THE OXYRHYNCHUS PAPYRI

'Papnoutis to his brother Dracon, greeting. Pay to Pappoulius, the assistant of the strategus, from the money which you owe me for the price of a hide seven hundred and fifty myriads of denarii of silver, total 750 myriads of denarii, and no more.' Date and signature.


4. The signature was more rapidly written than the body of the text, but does not seem to be by a different hand.

(g) PRAYERS.

1058. CHRISTIAN PRAYER.

9·2 x 11·9 cm. Fourth or fifth century.

A short prayer, inscribed in large rude uncial. On the verso are a few words, written in different directions, apparently to try a pen.

'O ὅ(ε)δι τῶν παρακεκε- μένων σταυρῶν,
βοήθησον τὸν δο- ὁλόν σου Ἀπφουᾶν.
5 ἀμήν.

ὁ καλ. []

1. θεο Παπ.
3. λοῦς δωλοῦ added in front of the line.

'O God of the crosses that are laid upon us. help thy servant Apphouas. Amen.'

1-2. θεο τῶν παρακεκεγομένων σταυρῶν is a curious phrase, though of course the metaphorical use of σταυρός is as old as the Gospels, e. g. Luke ix. 23 ἀράω τῶν σταυρῶν αἰτοῦ καθ' ἡμέραν. God is apparently thought of as at once the sender and mitigator of trials.

1059. CHRISTIAN PRAYER.

6·1 x 12·2 cm. Fifth century.

A prayer written in a rude hand and in illiterate Greek, across the fibres of the papyrus. This is on the verso; the recto contains the first four lines.
of a list of χλανίδων with their values, e. g. χλανίδων τρία λευκ[κά νο(μισματίων)] ε, χλανίδων λευκὸν . . . ον νο(μισματίων) ω.

Κύριε! θεό ε μου καὶ ὑ ἑρπό μου, ὡψε Θέκλα καὶ τοὺς τέκνους αὐτῆς, ὡψε Ἀννημα καὶ τῆς δοῦλης αὐτῆς, ὡψε Ἀπφοῦς, ὡψε Σακάων, ὡψε Διονυσίων καὶ τῶν τέκνων αὐτοῦ, ὡψε 'Ελλαδίου, ὡψε Πτολεμέον, ὡψε κατ' ὄνομα.

1. καὶ/Παρ. 1. ἡ ἀπίσ. 2. 1. ὡψε Θέκλαν κτλ. 5 ος τοις above the line. 3. 1. Ἀννημ; 4. 1. Σακάων? Cf. e. g. P. Brit. Mus. 250. 24.

'Ο Λοῦτος καὶ ημιγκλάδων καὶ τissent, ὡψε Ἀννημα καὶ τοὺς τέκνους αὐτῆς, ὡψε Ἀπφοῦς, ὡψε Σακάων, ὡψε Διονυσίων καὶ τῶν τέκνων αὐτοῦ, ὡψε 'Ελλαδίου, ὡψε Πτολεμέον, ὡψε κατ' ὄνομα.

2. ὡψε is apparently for ὡψαι from ὡσσεῖα, 'look upon' implying 'protect'; cf. e. g. Ps. xxxii. 18 τι ὡσσεῖα τοῖς φοβηθημένοις αὐτών. But there seems to be no parallel for the imperative form.

7. κατ' ὄνομα is familiar in the phrase ὡσσεῖα κατ' ὄνομα; it practically means 'severally', 'each and all'.

1060. Gnostic Amulet.

9.2 x 6.3 cm. Sixth century.

A charm against reptiles and other ills. The first three lines are occupied by a formula showing the gradual diminution by cutting off letters which is frequent in texts of this class (cf. e. g. B. G. U. 956), then follows a mystical invocation of the familiar kind including the names 'Ἰάω (Jehovah) σαβαὼθ ᾲδωναί, then the petition proper 'Free this house from every evil reptile and thing, quickly. quickly', and finally a reference to St. Phocas. Cf. 924 and P. Tebt. 275.