

# Eloquent peasant

## Parkinson (R)

Created on 2009-08-17 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-08-18.

Hieroglyphic following Parkinson (1991) for version R from line 1.1 to the point in line 8.5 where version B1, starting at line 33, can be considered to be the 'main' version. After that, only occasional snippets are included where version R differs significantly from the other versions.

### Bibliography

- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

## Parkinson (B1)

Created on 2009-08-17 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-08-30.

Hieroglyphic following Parkinson (1991) for version B1 from line 33 to the end of line 357.

### Bibliography

- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

## Parkinson (B2)

Created on 2009-08-17 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-08-30.

Hieroglyphic following Parkinson (1991) for version B2 from line 91 to the end of line 142.

### Bibliography

- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

## Nederhof (R) - English

Created on 2006-11-04 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-06-15.

Transliteration and translation for The Eloquent Peasant, following the transcription of Parkinson (1991). Version R is given where it is the main version, or where it differs substantially from the other versions.

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

### Bibliography

- R. Hannig. *Grosses Handwörterbuch Ägyptisch-Deutsch: die Sprache der Pharaonen (2800-950 v.Chr.)*. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1995.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

## Nederhof (B1) - English

Created on 2006-11-04 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-06-15.

Transliteration and translation for The Eloquent Peasant, following the transcription of Parkinson (1991). Version B1 is given where it is the main version, or where it differs substantially from the other versions.

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

For published translations, see Lichtheim (1975), pp. 169-184; Parkinson (1997), pp. 54-88; Simpson (1972), pp. 31-49. Further, Goedicke (1998) covers the second petition (the text from B1 119 to B1 170); Zonhoven (1992), pp. 271-272, covers the text up to B1 119. Also considered

where the examples from Allen (2000), Gardiner (1957), Graefe (1994) and Loprieno (1995).

## **Bibliography**

- J.P. Allen. *Middle Egyptian: An Introduction to the Language and Culture of Hieroglyphs*. Cambridge University Press, 2000.
- R.O. Faulkner. *A Concise Dictionary of Middle Egyptian*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1962.
- A. Gardiner. *Egyptian Grammar*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1957.
- H. Goedicke. Comments Concerning the "Story of the Eloquent Peasant". *Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde*, 125:109-125, 1998.
- E. Graefe. *Mittelägyptische Grammatik für Anfänger*. Harrassowitz Verlag, Wiesbaden, 1994.
- R. Hannig. *Grosses Handwörterbuch Ägyptisch-Deutsch: die Sprache der Pharaonen (2800-950 v.Chr.)*. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1995.
- A. Loprieno. *Ancient Egyptian: a linguistic introduction*. Cambridge University Press, 1995.
- M. Lichtheim. *Ancient Egyptian Literature -- Volume I: The Old and Middle Kingdoms*. University of California Press, 1975.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of Sinuhe and Other Ancient Egyptian Poems 1940-1640 BC*. Oxford University Press, 1997.
- W.K. Simpson (editor). *The Literature of Ancient Egypt: An Anthology of Stories, Instructions, and Poetry*. Yale University Press, 1972.
- L.M.J. Zonhoven. *Middel-Egyptische Grammatica: Een Praktische Inleiding in de Egyptische Taal en het Hiërogliefenschrift*. Leiden, 1992.

## **Nederhof (B2) - English**

Created on 2006-11-04 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-06-15.

Transliteration and translation for The Eloquent Peasant, following the transcription of Parkinson (1991). Version B2 is given where it is the main version, or where it differs substantially from the other versions.

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

## **Bibliography**

- R. Hannig. *Grosses Handwörterbuch Ägyptisch-Deutsch: die Sprache der Pharaonen (2800-950 v.Chr.)*. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1995.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

---

Pa R <sup>1.1</sup>

Ne R <sup>1.1</sup> | s pw wn(.w) Hw.n-Jnpw<sup>1</sup> rn=f shtj pw n Sht-ḥmꜣt

Ne R <sup>1.1</sup> | There was a man called Khunanup<sup>2</sup>. He was a peasant of the Wadi Natrun,

<sup>1</sup> Cf. p. 356 of Allen (2000).

<sup>2</sup> Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

---

Pa R <sup>1.2</sup>

Ne R <sup>1.2</sup> | jst wn ḥmt=f Mrt rn=s

Ne R <sup>1.2</sup> | and he had a wife called Meret<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

---

Pa R

Ne R dd.jn shtj pn n ḥmt=f tn

Ne R This peasant said to this wife of his:

---

Pa R <sup>1.3</sup>

Ne R <sup>1.3</sup> mꜣt wj m ḥꜣt | r Kmt

Ne R <sup>1.3</sup> 'Look, I am going | to Egypt

---

Pa R

Ne R r jnt ᶜqw jm n ḥrdw=j šm swt ḥꜣ n=j nꜣ n jt

Ne R to fetch provisions there for my children. Go and measure for me the barley

---

Pa R <sup>1.4</sup>

Ne R <sup>1.4</sup> | ntj m pꜣ mḥr m ḏꜣt jt n sf

Ne R <sup>1.4</sup> | that is in the barn as the remainder of yesterday's barley.'

---









Pa R | <sup>4.4</sup>  | <sup>4.5</sup>  | <sup>4.6</sup>  | <sup>4.7</sup> 

Ne R | <sup>4.4</sup> jbs<sup>3</sup> | <sup>4.5</sup> jnbj | <sup>4.6</sup> mnw | <sup>4.7</sup> n<sup>c</sup>rww

Ne R | <sup>4.4</sup> wild mint<sup>1</sup>, | <sup>4.5</sup> hedge plants, | <sup>4.6</sup> pigeons<sup>2</sup>, | <sup>4.7</sup> n<sup>c</sup>rw-birds,

<sup>1</sup> Uncertain.

<sup>2</sup> Uncertain.

