
TWO DEMOTIC RECEIPTS OF $r-rh=w$

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Two Demotic Receipts of $r-rh=w$

*Soheir wahid El-Din*¹

This article deals with two² demotic receipts of $r-rh=w$ which kept in the Egyptian Museum at Cairo .the internal evidence refers to Gebelin provenance and late Ptolemaic period.

These texts are known from the late Ptolemaic times to the Roman period. They are issued during the spring survey and cover both temple and king's land,¹ and issued by the state agriculture office.² These texts were related to the cultivated land. The lands were not small were allotted to more than farmer to take care and till them. The lands were usually small had been allotted to one farmer. These kinds of lands were neglected, and the government aimed to be taken care and re-cultivated them. The farmers re-cultivated this neglected land without paying taxes for five years, then they must pay a reduced tax for another three years starting from the ninth year they must pay it fully.³

1- **Museum Number** : Inv.No./TR. 18953/25/1/55-4

Color : Redish yellow.

Dimensions : height 14 cm.; width 10 cm.; thickness. 5cm.

Provenance : Pathyris in Gebelin

Date : The year thirty six(82-81 BC),of ninth Ptolemy

The potsherd is completed and palimpsests some few signs are visible. The handwriting is in a good state of preservation.

Transliteration:

- 1-*r-rh=w r P^c-h3.t s3 Hr-m3^c (irm)P3-m3j s3 N3-nht=f n*
2-*t3 wp.t n p3 wj^c n h.t-ntr n pr- Hthr n kj st3 24 r st3 12 r st3 24 ^cn*
3-*sš P3-tj-hr-sm3-t3.wj s3 P^c-t3-s.t-^c3.t n h3.t-sp 36*
4-*sš P3-šr-Mn st3 24 r st3 12 r st3 24 ^cn n h3.t-sp 36*
5-*sš N3-nht=f s3 P^c-Gbst3 24 r st3 12 r st3 24 ^cn*
6-*sš 3pr3pnjs? st3 24 r st3 12 r st3 24 ^cn*

Translation

- 1 – what is allotted to Pahet son Harmaa (with) Pemaï son of Nechutes, for
2- the field work of the temple in Pathyris, highland, 24 aruras : 12 aruras :24 aruras again.
3-Signed Peteharsemtheus son of Patseus, in year 36.
4-Signed Peshenmin, 24 aruras : 12 aruras :24 aruras again, in year 36.
5-Signed Nechutes son of Pakoibis, 24 aruras : 12 aruras : 24 aruras again, in year 6-Signed Aprapnis,? 24 aruras : 12 aruras : 24 aruras again.

Comment:

- L.1-There is no other instance for the farmers' names is known to me.
- The middle of the patronymic name Harmaa is smudged ink.
L.2-The worked area in the highland of the temple in Pathyris is twenty four aruras .⁴
- (*t3 wp.t wj^c*) means the field work which the farmers were carried out in the highland Pathyris to take care and till it.

L.3-There is no other instance for this combination name Peteharsemtheus⁵ son of Patseus⁶, but each of them is known as a scribe at the late Ptolemaic period. I do not know if they are family or not.

-The year thirty six(82-81 BC) belongs to ninth Ptolemy.

-The name of the scribe Peshenmin is common in Gebelin texts, but there is no other instance for his name as a scribe.

L.5- The scribe Nechutes son of Pakoibis, is known from two other published receipts.⁷

- Some signs of the scribe's name are very faint.

- The date number thirty six was erased, because the number thirty was written in error and the scribe forgot to write it again. L.6-The reading of the scribe's name is not sure.

The present text contains allotment of field work in the highland in Pathyris to farmers to cultivate it. The receipt concerns:

-**Date** :year thirty six (82-81BC) of ninth Ptolemy.

-**Farmers** : Pahet son of Harmaa, and Pemaï son of Nechutes.

-**Worked land** : Twenty four aruras .

- **kind of land** :Highland of the temple.

- **Land place** : Pathyris.

- **First scribe** : Peteharsemtheus son of Patseus.

- **Witness** : Peshenmin.

-**Witness** : Nechutes son of Pakoibis.

-**Witness** : Aprapnis.

2- **Museum Number** : Inv.No./TR. 18953/25/1/55-4.

Color : Redish yellow

Dimensions : height 13 cm.; width 10 cm.; thickness. 5cm.

