marcia, regarding the independence of pecuniary claims from accusations of other nature.

(ἔτους) ιε Ἀντωνίνου |¹⁹ Καίσαρος τοῦ 15th year of Antoninus |¹⁹ Caesar the lord, Thoth κυρίου, Θῶθ ις, κληθείσης Φλαβίας 16th. Flavia Marcia having been summoned to Μαρκίας πρὸς Φλαυίαν Ἑλένην καὶ defend herself against Flavia Helena and having ὑπακουσάσης, Λε ρήτωρ εἶπεν· obeyed, her advocate Le . . . said: |²⁰ 'We have ἐν τῇ |²⁰ τάξει ἐκκείμεθα, περὶ τοῦ been posted in the list (of accused persons), χρηματικοῦ ἀξιοῦμεν. Μουνάτιος εἶπεν· (yet) we have pecuniary claims.' Munatius said: οὐκ ἀπέχεται τὰ χρηματικά διὰ τούτων 'The pecuniary claims are not barred by these τῶν ἐνκλημάτων· εἰ |²¹ δὲ μὴ, πάντες new accusations. Otherwise |²¹ every one will ἐροῦσιν' ὅτι κατηγορῶ. say, "I accuse".'



§30. Col. 8, ll. 21-27. **Edict of the prefect Sulpicius Similis**, 109 CE, regarding the registration of marriage syngraphai and the ensuing holds (katochai) in the property record offices.

καὶ Σιμίλιδος διατάγματος. Σέρουιος Σουλπίκιος Σίμιλις ἔπαρχ[ος] Αἰγύπτου λέγει· διαζη|²²τοῦντί μοι μαθεῖν ἐκ τίνος ὑποθέσεως ἐτελεῖτο τὰς Αἰγυπτιακάς γυναῖκας κατὰ ἐνχώριον νόμιμα κατέχειν τὰ ὑπάρχοντα τῶν |²³ ἀνδρῶν διὰ τῶν γαμικῶν συγγραφῶν ἑαυταῖς τε καὶ τοῖς τέκνοις, πλειστάκις δὲ ἐκ τούτου ἀμφισβητήσεων γενομένων, |²⁴ ἐπὶ ἐδύγαντο ἀγνοεῖν ο<|> τοῖς γεγαμηκόσι συναλλάσσοντες εἰ τούτω [τ]ῷ δικαίῳ κατέχεται τὰ ὑπάρχον[τ]α αὐτῶν ταῖς γυναίξιν |²⁵ διὰ τὸ καὶ ἑτέροις βιβλιοφυλακίαις τὰς συγγραφὰς καταχωρίζεσθαι, [κ]εκελευκέναι Μέ[τ]τιον Ροῦφον τὸ[ν] γενόμενον ἐπι . . . ν |²⁶ ἔπαρχον τὰ ἀντίγραφα τῶν συγγραφῶν ταῖς τῶν ἀνδρῶν ὑποστάσεσι παρατίθεσθαι καὶ τοῦτο διατά[γ]ματι προστεταχέναι οὗ καὶ |²⁷ ἀντίγραφον ὑπέταξα, φανερόν ποιῶν κατακολουθεῖν τοῖς ὑπὸ Μетτίου Ροῦφου . . . θησι[. . .] vac. (ἔτους) κγ, Ἀθὺρ ιβ. vac.

And (a copy) of an edict of Similis. Servius Sulpicius Similis, prefect of Egypt, proclaims: When I |²² wished to know on what grounds it was established that Egyptian wives according to the tradition of the land have a lien (katoche) upon their |²³ husbands' property through their written marriage agreements both for themselves and for their children, since disputes were often arising from this, |²⁴ because those who contract with married people could ignore if due to such right their property is under lien (katoche) for their wives, |²⁵ due to the written (marriage) agreements being registered at other record-offices, Mettius Rufus, the former [...] |²⁶ prefect, ordered copies of the written (marriage) agreements be attached to the property-statements of the husbands, and established this through an edict, a |²⁷ copy of which I have appended to make clear that I am following what Mettius Rufus had ordered. 23rd year, Hathyr 12th. (vacat)