Pa R | <sup>5.1</sup>  | <sup>5.2</sup>  | <sup>5.3</sup>  | <sup>5.4</sup> 

Ne R | <sup>5.1</sup> wgs<sup>w</sup> | <sup>5.2</sup> wbn | <sup>5.3</sup> tbs<sup>w</sup> | <sup>5.4</sup> gngnt

Ne R | <sup>5.1</sup> gutted fish and plucked fowl, | <sup>5.2</sup> wbn-plants, | <sup>5.3</sup> tbs<sup>w</sup>-shrubs, | <sup>5.4</sup> gngnt-beans,

Pa R | <sup>5.5</sup>  | <sup>5.6</sup> 

Ne R | <sup>5.5</sup> šnj-t<sup>3</sup> | <sup>5.6</sup> jnst

Ne R | <sup>5.5</sup> fenugreek<sup>1</sup>, | <sup>5.6</sup> and anise<sup>2</sup>;

<sup>1</sup> Following Faulkner (1962); not confirmed by Hannig (1995).

<sup>2</sup> Uncertain.

Pa R | <sup>6.1</sup> 

Ne R | <sup>6.1</sup> mh(.w) m jnw nb nfr n Sht-ḥm<sup>3</sup>t

Ne R | <sup>6.1</sup> abound with all good products of the Wadi Natrun.

Pa R | <sup>6.2</sup>  | <sup>6.3</sup> 

Ne R | <sup>6.2</sup> šmt pw jr.n shtj pn m ḥntyt | <sup>6.3</sup> r

Ne R | <sup>6.2</sup> This peasant then went south | <sup>6.3</sup> to

Pa R

Ne R Nnj-nsw spr pw jr.n=f r w n Pr-iffj r mhtj Mdnjt

Ne R Heracleopolis, and he arrived in the district of Per-iffj<sup>1</sup>, to the north of Mednit.

<sup>1</sup> Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

Pa R

Ne R gm.n=f s h(.w) hr mryt

Ne R He came across a man standing on the embankment.

Pa R

Ne R Nmtj-nht rn=f s3 s pw Jsry rn=f

Ne R His name was Nemtinakht<sup>1</sup> and he was the son of a man called Isry<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

<sup>2</sup> Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

Pa R

Ne R dt pw nt jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj

Ne R These were liegemen of the high steward Rensi<sup>1</sup>, son of Meru<sup>2</sup>.


<sup>1</sup> Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

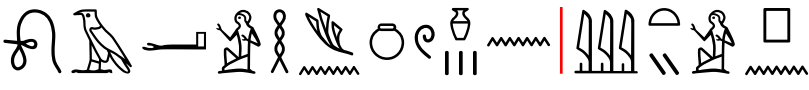
<sup>2</sup> Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

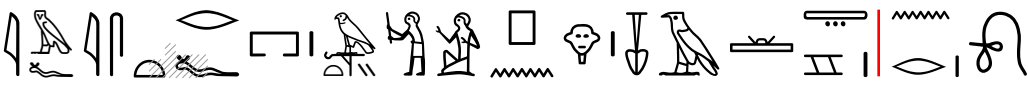
Pa R

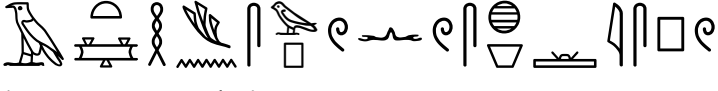
Ne R dd.jn Nmtj-nht pn m33=f w n shtj pn

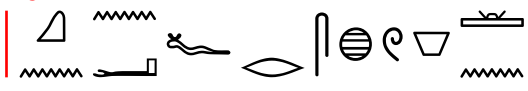
Ne R And this Nemtinakht said, when he saw the donkeys of this peasant,


Pa R  7.2  
 Ne R ʕbyw jb=f | ḥ n=j šsp nb  
 Ne R which were desirable to his heart: | 'Would that I had some divine image


Pa R  7.3  
 Ne R ʕwʕ=j ḥnw n | shtj pn jm=f  
 Ne R with which I could rob the goods of this peasant!'

Pa R  7.4  
 Ne R jst rf pr Nmtj-nḥt pn ḥr smʕ-tʕ | n rʕ-wʕt  
 Ne R Now, the house of this Nemtinakht was at a waterside path

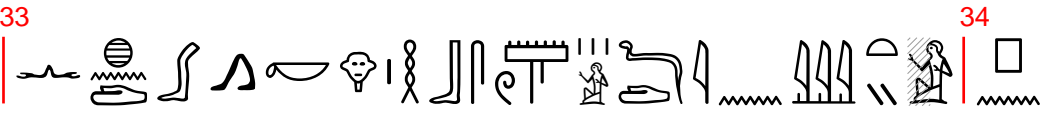
Pa R  7.5  
 Ne R ḥns pw n wsh js pw  
 Ne R that was narrow, it was not broad:

Pa R  7.6  
 Ne R | qnn=f r shw n dbjw  
 Ne R | it measured the width of a loincloth.

Pa R  7.7  
 Ne R jw wʕt=f wʕt | ḥr mw  
 Ne R Its one side | was under water,

Pa R  7.8  
 Ne R kt ḥr jt dd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn n šmsw=f  
 Ne R the other under barley. This Nemtinakht then said to a servant of his:



Pa B1 <sup>33</sup>  <sup>34</sup>

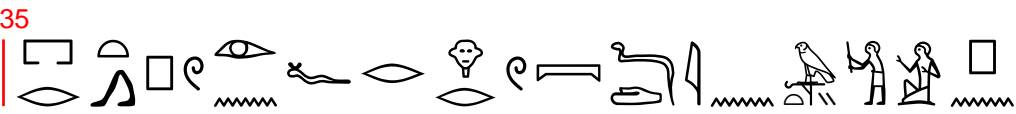
Ne B1 | n ḥnd=k ḥr ḥbsw=j                      ḏd.jn sḥtj                      | pn

Ne B1 | you will not step on my clothes!' And this peasant said:

Pa B1 

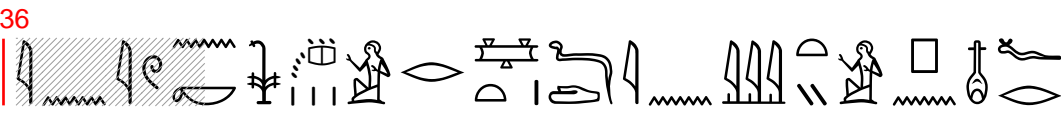
Ne B1 jry=j ḥst=k nfr mṯn=j

Ne B1 'I shall do what you wish; my way is good.'

