The following Descriptions have been received from Professor Sayce:—

GreeK Ostraka from Erment and Karnak.

I will follow up the communications of Dr. Birch and Dr. Wiedemann on Greek Ostraka from Egypt, by giving the readings of some which I collected at Thebes in the winters of 1881 and 1883. In 1881 the natives were employed in excavating the ruins of an old Koptic village on the north side of the temple of Karnak, for the sake of the manure contained in the dust of its buildings. These, like all other human habitations in Egypt, were constructed of bricks dried in the sun. The bricks, it turned out, had been hardened with the help of inscribed potsherds, which came to light as soon as the bricks themselves crumbled into dust. The potsherds are partly in Greek, partly in Demotic, while there are a few in a handwriting which I cannot read, and they must have all come from some record chamber where they had been deposited in regular order. At all events, the ostraka found in particular houses or particular parts of the old village always belonged to a particular group or series. Dr. Wiedemann and myself secured a considerable number of the ostraka from the boys of the place; Mr. Greville Chester subsequently procured a good many more, which are now in the British Museum. Between my two visits to Thebes I found that the greater part of the village had been dug up by the fellahin, and that consequently there was a large amount of ostraka in the hands of the dealers at Karnak, who had discovered that European visitors set a value upon them.

The Karnak ostraka, which are written in Greek, are exceedingly difficult to read, and no attempt to do so has hitherto been made. The difficulties presented by the execrable handwriting of most of them are increased by a fact which Dr. Wiedemann and I believed we had ascertained, that some of the texts, though written in Greek characters, are in a foreign language, presumably that of the Blemmyes, while in others foreign words are mixed with Greek words. It must be confessed, however, that I came across none of these non-Greek texts last winter, while I bought one or two ostraka which were written so legibly as to furnish a key to the reading of the rest.
But before I proceed to give the texts of those of my Karnak potsherds which I have succeeded in deciphering, I must notice some ostraka from Erment, several of which were procured last winter by Mr. Strachan-Davidson, and two or three by myself. These are all written in large capitals, and are therefore unusually easy to read. I give the texts without accents, like Dr. Birch and Dr. Wiedemann:—

1. Ερμοδώρος οξιληφ
ως το δέλος των κα
στοπών ι. λε
κομιον χαιριν απε
χω παμα σον το γι
νομεναν τελος
απο θαθ ηνος
μεσορη τον
αυτον ητος.

"Hermodóros, who has received the tax of the saddle-makers for the 35th year, sends greeting to Komos. I receive from you the tax due from the month Thoth to the month Mesori of the same year."

"The 35th year" seems to indicate the reign of Augustus. Καστοπών must be a compound of κάσσας, "a skin" or "saddle" for sitting upon (Xen., Kyrop. viii, 3, 6). The spellings δέλος, χαιριν, ἡνος, and ητος, also found in other Egypto-Greek texts, must be noticed, as well as the contraction οξιληφως for ὁ οξιληφῶς.

2. Ερμοδώρος ο εξειληφως
το τελος των καστοπων νυ
και γυαφαλλων ωρον
χαιρεν εχω παμα σον το
γυαμενον τελος του
επειρ ι και μεσορη του λε ι.

"Hermodóros, who has received the tax of the saddle-makers and wool-pickers, sends greeting to Hóros. I receive from you the tax due for Ερψειφι and Mesori of the 35th year... (dated) the 21st of Με(σ)ορι."

Γυαφαλλων is a compound of κνάφαλλον, "wool" or "flock," used for stuffing cushions, the plant from which the wool was obtained being called γυαφαλλον by Dioskoridès (iii, 132).
3. Ἐρμοδώρος ὁ Ἑξειδηφως
τὸ τέλος τῶν κασσοποιῶν καὶ
γναφαλλολογῶν εἰς τὸ αἶ.
πετεαργηρεῖ χαίρειν
ἐχὼ παρὰ σου τὸ τέλος
μεσχερ καὶ φαιμενόθ καὶ
πραμονθῇ μὲ ἦ.

Hermodōros, who has received the tax of the saddle-makers and
wool-pickers for the first year, sends greeting to Peteargēris. I
receive from you the tax for the months of Mekheir, Phamenoth,
and Phrōmuthi, 41 drachmas the first year.”

Γ is intended for Λ, not for γίγνεται, which it usually denotes.

4. Ἐρμοδώρος ὁ Ἑξειδηφως
τὸ τέλος τῶν κασσοποιῶν
καὶ γναφαλλολογῶν
εἰς τὸ αἶ. πετεαργηρεῖ
χαίρειν ἐχὼ παρὰ σου
τὸ γεινομενον σου
τελος του χωιχ.