Provenance : Pathyris

Date : The year twenty five (90-89CB),of tenth Ptolemy.

The potsherd is completed. The handwriting is in a good state of preservation. The potsherd has a signature of the scribe's finger at the top in its right side, it is clear and visible.

Transliteration:

1- (.)r-rh=w r N3-nht=f s3 Thwtj-ir-tj=s

2-n m3j n pr-Hthr

3-st31/4 1/8 r st3 1/8 1/16 r st3 1/4 1/18 n

4-sš P3-tj-Hr-sm3-t3.wj n h3.t-sp25.t

5-250

Translation :

- 1- What is allotted for Nechutes son of Thotortaios,
- 2- in island in Pathyris,
- 3- 1/4 1/8 arura : 1/8 1/16 arura :1/4 1/8 arura again.
- 4- Signed Peteharsemtheus, in year 25.
- 5- 250

Comment:

L.1-The dot is used as checking mark⁸ at the beginning of the line to distinguish the proper name Nechutes son of Thotortaios, who is known from other receipt as (w^cb priest) among a list of priests.⁹

L.2-The preposition (n) is written as an ink spot at the beginning of the line.

L. 2-3- The cultivated area is quarter and eighth arura in island in Pathyris.

L.4-The scribe is known from many other receipts.¹⁰

- The year twenty five (90-89CB) belongs to tenth Ptolemy.

- The number twenty of the year twenty five is very faint and small.

L.5- I suggests the two hundred and fifty at the end of the text refers to the total numbers of the persons who were cultivated the island in Pathyris and our farmer was one of them so, his name was checked by a dot. Other three texts have numbers at the end of them, but the numbers did not have been read .They may be refer to the total amount of money.¹¹

The text contains quarter and eighth arura in island in Pathyris , which by Nechutes son of Thotortaios, who is known as (*w^cb* priest). It contains also, the total number of the persons who were cultivated the island in Pathyris. The text concerns:

Date : Year twenty five (90-89BC) of tenth Ptolemy.

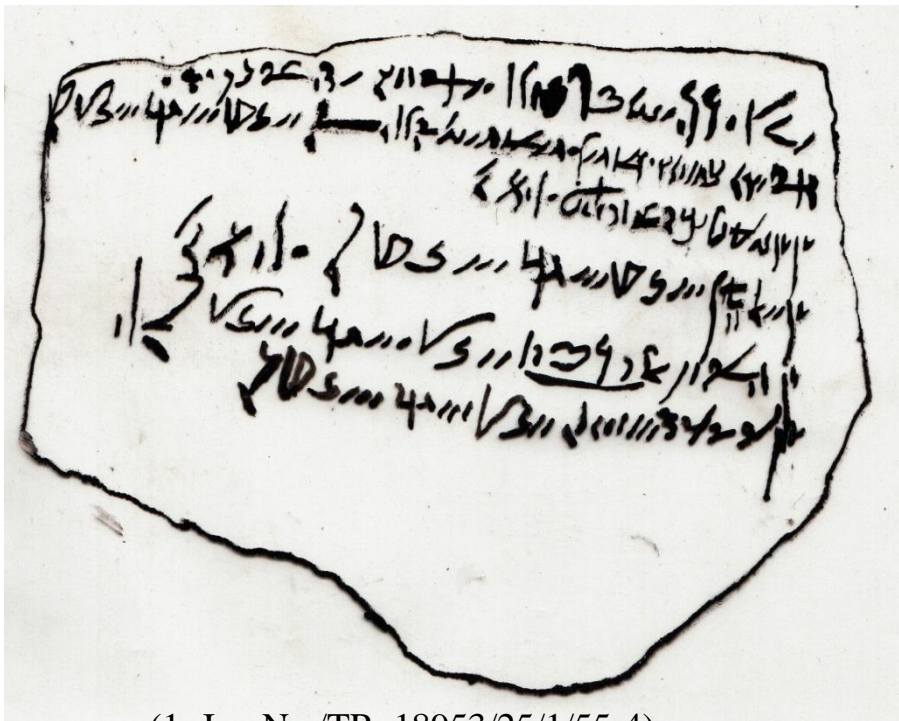
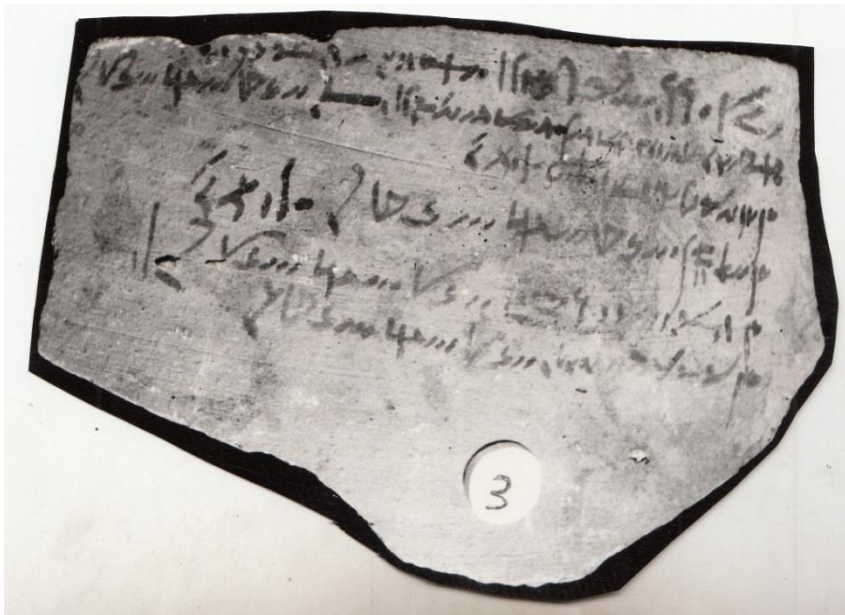
Farmer : Nechutes son of Thotortaios .

