

P. Dionysia.
The Petition of Dionysia, Daughter of Chairemon
A Witness of Legal Plurality in Roman Egypt
P. Oxy. II 237 (after 27 June 186 CE)

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1. The Petition of Dionysia, published by Grenfell and Hunt over 120 years ago (*P. Oxy. II 237*), is a unique and primary witness of legal plurality in Roman Egypt. It reports a complex family dispute. Even if *prima facie* the family accusations and pretensions contained in it seem to be full of empty rhetoric and emotions (stubborn daughter, violence, inhumane law), we deal in fact with a skilful legal argument of both parties, aided by citation of numerous previous judgments, opinions of learned jurists and prefects' edicts: all these spanning for over a century of the Roman rule. They weave a textile of the law in Egypt giving a glimpse of how legal norms of heterogenous origins – the local 'law of the Egyptians', the laws of the Greek settlers and the Roman legal order – co-existed in Roman Egypt, indirectly informing about the legal awareness of her inhabitants.
2. The affair deals practically with all aspects of law of persons: marriage, family structure, paternal power, law of successions and regulations pertaining to the administration of the family estate as well as to securing the interests of the wives and children. Even more importantly, it shows how and to what extent Rome endorsed the legal norms and customs pre-existing in the newly acquired Land of the Nile, which singularly presented them with a particularly well-developed administrative and legal order, inherited over the centuries first from the pharaohs and then from the Graeco-Macedonian rulers of the country. The *Dionysia papyrus* allows us thus to reconstruct the relation between laws and the possible guidelines of the legal co-existence in Egypt.

I. CHRONOLOGY

1. Ca 180 CE: Fanfare: Dionysia's given to Horion in Marriage
2. Prelude: the Loan(s) of Chairemon
3. 1st Act: Dispute I: Validity of Contracts and *Katoche*
 - Loan from Asklepiades 8 talents – Dionysia and her husband Horion allowed partial mortgage of the property (probably on the mother's estate)
 - **year 22nd (181/182 CE)**: agreement between Dionysia and her father to arrest managements of the estate (col. IV, ll. 4–5)
 - Choregia mentioned for the year 23rd (instead of payment? Chairemon freed from it?)
 - Year 23rd (183/184 CE): the second homologia between Chairemon and Dionysia (Col. IV, ll. 12–18): One talent was to be paid in the year 23rd.
 - **Year 24th (183/184 CE)**: Asklepiades proceeds to execute from the mortgage Dionysia 'constrained' to allow further hypothecation of another part of the property, and to overtake the payments (col. IV, ll. 21–22).

¹ Full text, newly established text and commentary may be consulted at dionysia.wpia.uw.edu.pl. Prepared under the auspices of the research financed by National Science Centre of the Republic of Poland (Narodowe Centrum Nauki, Opus 14, nr. 2017/27/B/HS3/01350: *How to Apply Law in Egypt? A Practical Guide for the Roman Judge: A Case-study of P. Oxy. II 237 and Other Papyrological Evidence on Legal Pluralism in the Roman Times*).

- **Year 24th** Dionysia allows to borrow 4 talents so money is repaid, the other 4 would be paid by Dionysia from the proceeds of the estate? She should keep the estates until the repayment (col. IV, ll. 26–29).
- **Before the year 25th, Pachon 27 (22 May 185 CE):** Chairemon's 1st Petition to Longaeus Rufus claiming things given to Dionysia, possibly also referring to her *katoche*, for that reason' perhaps claiming she has illegally got to possess his estate? or still undermining the *katoche*. (*lying about it all*):
- **Year 25th, Pachon 27 (22 May 185 CE):** Longaeus Rufus orders the case to be examined by the strategos Isidoros.
- **Year 25th** Dionysia's Response to Longaeus Rufus (*katoche* involved the grandfather). Decisions of Prefects mentioned, *i. al.* of Similis, and of archidikastes: marrying daughters should be provided for, *syngraphe* of the mother as the source of *katoche* general laws on *syngraphai*. She appends as well the abstracts of the contracts with the father.
- Praefect Rufus subscribes the petition ordering its examination by strategos
- **Year 26th, Thoth (late Augustus/September 185 CE):** Dionysia files the subscribed petition with strategos
- 7th Thoth Year 26th. Hearing before the strategos of Chairemon and Dionysia (col. v, ll. 8–19).
- Strategos Isidoros orders an enquiry to the keepers
- Confirmation of the *katoche*. *Apographe* of Chairemon of the **26th year** evidencing the loans (col. v, ll. 23–24).. The keepers send back a report to the strategos
- **Late December/January 185 CE:** Strategos writes a report back to the new prefect, appending the reports of the archive keepers (col. v, ll. 27–28).
- **Early year 186:** Dionysia thus asks the prefect to have her rights confirmed in accordance of the findings of the strategos
- Pomponius Faustianus subscribes, petition filed to strategos to execute.
- 4. **2nd Act: Dispute II: apospasis and bia**
- **Year 26th Pachon (April/May 186 CE):** Chairemon's 2nd Petition. (col. VI, ll. 12–19).
- **Year 26th Pachon 30 (25 May 186 CE):** Faustianus orders Isidoros to examine the case. (col. VI, ll. 32–35).
- **Year 26, 3rd Epeiph (27 June 186 CE):** Chairemon's 2nd Petition subscribed brought to Harpokration, the royal scribe and acing strategos (col. VI, ll. 36–38).
- Hearing before Harpokration. Dionysia represented by her husband Horion.
- Harpokration orders payment of *choregiai*, upkeep of the *katoche*, yet finding no instruction on *apospasis* refers that matter back to the praefect
- Dionysia's petitions the praefect again.

II. TEXT

§1. Col. I, ll. 1–5. 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. The ca. 33 preceding lines might have contained the prefect's endorsement, 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 (cf. ἄνθρωπον in l. 3) 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 very elongated chancery style well known through *SB* I 4639, 209 CE Alexandria, albeit two decades later.

----- |¹ [± ?] *traces* δα [± 4] |² [± ?].. [± ?] . . . |³ [± ?] κ . κ α ς [ca. 20 lost lines] |¹ ... |² ... |³ ...
α . . . [± 9] ἄνθρωπον |⁴ θ α ι ε ρ χ [± 5] ε ἵ ν α ι δ ε |⁵ [± ?] ε σ τ [± 5] man |⁴ ... and be |⁵ ...

§2. Col. I, ll. 5–17 – Col. II, ll. 1–4. Dionysia's petition, with her presentation of the case.

¹ [± ?] *traces*]δ[α [± 4] | ² [± [ca. 20 lost lines] | ¹ ... | ² ... | ³ ... | ⁴ ...
 ?] ... [] ... | ³ [± ?] κ . κας and be | ⁵ ... To Pomponius | ⁶
 α ... [± 9] . ν ... πον | ⁴ [± [Faustianus, prefect of Egypt ...]
 ?] ... θαι ερχ[± 5] εἶναι δε | ⁵ [± from Dionysia, daughter of
 ?] εστ[± 5] Πομπωνίω | ⁶ [Φαυστιανῶ ἐπάρχω Chairemon, son of | ⁷ [Phanias, her
 Αἰγύπτου ± ?] παρὰ Διο[νυ]σίας [Χ]αιρήμ[ο]νος τοῦ | ⁷ mother being ...] My lord prefect, [
 [Φανίου μητρὸς ± ?] ἡγ[εμῶ]ν κύριε [.] [..] εἰν ἐν | ⁸ ...] | ⁸ [...] contrive against | ⁹ [...] if
 [± ?] σ[± 2] . α[± 2] . . . ν[α] [τ[..] ἐπὶ κελύειν | ⁹ [± not [...] was [secure?] – | ¹⁰ [...]
 ?] μ[...] ἦσα εἰ δ[ον] τὸν - | ¹⁰ [± ?] φιλ[...] το . μεν affectionate and [father-loving?] – | ¹¹
 κα . . ἀπάτωρ - | ¹¹ [± ?] . αδ[± 7] . ιανο [± 3 τ] ὦν ἡμε[± 12] [τέρων [...] (her?) suffering/ [...] of our | ¹²
 δικαίων?] . ηγαν[± 4] τὴν φο - | ¹³ [± ?] . γενομ[± [rights? ...] vexed [...] in the [...]
 2] . [± 7] . ι . γὰρ ἀφορ[± 14] [μη- ± ?] . ἄζων . ετ . . [.] . [± | ¹³ [...] turned [...] in fact a
 3] αζόμενος | ¹⁵ [± ?] . κατέσχε μοι Νθ . [τῆς μ] ητρώας | ¹⁶ [± pre] | ¹⁴ [text ... fabricating?] yet [...]
 ?] . . κ[...] το ἀρξάμενος ἀπὸ [Λ]ογγαίου | ¹⁷ [Ρούφου ± | ¹⁵ [...] he placed under lien for me
 ?] ζοντι ἐπυθόμην . [± 4] ω[± 3] . σαμεν || ----- | ¹ [± ?] ενε 59.000 [...] of the maternal | ¹⁶ [estate
 . σ[± ?] | ² [± ? τῶ] ν ὑπαρχ[όντων ± ?] | ³ [± ?] μου τῷ δι[± ?] (?) ...] originating from Longaeus | ¹⁷
 | ⁴ [± ?] . ηται καλ[± ?] [Rufus ...] I learnt that [...] [ca. 8
 missing lines] | ¹ [...] | ² [...] of the
 belongings [...] | ³ [...] | ⁴ [...]

§3. Col. II, ll. 5–13: Dionysia reproduces (part of) the first petition of her father, Chairemon, against her (dated before the 22nd of May, 185 CE: cf. §4). For the content of this petition, cf. Chairemon's own summary in Col. 6, ll. 13–15; for the references to Similis and the archidikastes, cf. Col. VI, ll. 27–29. Some of the final lines (n.b. the reference to 'the tricks' in l. 13) may be Dionysia's considerations on her father's petition.

| ⁵ [± ? Χαιρήμων Φανίου γυ]μνασιάρχ[ή]σας τῆς | ⁵ [... Chairemon son of Phanias, former]
 Ὀξυρυγχειτῶν πόλεως ± ?] | ⁶ [± ?] . . [± 5] ιν μη . [± gymnasiarch [of the city of the
 ?] | ⁷ [± ?] . . ην μὲν Σ[ι]μίλιδος [± ?] | ⁸ [± ?] . . . νόμων Oxyrhynchites ...] | ⁶ ... | ⁷ ... but the ... of
 περὶ τοῦ ἐξε[τάσαι ± ?] | ⁹ [± ?] δὲ τὴν δ[ι] νόμων Similis ... | ⁸ ... of the laws concerning the
 ἀρχιδικαστοῦ τιν[± ?] | ¹⁰ [± ?] . ε καλῶνται ταῖς examination ... | ⁹ ... the ... through the
 θυγατρά[σι ± ?] | ¹¹ [± ?] . . λαν στρα[τ]ηγῷ archidikastes ... | ¹⁰ they are summoned, to the
 Λεοντοπο[λί]του ± ?] | ¹² [± ?] σ . . [.] . . [± 6] εἰν daughters ... | ¹¹ ... to the strategos of the
 ἐφ' ὃν [± ?] | ¹³ [± ?] . . . ὡς οὔν τὰ τεχνάσ[ματα ± ?] Leontopolites ... | ¹² ... so ... | ¹³ the tricks in fact
 ...

§4. Col. II, ll. 13–17. 22nd of May 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 (cf. col. VI, ll. 15–16, ll. 34–35).

| ¹³ ± ? ἔγραψεν] | ¹⁴ [τῷ στρατηγῷ τάδε·] Λογγαῖος] he (i.e. Longaeus Rufus) wrote | ¹⁴ to the
 [Ρο]ύφος Ἰσιδ[ώ]ρω στρατηγῷ Ὀξυρυγχείτου χαίρειν strategos thus: Longaeus Rufus to Isidoros,
 Περὶ τῶν γραφέν[τ]ων [μοι] | ¹⁵ ὑ[πὸ] Χαιρήμονος strategos of the Oxyrhynchites, greetings.
 Φανίου γυμνασ[ι]αρχήσαντος [τῆς Ὀξυρυγχειτῶν [Regarding what was written to me] | ¹⁵ [by
 πόλεως ἀξιούντο]ς [τ]ο[ῦ] περὶ κατοχῆς] | ¹⁶ ὡς μὴ Chairemon, son of Phanias, former]
 δεόντως γενομένης ἀντίγραφον ὑποτά[ξ]ας ὑπ' αὐτοῦ gymnasiarch [of the city of the
 γραφέν ὅπως ἐντυχὼν οἷς παρέθετ[ε]ρ [φο]ρν[ι]σ- Oxyrhynchites, presenting a claim about a
 | ¹⁷ θη[ν] α[ι] τὰ [ἀ]κόλουθα πράξ[αι] ἔρρωσο) 5] lien] | ¹⁶ being not properly established,
 (ἔτους) κξ // Παχῶν [κζ] appending copy [of what he has written,
 so that having taken cognisance of what he
 alleged] | ¹⁷ it is seen to it that it is dealt
 with accordingly. [Greetings.] 25th year,
 Pachon [27th.]