The spelling γναφαλλολογῶν should be noticed.

5. Ἐρμοδώρος ὁ Ἑξ(ειληφως το τε)
λος των καστοπ(οιων του)
kοπτιτου εἰς αὶ. α σ(ων χαίρειν)
ἐχὼ παρὰ σου εἰς (του . . . . . . λογου)
χαλκου 2 σ.

Hermodōros, who has received the tax of the saddle-makers of
the nome of Koptos for one year, sends greeting to Soros. I receive
from you on account of . . . . . 200 quarter-obols of bronze.”

We learn from this text that Koptos or Koft was the head-quarters
of the saddle-makers. The ostrakon is unfortunately broken.
6. Ἕρμοδωρος
βις εἰς χαίρεν
ἐχαίν παρά σου
 eius τοῦ ὁροῦ
tou ὕπνου
λόγον χαίλκου
1. 2 ερρωσο
1. λ α
παχων κ.

"Hermodōros sends greeting to Βίτεας. I receive from you on
account of Ηρός, the son of Βουσος, a quarter-obol of bronze.
Farewell. The 31st year, the 20th of Πακονίου."

7. Ἕρμοδωρος οξύληφως
το δέλος των κασσαποιων
tov καστικοῦ εἰς 1. α σ
ορον χαίρεν άπεχω πα
μα σου το γασμενον
tέλος απο
πανι ης
μεσόρη τρια και (? δέκα).

"Hermodōros, who has received the tax of the saddle-makers
of the Koptite nome for one year, sends greeting to Σορός. I receive
from you the tax due from Παυνί to Μεσόρι (1)3 (quarter-obols)."

8. Ἕρμοδωρος Αρκων
χαίρεν άπεχω παρα
σου το εν(νευ,δικόν)
tης γης (τέλος;) κου
dεν σου εκκαλω
1 α (? ο) παχω.
α

"Hermodōros sends greeting to Αρκων. I receive from you the tax
on the ninth part of the produce of the land, and hold you indebted
for nothing more. The first (?) year, the first day of Πακονίου."

There is space for three letters in εν ... δικόν, and the traces that
remain of the first look like ι. 'The word is evidently ἐννεαδικόν.'

9. Ραδιώνος
Ερμωτι
χαίρεν
ο φινος
eis το τέλος
eos μεσορη
ἀ . . .
Rhadenos sends greeting to Erautis. The end of the tax until the first of Mesori...” *finīs* must be the Latin *finis*. Between this word and *eis* is a line which has been erased.

10. Ῥάδανος ὁ ἔξυλη

φῶς τὴν τῶν κασσον
ποιῶν οὖν ἐις
τὸ ι. λ ὅ Ἐραυτεὶ
cαιρὲν εὖ ἐχὼ τὸ δὲ
λὸς ἀπὸ βαυτ
eos μεσαρη
ἀ τον προισταμένου
νοῦ ι. λ ὅ
eiw καὶ τὸ τον
βαους τέλος
κατὰ τὸ μὲ
ωφασον.

“Rhadenos, who has received the contract for farming the taxes of the saddle-makers for the 34th year, sends greeting to Erautis. I have the tax from Thoth to the first of Mesori of the current 34th year. I also allow a diminution of the tax upon cattle according to the rate of reduction.”

*Ὀνὺ* is for ὀνήν, “a contract for the farming of taxes” (see Liddell and Scott’s Lexicon, s.v.), and μεώπους for μεώπους. Similarly βοιου stands for βοεύον or βοεόν. In προισταμένου, τ has been written by mistake for μ and the τ is misformed.

This completes the collection from Erment, and I now pass on to the Karnak ostraka. I shall begin with a potsherd purchased at Karnak by Sir William Gregory, and given by him to me. It is written in a very legible hand, but the lower part of it is unfortunately destroyed.

11. Ἡρακλίανος κολ Ἀχ ἀπο τον νεφωτιον
οὐ ἀπο τον χωριον πικεραίον κολ
οινον γ' οξους β' ἐις πληρωσιν ποτ ἐι
οὐ πεπρωκα διπλοῦ ἧ η
οὐ εδώκα ωριων γραμματ διπλοκερα
..........................Trophonion α.
..............................