Pa B1 <sup>35</sup> 

Ne B1 | prt pw jr.n=f r ḥrw ḏd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn

Ne B1 | And he went up higher. Then this Nemtinakht said:

Pa B1 <sup>36</sup> 

Ne B1 | jn-jw n=k šm<sup>c</sup>=j r wṯt                      ḏd.jn sḥtj pn

Ne B1 | 'Is my Upper-Egyptian barley to be a path for you?' And this peasant said:

Pa B1 <sup>37</sup> 

Ne B1 nfr | mṯnw=j

Ne B1 'My ways are good;

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jḥmt qṓ.tj                      mṯnw ḥr šm<sup>c</sup>

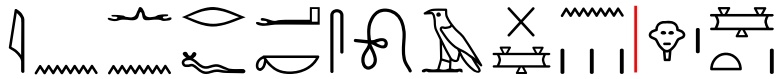
Ne B1 the bank is steep, and                      the ways are under barley

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ḥn=k rf                      wṯt{t}|=n m ḥbsw=k

Ne B1 for you block                      our path with your clothes!

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jn nn rf dj=k sw3=n | hr w3t

Ne B1 Will you then not allow us to pass | on the path?'

---

Pa B1 

Ne R ph.n=f rf dd | mdt [...]

Ne R As he had finished saying | [...] words,

Ne B1 ḥ<sup>c</sup>.n mh.n w<sup>c</sup> m n<sup>3</sup> n ḥ

Ne B1 Then one of the donkeys filled


---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | r3=f m b3t nt šm<sup>c</sup> dd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn

Ne B1 | its mouth with a wisp of barley. And this Nemtinakht said:

---

Pa B1 

Ne R mk ḥm ḥ=k | hr wnm jt=j

Ne R 'But look, your donkey | is eating my barley!

Ne B1 | mk wj r ḥm ḥ=k šḥtj hr | wnm=f šm<sup>c</sup>=j

Ne B1 | 'Look, I shall take away your donkey, peasant, because | it ate my barley.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk sw r hbt hr qn=f | dd.jn šḥtj pn

Ne B1 It will tread (grain) for its offence.' | This peasant then said:

---

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 nfr mtnw=j w<sup>c</sup>t | ḥd.tw=s<sup>1</sup>

Ne B1 'My ways are good! A single thing | has been destroyed;

<sup>1</sup> What Parkinson (1991;1997) reads as 10 is here taken as =s.


---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jnn=j <sup>c</sup>3=j ḥr šn<sup>c</sup> 10

Ne B1 I will buy my donkey back for 10 times the value

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jt=k sw | ḥr mḥw n r<sup>3</sup>=f m b<sup>3</sup>t nt šm<sup>c</sup>

Ne B1 if you take it away | for filling its mouth with a wisp of barley.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw=j grt | rh.kw nb n sp<sup>3</sup>t tn

Ne B1 Now, I | know the lord of this district;

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 nj sj jmj-r<sup>3</sup> pr wr Mrw s<sup>3</sup> | Rnsj

Ne B1 it belongs to the high steward Rensi, son of Meru.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ntf grt ḥsf <sup>c</sup>w<sup>3</sup> nb m t<sup>3</sup> pn | r-l<sup>3</sup>dr=f

Ne B1 He is the one who restrains every thief in this entire land.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jn <sup>c</sup>w<sup>3</sup>.tw=j rf m sp<sup>3</sup>t=f

Ne B1 Shall I now be robbed in his district?'

---

---

Pa B1  50

Ne B1 dd.jn Nmtj-nht | pn

Ne B1 Then this Nemtinakht | said:


---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jn p<sup>3</sup> pw hn n mdt d<sup>2</sup>dw rmt

Ne B1 'Is this not the proverb that people say:

---

Pa B1  51

Ne B1 | dm.tw rn n h<sup>2</sup>wrw hr nb=f

Ne B1 | "One mentions the name of a commoner only on account of his lord."?


---

Pa B1  52

Ne B1 jnk | pw mdw n=k

Ne B1 | I am the one who is speaking to you,

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jmj-r<sup>3</sup> pr wr pw sh<sup>3</sup>y=k

Ne B1 and it is the high steward whom you are referring to.'

---

Pa B1  53

Ne B1 | ḥ<sup>c</sup>.n ḫ.n=f n=f j<sup>3</sup>yt nt jsr w<sup>3</sup>d

Ne B1 | Then, he took a rod of fresh tamarisk


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Pa B1  54

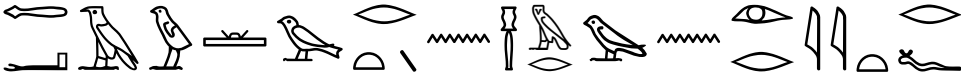
Ne B1 | r=f ḥ<sup>c</sup>.n ḳg=f ḥt=f nb jm=s


Ne B1 | to him, and he thrashed all his limbs with it,


---


Pa B1  55  
 Ne B1 nhm ʕw=f | s<sup>ʕ</sup>q r sp<sup>ʔ</sup>t=f  
 Ne B1 took his donkeys away | and drove them to his district.


Pa B1  56  
 Ne B1 wn.jn shtj pn hr | rmyt ʕw wrt  
 Ne B1 Then this peasant proceeded to | wail very loudly



Pa B1  56  
 Ne B1 n-mr-n jr<sup>ʔ</sup>ryt r=f  
 Ne B1 on account of the wickedness of what was done to him.



Pa B1  57  
 Ne B1 | dd.jn Nmtj-nht pn m q<sup>ʔ</sup> hrw=k shtj  
 Ne B1 | But this Nemtinakht then said: 'Do not raise your voice, peasant,



<sup>1</sup> The following  in Parkinson (1991) is an erratum, confirmed by p.c. with the author on Sep 4 2000.



Pa B1  58  
 Ne B1 | mk tw r dmj n nb sgr  
 Ne B1 | or you will go to the abode of the Lord of Silence.'



Pa B1  59  
 Ne B1 dd.jn shtj pn | hw=k wj ʕw<sup>ʔ</sup>=k hnw=j  
 Ne B1 Then this peasant said: | 'You beat me, you rob my goods,

Pa B1  |   
 Ne B1 nhm=k rf | nhwt m r3=j  
 Ne B1 and you even deprive me of | the lament from my mouth!

