

New remarks on consul Publius Seius Fuscianus and new evidence for *Colonia Aelia Capitolina* (P.Mich. VII 445 + inv. 3888c + inv. 3944k)

P.Mich. VII 445, edited by H.A. Sanders in 1947, preserves the beginnings of 16 lines of a text that was then recognized as an acknowledgment of debt by V. Arangio-Ruiz. Despite the incomplete state of preservation, the papyrus deserves great attention, being the only one Latin papyrus written in Jerusalem (and maybe brought to Egypt by a veteran). The origin is suggested by the mention of *Legio X Fretensis*, and by the mention of the *colonia* in which the contract was signed (the name has been lost in the lacuna; it was identified with the *Colonia Caesarea* in a re-edition). A very recent analysis of two unpublished Latin fragments, carried out within the project PLATINUM, proves that these two fragments join P.Mich. VII 445, thus providing us the opportunity to reconstruct the original document in an almost complete way. The hypothesis of realignment, suggested by palaeographical and material affinities (the three papyri were written by different hands across the fibres, the back sides are blank), is corroborated by the text continuity of the reconstructed lines. The joining fragments are P.Mich. inv. 3888c, which preserves scanty parts of 16 lines, and P.Mich. inv. 3944k, consisting of two fragments preserving parts of 15 lines on the whole and some other traces. The realigned text is particularly relevant: it provides new information about the consul Publius Seius Fuscianus; it preserves new evidence for the *Colonia Aelia Capitolina*; it proves to date back to an earlier date; it contains most part of the subscriptions.

Andrea Bernini