“For Hēraklianos, 37 coins (?) from the newly-planted ground, and 5 coins (?) from the estate of Pi-Keral, 3 (measures) of wine (and) 2 of vinegar, 5 in all for filling the cup. I have also bought a double jar for 8 triobola, and have given a double jar to Orion, the scribe... of Trophonios...”
This ostrakon is a very interesting one. It gives us the origin of the modern name of Karnak, which has evidently been formed from Pi-Keræi, i.e., Keræi with the article prefixed. It indicates, moreover, that whole jars were bought and purposely broken in order to provide writing materials for the officials. What is meant by "a double jar" I do not know; the word διπλοκεράμιον is a new one. I am equally ignorant as to what is meant by κολλήσιον. Νεφυτών is of course for νεφυτεύον, or for ὀμοίως, τοῦ for ποτηρίου, διπλοκεράμιον, and γραμματῖα for γραμματεῖα, "the scribe." Revillout (Revue Égyptologique, ii, p. 87) has shown that 5 or 5 denoted the half-drachma of silver, or piece of 3 obols equivalent to 60 obols of bronze.

I shall now take a series signed by a certain Ptolemy, "collector of the corn-tax," who lived in the reign of Tiberius. The handwriting is difficult to read.

12. Πτολεμαῖος Ἀσκλαπίου mad
κλαδίς πρακτορ καὶ
Ψανόλος Πινεύς τὸς
† απείχω το πρόλυτον
τοῦ καὶ τοῦ δ Λ
Πτολεμαῖος.

"Ptolemy the son of Asklas, the collector of the corn-tax, sends greeting to Psanolos, the son of Pneus. I receive from you the remainder of the corn-tax for the 4th year. (Signed) Ptolemy."

The full form of the genitive of the name of Ptolemy's father appears on the next ostrakon. Πρακτορ καὶ stands for πράκτορος καλαμικοῦ or καλάμων. Καλαμος was equivalent to the Latin tessera, "the token by which corn was obtained," and Liddell and Scott are wrong in saying that this meaning did not belong to it until the fourth century; and καλαμηθερίων signified "to bring a corn-token in order to get corn upon it." A fragmentary ostrakon dated in the 10th year of Domitian, and belonging to Dr. Wiedemann, contains the word καλάμη written in full. Προδώ is written in full προδώτων, i.e., προδωτῶν, on the next ostrakon. The year will be the 4th of Tiberius.

13. Πτολεμαῖος Ασκλαπίου
Πρωσκοπτοῦ Ὀιστῆς χαιρεῖν
απείχω παρὰ σοῦ το πρόδωτον
τοῦ καὶ τοῦ Λ. κα Τιβέριον
αὐτῶστου καθαροῖς καὶ
Πτολεμαῖος.

16
"Ptolemy the son of Asklas sends greeting to Psuspato son of Kasotis. I receive from you the remainder of the corn-tax for the 21st year of Tiberius Augustus Cæsar. (Signed) Ptolemy."

14. Πτολεμαῖος Ασκλας
Παμμύων Παμ ἕ
απεχό παρὰ σου το
προλυπους του καλ
του γ Λ Τιβέριου κλαυ
καισαρος σεβαστου γ
Πτολεμαῖος.

"Ptolemy the son of Asklas sends greeting to Pammônios the son of Pammônios. I receive from you the remainder of the corn-tax for the 3rd year of Tiberius Claudius Cæsar Augustus. (Signed) Ptolemy."

This is the earliest dated ostrakon I have yet met with.

With this my series of the Ptolemy ostraka ends. I now go on to another, written in a very bad hand, which presents us with a word written with a contraction which has not been met with before, I believe, in this class of documents.

15. Ἰππωμύς πρακαντργύχιλ. Πικοῦς λωδ δρχ
εσχο διπλους τρν δνυ ἔτοι μυ β-
λ ε Ἀντωνινου καισαρος του κυριου
τυβιτ ἑδ παρη η/η απ(?) . . .

"Papômis, collector of money, sends greeting to Pikós the linen-draper. The drachmas I received doubly, two half-drachmas as a pledge for two drachmas. The 5th year of Antoninus Cæsar the lord, the 14th day of Tybi. I received in all 8 . . . ."

Πράκτωρ ἄργυμος is a title already well-known from the ostraka of Elephantiû. Pikós is a name met with elsewhere on the Karnak potsherds; there was a tax-collector of the same name in the reign of Antonine. Λιω, stands for λιωργήν; Dr. Birch has already made us acquainted with the linen-draper’s tax. Εσχο is of course ἐσχον, and μυ. must represent μῦνιον or μῦσια “a pledge.”