Pa B1  |   
 Ne B1 nb sgr dj=k rk n=j | jht=j jh tm=j sbh  
 Ne B1 Lord of Silence, may you give me back | my things, so that I need not scream

Pa B1  |   
 Ne R | nrw=k  
 Ne R | to Your Fearsomeness.'  
 Ne B1 nr=k | jr.jn shtj pn chcw {10} r hrw 10  
 Ne B1 to startle you.' | Then this peasant spent a period of 10 days

Pa B1  |   
 Ne B1 hr spr n | Nmtj-nht pn n rdj=f m3c=f r=s  
 Ne B1 pleading with | this Nemtinakht, but he did not pay attention to it.

Pa B1  |   
 Ne R | šmt pw jr.n shtj pn m hntyt  
 Ne R | This peasant then went south  
 Ne B1 šmt pw | jr.n shtj pn r Nnj-nsw r spr  
 Ne B1 This peasant then went to Heracleopolis in order to plead



---

Pa B1

Ne B1 rdj.jn jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj | šm šmsw=f n hrt-jb=f tp-jm=f

Ne B1 And the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, had | a servant of his choice go to him,

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 h3b | sw shtj pn

Ne B1 and this peasant had him report back

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 hr mdt tn mj | qj|=s nb

Ne B1 about this entire matter.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 wn.jn jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj hr srht

Ne B1 Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, accused

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 | Nmtj-nht pn n srw ntj r-gs=f

Ne B1 | this Nemtinakht to the officials who were with him.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 dd.jn=sn | n=f

Ne B1 But then they said | to him:

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 smwn shtj=f pw jw n ky r-gs=f

Ne B1 'Perhaps it is a peasant of his who went to someone else beside him.

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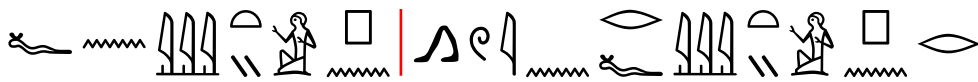
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Pa B1 

Ne B1 n wšb=f | 82 n nn n srw wšb=f n šhtj pn

Ne B1 He did not answer | 82 these officials, nor did he answer this peasant.

---

Pa B1 


Ne R | 14.1 jw.jn rf šhtj pn r spr n=f

Ne R | 14.1 Then this peasant came to plead with him

Ne B1 | 83 jw.jn rf šhtj pn r spr n

Ne B1 | 83 Then this peasant came to plead with

---

Pa B1 

Ne R | sp tpj

Ne R | for the first time.

Ne B1 jmj-rʿ pr wr Mrw sʿ | 84 Rnsj dd=f

Ne B1 the high steward Rensi, son of Meru. He said:

---

Pa B1 

Ne R | 14.2 jmj-rʿ pr wr nb=j wr nb wrw

Ne R | 14.2 'High steward, my lord, great one, lord of the great,

Ne B1 jmj-rʿ pr wr nb=j wr n wrw

Ne B1 'High steward, my lord, greatest of the great,

---


Pa B1 

Ne B1 | 85 sšmw n jwtt ntt

Ne B1 | 85 leader of all that is not and all that is,

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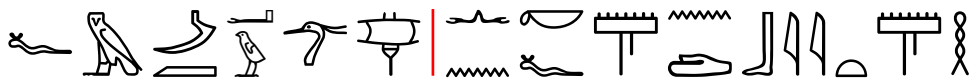
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Pa B1  86

Ne B1 jr h<sup>3</sup>=k r š n | m<sup>3</sup>c<sup>t</sup> sqd=k jm=f m m<sup>3</sup>c<sup>w</sup>

Ne B1 if you go down to the Lake of | Truth, you will sail on it with a fair wind,

---

Pa B1  87

Ne B1 | nn kf ndbyt ht<sup>3</sup>=k

Ne B1 | the bunt will not strip away your sail,

---

Pa B1  88

Ne B1 nn | jh<sup>l</sup>m dpwt=k nn jwt jyt m ht=k

Ne B1 your ship will not lag, | no disaster will befall your rudder stock,

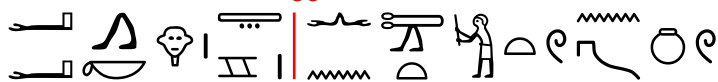
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Pa B1  89

Ne B1 nn | sw<sup>3</sup> srgw=k nn shm=k h<sup>3</sup>cc=k hr t<sup>3</sup>

Ne B1 your yards will not break, | you will not founder when you land,

---

Pa B1  90

Ne B1 | nn jt tw nwt

Ne B1 | no wave will carry you off,


---

Pa B1  91

Ne B1 nn dp=k dwt | nt jtrw


Ne B1 you will not taste the evil | of the river,

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 nn m<sup>3</sup>=k hr snd                      jw n=k                      | rmw šn<sup>c</sup>yw

Ne B1 you will not see the face of fear, but shy fish will come to you

Pa B1 

Ne B1 p<sub>h</sub>=k m <sup>3</sup>pd                      | d<sub>3</sub> hr ntt ntk jt n nm<sub>h</sub>

Ne B1 and you will catch fatted fowl.                      For you are a father to the orphan,

Pa B1 

Ne B1                      | h<sub>3</sub>j n h<sub>3</sub>rt                      sn n wd<sup>c</sup>t

Ne B1                      | a husband to the widow, a brother to the divorced

Pa B1 

Ne B1 šndyt                      | nt jw<sup>t</sup>w mwt=f

Ne B1 and an apron                      | to the motherless.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jm jry=j rn=k m                      | t<sub>3</sub> pn r hp nb nfr

Ne B1 Let me make your name in                      | this land according to every good

Pa B1 

Ne B1 sšmw šw                      | m <sup>c</sup>wn-jb wr šw m ndyt

Ne B1 rule: leader free                      | of greed,    great one free of arrogance,

---

Pa B1 98

Ne B1 |  $\text{sh}^{\text{tm}}$   $\text{grg}$   $\text{sh}^{\text{pr}}$   $\text{m}^{\text{3t}}$

Ne B1 | destroyer of falsehood, creator of truth,

---

Pa B1 99

Ne R  $\text{jm}$   $\text{bw-dw}$   $\text{r}$  |  $\text{t}^{\text{3}}$

Ne R Cast evil on | the ground!