§5. Col. II, ll. 17–21: Dionysia's description of the inquiry made by order of the strategos Isidoros upon her father's first petition.

[± ?] μον[± ?] Ἰσι¹⁸δ[ώρ]ω τῷ στρατηγῷ τότε καὶ
ὁ στρατηγὸς ἀπλῶς [± ?] δὲ τοῦ [± ?]¹⁹ α . . . υ
ἀντιγράφου τῶν γραφ[έ]ντων ὑπὸ τοῦ [πατρὸς?
]ων αὐτοῦ ὥσ[± ?]²⁰ μ[ή] δέοντως γενομένη τοῖς
βιβλιοφύλαξιν [± ?] ὡς αὐτὸς οὐκ ἔλεγε[± ?]²¹
[± 5] δέοντως ἡ κατοχὴ γεγένηται ὃ μὴ ὁ π . [± ?]
ατ. κ[.] εἰ[± ?]

... to Isi¹⁸doros the strategos, and the
strategos simply ...¹⁹ ... of a copy of what had
been written by [my father? ...]²⁰ ... [the lien]
not properly established, to the keepers of the
record office ... he himself did not say ...²¹ ...
the lien (katochê) had been properly
established, what not (?)...

§6. Col. II, ll. 22–37 – Col. III, ll. 1–9: Summary of Dionysia's own (first) counter-petition to the prefect Longaeus Rufus, and probably (in the preserved part of col. 3) its effect. [in red, 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[ι] τ[ὸν] ἑ[π]αρχον
Λογγαῖον Ρ[ο]ῦφον ± ?] ἀπ[ο]λογο[υμένη? ± ?]
²³ . . . υ οὐ δέον[τ]ως ὁ πατήρ διὰ τῆς ἐπιστολῆς κ[±
?] οὐ τὸν . . . [± ?]²⁴ [± 4] . εἰ γνοῦσα, αὐτὸν δὲ τὴν
ἐπιστολὴν γεγραφ[ότα ± ?] ἡγεμό[ν]ων διαταξάμ[ένου]
²⁵ [± 2] . ἰ περὶ ιδιωτικῶν ζητήσεων ἐπιστολ[ά]ς τῇ
[ἡγεμονία μὴ γράφειν ± ?] . κεν [± ?]²⁶ [± 4] ἰσ[ι]σ[±
4] . ας ας τοῖς ἐμφορομένοι[ς] ὧσιν . [.] . π[±
5] . τ[ο]ῦτο κα[τα]βεβηκέναι εἰς [± ?]²⁷ [± 3] . . γὰρ
μὲν οὐδὲν ἕτερον θηρώμενον ἢ τὸ ἐξ[. . .] μου α[±
7] . . . α . . . [± 3] νη . . σθαι τη[± ?]²⁸ ἡγεμονίαν
παραγαγεῖν κα[. .] . [.] τε τὰ ἀληθῆ τῷ Ρούφῳ
γεγραφ[± 4] . . α ἐψευσ[μένον ± 5-6] . . [± ?]²⁹ γὰρ
γράμματα αὐτοῦ πρὸς με καὶ τὸν ἄνδρα μου καὶ
πάππον το[.] εἰ[. . .] ± 5] νὰ ὁμολογ[ήματα δὲ τὰ
ὑποτε]³⁰ τα[γμ]μένα ἐπιστάμενο[ν] ὅτι [. . .] ὀλίγην
ἐπιστροφ[ήν ± 8] ἡγ[έ]μονες προστ[ε]τάχασιν
οὐδενί³¹ [± 4] στας αὐτῶν γράμματα, ἔπειτα δὲ
καὶ κε[± ?] Σιμ[ί]λιδ[ος ± ?]³² κ[α]ὶ ἐτ[έ]ρου
ἀρχιδικαστοῦ ὑπομνήμασι καὶ ἐπιστολ[αῖς ± ?]³³ ἐφ'
[ὄν?] ἐπέδωκάν τινες ταῖς θυγατρᾶσι γαμουμ[έ]ν[α]ις
[± ?]³⁴ τα[. . .] ἔδε[ι], μ[η]δὲν π[α]ρὰ τοῦ πατρὸς
μήτε χάριτι μήτε ἐπι[± ?]³⁵ μα[. .] πρ[. .] εἰ ἔσχε[±
5] . . μου μητρῶας σ[υνγ]ραφῆς [± ?]³⁶ πα[. .] δ[. .] ν
σ[υν]γραφῶν καθολικῶς νόμ[ο]υς καὶ ὑπο[± ?]³⁷
τετη[± 7] διὸ κα[ὶ] δι[α]βάλλειν ἐπιχειρῶν τὴν
συγγραφὴν [± ?] || -----¹ [± ?] πὸ φιλοσ[±
[[τοργίας? ± ?] .] εἶπεν [±
?] ἐμῆς³ [± ?] . [± 3] ὦ[± ?] σ[ε] . . .⁴ [± ?] μὴ ὄντ[± ?] σ[.
 . .]⁵ [± ?] προχ[± ?]] τον . . ν⁶ δημ[± ?] . ε τῶν
ἐν⁷ κτήσεων [βιβλιο- ± ?]ς μητ[. ± ?] ὅπως μένη⁸ μοι
καὶ τοῖς ε[± ?] . παυ . . [± ?] λαις τη[± ?] . ντων
ἐκα⁹ τέρου τ[± ?] . τ . σ μὲν βιβλιοφυλ[α- ± 4 κα]θὼς π[±
?]

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 ... the letter ... ordering that
...²⁵ ... letters regarding private affairs
[should not be written to the prefecture
...]²⁶ [...] to do [...] to the concerned [...] to go down (with the river flow, i.e.
probably to Alexandria) 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 writings for
me and my husband and grandfather [...] the agreements (?) [...] ³⁰ ... knowing that
[... it would] change (?) little [...] the
governors [decree that no one is allowed]
³¹ to speak against his own writings, and
afterwards 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 (syngraphê)... ³⁶ ... the general
laws of the written agreements
(syngraphai), and ... ³⁷ ... and for this
reason, attempting to disprove the written
agreement (syngraphê) || [ca. 12 lines
missing] ¹ [...] due to (my) affec²tion [...] he said [...] of mine ³ ... ⁴ [...] not [...] ⁵ ...
⁶ of the property ⁷ record office ... so as it
remains ⁸ for me and ... of each ⁹ of two
... the record keepers, according to ...

§7. Col. III, ll. 10 – Col. IV, ll. 1–5: 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 πα[ππο]υ .[± ?] . γμεν[ο]ν καὶ πα[ρ]οντ[± ?] . αἰ
εἰδόμενα ¹¹ καὶ τὸν πάππ[ον ± ?] γραφὴν τὰ κόσμια [± 3] αἰ
μ[.] . τ[.] . [± ?] ὡν νομί¹² μως γεγεννημέν[ην ± ?] ταῦτα
χρόνῳ ὑστέρ[ω ± 4] ἀντος αὐτο[ῦ ± ?] . ἐν τῶν ¹³
ὑπαρχόντων τῶ[± ?] τῷ πάπ[π]ῳ μου διαφέροντ[α πε]ρὶ
τὸν Ἑρμοπ[ολίτην ± ?] τιμῆς ¹⁴ αὐτῶν ἕτερα ὡ[± ?] μὴ
ἀντιρηκ[.] [± 6] τὸν ὑποτ[.] [± ?] . . α[. . .] ¹⁵ μενον ἔτι
τῷ δ[.] [± ?] χηματα ὡνη[± ?] . η[.] [.] . σφанта ¹⁶ τοσοῦτο
ὅσου σ[. . .] ερα[± 3] ει[± 3] ὠνεῖσθαι μηδ' [αὐ]τὸν
πεπληρωκέναι χ[± ?] ἐναι μέρος ¹⁷ τῆς τιμῆς
ἀνα[π]όδοτ[ον?] δη[.] . . (τάλαντα) γ καὶ (δραχμας) Ε.
ὁ μὲν κατεχρήσατο αὐτὴν ὥσ[. . .] τι νι σα
¹⁸ διαβάλλει δὲ οἱμ[.] . [± 7] ὡ[. . .] ξε μόνη εἶναι τῇ
μητρ[ρ]ῳ μου συγγραφῇ κ[± ?] χρ[.] ντα α[.] αχει ¹⁹
τῇ ἐμῇ τε [ὁ πατ]ήρ μου ἐν ὥρᾳ γάμου ἐκδέδωκέν
με τῷ . Ὡ[ρίων]ι νο[.] (ἔτους) Χ Αὐρηλίου
Κομμόδου? Α] γγῶνιν[ο]υ ²⁰ Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρί[ο]υ μὴνι
Θῶ α . ιδίου . α . ημῶ οὐ μ[όν]ον τὸν [± ?] ντο . ε
πᾶν ²¹ τε καὶ μᾶλλον ν [± 2] . . ν . π[. . .] . ρ[. . .] .
νό[μ]ιναι τῇ [συγγρ]αφῇ . [± ?] ἐντα[ι] [± 3] . να ²² τὸν δε
[. . .] . [± ?] τὸ προκατεχόμενον [± 5] οἱμ[. . .] . [± ?] αφα[.] [±
4] ιε ²³ κ[. . .] . ις δι[± ?] το ἀφελέ[σ]θαι ὡν τ[±
?] ιμ[.] νε[.] [± 5] σαρ ²⁴ ος . . νως[± ?] ὡδῶς ἄχρι νῦν [.] π[.
] δε[± ?] σεν[. . .] . ι . . [± 2 χορ?] ηγί²⁵ αν κ[α]τὰ το[.] [± ?] .
ερα (τάλαντα) γ καὶ [.] ε[± ?] [. . .]
²⁶ καν εν . [± ?] ἐκ πλήρους ἄς . [± 4] . . να[± ?] . . . [±
5] δ[.] ²⁷ τον καὶ γαμ[± ?] μενον δειν[.] ἐκ τῶν [. . .] [± ?
συγγρ]αφῇ [. . .] [± 4] . ια . ²⁸ νῶν μᾶλλ[ο]ν [± ?] τῶν
παρὰ κ[α]λῆιν γ[± 4] ὡσι[± ?] θ[. . .] [± 3] ι . .
[.] ²⁹ χρόν[ου] διελ[θόντος ± ?] ἐπ[ι]δοχῆς σ[.] νῦν . . [±
7] . . [± ?] [± 6] ε[. . .] ³⁰ περιέσσε[θ]αι ± ?
γ[υ]μνασιαρχίαν . . [± ?] [.] χ[. . .] [± 31] οὐδὲ [.
] . ρο[. . .] [± ?] ο [± ?] traces ³² τὸν δὲ ταύτης τῇ[ς]
[. . .] [± ?] σο ἐν[± ?] ³³ των τιγῶν πρᾶ[σεως?] εισ[.] [± ?
] οια[.] ἐστ[ι] [± ?] χειν || ---- ¹ [± 16] . . [± ?] ² [±
16] ρε[.] [± ?] . [± ?] ³ [± 14] γησεω[± 36] . το
χρῶ[μενος?] ± ? ⁴ [ἀρχιδ]ικαστὴν πρότερον τ[± 26] . . .
[.] ⁵ [.] μισυ ἦν μοι πρῶ[τερον?] ± ? ⁶ [.] [.] οἱσι
ανθ[.] ὡκα[.] [± 14] . . τῶ καὶ λοιπὰ τῆς τιμῆς τῷ α
[.] αλμ[.] τοι

¹⁰ ... of the grandfather ... and being
present ... knowing ¹¹ also the
grandfather ... the written agreement,
the ornaments ... law¹² 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 ... 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
(or: misused) it ... ¹⁸ he is disproving ...
that it is to my mother's written
agreement (syngraphê) alone ... ¹⁹ to
mine ... my father had given me away in
the moment of the marriage to H[orion
in the ... year X of Aurelius Commodus
A]ntoninus ²⁰ Caesar the Lord, on the
1st of the month of Thoth ... not only ...
²¹ and rather ... give back, to the written
agreement (syngraphê) ... ²² while ... the
... previously put under lien (katochê) ...
²³ ... to take away ... ²⁴ [...] the
ornament (?) [...] until now [...] the
allo²⁵ wance (*choregia*) according to ..., 3
talents ... and ... ²⁶ ... in full, which ... ²⁷
... and ... being fitting, from the ...
written agreement (syngraphê) ... ²⁸
more ... to summon ... ²⁹ when the time
elapsed ... of the offer ... now ... ³⁰ left
over ... of the gymnasiarchy ... ³¹ nor ...
³² the ... of this ... ³³ of the sale (?) or
certain ... is ... || [ca. 6 lines missing] ¹ ...
² ... ³ ... employing (?) ... ⁴ the
achidikastês previously (or: the former
archidikastês) ... I had a half (before?) ⁵
... and the remainder of the price to ...

§8. Col. IV, ll. 6–12. 181–182 CE (22nd year): Chairemon's financial difficulties, and the fact that Dionysia's *katochê* gave her control over at least part of his property, leads to a first 'reciprocal agreement' (*homologêma*) between both, which Dionysia summarises, only to then narrate its failure.