16. Φαύφις Χ(ʔ)εσουν. Πεσεχω
Πενενυ χι᾽ απεχ τ ούδα
του θ Λ Νερωνου του
κυριου
ἐπ/ ἑξ

"Phæphis son of Khesos (?) to Pësekh son of Psenenôn sends greeting. I receive the obols for the 9th year of Nero the lord. (Dated) the 17th day of Epeiphi.”
Another ostrakon, of which the beginning is lost, is dated in "the 3rd year of Nero Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus Imperator (Ἀυτοκράτορος), the 15th day of Athyr."

17. διαγ. Πεσέχων Πέκ(?)ω (?)υνέπικρατον όνομασίαν τον κυρίον του κασαὶρ

Δαμών (?)

"Pesekh the son of Pekons (?) acquires for the workmen's tax twenty drachmas: the 1st year of the Emperor Vespasian the lord, the Cæsar. (Signed) Damôn (?) ."

Pesekh is perhaps the same as the Pesekh mentioned in the last text. An ostrakon translated by Dr. Birch, which belongs to the 14th year of Nero, states that the workmen's tax amounted to 20 drachmas of silver.

The following ostrakon is written in a large but peculiar hand:—

18. Δαμών Βακχίου Δίδυμου Αφροδίσιος...

χαρέων απεχώ παρά σου οινον κεραμία δεκα εξ ων σοι εδώκα σων τω επισυκτω τον ιθ' του και α 1. κουθεν σοι ευκαλώ περὶ τον προγεγραμμένον οινον κεραμίων δεκα εξαγραψεν υπὲρ αὐτοῦ ἀρκεῖ σαρκίου αξ') ωσε εἰ δια το ὀραδ . . . ερο (?)υν α ... εγραψεν Δάμων εν κη . . . e προτεμια.

"Damôn son of Bakkhios Didymos to Aphrodisios sends greeting. I receive from you ten jars of wine of which I gave you along with the seal of the 19th and 1st years (?), and I hold you indelict no further for the ten jars of wine already written about. He registered on his own behalf a sufficient quantity of flesh-meat fittingly. Leave alone the eggs on account of the . . . . . . (Signed) Damôn: he has attended to (?) the former orders."

The two last lines are in a different handwriting to the rest. Ἐπισυκτόω must be the plug with which the jars were closed and sealed, and I imagine that ιθυν stands for ἐννεακαίδεκαίτων. Δέκα εξ

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Written αὐκορός, or perhaps αὐκτόρος. The handwriting of this ostrakon is exceedingly bad.
may possibly mean 16, and I suppose 4ξ) to be 4ξiως. I cannot read part of the last line but two, nor the word which follows 4ξ.

Towards the end of the reign of Tiberius a certain Pikós appears as attaching his name to receipts. I have three ostraka with his signature, which are as follows:—

19. διεγρ. Πτερενυν Παμ(?) αρ(?) θ ν’ Φιεραν
    ιερ ι θ Λ τρις γεγρ οβά η γι ’-
    κπ γεγραφ’ τ(ευ) κ Λ κ Τιβερίου
    κασαρος σεβαστου χοιαχ
    τι γεγρ Πικ.’

"Petemenon the son of Pamarth, (?) on behalf of Phieras, has acquitted (the tax) for the 19th year. I have registered 3 obols. I have registered the retailers’ tax (?) for the 20th year of Tiberius Cæsar Augustus. The 16th day of Khoiak. I, Pikós, have signed."

I have no idea what κπ can represent, unless it be a tax upon retailers (κάπηλοι) or “gardens” (κῆποι). The handwriting both of this and the following ostrakon is bad. See No. 21, from which it would appear that the name of the father ought to be read Paménth.

20. διεγρ. Πτερενυν Παμ(?) αρ(?) θ ν’ Φιεραν
    αλ γεγρ οβα η δ Λ Γιανων
    Κασαρος Γερμανικου χοιαχ τε
    Πικ.’

"Petemenon the son of Pamarth, (?) on behalf of Phieras, has acquitted (the tax) for the 1st year. I have registered 8 obols. The second year of Caius Cæsar Germanicus, the 15th day of Khoiak. (Signed) Pikós."

It is interesting to find the title of Germanicus here given to Caligula.

A third ostrakon, signed Pikós, is little more than a repetition of the first (No. 19).

21. διεγρ. Πτερενυν Παμ(?) αρ(?) θ ν’
    φιελ ι θ Λ γεγρ οβά ι—
    ι Λ κ Τιβερίου κασαρος
    σεβαστου χοιαχ σεβαστ τε
    γεγρ Πικ.’

"Petemenon the son of Paménth, on behalf of Phieras, has acquitted (the tax) for the 19th year. I have registered so many obols. The 20th year of Tiberius Cæsar Augustus; the 15th day of Khoiak Augustus. I Pikós have signed."
I know of no other instance in which the title of August is attached to the name of the month Khoiak. In the time of Julius Caesar Khoiak did not begin until the 27th of November.