Ne B1  $\text{jj}$   $\text{hr}$  |  $\text{hrw}$   $\text{dd-r}^{\text{3}}$

Ne B1 one who comes at | the voice of the caller.

---

Pa B1 100

Ne B1  $\text{dd=j}$   $\text{s}^{\text{dm=k}}$   $\text{jr}$   $\text{m}^{\text{3t}}$   $\text{hs}^{\text{y}}$   $\text{hs}$   $\text{hsy}^{\text{w}}$

Ne B1 I speak so that you will hear. Do justice, praised one whom the praised praise!

---

Pa R 16.6

Pa B1 101

Ne R |  $\text{dr}$   $\text{s}^{\text{3r=j}}$   $\text{mk}$   $\text{wj}$  |  $\text{3p.kw}$  [m]  $\text{j}^{\text{cnw}}$

Ne R | Relieve my distress, for I | am laden with sorrow

Ne B1  $\text{dr}$   $\text{s}^{\text{3r}}$   $\text{mk}$   $\text{wj}$   $\text{3p.kw}$

Ne B1 Relieve the distress, for I am burdened!

---

Pa R 16.7

Ne R  $\text{mk}$   $\text{wj}$  |  $\text{fn.kw}$   $\text{hr=f}$

Ne R and | faint from it!

---







---

Pa B1 <sup>115</sup> 

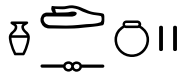
Ne R | <sup>18.6</sup>  $\ddot{d}\ddot{d}.tw\ n\ \dot{h}nmsw[=f]$

Ne R | <sup>18.6</sup> They were given to friends of his,

Ne B1 | <sup>115</sup>  $ntt\ ntk\ rdj\ n=f\ st$

Ne B1 | <sup>115</sup> that it is you who gave them to him.'

---

Pa B1 

Ne R | <sup>18.7</sup>  $jn\ \dot{h}nmsw=f\ \ddot{d}\ddot{d}\ n=f\ st$

Ne R | <sup>18.7</sup> and his friends gave them to him.


---

Pa B1 <sup>116</sup> 

Ne B1 <sup>116</sup>  $wn.jn.tw\ \dot{h}r\ rdjt\ n=f\ t\ 10\ \dot{h}nqt\ ds\ 2$  |  $r^c\ nb$

Ne B1 <sup>116</sup> And he was given ten loaves of bread and two jars of beer | every day.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1  $\ddot{d}\ddot{d}\ st\ jmj-r^3\ pr\ wr\ Mrw\ s^3\ Rnsj$

Ne B1 The high steward Rensi, son of Meru, gave them,

---

Pa B1 <sup>117</sup> 

Ne B1 <sup>117</sup>  $\ddot{d}\ddot{d}=f\ st\ n\ \dot{h}nms=f\ ntf$  |  $\ddot{d}\ddot{d}\ n=f\ st$

Ne B1 <sup>117</sup> but he gave them to a friend of his, and it was he | who gave them to him.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1  $^c\dot{h}^c.n\ \dot{h}^3b.n\ jmj-r^3\ pr\ wr\ Mrw\ s^3\ Rnsj$

Ne B1 Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent a message

---







---

Pa B1 | <sup>130</sup>

Ne B1 | <sup>130</sup> sḏmyw ḥr ḥnp jtt=f

Ne B1 | <sup>130</sup> and judges are carrying off what it seizes.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 sjṯj pw n mdt m ḥqʷ=s

Ne B1 This means that he who twists speech from its correct sense

---

Pa B1 | <sup>131</sup>

Ne B1 ḥr | <sup>131</sup> jrt rf nwdw jm=s

Ne B1 is | <sup>131</sup> acting corruptly thereby.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 rdj ḥw ḥr gʷt ḥr tʷ

Ne B1 He who should give breath is suffocating on the ground,

---

Pa B1 |

Ne B1 srfw | <sup>132</sup> ḥr rdjt nšp.tw psšw m ḥwnw

Ne B1 he who should rest | <sup>132</sup> is making people pant, the arbitrator is a cheat,

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 dr | <sup>133</sup> sʷr|{r} m wḏ jrt=f dmj m wḏnw=f

Ne B1 he who should relieve distress is ordering its creation, the harbour is flooded,

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 ḥsf jw ḥr | <sup>134</sup> jrt jyt

Ne B1 he who should punish injustice is | <sup>134</sup> doing evil.'

---

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 dd.jn jmj-r<sup>3</sup> pr wr Mrw s<sup>3</sup> Rnsj

Ne B1 Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, said:

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 jn 3t pw n=k | jmy hrj-jb=k

Ne B1 'Is what is on your mind of greater concern to you

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 r jt tw šmsw=j | dd.jn shtj pn

Ne B1 than that my servant might seize you?' But this peasant said:

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 h<sup>3</sup>w n | h<sup>3</sup>w hr sj<sup>3</sup>t n=f

Ne B1 'He who measures | heaps (of corn) is pilfering for himself;

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 mh n ky hr hqs h<sup>3</sup>w=f

Ne B1 he who fills for another is withholding from his amount;

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 s<sup>3</sup>m r | hpw hr wd 3w<sup>3</sup>t

Ne B1 he who should govern according to | the laws is ordering theft.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 nm jrf hsf=f bw-hwrw

Ne B1 Who then will repel evil?

---



---

Pa B1  143

Ne B1 ḥꜣꜣꜣt                    ṣḥtm|=s                    pn<sup>c</sup> m rwj=k

Ne B1 Would that a moment would destroy, havoc in your vineyard,

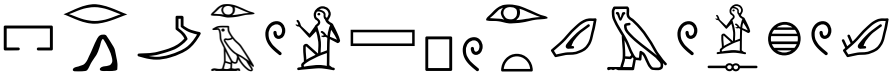
---

Pa B1  144

Ne B1 ḥꜣnd m ꜣpdw=k                    ḥbꜣ                    | m qbḥw=k

Ne B1 decimation of your birds, destruction                    | among your water-fowl!

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 pr mꜣw šp jrwt                    sdmw šḥw

Ne B1 He who should see has turned blind, one who should hear deaf,

---

Pa B1  145

Ne B1 | sšmw ḥpr(.w) m stnmw

Ne B1 | and one who should lead has gone astray.

---


Pa B1  146

Ne B1 | ḥnbrw jn tr snb.n=k

Ne B1 | Basket<sup>1</sup>! Have you (not) gone too far?