Worked land : quarter and eighth arura.

Land place : Pathyris.

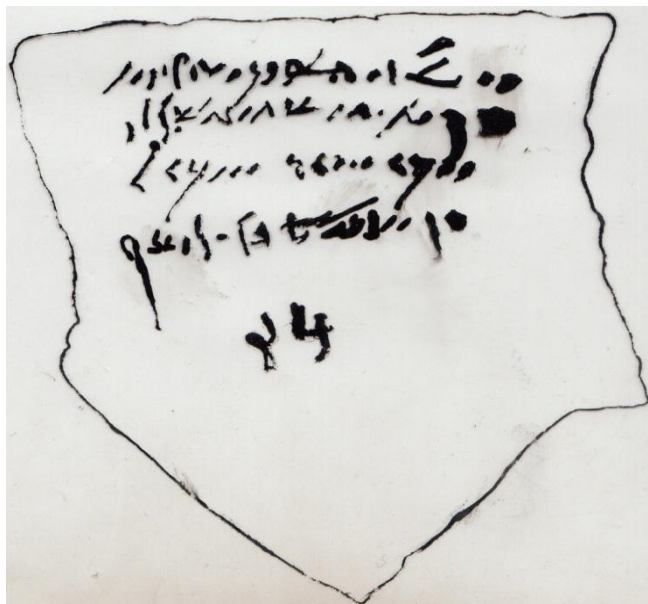
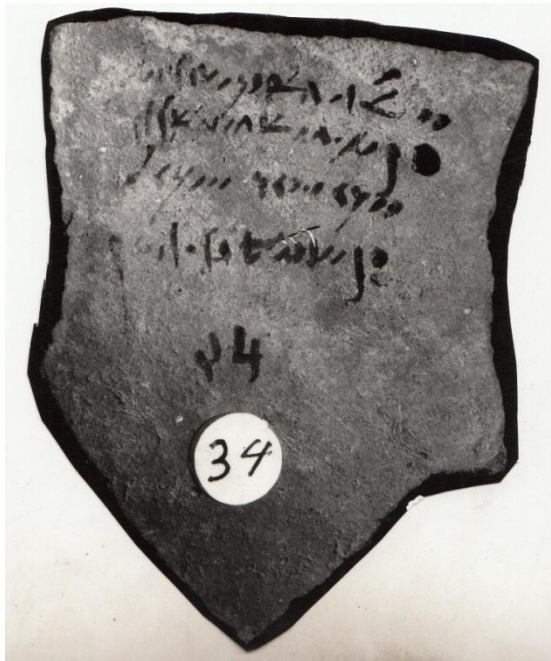
The scribe : Peteharsemtheus.

Pl.1



(1- Inv.No./TR. 18953/25/1/55-4)

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(2- Inv.No./TR. 18953/25/1/55-4)

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