I may add here an ostrakon belonging to the 5th year of Tiberius, and written on behalf of the Phieras mentioned above (Nos. 19, 20, 21), which is unfortunately broken and otherwise injured so that only a portion of it can be read.

22. ... ταπεῖς Καμητος ἐν Φιέ. δη.

... γ γ . β ... τοι. εἰτ. Τιβεριου
... Κλαυδιου καισαρος σεβαστον

.........................

.......

"tapeis son of Kametes, on behalf of Phieras, has acquitted ....... the 5th year of Tiberius (Nero) Claudia Caesar Augustus"

The following is written in large clear capitals, many of the letters being formed like those of the Coptic alphabet.

23. Ουλουζιος Πεταργερης

Φτωμινος μ απεχω παδον
σομ αχουρον γωμος
ενως του ε ι. Δεμιτιανον
του κουριου

"Uluzios to Petargeris the son of Phtiminis, sends greeting. I receive from you the loads of bran of last year. The 15th year of Domitian the lord."

Αχουρον γωμος ενως evidently stands for αχιρου γυμους ένους. After the name of D(om)itian a του has been written and subsequently erased.

Another ostrakon in my possession, dated in the 15th year of Domitian, is written by a certain Patomraunos.

24. διεγραμματος Πατομραυνος

Τεχος Λιεχθαλιουφιος ντ
λα ι. χ δοκα καιρυριουν
κ τοι. του κουριου
φαρμουθι λγ εγυαν.

"Patomraunos son of Techos of Lickthaliouph (or Nekhthaniouph), has acquitted for the poll-tax and the workmen's tax 10 drachmas (?) of silver ... The 15th year of Domitian Caesar the lord, the 33rd day of Pharmuthi I registered (it)."
I do not understand the numerals in this text, which are however quite plain.

I now come to an ostrakon which introduces us to a new title.

25. Μέτρ- θης κυρι. γενυ(?) ιβλ. Τραιανον
tou κυριου εφει κη ουο Πετεχω χαταζουν

tυρον διο / ιβθ ......

“Metrês the treasurer, the state-collector (?) of the 12th year of Trajan the lord, the 28th day of E(pei)phi, in the name of Petekhons, the son of Khatabos, two measures of wheat . . . .”

Traces of the symbol denoting a quarter-obol remain at the end. Θης is of course δισωροφιλαξ, or perhaps δισωριστής, and κυρι. is probably to be explained by the κάλαμος mentioned above (No. 12). At any rate its place is taken on other ostraka by μισ., i.e., μισθωτής or “collector.” The last letter of γενυ. may not be intended for ν, but for a mark of contraction. In Byzantine times ὑ γενικός was “the treasurer,” and possibly it is γενικός which we have to read here.

I have another ostrakon belonging to Metres or Metris which does not contain an emperor’s name. It runs thus:

25a. Ι. ί εσπειφι ιδ Μετρ’ θ’
dιοκ καστο(?)τοπος ψενων
... Αμήνις Ψ(?)εμνιος τ δ

“The 8th year, the 14th day of Epeiphi, Metres the treasurer, the Procurator . . . . being Psenonis; the . . . . being Amētis Ps (?)eminios; 4 tetrobols.”

dιοκ is of course διοκτής, and the next word may be either a proper name or be compounded with τόπος. It is unfortunate that the writing is partly obliterated.

26. Μεθῆς κα γενυ- ιδ/ του
cαισαρος tou κυριου εσπειφι . . . .
v’ χλ. ουο Ταμεπρωνος Ψεμενο

tυρος ημαν ι-ιζ. . . .

“Methês the state-collector (?), of the 14th year of the Cesar the lord; the . . day of Epeiphi, for the workmen’s tax; in the name of Tameprôn the son of Psemenôn, half a measure of wheat . . . .”

I cannot explain the symbols which come at the end of the text, but the last denotes a quarter obol. Methês can hardly be the same as Metres, since the two names are very distinctly spelt, but “the Cesar” of this ostrakon is no doubt Trajan.
27. Άσκαυς κρ' επτ θηγί και
Πεκυσι' ωνω' Φθομα/ο/
εσκ κα του θ' . . . .
νου Καιου Εναρίες
σεβας επφα ἰδ.

"Askaus . . . . the treasurer and Pekysis in the name of Phthumis,
have received (ἔσχομεν) the corn-tax of the 9th year of . . . nos Caius
Enariēs Augustus. The 14th day of Epeiphi."