<sup>1</sup> Uncertain, but not altogether implausible if meant figuratively as "someone accumulating wealth"; cf. B1 164.

---

Pa B1  147

Ne B1 jrr=k r=k jrf                    r-lm

Ne B1 Why do you act against yourself?

---


Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk ṯw nḥt(.tj) wsr.tj ḥ=k pr(.w)

Ne B1 Look, you are strong and powerful, your arm is strenuous,


---



Pa B1 

Ne B1 nḥt n | hnr twt ḫwt n jwtyw jḥt=f

Ne B1 whereas brutality is for | the criminal. Theft suits those without belongings,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | hnp jḥt jn hnr

Ne B1 | things are robbed by a criminal.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 sp bjn jwtj šwjw | nn rf ts.tw jm=f

Ne B1 But an evil act of someone without need, | is he not to be rebuked?

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ḥḥ n=f pw | m t=k

Ne B1 It is self-seeking. But you are sated | with your bread

Pa B1 

Ne B1 th.tj m ḥnqt=k | nbw

Ne B1 and drunk with your beer, and you are rich in every respect.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw ḥr n ḥmy r-ḥt | mrr=s

Ne B1 While the face of the helmsman is forward, the ship deviates as | it pleases.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw nsw m ḥntj jw ḥmw m <sup>c</sup>=k

Ne B1 While the king is in the stateroom and the helm is in your hand,

---

Pa B1 <sup>159</sup> 

Ne B1 <sup>159</sup> | rdj.tw jyt m ḥw=k

Ne B1 <sup>159</sup> | evil is placed near you.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ḥw sprw=j wdn

Ne B1 My plea is long, and the division is difficult.

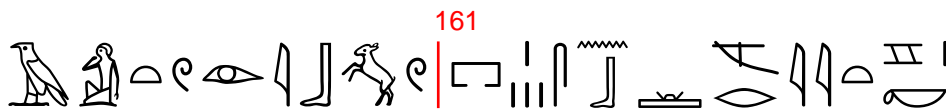
---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jšst pw ntj jm k3.tw

Ne B1 "What's with him there?" people say.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jr jbw

<sup>161</sup> | snb mryt=k

Ne B1 Create shelter

<sup>161</sup> | so that your shore will be safe,

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk dmj=k šn.w

<sup>162</sup> | <sup>c</sup>q' ns=k

Ne B1 for look, your harbour is surrounded by crocodiles! | May your tongue be truthful

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jm=k tnmw

t3mw

<sup>163</sup> | pw n s <sup>c</sup>t jm=f

Ne B1 so that you won't go astray! That organ in a man is his canker-worm.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 m ḏd grg sꜣw srw

Ne B1 Don't speak falsehood! Beware of officials!

Pa B1 <sup>164</sup>

Ne B1 | <sup>164</sup> mndm pw ꜥdyw sdmyw

Ne B1 | <sup>164</sup> The judges are a fattened basket<sup>1</sup>;

<sup>1</sup> Meant figuratively: "rich from bribes".

Pa B1

Ne B1 smw=sn | <sup>165</sup> pw ḏd grg wn=f js.w ḥr jb=sn

Ne B1 speaking falsehood is their herbage, it lies light on their hearts.

Pa B1

Ne B1 rh-jht | <sup>166</sup> n rmtt nbt

Ne B1 O wisest | <sup>166</sup> of all mankind,

Pa B1

Ne B1 jn ḥm=k m ḥꜣw=j | <sup>167</sup> dr sꜣr n mw nb

Ne B1 are you unaware of my case? | <sup>167</sup> Relieve all distress on the water!

Pa B1

Ne R | <sup>26.4</sup> mk wj ꜥtp.kw m | <sup>26.5</sup> jꜥnw mk wj m ꜥ=k

Ne R | <sup>26.4</sup> Look, I am laden with | <sup>26.5</sup> sorrow. Look, I am in your hands,

Ne B1 mk wj ḥr | <sup>168</sup> mꜥnw jw

Ne B1 Look, I am under | <sup>168</sup> way without a ship.

Pa B1 

Ne R jp=k wj mk wj m 3hw

Ne R so you should take account of me! Look, I am in distress. |

Ne B1 mnj mh nb | šd bg3w

Ne B1 Rescue all who are drowning, | save the shipwrecked,

Pa B1 

Ne R šd wj | m h3w dr[...] =k

Ne R save me | in the domain within your reach!

Ne B1 hdr=k wj m h3w | jrj dr=k

Ne B1 rescue me in the domain | that is within your reach!

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw.jn rf shtj pn r spr n=f 3nw sp

Ne B1 And this peasant came to plead with him for a third time.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 dd=f | jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j ntk R<sup>c</sup> nb pt hn<sup>c</sup> šnw|t=k

Ne B1 He said: | 'High steward, my lord, you are Re, lord of heaven, with your courtiers.

Pa B1 




Ne B1 jw hrt bw-nb jm=k mj | nwy




Ne B1 Everyone has a need for you, like | water.


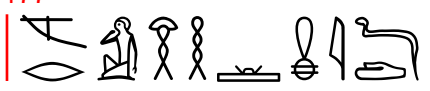
Pa B1 


Ne B1 ntk H<sup>c</sup>pj sw3d š3w

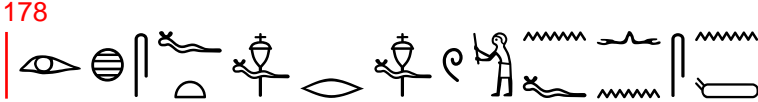
Ne B1 You are Hapy, who makes the meadows green

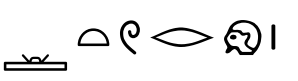

Pa B1  <sup>174</sup>  |   
 Ne B1 grg | j3wt hb3wt hsf ʿw3  
 Ne B1 and restores | mounds that have been ravaged. Punish theft

Pa B1  <sup>175</sup>  |   
 Ne B1 | nḏ hr m3r m hpr m wldnw r sprw  
 Ne B1 | and protect the poor! Don't become a flood against the suppliant!

Pa B1  <sup>177</sup>   
 Ne B1 s3w tkn n nḥ | mr w3ḥ mj dd  
 Ne B1 Beware of the approach of eternity. | Desire to last, as is said:

Pa B1   
 Ne B1 ʃw pw n fnd jrt m3t  
 Ne B1 "Doing justice is breath for the nose."

