

Nicola Reggiani, (PhD in Greek History, post-doc at the Heidelberg Institute of Papyrology) held classes of Papyrology at Trier and Parma; currently he is Researcher of the same discipline at the University of Parma. He collaborated with Isabella Andorlini at the ERC project “Digital Corpus of the Greek Medical Papyri” and produced several publications in the fields of Greek History, Papyrology, and Ancient Linguistics. His main research interests focus on the relationships among politics, society, philosophy, and religion in archaic and classical Greece; ancient cosmologies and history of science; history and anthropology of writing; documentary and paraliterary papyrology; linguistic issues in the ancient world; digital humanities.



PAPYROTHEKE

Studi e Testi di Papirologia e Cultura Scrittoria Antica

Greek Papyri from the Egyptian Museum, Cairo

Nicola Reggiani



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*“These poor fragments, if treated with care,
always reserve some novelties”*

(Isabella Andorlini)

The texts collected in this volume stem from the International Seminar on Unpublished Papyri from the Egyptian Museum at Cairo. They come from different contexts and present some individual peculiarities that make them worthy of being edited and gathered together. Of the two Ptolemaic texts, one likely belongs to the dossier of Asklepiades, *oikonomos* of the Arsinoites, and contains a mention of the *pentarouroi machimoi*, a special category of cleruchs that deserves some attention; the other one, very small, may come from the Zenon Archive. A considerable group of the Roman texts belongs to the archive of Sokrates, the tax collector from II-century AD Karanis, and most remarkable in this set are a large part of a register of daily payments in kind and a new fragment of P.Mich. VI 380, one of the famous tax rolls.

Most of these texts have already appeared in the volume P.Cair.Mich. II, and are here reprinted with slight improvements. Of the other Roman documents, beside some nice examples of lists and accounts, among which it is noticeable the occurrence of the officers called *paralemptai*, the group of the receipts offers quite a wide variety of typologies, with some peculiarities: a receipt for the weavers' tax seems to exactly parallel BGU VII 1603, which is republished here; a receipt issued by the money-tax collectors of Soknopaiou Nesos turned to be the missing part of SB VI 9124, which text is therefore reconstructed in its entirety; a receipt for land rent was issued by Aurelia Demetria, wife of the famous Aurelius Heroninos from Theadelphia. Last but not least, an interesting *tomos synkollesimos* collecting declarations from the second census of Hadrian's reign (AD 132/3), a private letter, a long piece of a Byzantine trade document, and a fragment of unknown prose, perhaps a philosophical work, with some diacritics. Two *descripta* close the volume: two petitions, belonging to the archives of Protarchos and Isidoros, the texts of which was in too bad conditions to be deciphered in full, but still present some relevant features.