⁶ [± 10] [± 5] ὁμολόγημα διὰ δημοσίου
γεγονέναι τῷ κβ (ἔτει) μεταξύ ἡμῶν μήτε τὸν
πατέρα ⁷ μ[± 17 μη] δὲν ἐπὶ καταχρηματισμῷ
οἰκονομεῖν ἐμὲ δ[ὲ ἀπ]οδιδ[ό]ναι τὰ λοιπὰ τῆς
τιμῆς ⁸ [ὁφ]ειλόμενα [.] ν[± 11] υς καὶ ἀπελε[.]
[. . .] [ς χορηγίαν, ἐκλεγομένην ἐπὶ] τοῦ κγ (ἔτους)
τάς προσόδους ταύτων ⁹ τ[ῶ]ν ὑπαρχ[όντων -
ca. 11 -] ὡς ἄλλων ἀνεθέντων αὐτῷ ὑπαρχόν[των]

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

πράσεως ἀποδοθῆναι ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς ¹⁰ ἃ ἐδανείσατο συνγραψα[μένου τ]οῦ πάππου μου . . . , καὶ τούτου τοῦ ὁμολογήμ[α]τος αὐτῷ διὰ τοῦ ἐπισκοπίου παρατε¹¹[θέντ]ος, αὐτὸν μὴδ' ὥς ἐμμενηκ[έ]ναι τοῖς ἐνγεγραμμένοις ἀλλὰ μὴδ' ἐπ[ι]τετροφέναι μοι ἐπὶ τὴν [π]ρόνοιαν ¹² [τῶ]ν ὑπαρχόντων[ν] κατὰ τὰ συνκείμενα ἵνα τῷ Ἀσκληπιιάδῃ ἀποδιδόναι δυνηθῇν. vac.

released 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 return to Asklepiades. (vacat)

§9. Col. IV, ll. 12–25. 182–183 CE (23rd year): After the first's failure, summary of the second homologêma between Dionysia and Chairemon. This also failed, so badly that distraint was only narrowly avoided.

πάλιν δέ μοι ¹³[. . . .] .[. . .] .νοι δ. . . αι .[. . .] . . . [. . .] ον ὁμ[ο]λόγημα πρὸς αὐτὸν ποιήσασθαι ἐπὶ τοῦ κγ (ἔτους) πάλιν διὰ δημοσίου ἐπὶ τῷ ¹⁴ . τ .[. . .] ἀναδεξαμεν[.] η[. . .] .ς ε. ας[± 10] ἀποδοῦναι (τάλαντον) α, ἕως ἂν ζ πληρῆς ἐκτείσῃ ¹⁵ ἐ[άν] μὴ ἀποδίδωσιν . . . εχ . . . δε . . . [ὁμο]λογοῦντι οὕτως[.] .των πρὸς τὰ δ. . . αι . ν δ. . . [α]ὐτῆς τη[. . .] .[. . .] .ς ¹⁶ .[. . .] .ν .μεν .[. . .] τούτων [τῶν] δαγείων π[. . .] .[. . .] .των σ .ε τοῖς τῷ[ν ἐ]ν[κ]τήσεων βιβλίοι¹⁷ φ[ύλ]αξι .[± 11][. . . .] . ἀλλὰ μήτε .[. . .] δ [. . .] τῷ Ἀσκληπιιάδῃ [ἀπ]οδεδοκέναι μήτε εἰάκέν ¹⁸ [μ]ε κατα[± 11] στ .[. . .] .[. . .] . τὸ ἀργύριον τοῦ [ὀφλ]ήματος μὴ ἀποδόντ[ο]ς αὐτοῦ κατὰ τὰ διὰ δημοσίου α . . . ¹⁹ . .μενα .[. . .] .μα τι . .ειορων .[. . .] .σεν ο .[. . .] .ω .α .[. . .] .η . . . οἶτο κατὰ τὴν προθ[ε]σμίαν ²⁰ τὰ ἀργύρια μὴ ἀπεσχηκέναι αν[. . . ν]όμῳ .[. . .] .ει .α .[. . .] τῶν κατεχομέ[ν]ων μοι ὑπαρχόντων. ὁ δ[έ] καὶ παρ' ὁ[λ]ί²¹γον γεγενῆσθαι. τοῦ γὰρ Ἀσκλη[πι]ιάδου τῷ κδ (ἔτει) [ἀ]παιτοῦ[ν]τος καὶ μὴ ἀπολαμβάνοντος τὸ ὄφλημα ἀναγκάσθαι ²² με παρὰ τ[οῦ] πατρὸς τὸ πρῶ . . ω .[. . .] .[. . .] .τα . . που, κα[ί] ἐπισταμένου ὅτι οὐ περιόψομαι ἀποσπώμενα τὰ κατεχόμε²³νά μοι ὑ[πο]τίθεσθαι, ὑποτιθέμεν[ο]ς αὐτὰ ταῦτα τὰ ὑπολειπόμενα μόνα, ἐμοῦ μὲν τῷ δικαίῳ χα, τῷ δέ ²⁴ πατρὶ δι . . ο[. . .] .αν κα[ί] .α θ π . . τα ὀφειλόμενα λοιπὰ τιμῆς αὐτῶν (τάλαντα) .ε καὶ (δραχμας) Β καὶ τόκους ἄλλα πρὸς ²⁵ ὅλα (τάλαντα) ὁ[κ]τῷ μετὰ τῶν τόκ[ω]ν .[. . .] .νων ὑπὲρ τῆς οὐσίας ἀπόδοσιν. Τὰ ἄλλα αὐτὸς ἔχη εἰς ὃ βούλεται.

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 and 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 al²¹most 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 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 eight talents with the interest [...] repayment for the sake of the estate; the rest he may have for whatever (purpose) he wishes

§10. Col. IV, ll. 25–34. 183–184 CE (24th year): After the second's failure, third homologêma between Dionysia and Chairemon, followed by its aftermath, leading to Chairemon's first petition against Dionysia.

καὶ πάλιν ²⁶ ετελε[σ]ε .[. . .] .[ὁ]μολογήματ[α] γεγενῆσθαι μ[οι] πρὸς αὐτὸν τῷ κδ (ἔτει) διὰ δημοσίου συνχω[ρ]ούσης μου αὐτῷ δανείσασ²⁷θαι τὰ (τάλαντα)) δ/ε [ἐπὶ τ]ῷ ἐξ α[ὐ]τῶν ἀποδοῦναι ἐξ α[ὐ]τῶν ἀποδοῦναι μὲν τῷ Ἀσκληπιιάδῃ τὰ ὀφειλόμενα καὶ τοὺς τόκους, ἔχειν

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 (?) talents, [under the condition that] from these he would pay back to Asklepiades the debt and

the interest, and he would keep the remaining for ²⁸ whatever he [wants ...] from me with the 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 master of all 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.

[³⁵ παρα[λ]αβεῖν [v ± 9] τα[ύτ]α διὰ τ[οῦ]
βιβλειδίου ἀνενεγκούσης μου τῷ Ῥούφω καὶ
ὑποταξάσης τό τε τελευταῖον κοί³⁶νον
όμο[λόγημα] πρὸς τὸν πα[τέ]ρα, ᾧ διὰ δημοσίου
γενόμενον ἀναφορὰν ἔχω κα[ι] εἰς τὰ πρῶτα, καὶ
Σιμίλιδος τοῦ ἡγε³⁷[μο]νεύσα[ντο]ς καλλίστοι[ς]
παρα[δείγ]μασ[ι] ἐπιστολήν κατακολουθήσαντος
Μεττίου Ῥούφου διατάγματι περὶ τοῦ τὰς
τοιαυ³⁸τας συνγραφὰς μὴ μόνον δ[εῖ]ν εἶν[αι]
κ[υρ][ί]ας ἀλλὰ καὶ παρατίθεσθαι διὰ τοῦ
βιβλιοφυλακίου ἢ ὑπὸ τῶν γυναικῶν ταῖς τῶν [³⁹
ἀνδρῶν ὑποστάσεσιν ἢ ὑπὸ τῶν τ[έκ]νων ταῖς τῶν
γονέων οἷς ἡ μὲν χρῆσεις διὰ δημοσίων τετήρηται
χρη[μ]ατισμῶν... ----- |¹ ± 70] .οϛ[± ?] |² οπ[±
32]ησ[α]. [τῳ[. . .]. [.]. [. . .]. ± 15]μη[. .]κα.
[.]ρος. . [³ [.]α[± 24]η[. . . ν (τάλαντα)
ς [.]. [. . .]. ακα [.]. ε. . [.]μεν τὰ
ἀποδοθη[σό]με[ν]α [⁴ ἐτήσια τω[. . .]αιτ[. .]η. . . [. .
.]ξ τόκω[v] οὐκ ὀλίγων ὄντω[v .]αζώ. . . . [.]
τ[. . . .] ω έαυτο[ῦ] τοῦ γένους, ἀποδ[ι]δο[ῦ]ς
κάμοι [⁵ τὰς χορηγί[ας]κ. [. . .]

[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, for which I have a report made through the public office, as well as regarding the previous ones, and of Similis, the former |³⁷ prefect, with the most excellent examples, an *epistula* where he follows the edict of Mettius Rufus about the fact that such |³⁸ written agreements not only must be (acknowledged) as valid, but must be recorded by the record office, either on behalf of the wives on the |³⁹ substance of their husbands or on behalf of the children on that of the parents, for whom the use was reserved though public documents, ... || (ca. 2 lines missing) |¹ ... |² ... |³ ... 6 talents ... to be given back ... |⁴ yearly ... the interest not being little ... of his own family, giving also to me |⁵ the allowances ...

Ῥο[ύ]φος ἐντυχῶ[ν] καὶ τάχα ἀπιστεύσας εἰ μετὰ
 τοσοῦτο [πλη]θους τῶν ἡμετέρων δικαίων καὶ
 το⁶σαῦτα διὰ δημοσίου γράμματα [γενόμε]να
 ἐθάρρησεν ἂν τις ἐπιστολὴν ἐπὶ παραλογισμ[ῶ]
 γράφειν τῇ ἡγεμονίᾳ, ὑπέγραψεν ⁷ τω . . . ὧ .
 .αὐτῶν γεν . . α . [. .] . . ν τῷ βιβλειδίῳ «τῷ
 στρατηγῷ παραθοῦ, οὗ ἐξετάσα[], ἕαν τι τῆς
 ἐμῆς διαγνώσεως κατα⁸λάβῃ ἄξιον, ἐπ' ἐμὲ

Rufus, being informed and immediately astonished that after so much evidence of our rights and so ⁶ many public deeds, someone would be so bold to write a deceiving letter to the prefectorship, he subscribed ⁷ ... to the libellus 'submit it to the strategos, who, upon examining whether something worthy of my attention (cognitio) is ⁸ to be found, shall refer

ἀναπ[έμ]ψη», ο[ὐ]δὲν ἕτερον οἶμαι ἢ δηλῶν ὅτι εἰ it back to me', meaning, I believe, nothing else
τὰ ἀληθῆ φανείη μηδὲ κρίσεως δεῖσθαι τὸ than, should the truth come to light, the case
πρᾶγμα. would require no judgement.

§13. Col. v, ll. 8–19. August – September 185 CE (Thoth, 26th year): Hearing before the strategos of the Oxyrhynchites in presence of both parties, leading the strategos to order a report from the keepers of the record office.

Ταύ[9]της δὲ ὑπογραφῆς τυχοῦσα ἐ[π]ήνεγκα
τὸ βιβλίδιον ἐπὶ τοῦ κς (ἔτους) Θῶθ ἐπὶ
παρόντι τῷ πατρὶ μου Χαιρήμονι, ἡξίωσά τε
τὸν ¹⁰ στρατη[γ]ὸν ἐπιστολῇν [γράψαι] τοῖς
τῶν ἐνκτησέων βιβλιοφύλαξι ὃ
προσφωνήσωσιν αὐτῷ πάντα τὰ παρακείμενα
τῶν -¹¹ τοῦ πατρ[ος] [. . .] . . . ν ματ . . . τῶν
γενομένων μετοξὺ ἡμῶν κατὰ χρόνους κοινῶν
ὁμολογημάτων καὶ παραθέσεων ¹² μὴ . το . . .
με . . . πρὸς τὸ μηδὲν ἐμπόδιον εἶνα[ι] τῇ
γενομένῃ τοῦ πράγματος ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐξετάσει
κατὰ [τά] δόξαντα ¹³ τῇ [ῆ]γεμονίᾳ . . . ο . δ . ς
ὃ δὲ παρὼν ἀναγνωσθέντος τοῦ βιβλιδίου
πρὸ βήματος ἐσιώπησεν, οὐδὲν ἀντειπεῖν
δυ¹⁴νά[με]νο[ς] . . δ . . πρὸς ἀ[ληθ]ῆ ὄντα τὰ
τῷ βιβλιδίῳ ἐνγεγραμμένα. ὃ δὲ στρατηγὸς
ἀκολουθῶς χρώμενος τῇ τοῦ ¹⁵ ἡγεμόνος
ἐγκελεύσει ἀκ[ριβ]εστ[έ]ραν οὐκ ἀλλαχόθεν
ἡγήσατο τὴν ἐξέτασιν ἔσεσθαι ἢ ἐκ τῆς τῶν
βιβλι[οφυ]λάκων -¹⁶ προσφωνήσεως
. . . . ἐκ τῆς ἐξετάσεως τῶν προσφωνηθέντων
τὸ πρᾶγμα φανήσεται ἀν[απ]ομπῆς ἄξιον ¹⁷
καὶ πρὸς τοῖς τῶν ἐνκτησ[ε]ων
βιβλιοφύλαξι τάδε. «ἴ]σον βιβλιδίου
ἐπιδοθέντος μοι ὑπὸ Διονυσίας οὗ
[πα]ρείλημται ¹⁸ ἀντίγραφον[.]
. . . . τῷ λαμπροτάτῳ ἡγεμόνι μεθ' ἧς ἔσχεν
ὑπογραφῆς ἐπιστα[λέ]ντα ὑμῖν, διὰ ¹⁹
δημοσίῳ [± 18 . .] τὰ [α]ρακείμενα καὶ
ἀνήκοντα τῷ πράγματι δηλώσητέ μοι. Θῶ[θ
. .]ς.»