Pa B1  <sup>178</sup>  
 Ne B1 | jr ḥsft r ḥsfw n=f  
 Ne B1 | Inflict punishment on him who ought to be punished,

Pa B1  |  <sup>179</sup>  
 Ne B1 nn sn.tw r tp-ḥsb=k jn-jw jws w nnm=f  
 Ne B1 and none will surpass | your rectitude. Does the 'hand'-balance<sup>1</sup> err?

<sup>1</sup> "Handwaage".

---

Pa B1 180

Ne B1 jn-jw | mhꜣt hr rdjt hr gs

Ne B1 Is | the 'stand'-balance<sup>1</sup> biased?

<sup>1</sup> "Standwaage".

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 jn-jw rf Dḥwtj | sfn=f jh {r}<sup>1</sup> jr=k jyt

Ne B1 Is Thoth | lenient? Then may you do evil!

<sup>1</sup> To be emended to (Parkinson, 1991).

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 rdj=k ṯw snnw n | 3 pn

Ne B1 You should set yourself equal to | these three;

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 jr sfn 3 hr=k sfn=k | wšb nfrt m bjnt

Ne B1 if the three are lenient, then you must be lenient. Do not | answer good with bad.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 m rdj kt m st kt

Ne B1 Do not put one thing in place of another.

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 | rwd<sup>1</sup> mdt r snmyt

Ne B1 | The spoken word is more persistent than weed<sup>2</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> Or rd, "grow".

<sup>2</sup> Lit. "snmyt-plants".

---









Pa B1 207

Ne B1 ʕnh m ḥwrww nw | ʒpdw 207

Ne B1 one who lives on defenceless | birds. 207

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk tw wdpw rš=f pw rḥs

Ne B1 Look, you are a cook whose joy is to slaughter,

Pa B1

Ne B1 | nn jštw jrj r=f mk tw m mnjw 208

Ne B1 | and who is not touched by the gruesomeness thereof. Look, you are a herdsman; 208

Pa B1

Ne B1 n ḏw=s js | r=j n jp.n=k 209

Ne B1 is it not bad for me then that you cannot be prudent?

Pa B1

Ne B1 jḥ jr=k nhw m msh | skn 210

Ne B1 May you become less like a ravenous crocodile,

Pa B1

Ne B1 jbw tš(.w) r dmj n tʒ r-ḏr=f

Ne B1 for shelter has vanished from the harbour of the entire land.

Pa B1

Ne B1 | sdmw n ʒ sdm.n=k tm=k tr sdm ḥr-m 211

Ne B1 | Hearer, you do not really hear. But why do you not hear? 211

---

Pa B1 212

Ne B1 jw mjn | 3 hsf.n=j 3dw

Ne B1 Now | I have spoken out against the aggressor,

---

Pa B1 213

Ne B1 jw msh ht=f ptr rf | km jrj n=k

Ne B1 and the crocodile retreats. But what is | the gain thereof to you?

---

Pa B1 214

Ne B1 gm.tw jmnw m3ct rdj.tw s3 | grg r t3

Ne B1 The secret of the truth will be found, and falsehood will be cast on the ground.

---

Pa B1 215

Ne B1 m grg dw3 n jjt=f

Ne B1 Do not make provision for the following day before it has come,

---

Pa B1 215

Ne B1 n | rh.n.tw jyt jm=f

Ne B1 since one cannot know what is going to happen in it.'

---

Pa B1 216

Ne B1 jst rf dd.n shtj pn mdt | tn jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj

Ne B1 When this peasant had said these words, the high steward Rensi, son of Meru,

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 r pg3 n rryt

Ne B1 went to the entrance of the portal,

---





---

Pa B1 227

Ne B1 | dd=f ḥsw

Ne B1 | He said: 'Praised one,

---

Pa B1 228

Ne B1 ḥs tw Ḥrj-š=f jj.n=k | m pr=f

Ne B1 may Arsaphes, from whose temple you have come, praise you!

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 ḥd bw-nfr nn j<sup>c</sup>bt=f

Ne B1 Goodness has been harmed; there is no accumulation of it,

---

Pa B1 229

Ne B1 pth s<sup>3</sup> n | grg r t<sup>3</sup> jn-jw t<sup>3</sup> mhnt s<sup>c</sup>q.tj

Ne B1 nor is there casting of | falsehood on the ground. Has the ferry sunk?

---

Pa B1 230

Ne B1 s|ḏ.tw jrf m

Ne B1 Who can be ferried across

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 shpr sp m msdd

Ne B1 when the one who should bring about the deed is unwilling?

---

Pa B1 231

Ne B1 ḏt | jtrw m s<sup>3</sup> tbtj ḏt nfr nn

Ne B1 Crossing | the river on foot: a good crossing, or not?

---

<sup>232</sup>  
Pa B1 |

<sup>232</sup>  
Ne B1 | nm tr sdr r ššp

<sup>232</sup>  
Ne B1 | Now, who can sleep till dawn?

<sup>233</sup>  
Pa B1 |

<sup>233</sup>  
Ne B1 | ḥḏ šmt m | grḥ sbj m hrw

<sup>233</sup>  
Ne B1 | For obstructed are going by | night, travelling by day,

<sup>234</sup>  
Pa B1 |

<sup>234</sup>  
Ne B1 | rdjt ḥc s r | sp=f nfr n wn m3ct

<sup>234</sup>  
Ne B1 | and letting a man attend | his truly good cause.

<sup>235</sup>  
Pa B1 |

<sup>235</sup>  
Ne B1 | mk nn km n ḏd | n=k st

<sup>235</sup>  
Ne B1 | Look, it is no use to tell | you this,

<sup>236</sup>  
Pa B1 |

<sup>236</sup>  
Ne B1 | sf sw3(.w) ḥr=k nh.wj m3r | sky=k

<sup>236</sup>  
Ne B1 | for mercy has left you. How lamentable is the poor man | you ruin!