§31. Col. 8, ll. 27-43. **Edict of the prefect Mettius Rufus**, 89 CE, regarding the correct functioning of the property record offices

Μάρκος Μέττι|²⁸ος Ροῦφος ἔπαρχος Αἰγύπτου λέγει· Κλαύδιος Ἄρειος ὁ τοῦ Ὀξυρυχείτου στρατηγὸς [ἐ]δήλωσέν μοι μήτε τὰ [δι]ωτικά μήτε τὰ δημ[ι]όσια |²⁹ πράγματα τὴν καθήκουσαν λαμβάνειν διοίκησιν διὰ τὸ ἐκ πολλῶν χρόνων μὴ καθ' ὄν ἔδει τρόπον ὠκονομηθῆσαι τὰ ἐν τῇ τῶν ἐν|³⁰κτίσεων βιβλιοθήκῃ δια[σ]τρώματα, καίτοι πολλακίς κριθέν ὑπὸ τῶν πρὸ ἐμοῦ ἐπάρχων τῆς δεούσης αὐτὰ τυχεῖν ἐπανορθώ|³¹σεως· ὅπερ οὐ καλῶς ἐνδέχεται εἰ μὴ ἄνωθεν γένοι<ν>το ἀπογραφαί. κελεύω οὖν πάντας τοὺς κτήτορας ἐντὸς μηνῶν ἕξ ἀπογρά|³²ψασθαι τὴν ἰδίαν κτήσιν εἰς τὴν τῶν ἐνκτίσεων βιβλιοθήκην καὶ τοὺς δανειστάς ἅς ἐὰν ἔχωσι ὑποθήκας καὶ τοὺς ἄλλους |³³ ὅσα ἐὰν ἔχωσι δίκαια, τὴν δὲ

|²⁷ Marcus Mettius |²⁸ Rufus, praefect of Egypt, proclaims. Claudius Areios, strategos of the Oxyrhynchite nome, has informed me that both private and public |²⁹ affairs are not fittingly managed because for a long time the |³⁰ abstracts (diastromata) of the property record office have not been properly kept, in spite of the fact that my predecessors have on many occasions ordered that these should receive the due |³¹ revisions. This cannot be done adequately unless new returns are produced afresh. Therefore I command all owners to register within six months |³² their property at the property record-office, and all lenders whatever hypothecs they may hold, and all others |³³ whatever rights they may have. And they shall make the return declaring the sources from which each of the

ἀπογραφήν ποιείσθωσαν δηλοῦντες πόθεν ἕκαστος τῶν ὑπαρχόντων καταβέβηκεν εἰς αὐτοὺς |³⁴ ἢ κτήσεις. παρατιθέτωσαν δὲ καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες ταῖς ὑποστάσεσι τῶν ἀνδρῶν αἷς κατὰ τινα ἐπιχώριον νόμον κρατεῖται τὰ ὑπάρ|³⁵χοντα, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὰ τέκνα ταῖς τῶν γονέων οἷς ἢ μὲν χρήσεις διὰ δημοσίων τετήρηται χρηματισμῶν, ἢ δὲ κτῆ|³⁶σις μετὰ θάνατον τοῖς τέκνοις κεκράτηται, ἵνα οἱ συναλλάσσοντες μὴ κατ' ἄγνοιαν ἐνεδρεῦνται. παραγγέλ' λ' ὡς καὶ τοῖς συναλλα|³⁷γματογράφοις καὶ τοῖς μνήμοσι μηδὲν δίχα ἐπιστάματος τοῦ βιβλιοφυλακί[ου] τελειῶσαι, γνοῦσιν ὡς οὐκ ὄφελος τὸ] τοιοῦτο ἀλλὰ καὶ |³⁸ αὐτοὶ ὡς παρὰ τὰ προστεταγμένα ποιήσοντες δίκην ὑπομενοῦσι τὴν προσήκουσαν. ἐὰν δ' εἰσὶν ἐν τῇ βιβλιοθήκῃ τῶν ἐπάρ|³⁹νων χρόνων ἀπογραφαί, μετὰ πάσης ἀκρειβείας φυλασσέσθωσαν, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὰ διαστρώματα, ἵν' εἰ τις γένοιτο ζήτησις εἰς |⁴⁰ ὕστερον περὶ τῶν μὴ δεόντως ἀπογραφασμένων ἐξ ἐκείνων ἐλεγχθῶσι. [τ]ῆν δ' [ο]ὐν β[ε]β[ε]αία τε καὶ εἰς ἅπαν διαμένῃ τῶν διασ|⁴¹τρωμάτων ἢ χρήσεις πρὸς τὸ μὴ πάλιν ἀπογραφῆς δεηθῆναι, παραγγέλλω τοῖς β[ι]βλιοφύλαξι διὰ πενταετίας ἐπανανεῶσθαι |⁴² τὰ διαστρώματα μεταφερομένης εἰς τὰ καινοποιούμενα τῆς τελευταίας ἐκάστου ὀνόματος ὑποστάσεως κατὰ κώμην καὶ κα|⁴³τ' εἶδος. (ἔτους) θ Δομειτιανο[ῦ], . . . μὴνός Δομιτιανοῦ δ. vac.

