

Report on Papyri received from Dr. Askren for Prof. Kelsey

May 24, 1923.

The papyri are not connected with those previously acquired, so far as can be judged by internal evidence. With the exception of the fragments, which are quite miscellaneous and include scraps of both the Roman and the Byzantine period, and of the three documents under (3), they all belong to the early fourth century and probably all come from the village of Karanis. They are not of any very special value, but are not without points of interest.

They are as follows: -

- 1409 (1) Receipts for wheat for the 3rd indiction, for the *Κωμῦται* of Karanis. Countersigned. 2 columns, the second defaced on the right. Early 4th cent. $9\frac{1}{2}$ " x 10".
- (2) Loan of money at Arsinoe (to a man of Karanis). With subscription and endorsement. Complete but a little damaged. A late (but not the latest) example of a notarial contract (as opposed to the Byzantine chirograph). A.D. 326. $10\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6".
- 1411-12 (3) Three documents stuck together, no doubt by the finders, viz.:- (i) Latin document of uncertain character, perhaps a list of names, 3rd(?) cent.; (ii) Uncertain fragment, perhaps of a register. 3rd-4th cent.; (iii) Tax receipt for φ - *Κάταυδρα* and *φόρος προβάτων*. 17th year, perhaps of Severus, Caracalla and Geta (-A.D.208). $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " (size of composite sheet). The three documents can easily be separated by damping.
- 1413 (4) Four receipts on the same sheet of papyrus (2 on recto, 2 on verso) of similar character to (1). Karanis. Early 4th

cent. Perfect. $9\frac{1}{2}$ " x $6\frac{1}{2}$ ".

- (5) A collection of similar receipts for wheat, barley and meat; with some accounts. Almost complete. Karanis. Early 4th cent. $10\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1ft.6".
- (6) Cession of land, apparently including royal land. Probably of some interest. Imperfect on left and at the top and damaged elsewhere. Early 4th cent. $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x $7\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- (7) Petition in a case concerning landed property. Karanis. Early 4th cent. Complete (unless a preceding column is lost, as seems not unlikely) but so much rubbed that much of the right side is illegible. 10" x $9\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Fragments. All small. One is a small scrap of a literary (prose) work (1st-2nd cent.); one appears to be a tax-receipt, dated in the reign of Gordian; the others seem of little or no interest.

Signed H. J. Bell.

May 28, 1923.