Having ⁹ received the subscription, I brought the
libellus in the 26th year, in the month of Thoth,
in the presence of my father Chairemon, and I
also requested that the ¹⁰ strategos write a letter
to the keepers of the record office, who would
report to him everything available of the ¹¹ ... of
my father ... of the joint agreements made
between us at their respective times, and of their
registrations (*parathesis*), ¹² not ... so that there
would be no obstacle for the case to be examined
by him in accordance to what was determined ¹³
by the governorship. And he, being present when
the libellus was read at court, remained silent,
unable ¹⁴ to deny ... concerning the fact that what
was written in the libellus was true. And the
strategos, acting in accordance with the order of
the ¹⁵ governor, held that the examination would
be more accurate based on nothing else than the
report of the keepers of the record office ¹⁶ '...
from the examination of what has been reported
it will appear whether the case is worthy of
devolution (to the prefect)' ¹⁷ and ... to the
keepers of the record office the following: 'a
duplicate of the libellus submitted to me by
Dionysia, a copy of which has been received ¹⁸
... to the most illustrious governor together with
the subscription that it bears, sent to you through
¹⁹ the public (office) ... present to me the ...
available and pertaining to the case. Thoth, 26th.'

§14. Col. v, ll. 19–30. December 185 CE – January 186 CE: Letter of the strategos to the new prefect, Pomponius Faustianus, appending the report received from the keepers of the property record office.

Ταῦτα ²⁰ π [± 18] οἱ βιβλιοφύλακες πάντα
προσεφώνησαν διὰ μακρῶν μηδὲν παραλιπόντες [. . .]
τῶν ἡμε²¹[τ]έρων] τοῦ [Χ]αιρήμονος
ἀλλὰ μηδὲ τῶν παρακειμένων αὐτῷ δανείων. ὃ δὲ
στρατη[γός] ἐντυχῶν - ²² καὶ ὁρῶν μηδὲν
ἐψε[υ]σμένην διὰ τοῦ βιβλιδίου ἀλλὰ καὶ μᾶλλον τινα
παραλιποῦσαν τῶν ἡμετ[έρων] δικαίων ²³ εἰς τ[. .] . .
. . . πρὸς γράψαντες καὶ ἀπογραφὴν
γενομένην ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς ἐπὶ τοῦ κς (ἔτους) δι' ἧς
πάντα ²⁴ τὰ α[. .] στ ατα ἃ
αὐτὸς εἰσήνεγκεν εἰς τὸ βιβλιοφυλάκιον περὶ τούτου
ὑπομ[ν]ήματα ἀδη. ²⁵ δι[α] τὸ [. . .]
. δ . . . γειν, τὸν δὲ πατέρα μηδὲν ἕτερον ἢ πρὸς

These ²⁰ all the keepers of the record
office reported everything in detail, not
omitting anything ... of our ²¹ ... of
Chairemon, but also not of the loans
recorded to him (i.e. to his name). And
the strategos, being informed ²² and
seeing ... I did not lie at all in the libellus,
but rather I omitted some of our rights ²³
to ... writing, and a return (apographe)
made by my father in the 26th year,
through which all ²⁴ the ... the requests
that he presented to the record office
about this ... ²⁵ due to ... but the father

ἑαυτὸν λέγειν καὶ τὰ ἑαυτοῦ [γρ]άμματα πάν^{|26}τα . . .
 [± 6] . . . μεγάλων, ἡγησάμενός τε μήτε δίκης
 δεῖσθαι τὸ πρᾶγμα τ[ο]σούτων χρηματ[ισμῶ]ν περὶ
 τῶν ^{|27} νο ὑπὸ τῶν βιβλιοφυλάκων
 ἐπενηγμένων, σοὶ τῷ κυρίῳ ἔγραψεν ἐπιστολὴν ἐπὶ
 τ[οῦ] κς (ἔτους) Τῦβι ^{|28} δ . . . [. . .] . . . σε
 . . . σμου . . . α σ πρ . . . πε . . . α .
 γραμμάτων ἑαυτοῦ [. . .] ἐχει μὲν ^{|29} κ[α]τὰ . . . [± 20
 τε]θίκαν, οὐδὲν δὲ ἦττον συμπέμψας τῇ ἐπιστολῇ καὶ
 ἀντίγραφα [τῶν π]ροσφωνῇ^{|30}σεων [± 12] λα . . . τὰ

did nothing else but speak against himself and all his own writings ^{|26} ... and he deemed that the case did not even require a trial, after so much documentary evidence about the ... ^{|27} ... brought by the keepers of the record office, to you, my Lord, he wrote a letter in Tybi of the 26th year ^{|28} ... of his writings ... ^{|29} ... and not less he sent together with the letter also copies of the re^{|30}ports

§15. Col. v, ll. 30–35. Beginning of 186 CE (cf. §14): Second petition of Dionysia to the prefect Pomponius Faustinus.

πάλιν ἐπὶ σὲ τὸν κύριον κατέφυγον, καὶ
 ἐνέτυχον διὰ βιβλιδίου[ν] [ἐπὶ τῷ] αὐτῷ κς (ἔτει)
^{|31} δ . . . [. . .]ς ψ . . . ν ἐξέτασιν ἤδη τοῦ
 πράγμ[α]τος γεγενῆσθαι ὑπὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ
 καθὼς σὺ [ἡθέλησ]ας τῇ γεν[ο]ί^{|32}μένῃ ἐξετάσει
 γνοῦσά σε τῆς ἐπιστολῆς τῆς γραφείσης σοι
 ὑπὸ τῆς στρατηγίας ἀντίγραφον . . . [. . .] .
 . . . γε^{|33}[± 4] . η καὶ γράψαι τῷ τ[ο]ῦ νομοῦ
 στρατηγῷ βέβαι[ι]ά μοι μένειν τὰ ἐκ τῆς
 μητρώας μο[ν] . . . [. . .] . α^{|34} [± 9] τὰ
 διὰ χρηματισμῶν δηλούμενα δίκ[αια], καὶ μηδὲν
 νεωτερίζεσθαι κατὰ τῶν τὰ . . . [. . .]μα τῷ
 βι^{|35}[βλιοφυλακίῳ? ± 9] καθὰ καὶ πάντες οἱ
 ἡγεμόνες ἐκέλε[ν]σαν.

again I resorted to you, my Lord, and I requested through a libellus in the same 26th year ^{|31} ... the examination of the case has already been done by the strategos as you wished, in the ^{|32} examination carried out, me knowing that you ... a copy of the letter written to you by the office of the strategos ... ^{|33} ... and write to the strategos of the nomos that the ... from the ... of my mother remain secure for me ... ^{|34} ... the rights evidenced through the documentation (chrematismo), and that nothing is overturned regarding the ... to the ^{|35} recordoffice as also all the governors have ordered.

§16. Col. v, ll. 35–43 – Col. vi, ll. 1–4: Subscription of the prefect Pomponius Faustinus 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[ὶ] σὺ ὁ κύριος ἐντυχὼν καὶ ἀν . . . [. . .]δ . . . τὰ
 ὑπο^{|36}[. . .] . . . φ . . . [. . .] . . . τῆς ἐπιστολῆς τοῦ
 στρατηγοῦ καὶ [τ]ῆς τῶν βιβλιοφυλάκων
 προσφωνήσεως καὶ [. . .] . . . οἱ γενομε^{|37}[ν] . . . [. . .]
 ξενῶ τι δεόμενον, τῇ συνή[θ]ει σου
 δικαιο[δο]σίᾳ χρώμενος ὑπέγραψάς μοι τῷ
 [βιβ]λιδίῳ ^{|38} [οὕτως· οἷς ἔχει(?)]]ς(?) δικαίους
 χρῆσθαι δύνασθαι, ὁ δὲ στρατηγὸς τῆς λοιπῆς
 ἀξιώσεως σοῦ τὴν . . . πο . . . [. . .] πρ[ό]νοιαν ^{|39} [. . .]
 προμαντεύσάμενος ὅτι καὶ τ[ῇ]ς
 ἀ[πὸ] τοῦ στρατηγοῦ βοηθείας δεόμεθα . . . με . [. . .]
 . . . ἀν[η]ν ^{|40} [. . .] ο τῶν δικαίων τυχεῖν καὶ
 μὴ ἀγνωμονεῖσθαι ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρός. ἐξ ὧν γὰρ
 ἐτόλμησεν [. . .] . τα ταῦτα ^{|41} [. . .] αξ διὰ τῆς
 αἰρέσεως τὸν ἄνδρα. ἐμοῦ γὰρ[ρ] τὸ βιβλιδίον ἐπὶ
 τῇ σῇ ὑπογραφῇ παρὰθεμέ[ν]ης καὶ ἀνα^{|42}[δ]ούσης
 διὰ τοῦ ἀνδρός μου τῷ στρατηγῷ, ἀξιώσεως τε
 καθὼς ἡθέλησας τῆς λοιπῆς ἀξιώσεως μὴ
 [ἀ]μεληθῇ^{|43}[ναὶ καὶ] ἐπιστείλαι τοῖς τῶν
 ἐνκτήσεων βιβλιοφύλ[αξ]ι βέβαιά μοι τὰ δίκαια τὰ
 ὑπόντα μένειν καθὰ [προσε]φώνησαν || ----- ^{|1} [±20]
 μως νο[ν] ±23]τω . [. . .] οκεκ . [. . .] μ[±11] ἐται

And you, my Lord, being informed and ... by ^{|36} ... of the letter of the strategos and of the report of the keepers of the record office and ... ^{|37} ... requiring, by means of your ordinary jurisdiction you subscribed the libellus for me ^{|38} as follows: 'you may use the rights that you have, while the strategos concerning the rest of your petition ...' foresight ^{|39} ... he (you?), foreseeing that we also need aid from the strategos ... ^{|40} ... to have succeeded in the rights, and not to be treated unfairly by my father. For, from those that he dared ... these ^{|41} ... my husband through his choice. For when I submitted the libellus to your subscription and ^{|42} handed it through my husband to the strategos, I requested as well that, in conformity with your will, the rest of the petition not be neglected ^{|43} and that he send a letter to the keepers of the record office, so that my existing rights remain secure as they were reported. || (ca. 4 lines missing) ^{|1} ... to you ...

ὕμειν λα²[±12]... εἰρος ἵνα μὴ δέητα[ι] καὶ τῆς
 λ[οι]πῆ[ς] ἀξιώσεως π[ά]σης καθὰ ἠθέλησεν ὁ
 λαμ[πρό]τος ἡ[γε]μῶν πρόνοιαν ³
 [...]... μὴδὲν νεωτερίζεσ[θαι]
 τὸ]ν πατέρα μετὰ τὰ το[σαῦ]τα γράμματα τὴν
 ἡσυχίαν ἄγειν καὶ μὴ⁴ τῷ κυρίῳ ἐνοχλεῖν μῆτε
 ἐμοὶ ἐτι ἐπιτ[ί]θεσθαι]

² ... so that there is no need, and the whole
 rest of the petition according to the wish and
 foresight of the most illustrious governor ³
 ... not to overturn ... that my father, after so
 many writings, turns quiet the peace and
 does ⁴ not bother the Lord nor attacks me
 any longer.

§17. Col. VI, ll. 4–12. Chairemon addresses a new petition to the prefect Pomponius Faustianus, moving his attack in another direction.