assets devolved |³⁴ to them. Also wives for whom by virtue of some law of the land the property (of their husbands) is under hold shall add (it) for registration to the property returns of their husbands, |³⁵ and likewise children to those of their parents, if through public instruments these retain the enjoyment but the possession |³⁶ after their death has been put under hold for the children, so that those who enter into agreements (regarding such properties) may not be defrauded by their ignorance. I also command all |³⁷ notaries and registrars [not to execute] (any deeds) without an authorisation (epistalma) from the record office, [knowing that] this [would have no effect] and |³⁸ that they themselves will suffer the due penalty for acting against what has been decreed. If in the record office there are returns |³⁹ from an earlier date let them be preserved with the utmost care, and likewise the abstracts, in order that, if any inquiry is made |⁴⁰ hereafter concerning returns not properly presented, they can be checked against those. Therefore in order that the use of the abstracts may become secure and permanent, |⁴¹ so that another return is not necessary, I command the keepers of the record offices to update every five years |⁴² the abstracts and to transfer to the new ones the last property record for each name, arranged under villages and |⁴³ classes. 9th year of Domitian, month of Domitianus 4th.

§32. Col. 8, l. 43 – Col. 9, ll. 1-18. **Dionysia's fifth court precedent**. November 11th, 133 CE: A case adjudicated by Petronius Mamertinus, prefect of Egypt, probably regarding holds (katochai) arising for wife and children from registered marriage contracts (syngraphai).

|⁴³ ἐξ ὑπομνηματισμῶν Πετρωνίου Μαρμερτείνου. (ἔτους) η' Ἀδρι(ανοῦ), Ἀθὺρ ιε. || ---- |¹ [±19-20] νης ἔμ.αν . . [±?] |² [. .] δ[±19-20] παιδὶ[ο]ν παρ' ἑαυτῶ [±?] |³ [ὁ] δὲ ἀπ' αὐτοῦ οὗτος . . ον[. .] ἐργειν τὸν . . ονον . [±?] |⁴ πουμενὴ πυνθαν[όμεθ]α ἄλλως αὐτ[.] ν . [±3] ἡμεῖς α . . [±?] |⁵ πάντων [ζ]ημίας κατ' ἀ[ὐτ]ὸν δέόμεθα τῶ ἀφήλικα ἃ καὶ . σι . [±?] |⁶

From the minutes of Petronius Mamertinus. 18th year of Hadrian, Hathyr 15th. || (ca. 4 missing lines) |¹ [...] |² [...] the child by his side [...] |³ and this grandfather [...] |⁴ we learn that [...] otherwise he (she?) [...] we [...] |⁵ the losses of all [...] regarding him, we require for the minor the same things as also [...]