I have no conception as to what the first title of Askaus may
mean, though ἐπτ must be ἐπτὰ or some compound of the latter.
Neither can I find any emperor whose name was Enariēs. Unfortu­
nately the first name of the Augustus is hopelessly gone. Of course
ονω is for ὀνόματι.

28. ετους λε πανυ ἰα χ=
εις Γενδιώδην ιε Ερμον /
λε 1. Ήρακλείδης Ερμον δε'ί)
κροτων δυ' / κρ' β
Ασκαυς.

"The 35th year, the 11th day of Payni, 4 obols to Gendiodyēs 15
Hermos (pays). The 35th year Hērakleidēs, son of Hermēs
owes for the castor-oil tax 2 obols. (Signed) Askaus."

The "castor-oil" tax is new to us, and must have been levied on
the natives of Nubia, where the castor-oil plant grows. The "35th"
year is a difficulty; if it refers to the reign of a Roman emperor it
can only be Augustus. Augustus, however, did not bear the names
of Caius Enariēs, as did the emperor under whom Askaus lived
according to the preceding ostrakon. We may, therefore, perhaps,
see in the latter one of the usurpers who governed the Thebaid while
it was independent of Roman rule in the 3rd century A.D. Dr.
Wiedemann has several ostraka dated in years exceeding 30.

29. ετους α' επειφη γ
ε' εις την επι ψ κ ' ι'/
του 'L. Λαυχων . . . . .
βουτυρου = εικοσι (και δυο)
ημισυ τ κ β /
Πετει Σιτολ.

"The first year, the 3rd day of Epeiphi, 4 obols for the . . . of
the 1st year of Asykhios . . . for butter 22½ obols. (Signed)
Petemōn, the son of Sitol."

22
Here, again, we have a new name after which the year is dated. I have no idea what \( \psi \) stands for.

30. \( \text{ετους } \delta \text{ μεσορη } \epsilon \text{ Καμ' θης} \)
    \( \Lambdaμιτο' \epsilon \text{ τη } \kappa \delta L \text{ Πεπεκ} . . . . \)
    \( \Psiυυοδριος \kappa \zeta M \text{ - } \ell \phi(?)\mu(?)\lambda\iota \ldots \)

"The 4th year, the 5th day of Mesori, Kamétis, the treasurer, the son of Amitos, for the corn-tax in the 4th year of Pepck . . . Pseuodris 20 obols . . . . ."

Here we have another new name, after which the year is dated.

31. \( \text{ετους } \iota \text{ μυσορη } \iota \epsilon \)
    \( \text{παρα} \text{ Πεπεκωσι} L \)
    \( \text{Ευτυχης } \delta \nuω \)
    \( \text{δεκα } /-\delta \iota . \)

"The 10th year, the 15th day of Mesori, from Petekhósis Eutukhês (has received) twelve drachmas.

I will now give the texts of two of my ostraka which are interesting as bearing the names of Severus Pertinax and Pescennius Niger.

32. \( \text{Λυκι' κμ } \gamma\nuε' \beta \lambda L \)
    \( \text{Δοκικου Σεπτιμιου} \)
    \( \text{Σεσουρου Περτινακος} \)
    \( \text{σεβαστου } \phiαο{\beta}' \etaτου \)
    \( \gamma \rhoυ' \text{ ονο } \text{Οπ} . \ldots . . . . \)

"Lykias, the state corn-tax collector (?), the 3rd year of Lucius Septimius Severus Pertinax Augustus . . . . . 3 as a pledge in the name of Op. . . . . "

The last line and a half is destroyed. In the first line \( \beta \) is written like \( \kappa \), but Severus did not reign 20 years.

33. \( \text{Μεθες } \muα' \gammaεν' \alpha L \text{ Γαιου Πεσκεννου} \)
    \( \text{Νεγερος } \καυσαρος \text{ του } \kappaυριου \text{ επειφ } \iota \nu ' \chi^{\prime} \text{ ον}^{\prime} \)
    \( \betaηγμωρου } \delta \iota \text{ εννεα } \text{ πυρου } \mu , . . . \)

"Methês, the collector for the state (?), in the 1st year of Caius Pescennius Niger Cæsar the lord, the 10th day of Epeiphi, for the workmen's tax, in the name of Bègmonös, on account of 9 measures of wheat . . . . . "

23
There is a 4th line which consists wholly of numerals and symbols the significance of which is unknown to me.

34. Παμνοίοι Αμνος µεν τε κε ια
φαλαναί λα δυ ια
ιθ(?ια αι αι φαλα ια
[ι ει ιε ι ει ι κ ει δι]
ιθ ι.