ὁ δὲ πάλιν ἐπιθέμενός μοι οὐκ ἔληξε[ν], ἀλλ'
 ἐπιστάμενος ὅτι περὶ ⁵ τῆς κατοχῆς οὐκέτι οἶόν
 τέ ἐστιν αὐτῷ ἐνκαλεῖν μετὰ τὰς τοσαύτας
 ἐξετάσεις καὶ τοσαῦτα γράμματα, ἐτέρῳ
 ἐπέτρεψεν τὴν ⁶ κατ' ἐμοῦ ἐπιβουλήν, καὶ σοῦ
 τοῦ κυρίου πάλιν καθ' ὁμοιότητα τῶν ἄλλων
 ἡγεμόνων ὑπογύως διαταξαμένου περὶ
 ιδιωτ[ί]κων ζητήσεων ἐπιστολὰς σοι μὴ
 γράφειν, ὁ δὲ οὐ μόνον ἔγραψεν ἀλλὰ καὶ
 γράφων ἠκρωτηρίασεν τὸ πρᾶγμα ὥς καὶ σὲ ⁸
 τὸν κύριον πλανῆσαι δυνάμενος. σιωπήσας
 γὰρ καὶ τὴν τοῦ Ρούφου ἐπιστολὴν ἐφ' ὅτῳ
 ἐγράφη καὶ τὴν ἐντυχίαν τὴν ⁹ ἐμὴν καὶ τὴν τοῦ
 Ρούφου {την} ὑπογραφήν καὶ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ
 τὴν ἐξέτασιν καὶ τῶν βιβλιοφυλάκων τὴν
 προσφώνησιν ¹⁰ καὶ τὴν περὶ τούτων
 γραφεῖσάν σοι ὑπὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ ἐπιστολὴν
 καὶ τὴν πρὸς ταύτην ἐμοῦ ἐντυχούσης δοθεῖσαν
¹¹ ὑπὸ σοῦ τοῦ κυρίου ὑπογραφήν καὶ τὰ ἐκ
 ταύτης τοῖς βιβλιοφύλαξι ἐπιστάλματα ψευδῶς
 σοι διὰ τῆς ἐπιστολῆς δεδήλωκεν ¹² τάδε·

He, however, did not cease attacking me again,
 but, knowing that ⁵ it is no longer possible for
 him to sue me regarding my lien (katoche) after
 so many inquiries and so much correspondence,
 he turned in another direction ⁶ the plot against
 me, and although you, my Lord, similarly to the
 other prefects, had recently again proclaimed
 that ⁷ **letters regarding private lawsuits are not
 to be written to you, not only did he write one
 but when writing he cut off parts of the case, in
 order ⁸ to be able to deceive you, my Lord. For,
 having hushed up the letter the letter of Rufus,
 the reason for it was written, my petition, ⁹
 Rufus' subscription, the inquiry of the strategos,
 the report of the keepers of the record office, ¹⁰
 the letter written about these things by the
 strategos to you, my Lord, the subscription to it
 given to me upon my petition ¹¹ by you, my
 Lord, the mandate to the keepers of the record
 office (arising) from it, he simply stated in his
 letter to you ¹² the following:

§18. Col. VI, 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 γυμνασιαρχήσας τῆς
 Ὀξυρυχειτῶν πόλεως· τῆς θυγατρὸς μου
 Διονυσίας, ἡγεμῶν κύριε, ¹³ πολλὰ εἰς ἐμὲ
 ἀσεβῶς καὶ παρανόμως πραξάσης κατὰ
 γνώμην Ὁρίωνος Ἀπίωνος ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς,
 ἀνέδωκα ἐπιστολὴν ¹⁴ Λογγαίῳ Ρούφῳ τῷ
 λαμπροτάτῳ, ἀξιῶν τότε ἃ προσήνεγκα αὐτῇ
 ἀνακομισσάσθαι κατὰ τοὺς νόμους, οἰόμενος ¹⁵
 ἐκ τοῦ <του> παύσασθαι αὐτὴν τῶν εἰς ἐμὲ
 ὕβρεων· καὶ ἔγραψεν τῷ τοῦ νομοῦ στρατηγῷ
 (ἔτους) κε //, Παχῶν κζ ~, ὑπο¹⁶τάξας τῶν ὑπ'
 ἐμοῦ γραφέντων τὰ ἀντίγραφα ὅπως ἐντυχῶν
 οἷς παρεθέμην φροντίσει τὰ ἀκόλουθα πράξαι.
 ἐπεὶ οὖν, ¹⁷ κύριε, ἐπιμένει τῇ αὐτῇ ἀπονοίᾳ
 ἐνυβρίζων μοι, ἀξιῶ τοῦ νόμου διδόντος μοι
 ἐξουσίαν οὗ τὸ μέρος ὑπέταξα ἵν' εἰδῇς ¹⁸
 ἀπάγοντι αὐτὴν ἄκουσαν ἐκ τῆς τοῦ ἀνδρὸς
 οἰκίας μηδεμίαν μοι βίαν γείνεσθαι ὥς οὐτινος
 τῶν τοῦ Ὁρίωνος ἢ αὐ¹⁹ τοῦ τοῦ Ὁρίωνος
 συνεχῶς ἐπαγγελλομένου. ἀπὸ δὲ πλειόνων

Chairemon son of Phantias, ex-gymnasiarch of
 the city of the Oxyrhynchites: Since my daughter
 Dionysia, (My) Lord Prefect, ¹³ has impiously
 and unlawfully done many things against me at
 the instigation of her husband Horion, son of
 Apion, I sent a letter ¹⁴ to the most illustrious
 Longaeus Rufus, requesting to recover in
 accordance with the laws what I had formerly
 given to her, expecting ¹⁵ that this would stop
 her from her insults against me; and he wrote to
 the strategos of the *nomos* on the 25th year, the
 27th of Pachon, ap¹⁶pending copies of my
 writings, so that having examined of what I
 alleged he would see to it that it is dealt with
 accordingly. Since ¹⁷ he, my Lord, persists in the
 same 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 by

τῶ[ν] περὶ το[ύ]των πραχθέντων ὀλίγα σοι ¹⁹ Horion himself, who is constantly threatening
ὑπέταξα ἵν' εἰ|²⁰ δῆς. (ἔτους) κς, Παχών.
(me). From the numerous tried instances
regarding these things I have appended for you a
few, so that you ²⁰ may know 26th year, Pachon.

¹⁹ Horion himself, who is constantly threatening (me). From the numerous tried instances regarding these things I have appended for you a few, so that you ²⁰ may know 26th year, Pachon.

§19. Col. VI, ll. 20–32. Dionysia denies her father’s pleas, and the relevance of his present and previous legal arguments

ὁ μὲν ταύτην τὴν ἐπιστολὴν ἔγραψεν, οὐδὲμίαν
μὲν οὔτε ὕβριν οὔτε ἄλλο ἀδίκημα εἰς αὐτὸν ^{|21} ἀπ’
ἐμοῦ ἐφ’ ᾧ μέμφεται δεῖξαι ἔχων, ἐπὶ φθόνῳ δὲ
μόνον [λο]ιδουρούμενος ὥς δεινὰ πάσχων ἀπ’
ἐμοῦ, λέγων ὅτι δὴ ^{|22} ὧτα παρέχω ἄνοα αὐτῷ, καὶ
τὴν ὑπολειπομένης ἐμοὶ κατοχῇ τῆς οὐσίας ἵνα
μ’ αὐτὴν ἀποθῇαι, καὶ, τὸ καὶνότερον, βίαν ^{|23}
πάσχειν ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀνδρός μου προφερόμενος τοῦ
καὶ μετὰ {καὶ με[τά]} τὴν πρὸς αὐτόν μου
συγγραφὴν ἐν ἧ εἶχεν τὸ δίκαιον ^{|24} καθαρὸν μου
προσενηνεγμένον συνχωρήσαντός μοι καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς
μ[η]τρῶας οὐσίας συνευδοκῆσαι βουλευθεῖσαι
αὐτῷ ὑποτι^{|25}θεμένῳ τὴν οὐσίαν ταύτην πρὸς ὅλα
(τάλαντα) η, ἀφ’ οὗ με
ἀπαλλ[αττ. . .] . . . εἰδητασινῆκε τοῦ ἀνδρός με
στερῆσαι ἐπιχειρῶν, ^{|26} ἐπὶ μὴ δύναται τῆς
οὐσίας, ἵνα μηδ’ ἀπ’ αὐτοῦ χορηγῇσθαι
[.] . . . σε[ν]ε[. . .] γ δύνωμαι γυνή, ἀπὸ τοῦ
πατρὸς μήτε ^{|27} ἣν ὑπέσχετο προῖκα μήτε τι ἄλλο
ὑπάρχον λαβοῦσα ἀλλὰ μηδὲ κατὰ κα[ι]ρὸν τὰς
χορη[γ]ηθ[ε]ῖσας τροφὰς ἀπολαμβάνουσα.
Ὑπέταξεν ^{|28} δὲ καὶ τὰς αὐτὰς κρίσεις Σ[ι]μίλιδος
καὶ ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀρχιδικαστοῦ τῷ Λογγαίῳ Ρούφῳ
γραφομένας ἐτέρας ὁμοίας, μηδὲ αἰδεσθεῖς ὅτι
οὐδὲ ^{|29} ὁ Ρούφος προσέσχεν αὐτὰ[ι]ς ἀνομοίαις
οὔσαις εἰς παράδειγμα . . . [. . .] . . . ἐτέρων
δικαίων. ἀλλὰ σὺ ὁ κύριος τῇ θεογνώστῳ σου ^{|30}
μνήμῃ καὶ τῇ ἀπλανήτῳ προαιρέσει ἀνενεγκὼν
τῇ[ν γραφεῖς]άν σοι ὑπὸ τοῦ στρατηγοῦ
ἐπιστολὴν, καὶ ὅτι φθάνει τὸ πρᾶγμα ^{|31} ἀκreibῶς
[ἐξ]ητασμένον, πρόφασις δὲ ἐστὶν ἐπιβουλῆς
τὸ . . . πασθ[α]ι[ν] εἰ οὐκ ἐξὸν κατὰ συγγραφὴν,
ἀντέγραψεν τῷ στρατηγῷ ^{|32} τάδε

He wrote such a letter, without being able to prove either insolence or other injustice against himself ^{|21} by me, of which he complains, only out of malice reviling me as if suffering terrible things from me, saying indeed that ^{|22} I turn a uncomprehending ear to him, and that I do not lift the *lien* (*katoché*) of the remaining estate. What is even more bizarre (he claims) he suffers ^{|23} violence on the part of my husband, even after the my marriage contract with him, by which (the husband) received the unlimited right ^{|24} brought by me; and (even if Chairemon) conceded to me (interests) on 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 ... endeavouring to rob me of my husband, ^{|26} as of the estate he could not, so that I, a woman, could not to be maintained by him (the husband) ... while from the father I have neither ^{|27} received the dowry which he had offered nor any other property, indeed, I have not even received at the proper times the allowances bestowed on me. He appended ^{|28} also the same judgements of *Similis* and other similar ones cited in writing by the *archidikastes* (in his letter) to *Longaeus Rufus*, unembarrassed that not even ^{|29} *Rufus* himself had taken them into consideration as a precedent due to their dissimilarity ... of other rights ... But you, my Lord, with your god knowing ^{|30} memory and errorless character making reference to the letter written to you by the *strategos* and that the case had already ^{|31} been examined in sufficient detail, and that it is a pretext for plotting ... if not allowed according to the written (marriage) agreement, you wrote back to the *strategos* ^{|32} the following:

§20. Col. vi, ll. 32–35. 25th May 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 Ἰσιδῶρῳ στρατηγῷ
 [Ο]ξυρυγχ[ε]ῖ τ[ο]υ χαίρειν. τὰ γραφέντα μοι ὑπὸ
 Χαϊρήμονος γυμνα³³ σιαρχήσαντος τῆς

Pomponius Faustinus to Isidoros, strategos of the Oxyrhynchites, greetings. What was written to me by Chairemon, ex-³³

Ὁξυρυγχειτῶν πόλεως αἰτιομένου Ὁρειῶ[να
 ἄν]δρα θυγατρὸς αὐτοῦ ὡς βίαν ὑπ' αὐτοῦ
 πάσχ[ο]ντος ³⁴ ὑποταχθῆναι ἐκέλευσα, ὅπως
 φροντίσης ἀκόλουθα πρᾶξαι τοῖς π[ε]ρι το[ύ]του
 πρότερον γραφεῖσι ὑπὸ Λογγαίου Ρούφου[υ] τοῦ
 δια³⁵σημοτάτου[υ] πρὸς τὸ μὴ π[ε]ρι τῶν αὐτῶν
 πάλιν αὐτὸν ἐντυγχάνειν. ἐ[ρ]ῶσθ(αι)
 εὖχομ(αι). (ἔτους) κς //, Παχῶν λ.

gymnasiarch of the city of the Oxrhynchites
 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 was
 previously written by Longaeus Rufus, the
 most ³⁵ eminent, in order that he may not
 petition again regarding these things.
 Farewell. 26th year, on the 30th of Pachon.

