

P.Grenf. 1.5

Fayum

III/IV

Oxford, Bodleian MS. Gr. bibl. d. 4 (P). Ed. B.P. Grenfell (1896). VH 314; Aland, *Repertorium*, AT 145; Rahlfs 0922; Turner, *Typology*, 183; Kenyon, *Palaeography*, 107, 132.

One leaf 11 (B) x 14 (H) cm. Original page width c. 15 cm (Turner), with 4 lines lost between recto and verso. Broken at bottom; the original edges are preserved at top, left, and right, with margins of c. 1.5, c. 1 and c. 1 cm. respectively. Single column of text in a sloping literary informal round hand, which ed.pr. assigned to IV, reporting Wessely's opinion that it could date to the end of III; end III Kenyon, III/IV Turner; so too Roberts (*MSB* 25, n. 1) and Rahlfs. Diacritical signs of Origen at r.12, v.4, 5. *Nomina sacra*: ανου, κς, κυ.

Verso (Ezekiel 5:15-6:3)

5 εγω κ̄ξ λελαληκα εν τω εξαποστει-
 λαι με τας βολιδας μου του λιμου
 επ αυτους και εσονται εις [ε]κλ[ει]-
 ψιν ςς α [α]ποστελω αυτα δ[ιαφθ]ει-
 ραι υμ[α]ς και λειμον συναξω εφ υ-
 [μας και] συντριψω [σ]τ[ηριγ]μα [α]ρ-
 [του σου και ε]ξαποστελω επι σε λι-
 [μον κα]ι θηρια πονηρα και τειμω-
 [ρησομ]αι σε και θανατος και αιμα
 10 [διελευσοντ]αι επι σε και ρομφαιαν
 [επαξω επι]σε κυκ[λοθ]εν εγω κ̄ξ
 [λελαληκα] και εγενετο λογος κ̄υ
 [προσ με λ]εγων υιε αν̄ου στηρι-
 [σον το προ]σωπον σου [επ]ι τ[α ορη]
 15 [ιηλ̄ ακου]σατε λογον αδ[ωναι]

5-7 the asterisked words from α ἀποστελῶ to ἐφ' ὑμας are not recorded in the text or apparatus of Rahlfs, but some MSS have καὶ ἀποστελῶ αὐτάς which 'looks like a correction' (ed.pr.) of the pap. reading 15 after ιηλ̄ the scribe has by parablepsis omitted καὶ προφήτευσον ἐπ' αὐτὰ καὶ ἐρεῖς Τὰ ὄρη Ἰσραηλ (Rahlfs).

Origen pioneered the application to the Septuagint of text-critical techniques. These had been developed by Aristarchus at Alexandria four centuries earlier for analysing the textual history of Homer. Origen also adapted from the Alexandrian synagogues the use of parallel columns for controlling the translation of Scripture.

The Christian use of the LXX had led Jewish communities to re-emphasise the Hebrew text. It was transliterated into Greek characters for ease of reading. Aquila provided a new Greek translation, word for word, while Symmachus supplied a more fluent one. These three texts were set out in parallel columns. To them Origen added the LXX itself and yet another translation, that of Theodotion.

Origen now transposed from the three other translations into the LXX any words it lacked when compared with the Hebrew. These he marked with an asterisk (a clear case in the margin of l.5 above, though its partner at the beginning of the added words in l.4 is not in the form of an asterisk). Words in the LXX that did not match words in the Hebrew he marked with an obelus.

The four columns of translation were dubbed the 'Tetrapla'. When Origen was later based at Caesarea in Palestine he added two further versions to constitute the 'Hexapla'. In his commentaries and sermons he drew upon this monument of philological reference.

The vast bulk of the Hexapla presumably prevented its being copied as a whole, but Eusebius apparently circulated the LXX column with its text-critical apparatus. P.Grenf. 1.5 is the earliest direct evidence we have of its currency.

J.T. **Barrera**, 'The school of Alexandria and its philology', *The Jewish Bible and the Christian Bible* (Leiden 1998, tr. from Madrid 1993) 137-41; R. **Hanhart**, 'Textgeschichtliche Probleme der LXX von ihrer Entstehung bis Origenes', in M. Hengel and A.M. Schwemer (eds), *Die Septuaginta zwischen Judentum und Christentum* (Tübingen 1994) 1-19; R. **Heine**, 'Reading the Bible with Origen', in P.M. Blowers (ed.), *The Bible in Greek Christian Antiquity* (Notre Dame 1997) 131-48; S. **Jellicoe**, 'Origen and the Hexapla', *The Septuagint and Modern Study* (Oxford 1968) 100-33; P. **Nautin**, 'Les "Hexaples"', *Origène: sa vie et son oeuvre* (Paris 1977) 303-61; J.W. **Trigg**, 'The Hexapla', *Origen: The Bible and Philosophy in the Third-century Church* (Atlanta 1983) 82-86; M.F. **Wiles**, 'Origen as biblical scholar', *Cambridge History of the Bible* 1 (1970) 454-89.