"Pammónios the son of Ammónios, collector of the workmen's tax (?), from the 30th day of Phamenóth, receives 3 argentei ... 11 argentei on the 1st of Pharmouthi he receives, the 8th year, the 16th year, the 20th year, the 28th year. There are due 19 drachmas."

λ and δ stand for λαμβάνει and δεί, while ι clearly represents ἀπὸ and αἱ ἀγορα. κε. may be intended for χειρωναξία. The first word of the third line has been miswritten and a correction made over it, so that it is impossible now to make out what it exactly is.

I will leave the rest of my ostraka of this class, which are mostly dated in the reigns of Nero, Domitian, Trajan, Hadrian, and Antoninus, for a communication, and pass to a wholly different set of texts. These are lists of payments received from, or paid to, various persons, whose names frequently recur in them. Unfortunately the potsherds which furnish us with the lists are usually in a very mutilated condition.

I will begin with one in Dr. Wiedemann's possession, the accuracy of my transcription of which, however, I will not guarantee.

35. Μεσορις ἡς

Λογος σεπεπετυμασθεναι ολαματοι

Ψευδομενης Αρμην. β

Νυστυχω... νιοσ

Περμαμεις

Ψευδομενης πιπρ

Ψανθ... Ιω... ιβωκε...

Περμαμεις

Ψευδοζ· ιβωκε...

Κριθος (?)

Οξοσποσ (?)

Ψευδοι (?)

Περμαμεις

? Ωρος Ηατ.

† ? Ψευδος.
The following are in my own collection:—

36. κθ μερος ὶς λογου τ’ . . . 
Ωρος Ουσιματος . . . 
Ηρακλης Τογυς . . . 
Ηρακλης Πατηρεμο(ν) . . . 
Ηρακλης Εςυμετος . . . 
Σεκη Περμαμο Ψεν . . . 
Θησανευς Ισιος κος . . . 
Παμωνθης Ατειοι κος . . . 
Φαμινις Λαγος κος . . . 
Φθοιμης Αποσυμασια κος . . . 
Σεκης Περμαμο κος . . .

The first line—"the 29th assessment of the poll-tax"—shows what was the object of the list. It is in a different handwriting from the rest of the text. The mention of the θησανευς Ισιος, or "prophet of Isis," is curious. What is meant by κος I do not know. It may be βος, i.e., βοηθος, "assisting," but the first letter is formed exactly like the κ in the proper names. The right side of the ostrakon is broken. Can κος represent κολυβιστής, "a money-changer?" In the next ostrakon it interchanges with σι(τωκάπηλος), "a corn-dealer."

37. έπι ιζηθ . . . 
// Ψευτφους πρεσβ t a Ψεναω t η 
// Ψευτφους νεο t η κα Ψευτφους πρ’ t η η 
// Περμαμο t η . Ψευτφ νεο t ο ι t η η Περμαμο t η η 
// Σεκης Πικωτο t η η Σεκης t η η 
// Ωρος Παταπη t η Α t Ωρ Παταπη t η η 
// Πονυμω νεο t η ζ 
// Ψεναω κο t η Ψενα σι t η. 
// Κ Ψευτφους πρεσ t α 
// Ψευτφους νεο t η 
// Περμαμο t ι ι ι 
// Σεκης t η η. 
// Ωρος Παταπη t ι Α—

This list is intended to be in two columns, the names being repeated thrice, with the exception of "Potymenon the younger," who appears only in the first series. Before the second mention of Ψεναω Κ is prefixed, in order to show that the "20th" assessment-list is being continued. Ηόρας paid first 1 ½ drachmas, then 1 drachma 4 obols, and lastly 1 drachma and half an obol, ζ being the symbol for the half-obol (one-twelfth of a silver drachma).
38. The beginning and end of this ostrakon are broken off.

Σεκης Πικωτο' υ' / Ωρος Παταπητος
[Ψευδομου] / τάρταρος προ
Ψευφήθους υ / Ψευψήθους
Περμαμις / τά τάρταρος
Σεκης Πικωτο' υ' / Ωρος Παταπητος
Ψευδομους νος / τά τάρταρος
ιδ Ωρος Παταπητος / ιδ Ωρος Παταπητος
Σεκης Πικωτο' υ' / Ωρος Παταπητος
Περμαμις / ιδ Ωρος Παταπητος
Ψευψήθους / Ψευδομους

I do not know what is meant by the small o after the symbol of a drachma: τ is γίγνεται. Of course υ means νεώτερος.