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

Ταύτην ³⁶ σοῦ τὴν ἐπιστολὴν παρ[εν]εγκόντος
 τοῦ Χαϊρήμονος καὶ ἀναδόντος ἐπὶ τῆς γ τ[ο]ῦ
 Ἐπειφ Ἀρποκρατίωνι βασιλικῶ γρα[μ]ματεῖ ³⁷
 [δι]αδεχομένῳ καὶ τὰ κατὰ τὴν στρα[τη]γίαν),
 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 Ρούφου[υ] πρότερον γραφεῖσι
 ἐπράχθη. ὁ μὲν γὰρ Χαϊρήμων ³⁹ περὶ κ[ατ]οχῆς
 ὡς οὐ δεόντως γενομένης αὐτῷ <ε>γεγράφει, ὁ δὲ
 Ρούφος [ἐξ] ὧν ἀντέγραψεν αὐτῷ καὶ ἐξ ὧν ἐμοῦ
 ἐντυχούσης ⁴⁰ ὑπέ[γρ]αψεν ἐξετασθῆναι
 ἠθέλησε[ν] εἰ δεόντως ἡ κατοχὴ γέγονέν μ[οι] καὶ
 τῷ στρατηγῷ περὶ τούτου ὑπέθετο. ὁ δὲ οὐκ
 ἡμέ⁴¹λη[σε]ν ἀλλ' ἐ[ζ]ήτησεν ἀκρειβ[ῶ]ς [τὸ
 πρ]ᾶγμα ἐκ τῶν βιβλιοφ[υ]λάκ[ω]ν καὶ τῇ
 ἡγεμονίᾳ περὶ παντὸς δι' ἐπιστολῆς ἀνήνεγκ|| --
 --- ¹ [±30]α. [±19] . . [±?] ² [±19]η. [.] . .
 [±15]ου[. . .] . [.] . [.]ητο[±11]
 .ως α[.]λη . . . [. . .]

As ³⁶ Chairemon brought this letter of yours
 and on the 3rd of Epeiph gave it to
 Harpokration, the royal scribe ³⁷ and acting
 strategos, appearing myself (in the court)
 through my husband, I not only worshipped
 your letter and ³⁸ deemed it proper to abide by
 what you had written, but showed that what
 was required by what had previously been
 written by Rufus had already been done. For
 Chairemon ³⁹ had written to him regarding
 the lien (katochê) 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 (katochê) 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 prefectship || (ca. 2 lines missing) ¹ ... ²

...

§22. Col. VII, 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[ένω]ν κ[ο]μ. . . ου[
 .]πρ[α] . . .] ἐκ τῶν αντ[. . .] . . ε[. .]η εἰ ὁρω[. .
 . .]δ. ρον ουβ[α] . . .] ⁴ σα[.]λας τούτου
 ἀλλὰ ἀκόλο[υ]θα πρᾶξαι τ[ὸν] ἐπι[στ]εῖλαντα
 τοῖς βιβ[λ]ιοφύλαξι καὶ π[ε]ρ[ι] αὐτ[οῦ]
 γ[ρά]ψαντα τ[ὰ] εἰρη[μ]έ[ν]α: ἐπεὶ δὲ ⁵ ὁ
 Χ[α]ρ[ι]μήμων δι' ἧς καὶ νῦν πεπο[ι]η[τ]αι παρὰ τῷ
 [λ]αμπροτάτῳ ἡγεμόνι ἐντυχίας ἡξίωσεν τὴν
 θυγατέραν ἅκ[ο]υσαν ἀποσπᾶν οὐ ⁶ δὲ π[ε]ρ[ι]
 τούτου οὐτ[ε] διὰ τῆς τοῦ δια[σ]ημοτάτου
 Ρούφου οὐτε διὰ τῆς τοῦ λαμπ[ρο]τάτου
 ἡγεμόνος Πομπωνίου Φα[υ]στ[ι]ανοῦ
 ἐπιστολῆς ⁷ ὁράται ῥητῶς κεκ[ε]λ[ε]υσμένον,

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 may be petitioned about this matter

Ὡ, δύν' Ὡ, αται περὶ τούτου ἐντευχθῆναι ὁ
λαμπρότατος ἡγεμῶν πάντων τῶν ἐν τῷ
πράγματι παραχθῆ[ν]⁸τω[ν] παρατιθεμένων
αὐτῷ, ἵν' οἷς ἐάν προστάξῃ ἀκόλουθα
γένηται[ι].” vac.

with all that been accomplished (in this case) ⁸
being evidenced to him, so that whatever
instructions he may give, they are carried out.'

§23. Col. VII, 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 allowances (choregia), and her father's request of apospasis is rejected as unlawful. In her support, she appends evidence regarding the law: (a) that wives can freely choose themselves whether to remain with their husbands or not (§§ 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 οὖν, ἡγεμῶν {ουν} κ[ύ]ριε, τοῦ
πράγματος ⁹ πρ[ο]δήλου γενομένου καὶ τῆς τοῦ
πατρός μου πρὸς με ἐπηρείας, ἐντυγχάνω σοι καὶ
νῦν πάντα παρατιθεμένη τὰ ἐν τῷ 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 νό¹²μου οὐδὲν
αὐτῷ προσήκοντος· οὐδεὶς μὲν γὰρ νόμος ἀκούσας
γυναῖκας ἀπ' ἀνδρῶν ἀποσπᾶν ἐφείησιν, εἰ δὲ καὶ
ἔστιν τις, ἀλλ' οὐ πρὸς τὰς ¹³ ἐξ ἐγγράφων γάμων
γεγεννημένας καὶ ἐγγράφως γεγεννημένας. ὅτι δὲ
ταῦ(τα) οὕτως ἔχει, ἵνα καὶ ταύτης αὐτὸν τῆς
προφάσεως ἀπαλλά¹⁴ξω, ὑπέταξά σοι ἀπὸ
πλειόνων[ν] περὶ τούτου κριθέντων ὀλίγας
ἡγεμόνων καὶ ἐπιτρόπων καὶ ἀρχιδικαστῶν
κρίσεις, ἔτι τε καὶ νο¹⁵μικῶν προσφωνήσεις, περὶ
τοῦ τὰς ἡδὴ τελείας γυναῖκας γενομένας 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[ρα]τίθεσθαι τοῖς
βιβλιοφυλακίοις νόμιμον καὶ τὰς ἐκ τούτων
γεινομένας κατοχὰς πάντες ἡγεμόνες ¹⁸ καὶ
αὐτοκράτορες κυρίας [εἶν]αι καὶ βεβαίως
τεθελήκασιν, καὶ ὅτι οὐδενὶ ἐφείται λέγειν πρὸς τὰ
ἑαυτοῦ γράμματα, ἵνα κα[ι] ἐκ τούτων ¹⁹ ἡδὴ ποτὲ
παύσῃται περὶ τῶν αὐτῶν ἐνοχλῶν ταῖς ἡγεμονίαις
καθὼς καὶ σὺ γράφων ἠθέλησας. vac.
σ[ε]ση(μείωμαι) vac.

Since the case has been made clear from all
the perspectives, oh lord prefect⁹ and also
my father's abuse towards me, I now petition
you again, setting out all in this case, ¹⁰ as
also the royal scribe and acting-strategus has
wished, and request that you command that
to be written to the office of the strategos, so
that the allowances ¹¹ are timely given to
me, and he finally stops his attacks upon me,
formerly on account of an allegedly unlawful
hold (katoché), and now under the pretence
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 judgements on this issue,
only several given by prefects, procurators,
and chief justices, as well as opinions of ¹⁵
legal experts (nomikoi), 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 has not been allowed
to escape a pecuniary trial with the pretence
of other claims, and ¹⁷ also that it is
legitimate have written agreements
registered with the record archives and that
all prefects ¹⁸ and emperors have willed to
be valid and secured, and that no one is
allowed to depose against his own written
documents. So that because of it all¹⁹ he will
now once for ever stop troubling the
prefecture, as you yourself have desired in
your letter. (vacat) I have subscribed (vacat)

§24. Col. VII, ll. 19–29. Dionysia’s first court precedent. 2nd June 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 ὑπομνη^{|20}ματισμῶν 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 πενθερόν ἑαυτοῦ[υ] ἐκ μη[τ]ρὸς ἀφορ^{|22}μῆς εἰς διαμάχην ἐλθ[όν]τα ἄκουσαν τὴν θυγατέρα ἀπεσπακέναι, νοσησάσης δὲ ἐκείνης ὑπὸ λοίπης τὸν ἐπιστράτηγον Βάσσον ^{|23} μετριοπαθῶς ἀναστραφ[έν]τα ἀποφαίνεται ὅτι οὐ δεῖ αὐτὸν κωλύεσθαι εἰ συνοικεῖν ἀλλήλοις θέλοιεν, ἀλλὰ μηδὲν ἡνυκέναι.^{|24} τὸν γὰρ Σεμπρώνιον ἀποσι[ω]πήσαντα τοῦτο καὶ τῷ ἡγεμόνι περὶ βίας ἐντυχόντα ἐπιστολὴν παρακεκομικέναι ἵνα οἱ ἀντίδι^{|25} κοι ἐκπεμφθῶσι· αἰτεῖσθαι οὖν ἂν δοκῇ μὴ ἀποξευχθῆναι γυναικὸς οἰκειῶς πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐχούσης. Δίδυμος ῥήτωρ ἀπεκρεῖ^{|26}νατο μὴ χωρὶς λόγου τὸν Σεμπρώνιον κεκεινῆσθαι· τοῦ γὰρ Ἀντων[ί]ου προσε νεγκαμένου θυγατρομειξίας ἐγκαλεῖν, μὴ ἐνεγκαν^{|27}τος τὴν ὕβριν τῇ κατὰ τοὺς νόμους συνεχωρημένη ἐξουσίᾳ κεχρηῆσθαι, ἡτιᾶσθαι δ’ αὐτὸν καὶ περὶ [.] πρὸς ἐ[ν]κ[λ]ημάτων.^{|28} Προκλητιανὸς ὑπὲρ Ἀντωνίου προσέθηκεν: ἂν ἀπερίλυτος ᾦν ὁ γάμος, τὸν πατέρα μήτε τῆς προικὸς μηδὲ τῆς παιδὸς τῆς ἐκδεδο^{|29}μένης ἐξουσίαν ἔχειν. Τειτιανός· διαφέρει παρὰ τίνι βούλεται εἶναι ἢ γεγαμημένη. ἀνέγνω. σεσημ(είωμαι). vac.

From the ^{|20} minutes of Flavius Titianus, former prefect. In the 12th year of the divine Hadrian, on the 8th of Payni, at the court in the market. Antonios, ^{|21} son of Apollonios, appeared and deposed through Isidoros the Junior, an advocate, that Sempronius, his father-in-law, inclined at the mother’s instigation ^{|22} to quarrel with him and to take away the (Sempronius’) unwilling daughter. Since she got ill out of grief,^{ft21} the epistrategos Bassus, ^{|23} taking pity (on her), announced that he (Antonios) should not be prevented if they should like to live together (as a married couple). But it did not work ^{|24} since Sempronius left it unnoticed, petitioned the prefect about violence (of Antonios towards him). He received a letter (with an order) that the litigants ^{|25} should appear (in court). (Antonios) requested, should it please (the prefect), he should be not separated from the wife, who had homely affection towards him. The advocate Didymos, replied ^{|26} that Sempronios had set things in motion not without a reason, since Antonios had brought forward an charge of incest with the daughter, and did not submit ^{|27} to the insult, so he had used the power granted to him according to the laws, and himself brought charges (against Antonios). ^{|28} Prokleianos for Antonios adduced ‘if the marriage was not cancelled, the father had power neither over the dowry nor over the daughter given ^{|29} away in marriage. Titianus: ‘It shall prevail, with whom the married woman wishes to stay. I have acknowledged. I have signed (the judgement).’ (vacat)

Ft: The original editors read ὑπολοίπης and understood it as ‘when she fell ill on being deserted’

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

ἐξ ὑπομ[νηματισ]μῶν ^{|30} Πακωνίου Φήλικος ἐπιστρατήγου. (ἔτους) ιη θεοῦ Ἀδριανοῦ, Φαῶφι ιζ, ἐν τῇ παρὰ ἄνω Σεβεννύτου, ἐπὶ τῶν κατὰ Φλαυήσιος ^{|31} Ἀμμούνιος ἐπὶ παρούσῃ Τατιχήκει θυγατρὶ αὐτοῦ πρὸς Ἡρώνα Πετειήσιος. Ἰσίδωρος ῥήτωρ ὑπὲρ Φλαυήσιος εἶπεν, “τὸν οὖν αἰτιώμενον ^{|32} ἀποσπάσαι βουλόμενον τ[ῇ]ν θυγατέρα αὐτοῦ συνοικοῦσαν τῷ ἀντιδίκῳ δεδικάσθαι ὑπογύως

From the minutes ^{|30} of the epistrategos Paconius Felix. In the 18th year of the divine Hadrian, on the 17th of Phaophi, at (the court) for the upper Sebennytyos; case of Phlauesis, son of ^{|31} Ammounis, in the presence of his daughter Tatichekis, against Heron, son of Petaësis. Isidoros, advocate for Phlauesis, said that the plaintiff wanted ^{|32} to take his daughter away,

who was living with the defendant and recently brought in an action against him before the epistrategos³³ and that the case has been adjourned by you in order that the law of the Egyptians should be read. Severus and Heliodorus, advocates, replied ³⁴ that the former prefect Titianus heard a similar case (arising) among Egyptian individuals and that he did not follow the inhumanity ³⁵ of the law but the choice of the girl, whether she wished to remain with the husband. Paconius Felix: 'Let the law be read.' ³⁶ its being read, Paconius Felix (said): 'Read also the minutes of Titianus.' Severus the advocate read: 'In the 12th year of Hadrian ³⁷ Caesar the Lord, on the 8th of Pauni ...' Paconius Felix: 'Just as his Highness Titianus has judged, they shall inquire from the woman.' And he ordered that she should be questioned through an ³⁸ interpreter as to what she wanted. On her replying 'To remain with my husband' Paconius Felix ordered it to be protocolled.

