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A Note on P.Oxy. III 475.20

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In P.Oxy. III 475 = W.Chrest. 494 = Sel. Pap. II 337 = Vandoni, *Feste,* Nr. 54 = Hengstl, *Griechische Papyri,* Nr. 95 (182ᴾ) one finds a message sent by a certain Leonidas alias Serenus to the strategus of the Oxyrhynchite nome. Leonidas reports that an 8-year old slave child, Epaphroditos, died from a fall; the poor child had been watching the performance of some dancing girls and in his enthusiasm leaned out from the rooftop just a bit too much. The house where the performance was given is stated (ll. 19-20) to have belonged to Πλουτίωνος τοῦ [γαμ]|βροῦ μου . . . [.] . . . . . τοδήμου.

Thanks to the Duke Data Bank of Documentary Papyri the last word on l. 20 can now be completed easily: searching for forms containing the element -τοδημ- one finds in the papyri from Egypt only one noun, πρωτοδημότης, and only one personal name, viz. Ἀριστόδημος; it is only reasonable to restore here this name rather than one of the other names ending in -τόδημος listed by F. Dornseiff – B. Hansen, *Rückläufiges Wörterbuch der griechischen Eigennamen,* 261.

The restoration of the personal name would leave us with 6 (or 7 smaller) unread letters between μου and this name. As the name of Aristodemos does not turn up elsewhere in Leonidas' report, I suppose that there is some kind of family relationship between the persons of Ploution (son-in-law of Leonidas alias Serenus) and Aristodemos. Within the present context and in view of the number of letters to be supplied it is attractive to use the parallel phrasing offered by P.Köln III 165.1 (Διόσκορος ὁ γαμβρὸς Πέτρου ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ Τασνου) for filling the gap in the papyrus under review with the following tentative restoration: Πλουτίωνος τοῦ [γαμ]|βροῦ μου τοῦ υ[ἱ]οῦ Ἀριστοδήμου. A photo of the papyrus (now kept in the Charterhouse Museum, Godalming, UK) can be found in S. Walker – M. Bierbrier, *Ancient Faces. Mummy Portraits from Roman Egypt* (London 1997) 186 # 249. This photo allows me to confirm the reading τοῦ, but the traces following this article are so scanty that it is virtually impossible to confirm the supposed reading of the following noun as that of υ[ἱ]οῦ. Perhaps one should reckon with a iotacistic spelling [υ]ειοῦ (l. υἱοῦ) vel sim.?

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