39. A small fragment:

Περμαμις... Ψευψήθους προ...
Ψευψήθους (νεω')...
Πετεμενωφίς...
κ Ωρος Παταπητος...
Ψευτούχους πρεσβε...
Σεκης Ψεαζ...
Περμαμις Ψ...

40. Another fragment:

.................................................... Ωρος...
.................................................... Κθ Ψευψήθους προ...
.................................................... Περμαμις τά
.................................................... Σεκης Πικωτο' υ' τά τάρταρος
.................................................... Ωρος Παταπητος τά
.................................................... Ψευψήθους νος τά τάρταρος
.................................................... Κ Ωρος Παταπητος...
.................................................... Λ Ψευψήθους νεω' τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Ψευψήθους τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Ψευψήθους τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Λ Ψευψήθους νεω' τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Ψευψήθους τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Ψευψήθους τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Λ Ψευψήθους νεω' τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Ψευψήθους τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Λ Ψευψήθους νεω' τά τάρταρος...
.................................................... Ψευψήθους τά τάρταρος...
41. η Παμων Παχυ . . .
Απόλλων Πατ . . . .
Φθομιν Και Πα . . .
Φθουμωνθησ . . . .
Αβως Πειλ(?)υσ(?)ιος και . . .
Αβακαν . . . .
Ησοι . . . . Ψευχωνσιος . . . .

It is unfortunate that the payments are lost.

42. ξ δ
Παχυ. Ουω' Φια(μ) . . .
Πετεχω' νιος . . . .
Φεννυ' Φαχιο . . . .
Πικως Πετεχ' Πε' . . .
Πε' Νιλωνος .
Αχλευς Τεμω(?)ρος . .
Πετυμ . . . .
Π . . . . .
Ερμ' Φανρ' Π . . . .
Φεννυ Αμμυτου νιος . . .

43. νγ
Παμ Αβωτ' Παμαμεως
Πεν(?ε) Παμαμεως Φθουμωνθο
Φ Ψεναμ Θεοδωρ. Φιμονθ
Ωρ. νιος μ' συν Ηρακληνους (σίς)
Πεν(?ε) Καμπτος νεωτε- μ' συν Αρισ-
Ψενδων' πρ' Χες Φιμονθ
 Psienoufis Θεοδωρ Φιμονθ
Πανισ(?)κος Σεραπιωνος Θαυμ
Ηρακλε Δ Αλεξανδ. Πορευς
Ηρωτις Ψεναμ Αβωτ

The interest of this list consists in the names of the localities to which the persons named in it belonged. No payments are recorded in it. Μ' συν is "assistant collector" (μισθωτής συνεργός). Χεσ stands for Χεστενευς; see next ostrakon.

44. Επεσοτηρ Εριοφωτο
τκη
λιο Σεντικ οκρ Τρεμπτωνους
Ποιστομο τι- καλ.
χι Αβως Ισιδωρ ι δ
χι Παμμωνας Σεντικ ι 2 ι δ
Χεστενευς Αβωτ ι δ

Here λιο represents λυσσωλιας, "the linen-draper's tax," and χι η χερωναξίου "the poll-tax," while οκρ may perhaps be η κριτής.
45. The following ostrakon is in the possession of Mr. Strachan-Davidson. The end and right side are broken off:—

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Oinuk} & \ldots \\
\hat{\alpha} & \kappa \ldots \\
\theta\epsilon\omega & \dot{\alpha} \kappa \ldots \\
\nu & \rho \ldots \\
\tau i\delta & \hat{\eta} \ldots \\
\Pi\omega & \rho\beta \Pi\epsilon \ldots \\
\Theta & \rho \zeta \Pi\epsilon\tau \ldots \\
\Pi & \rho \zeta \Pi\epsilon\tau \delta \ldots \\
\Pi\epsilon\mu & \epsilon\rho(?) \tau o\kappa \rho \ldots \\
\text{E} & \rho \zeta \rho \ldots \ldots \ldots \xi\omicron\omicron\theta \ldots \\
\Omega & \epsilon\pi \ldots \kappa\eta(?) \ldots \\
\Pi\epsilon\mu & 2 \psi \ldots \rho \ldots \ldots \\
\text{T} & \rho \eta(?) \ldots \ldots \\
\Sigma\pi\nu\kappa\eta & \nu \ldots \\
\text{E} & \gamma(?) \kappa \ldots \ldots \\
\end{align*}
\]

It is evident that we have here abbreviations of proper names Peramis, Perdikkas, Petemôn, &c. In the second line we must read “from (\(\dot{\alpha}\pi\dot{\delta}\)) the 21st (day)."