[39] ἐξ ὑπομνηματισμῶν Οὐμβρι[ου] δικαιοδότη. (ἔτους) 5 Δομετιανοῦ, Φαμεν[ὠθ Ν] Διδύμη ἥς ἐκδικος ὁ ἀνὴρ Ἀπολλώνιος πρὸς Σαβεῖνον ^[40] τὸν καὶ Κάσιον, ἐκ τῶν ρεθέ[ντω]ν· **Σαραπίων μετ' ἄλλα**: “τὰ πρόσωπα Αἰγ[ύ]πτια ὄντα παρ' οἷς ἄκρατός ἐστιν ἡ τῶν ν[ό]μων ἀποτομ[ί]α·” ^[41] διοριζόμενος γάρ σοι λέγω [ὅ]τι Αἰγ[ύ]πτιοι οὐ μόνον τοῦ ἀφελέσθαι τὰς [θυγατ]έρ[ας ὧ]ν ἔδωκαν ἐξουσίαν, ἔχουσιν δὲ καὶ ὧν ἐὰν καὶ ἴδια ^[42] κτήσωνται. μεθ' ἕτερα· Ο[ὐ]μβρι[ος] Σαβεῖν· εἰ ἔφθακας ἅπαξ προῖκα δ[οῦς τῇ θυγ]ατρί σου, ἀποκατάστησον. Σαβεῖνο[ς· τ]οῦτον μα αἶ^[43] τοῦμαι. Οὐμβριος· τῇ θυγατρ[ί] δη. Σαβεῖνος· τούτῳ τῷ ἀνδρὶ οὐθὲν [προσ]ήκ[ει] συνῖναι. Οὐμβριος· χεῖρόν ἐστι ἀνδρὸς ἀφαι[ρεῖσθαι] || ---- |¹ ἀντ[.] . . . |νε[.]±14 |εμε[.] . . . |ησιᾶζω[.]±12 |κο.σι[.] . . . εὐδαμ[.] |ς[.] | . . . |² μην[.] |ο . . . δ[ε]δω[.]]

[³⁹ From the minutes of Umbrius, iuridicus. The 6th year of Domitian, Phamenoth 7th, Didyme, whose attorney is her husband Apollonios, against Sabinus |⁴⁰ alias Cassius, from the speeches. **Sarapiōn, after other things:** ‘The parties being Egyptians, amongst whom the severity of the laws is immoderate. |⁴¹ For I declare to you that the Egyptians have power to deprive their daughters not only of what they have given them, but also of whatever they may |⁴² acquire as their own.’ After other things (said): Umbrius to Sabinus: ‘Once you have already granted a dowry to your daughter, give it back.’ 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 ...

ἀντίγραφον προσφων[ήσεως νομ]ικοῦ. |² Copy of the opinion of a legal expert. Ulpius
Οὐλπιος Δ[ι]τοσ[κ]οῦ[ρίδης] τῶν | Dioskourides, of the former agoranomoi, |³ judicial

ἡγορανομηκό³ των νομικὸς Σαλουιστ[ίω] Ἀφ]ρικανῶ ἐπάρχῳ στόλου καὶ [ἐπὶ τῶ]ν κεκριμένων τῷ τειμιω[τά]τῳ χαίρειν. Δ[ιον]υσία ⁴ ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς ἐκδοθεῖσα [πρ]ὸς γάμον ἐν τῇ τοῦ π[α]τρὸς ἐξουσ[ία] οὐκέτι γε ἴνεται. καὶ γὰρ εἰ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτῆς τῷ πατρὶ ἀγράφως ⁵ συνώκησε [κ]αὶ διὰ τοῦτο αὐτῇ δοκεῖ ἐξ ἀγράφων γάμων γεγενῆσθαι, τῷ ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτὴν ἐκδόσθαι πρὸς γάμον οὐκέτι ⁶ ἐξ ἀγράφων γάμων ἐστίν. πρὸς τοῦτο ἴσως γράφεις, τειμιώτα[τε]. καὶ δι' ὑπομνηματισμῶν ἡσφά[λι]σται περὶ τῆς πρ[οι]κὸς ἡ παῖς ⁷ ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς, καὶ τοῦτο αὐτῇ βοηθεῖν δύναται. vac. (ἔτους) κβ θεοῦ Ἀδριανοῦ, Μεχεῖρ κ. vac.

advisor, to his most esteemed Salvistius Africanus, commander of the fleet and (appointed) for judicial matters, greetings. Dionysia ⁴ who has been given away in marriage by her father, is no longer under the father's power. Even if her mother lived with her father in an unwritten way, ⁵ and she seems for this reason to be issue of an unwritten marriage, because of her being given away in marriage by her father, she is no longer ⁶ from an unwritten marriage. It is probably about this issue that you write to me, your honour. On the basis of the minutes of trials regarding the dowry, the girl has been safeguarded ⁷ against the father, and this too can help her. (vacat) in the year of the divine Hadrian, Mecheir 20th. (vacat)

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

ἀντίγραφον διατάγμ[α]τος. Οὐαλέρι⁸ος Εὐδαίμων ἑπαρχὸς Αἰγύπτου λέγει· καὶ παραδείγματι τῷ καλλίστῳ χρώμενος γνώμη τοῦ κρατίστου Μαμερτείνου, ⁹ καὶ αὐτὸς ἰδίᾳ πεφωρακῶς ὅτι πολλοὶ τῶν χρήματα ἀπαιτούμενων τὸ τὰ δίκαια ποιεῖν τοῖς ἀπαιτοῦσι ἀφέντες ¹⁰ ἐπ' ἀνατάσει μειζόνων ἐνκλημάτων παντελῶς διακρούεσθαι ἢ παρατείνειν τὴν ἀπόδοσιν ἐπιχειροῦσι, οἱ μὲν κατα¹¹πλήξιν τοὺς τάχα ἂν φοβηθέντας τὸν κίνδυνον καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἐπ' ἐλάττονι συμβήσεσθαι προσδοκῶντες, οἱ δὲ {τῆς} ἐπ' ἀνα¹²τάσει τῆς δίκης ἀπαυδήσειν τοὺς ἀντιδίκους οἰόμενοι, παραγγέλλω τῆς τοιαύτης πανουργίας ἀποσχέσθαι, ἀποδιδόντας ¹³ ὅσα ὀφείλουσι ἢ πείθοντας τοὺς δικαίως ἀπαιτοῦντας· ὥς εἴ τις χρηματικῆς συστάσης δίκης ἀπαιτηθεὶς καὶ μὴ ¹⁴ παραυτίκα ἀρνησάμενος ὀφείλιν, τοῦτ' ἔστιν, μὴ παραυτίκα πλαστὰ εἶναι τὰ γράμματα εἰπὼν καὶ κα[τη]γορήσειν γράψας εἰ εἴτε πλασ¹⁵τῶν γραμμάτων ἢ ῥαδιουργίας ἢ περιγραφῆς ἐνκαλεῖν ἐπιχειρῇ, ἢ οὐδὲν αὐτῷ τῆς τ[οι]αύτης τέχνης ὀφελὲς ἔσται, ἀναγκασθήσεται [δὲ] ¹⁶ ἀποδοῦναι εὐθέως ἃ ὀφείλει, ἢ παρακαταθέμενός τε τὸ ἀργύριον ἵν' ἐν βεβαίῳ τὸ ἀγαλαβεῖν ὀφειλόμ[ενα] ἦ, πέρας τῆς χρηματικῆς ¹⁷ ἀμφισβητήσεως λαβούσης, τότε ἐὰν θαρρῇ τοῖς τῆς κατηγορίας ἐλέγχουσιν, τὸν μείζονα ἀγῶνα εἰ[ς]σελεύσεται, ο[ὐ]δ[ὲ] τότε ἄθξος ¹⁸ ἐσόμενος, ἀλλὰ τοῖς τεταγμένοις ἐπιτείμοις ἐνεχόμενος. vac. (ἔτους) ε θεοῦ Αἰλίου Ἀντωνίνου, Ἐπεῖφ κδ. vac.

Copy of an edict. Valerius ⁸ Eudaemon, praefect of Egypt, proclaims: Following a most excellent example, the opinion of his highness Mamertinus, ⁹ and having also myself discovered that many (debtors) when requested the dues, neglect to do what is just with regard to their creditors, ¹⁰ (and instead) threaten them (to bring) graver charges they attempt to escape or delay the payback, some of them ¹¹ expecting to scare those who might fear the danger and for this reason later will agree on a smaller amount, others because they ¹² they think that under the threat of a trial the opponents will renounce their claims, I proclaim (such persons) desist from such trickery, giving back ¹³ what they owe or persuade their justly demanding creditors. For if anyone, who is being sued with pecuniary claim brought forward, does not ¹⁴ deny immediately that he owes, that is, immediately saying that the documents are forged and does not write that he will bring accusations, if ¹⁵ he (rather) attempts to bring charges either of forgery of the documents or maliciousness or fraud (later), either there will be nothing advantageous for him from such a device, and he will be compeled ¹⁶ to give immediately back what he owes; or he shall deposit the money, so to secure the recovery of the debts; when the pecuniary dispute comes ¹⁷ an end, and then if he has confidence in the scrutiny of (his) accusations, he shall enter upon a trial with graver charges. And even so he shall not be immune, ¹⁸ but shall be subject to the prescribed penalties. 5th year of the divine Aelius Antoninus, Epeiph 24. (vacat)

§29. Col. VIII, ll. 18–21. Dionysia's fourth court precedent. 14th September 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 κυρίου, Θῶθ ις. κληθείσης Φλαβίας Μαρκίας πρὸς Φλαβίαν Ἑλένην καὶ ὑπακουσάσης, Λε . . . | . . . ρήτωρ εἶπεν· ἐν τῇ |²⁰ τάξει ἐκκείμεθα, περὶ τοῦ χρηματικοῦ ἀξιοῦμεν. Μουνάτιος εἶπεν· οὐκ ἀπέχεται τὰ χρηματικὰ διὰ τούτων τῶν ἐνκλημάτων· εἰ |²¹ δὲ μή, πάντες ἐροῦσιν ὅτι κατηγορῶ.

15th year of Antoninus |¹⁹ Caesar the lord, Thoth 16th. When Flavia Marcia was summoned to defend herself against Flavia Helena and yielded (to summons), her advocate Le . . . said: |²⁰ 'We have been posted in the list (of accused persons), (yet) we have pecuniary claims.' Munatius said: 'The pecuniary claims are not hindered by these accusations,. Otherwise |²¹ everyone will say, "I accuse".'

§30. Col. VIII, 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 ἔπαρ[χος] Αἰγύπτου λέγει· διαζῇ|²² τοῦντί μοι μαθεῖν ἐκ τίνος ὑποθέσεως ἐτελεῖτο τὰς Αἰγυπτιακὰς 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 οὐ<ί> τοῖς γεγαμηκόσι συναλλάσσοντες εἰ τούτῳ [τ]ῷ δικαίῳ κατέχεται τὰ ὑπάρχον[τα] αὐτῶν ταῖς γυναῖξι |²⁵ διὰ τὸ καὶ ἑτέροις βιβλιοφυλακίοις τὰς συγγραφὰς καταχωρίζεσθαι, [κ]εκελευμέναι Μέ[τ]τιον Ροῦφον τὸ[ν] γεγόμενον ἐπι . . . |²⁶ ἔπαρχον τὰ ἀντίγραφα τῶν συγγραφῶν ταῖς τῶν ἀνδρῶν ὑποστάσεσι παρατίθεσθαι καὶ τοῦτο διατά[γ]ματι προστεταχέναι οὐ καὶ |²⁷ ἀντίγραφον ὑπέταξα, φανερόν ποιῶν κατακολουθεῖν τοῖς ὑπὸ Μεττίου ὠ]ρισθε[ῖ]σι vac. (ἔτους) ιγ, 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 (katoché) upon their |²³ husbands' property through their written marriage agreements (syngraphai) 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 hold (katoché) 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 agreements (syngraphai) 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. 13th, Hathyr 12th. (vacat)

§31. Col. VIII, ll. 27–43. Edict of the prefect Mettius Rufus, 1st October 89 CE, on the correct functioning of the property record offices

Μάρκος Μέττι|²⁸ος Ροῦφος ἔπαρχος Αἰγύπτου λέγει· Κλαύδιος Ἀρειος ὁ τοῦ Ὀξυρυγχείτου στρατηγὸς [ἐ]δήλωσέν μοι μήτε τὰ ἰ[δι]ωτικὰ μ[ή]τε τὰ δημ[ι]όσια |²⁹ πράγματα τὴν καθήκουσαν λαμβάνειν διοίκησιν διὰ τὸ ἐκ πολλῶν χρόνων μὴ καθ' ὃν ἔδει τρόπον ὠκονομῆσθαι τὰ ἐν τῇ τῶν ἐν|³⁰ κτήσεων βιβλιοθήκῃ δια[σ]τρώματα, καίτοι πολλάκις 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 ἐνκτήσεων βιβλιοθήκην καὶ τοὺς δανειστάς ἃς ἂν ἔχωσι ὑποθήκας καὶ τοὺς ἄλλους |³³ ὅσα ἂν ἔχωσι δίκαια, τὴν δὲ

|²⁷ Marcus Mettius |²⁸ Rufus, praefect of Egypt, proclaims. Claudius Areios, strategos of the Oxrhynchite nome, has made me aware 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,

