

Comments on Greek Monetary Units

Post by "Don" of December 1, 2024 at 12:07 AM

For reference, and thanks for calling these to my attention:

[U184]

Philodemus, Treatises, Vol. Herc. 2, I.127: "The only contribution I require is that which ... ordered the disciples to send me, even if they are among the Hyperboreans. I wish to receive from each of you two hundred and twenty drachmae a year and no more." And in another letter: "Ctesippus brought me the annual tribute, which was sent on behalf of your father and you yourself."

[U185]

Philodemus, Treatises, Vol. Herc. 2, I.118: After having given a sheep to a young boy from an enclosed pen: "Take care of the toy that I have gifted to you."

I may have a feast.

40. You have looked after me wonderfully generously in sending me food, and have given proofs heaven-high of your good will to me.

41. The only contribution I require is that which . . . ordered the disciples to send me, even if they are among the Hyperboreans. I wish to receive from each of you two a hundred and twenty drachmae a year and no more.

Ctesippus has brought me the annual contribution which you sent for your father and yourself.

λεύσασθαι δύνωμαι.

40. Δαιμονίως τε καὶ μεγαλοπρεπῶς ἐπεμελήθητε ἡμῶν τὰ περὶ τὴν τοῦ σίτου κομιδὴν, καὶ οὐρανομήκη σημεῖα ἐνδέδειχθε τῆς πρὸς ἐμὲ εὐνοίας.

41 [Τὴν σύνταξιν ἦν . . . συνε]τάξατο ἐμαυτῶ[ι κ]ἂν ἐν Ὑπερβ[ορ]είοις ὧσιν ἀποστε[λε]ῖν, ταύτην καὶ μόνην ἐπιτάττω. [ἐ]κατὸν γὰρ κα[ὶ ε]ἴκοσι [δ]ρ[αχ]μὰ[ς μόν]ας κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν βούλομα[ι] παρ' ἑκατέρου λαμβάνειν.

5 Ἦνευγέ μοι Κτήσιππος τὴν κα[τ'] ἐ[ν]μαυτὸν σύνταξ[ι]ν ἦν ἀπέστειλας ὑπέρ τε τοῦ πατρὸς καὶ σεαυτοῦ.

42 Τιμίαν μὲν ἔξει ἀντίδοσιν τὴν [ὑπ' ἐ]μοῦ δοθεῖσαν αὐτῷ

§ 11 6: see note there on *κυθριδίου*.

40 (Usener 183). A reference to the contributions made by the disciples for the support of Epicurus: see *fr* 26

1. *δαιμονίως* seems a safer correction of the MS *δαίως* than Cobet's *δαψίλως*: it is also more in accord with the phraseology of the fragment.

2. *οὐρανομήκη*. an intentionally poetic word.

41 (Usener 184). Another reference to the *σύνταξις*, which shows that it was a well-organized subscription of a substantial amount levied on all disciples. It would presumably be required for the upkeep of the house and gardens in Athens and for the sustenance of Epicurus and the disciples who lived there. The opening of the fragment looks as though some official of the community was authorized to assess the amount.

42 (Usener 185) Another fragment from Philodemus said to be in