ἀπογραφὴν ποιεῖσθωσαν δηλοῦντες πόθεν ἕκαστος τῶν ὑπαρχόντων καταβέβηκεν εἰς αὐτοὺς³⁴ ἢ κτήσεις. παρατιθέτωσαν δὲ καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες ταῖς ὑποστάσεσι τῶν ἀνδρῶν αἷς κατὰ τινὰ ἐπιχώριον νόμον κρατεῖται τὰ ὑπάρ³⁵χοντα, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὰ τέκνα ταῖς τῶν γονέων οἷς ἢ μὲν χρήσεις διὰ δημοσίων τετήρηται χρηματισμῶν, ἢ δὲ κτῆ³⁶σις μετὰ θάνατον τοῖς τέκνοις κεκράτηται, ἵνα οἱ συναλλάσσοντες μὴ κατ' ἄγνοιαν ἐνεδρεῦνται. παραγγέλλω δὲ καὶ τοῖς συναλλα³⁷γματογράφοις καὶ τοῖς μνήμοσι μηδὲν δίχα ἐπιστάλματος 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 ἐπά³⁹νω χρόνων ἀπογραφαί, μετὰ πάσης ἀκρειβείας φυλασσέσθωσαν, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὰ διαστρώματα, ἵν' εἴ τις γένοιτο ζήτησις εἰς ⁴⁰ ὕστερον περὶ τῶν μὴ δεόντως ἀπογραφασμένων ἐξ ἐκείνων ἐλεγχθῶσι. [ἵ]να δ' [ο]ῦν β[ε]β[α]ία τε καὶ εἰς ἅπαν διαμῆνῃ τῶν διασ⁴¹τρωμάτων ἢ χρήσεις πρὸς τὸ μὴ πάλιν ἀπογραφῆς δεθῆναι, παραγγέλλω τοῖς β[ι]βλιοφύλαξι διὰ πενταετίας ἐπανανεοῦσθαι ⁴² τὰ διαστρώματα μεταφερομένης εἰς τὰ καινοποιούμενα τῆς τελευταίας ἐκάστου ὀνόματος ὑποστάσεως κατὰ κώμην καὶ κα⁴³τ' εἶδος. (ἔτους) θ Δομειτιανοῦ], '... ' μηνὸς Δομιτιανοῦ δ. vac.

and all others ³³ whatever rights they may have. And they shall make the return declaring the sources from which each of the assets devolved ³⁴ to them. Wives also shall add an annotation to the property records of their husbands, if by virtue of some law of the land they have a hold over the ³⁵ property; and children, likewise, to those of their parents, if, by virtue of public instruments, these retain the enjoyment, but the ownership ³⁶ after their death is reserved for the children – so that those who enter into agreements (with them) may not be defrauded by their (own) ignorance. I also command all ³⁷ notaries and registrars [not to execute] (any deeds) without an authorisation (epistagma) 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 types. 9th year of Domitian, month of Domitianus 4th.

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

⁴³ ἐξ ὑπομνηματισμῶν Πετρωνίου Μαμερτείνου. (ἔτους) ιη Ἀδρι(ανοῦ), Ἀθὺρ ιε. || ----- ¹ [±19-20] νῆς ἐμ.αν. . . [±?] ² [. . .] δ[±19-20] παῖδι[ο]ν παρ' ἐαυτῶ [±?] ³ [ὁ] δὲ πάππος οὗτος . . . ον[. . .] ἐργεῖν τὸν . . . ὄνον . [±?] ⁴ πούμενη πυνθαν[όμεθ]α ἄλλως αὐτ[. . .] ν . ι . [±3] ἡμεῖς α . . [±?] ⁵ πάντων [ζ]ημίας κατ' αὐτ[ὸν] δὲν δεόμεθα τῷ ἀφήλικι ἃ καὶ . σι . [±?] ⁶ ἐπάρχων ἐφ' ὁμοίων καὶ ἀπόκριμα βασιλικόν Πετρωνίῳ [±?] ⁷ νεώτατα τὸν δίκαιον ἃ προσήνεγκας τῷ υἱῷ σου γαμοῦν[τι ±?] ⁸ Κλαύδιος Διονύσιος δι' Αἰλίου Ἰούστου ἀπεκρ[ί]ν[α]το [. . .] . ω[±?] ⁹ διάδοχον τοῦ πατρὸς γενέσθαι. Εἰς δὲ ἀνάγκην ἀνθρ[ώ]πινην ±?] ¹⁰ [. . .] εὐχολίᾳ προλαμβάνων ὅτι λεγομένης τῇ[ς] . [±?] ¹¹ οὐδὲν ὑπάρχον ὑπέστην συγγραφᾶς [. . .] . ρον δύνата[ι ±? εἶ] ¹² πεν . “ἐπεὶ πρὸς συμφ[έ]ρον, κύριε, ἐὰν δόξη[ι σοι . . .] μ . . . ατω ὑ[±?] Πετρωνίος Μα[] ¹³ μερτεῖνος σκεψάμενος ἐκέλευσεν

From the minutes of Petronius Mamertinus. 18th year of Hadrian, Hathyr 15th. || (ca. 4 missing lines) ¹ ... ² ... the child in his presence ... ³ and this grandfather ... ⁴ ... we learn that otherwise he (she?) ... we ... ⁵ the damages of all ... regarding him, we require for the minor ... ⁶ of the prefects in similar cases and a royal response to Petronius ... ⁷ the rightful ... most recently, which you bequeathed to your son on the occasion of his marriage ... ⁸ Claudius Dionysios responded through Aelius Iustus ... ⁹ to become successor of the father. For a necessity ... ¹⁰ ... he anticipated that ... called ... ¹¹ nothing existing, I accepted written agreements ... may ... he ¹² said, ‘It

ἀναγνώ[σθ]ῃναι τὰ δι[±?οὔ(?)]]¹⁴ τως ἔχουσα
Πετρώνιος Μαμερτεῖνος . [. .]. δι' ἄνθρωπ[±?] ¹⁵
ἀναδοῦναι ἢ ὑπόθεσις κρίνεται ἀλλὰ . . . [.]
ς καὶ κρι[±?] ¹⁶ ἐπ' Ἑρμογ[.] ἐξ[±3-4] α
συγγραφὴ γ[ά]μ[ο]υ καὶ [± 7] τα ὑπά[ρχοντα ±?] ¹⁷
τὸν Κλαύδιον Διονύσιον μ . σ εγγ[.] β
ὑπ[αρ]χοντ[±?] ¹⁸ τὸν Κλαύδιον Διονύσιον μ . σ .
εγγ[.] β . ὑπ[αρ]χοντ[±?]

shall be fitting, my Lord, if you please ...
... Petronius Ma¹³mertinus having
examined (the case) ordered that the ... be
read ... ¹⁴ ... being so, Petronius
Mamertinus ... ¹⁵ to have submitted, the
case is being judged ... and ... ¹⁶ ... the
written marriage agreement and ... the
belongings ... ¹⁷ Claudius Dionysios ...
belongings ... ¹⁸ ... in the writings ...

§33. Col. IX, ll. 18–24. Opinion of Ulpus Dioskourides, legal expert (nomikos), 14th February 138 CE. (extracted, despite the year discrepancy, from the same as Col. VIII, ll. 2–7, supra §27, and concerning the same case), on a hold (katoché) arising from a marriage agreement (syngraphe gamou) according to the traditions of the Egyptians (ta tôn Aigyptiôn nomima).

[ἀντίγραφον προσφωνήσεως νομικοῦ (?) Οὐλπίος
Διοσκουρίδης τῶν ἡγο]¹⁹ ρανομηκότων
Σαλουιστίω Ἀφρικανῷ ἐπάρχῳ στόλου καὶ ἐ[πι
τῶν κεκριμένων τῷ τειμιωτάτῳ χαίρειν ±?] ²⁰
τὰ τῶν Αἰγυπτίων νόμιμα . Διονυσίας Χ ς
.. στ . [±?] ²¹ συγγραφῆς γάμου . . . [. . .]
οντα τοῦ[. . .] εχῶν ὑπὸ τοῦ υἱοῦ[ὅ] ²² γάμου
.. ἐὰν μη[. . .] . ὡσι τῆς ἐσο[μ]ένης σ[.]
[.] [±?] ²³ [. . .] ἡσ[α] [. . .] ἡ[. . .] γ
γαμοῦντός ἐστιν [. . .] . . . ἐσι τοῦ γ[±?] ²⁴ ἢ
μᾶλλον καὶ [.] κα[] τέχουσι vac. (ἔτει) β θε[ο]ῦ
[Α]δριανοῦ Με[χεῖρ ±?]

[Copy of an opinion of a legal expert. (?)
Ulpus Dioskourides, of the former]¹⁹
agoranomoi, to the most esteemed Salvistius
Africanus, commander of the fleet and
[(appointed) for judicial matters, greetings ...]
²⁰ norms of the Egyptians. As Dionysia ... ²¹
of the written marriage agreement ... by the
son ... ²² of the marriage ... unless ... of the
future ... ²³ ... it is of him who enters marriage
... ²⁴ or even ... they have a hold. (vacat) 2nd
(corr: 22nd) year of the deified Hadrian,
Mecheir ...

§34. Col. IX, ll. 24–30. Dionysia's sixth court precedent, probably regarding a family hold (katoché), dated after 162 CE (cf. the reference to Syriacus, prefect between Feb. 162 and Aug. 163)

[±?] ²⁵ η . [. .] ἰων Ἀθὺρ γ μεταξὺ κληρονόμου ασ[. . .
] ἐν ασφ . [±?] ²⁶ ἐν ἰσμος δημοσ . . . ἐπι τὰ
ἀντίγραφα [α]ὐτὰ ἀ[νεγ]γώσθη . . [±?] ²⁷ [Ἀν]νίω
[Σ]υριακῷ τῷ κρατίστῳ ἡγεμόνι δι' η . . . [±?] ²⁸
θῆναί σοι ὦ . . . εἰ ὑπάρχοντα προσέθηκας . . . δικαίως [±?]
²⁹ αὐτῆς εἶναι ἐὰν τη αὐτῆς ἐσομένης ἐξ ἄλλης γενεᾶς
[±?] ³⁰ τ πρὸ η . [. .] δὲν[. .] τα ι τὴν μὲν . . . τῆς
α[ὐτῆς] καὶ τὴν ε . . [±?]

... ²⁵ ... Hathyr 3rd. Between an heir
of ... ²⁶ ... since these copies were
read ... ²⁷ to Annius Syriacus the most
illustrious governor ... ²⁸ ... you
added the belongings ... lawfully ... ²⁹
to be hers, if her being from another
lineage ... ³⁰ ... of the same and ...

§35. Col. IX, ll. 30–41. Dionysia's seventh court precedent, before a prefect, assisted by his consilium and aided by a written legal expert opinion, from the time of Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius or Commodus, probably illustrating the principle *nemo potest venire contra factum proprium*.

[±? ἔτους Χ Ἀν]³¹ τωίνου Ἐπεῖφ κε ἐὰν τας
ξηγε[. .] η γενέσθαι π[±?] ³² η σιν μ[.] στα
καὶ [. .] ἰς ἀπορίας ἐκ [τοῦ] γάμου γ . . [±?] ³³
ὑπάρχοντα τα αλλα μηδὲ πάντα δοθέντα
μ[εταγ]ενέστερον [±? συμβό?] ³⁴ λαιον εἴη, κύριόν
ἐστιν ἐρρῶσθ(αι) εὔχομ(αι) ἡγεμ[ῶ]ν κύριε vac.
[±? σκεψάμενος μετὰ] ³⁵ τῶν ἐν τῷ συμβουλίῳ [. .]
[. . .] . κω . [±?] ³⁶ traces ³⁷ καὶ νομικοῖς ἀκήκοας
κα[±12] ν . [. .] μνα . . . [±? θυγα-] ³⁸ τριδὴν
περιγράψαι οὐδένα [±12] ἰον[±?] ³⁹ να . τῆς

X year of An³¹toninus, Epeiph 25th. if ...
to have come into being ... ³² ... of the
lack of means, from the marriage ... ³³ the
belongings ... but not all given later ... if
there is ³⁴ a deed, it is effective. I bid you
farewell, my Lord governor [vacat] ... in
consultation with ³⁵ those in the
consilium ... ³⁶ ... ³⁷ and you have heard
the legal experts ... that the ³⁸
granddaughter deceives no one ... ³⁹ for
the mother ... ⁴⁰ and her also and only ...
true and ... ⁴¹

γὰρ μητ[ρ]ὸς κατ.[±12] . . . ν [±?]⁴⁰ τα καὶ
 αὐτὴν καθὰ καὶ μόν[±11 ἀ]ληθινῇ καὶ [±?] | $\mathcal{U}$