<sup>237</sup>  
Pa B1 |

<sup>237</sup>  
Ne B1 | mk ṭw mḥw | jc jb=f

<sup>237</sup>  
Ne B1 | Look, you are a hunter | who slakes his desire,



---

Pa B1  <sup>243</sup>

Ne B1 nn shmw | <sup>243</sup> mdd bw-jqr

Ne B1 humbly. For there is no brute | <sup>243</sup> who attains excellence,

---

Pa B1  <sup>244</sup>

Ne B1 nn wn hh jb | <sup>244</sup> jn.tw

Ne B1 and there is no impatient man | <sup>244</sup> whom one turns to.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 sgmḥ jrtj swḏ̄.tw jb

Ne B1 Let the eyes see so that the heart be informed.


---

Pa B1  <sup>245</sup>

Ne B1 m k3h|sw ḥft wsr=k | <sup>245</sup> tm spr bw-dw r=k

Ne B1 Don't be haughty in proportion to your might, so that evil doesn't reach you.

---

Pa B1  <sup>246</sup>

Ne B1 | <sup>246</sup> sw3 ḥr sp jw=f r snw

Ne B1 | <sup>246</sup> Tolerate one misdeed, and it will become two.

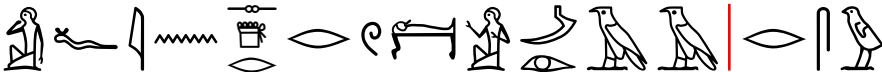
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Pa B1  <sup>247</sup>

Ne B1 jn wnm dp | <sup>247</sup> jw wšdw wšb=f

Ne B1 It is the eater who tastes, | <sup>247</sup> so one who is questioned replies;

---


Pa B1  <sup>248</sup>

Ne B1 jn sdrw m33 | <sup>248</sup> rswt

Ne B1 it is the sleeper who dreams.

---


---

Pa B1  249

Ne B1 jr wd<sup>c</sup>-rwt m | hsfw n=f 249

Ne B1 As for a judge | who ought to be punished, 249

---

Pa B1  250

Ne B1 jw=f m jmj-ḥt n jrr wh<sup>3</sup> | mk tw ph.tj 250

Ne B1 he is a pattern for the criminal. Fool, | look, you are found out! 250


---

Pa B1  251

Ne B1 hm-jht mk tw | wšd.tj 251

Ne B1 Ignoramus, look, you | are questioned! 251

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 pnqy mw mk tw <sup>c</sup>q.tj

Ne B1 Bailer of water<sup>1</sup>, look, you are noticed!

<sup>1</sup> Meant figuratively: "someone urinating".

---

Pa B1  252

Ne B1 | ḥmy m sbn dpwt=k 252

Ne B1 | Helmsman, don't let your ship go off course! 252

---

Pa B1  253


Ne B1 s<sup>c</sup>nhw | m rdj mwt.tw 253

Ne B1 Giver of life, | don't let people die! 253

---





Pa B1  265

Ne B1 dbb fnd=f pw nhm


265  
| st

Ne B1 to take them away is to stop up his nose.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 rdj.n.tw=k r sdm mdt r wd<sup>c</sup> snwj

Ne B1 You were appointed to hear cases, to judge between litigants,

Pa B1  266


Ne B1 r 266  
| hsf<sup>c</sup> w3-jrr=f

Ne B1 and to 266  
| punish the robber.

Pa B1  267

Ne B1 mk b pw n jb 267  
| jrry=k

Ne B1 But look, what you are doing is supporting the thief.

Pa B1  268

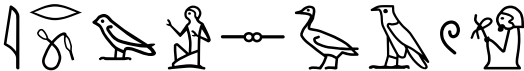
Ne B1 jw mh.tw jb jm=k jw=k 268  
| hpr.tj m thw

Ne B1 You are trusted, yet you 268  
| have become a transgressor.

Pa B1  269

Ne B1 rdj.n.tw=k r dnjt 269  
| n m3r

Ne B1 You were appointed to be a dike 269  
| for the pauper,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 s3w mh=f

Ne B1 so take care that he doesn't drown!


---

Pa B1  270

Ne B1 mk tw | m š=f sṯw

Ne B1 But look, you | are the lake that pulls him under.'

---

Pa B1  271

Ne B1 jw.jn rf sḥtj pn | r spr n=f 6nw sp

Ne B1 And this peasant came | to plead with him for a sixth time,

---

Pa B1  272

Ne B1 dd=f jmj-r³ pr wr nb=j | nb sjsf grg

Ne B1 and he said: 'High steward, my lord, | lord who eradicates falsehood,

---


Pa B1  273

Ne B1 shpr m³t shpr | bw nb nfr sḥtm bw<sup>1</sup>

Ne B1 who creates truth and creates | all goodness, who destroys [evil],

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps meant was bw-ḏw.


---

Pa B1  274

Ne B1 mj jw sṯw | ḏr=f ḥqr

Ne B1 like when satiety comes | and ends hunger,

---

Pa B1  275


Ne B1 ḥbsw ḏr=f | ḥ³wt

Ne B1 and clothes end nakedness,

---



---

Pa B1  283

Ne B1 n hqs | n wbn m<sup>3</sup>t

Ne B1 and justice will be neither insufficient nor excessive.

Ne B2 jr twt

Ne B2 So act accordingly!

---

Pa B1  284 

Ne B1 jr jn=k jm n snnw=k | wgyt šw.tj m <sup>c</sup>q<sup>3</sup>

Ne B1 If you acquire, then give to your fellow man, | for chewing is without merit.

Ne B2 jw gs n | <sup>13</sup>tpw=k r šdt=k

Ne B2 and your share of the cargo will be what you seize,

---

Pa B1  285  286 

Ne B1 | jw šhw=j sšm=f r | jw | dt 286

Ne B1 | My anguish leads to separation 285


---

Pa B1  287

Ne B1 jw srhy=j jn.n=f | rww | t 287

Ne B1 and my accusation brought departure;


---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 n rh.n.tw wnnt m jb

Ne B1 one cannot know what is in the heart.

---

Pa B1  288

Ne B1 | m wsf jr rk r smjt | fdq=k nm ts=f 288

Ne B1 | Don't be negligent, act at the accusation! If you sever, who will join? 288

---



---

<sup>293</sup>  
Pa B1

<sup>293</sup>  
Ne B1 | jw ḥw=k m nwdw ʿqʿ

<sup>293</sup>  
Ne B1 | and your environment is corrupt.

<sup>17</sup>  
Ne B2 jw ḥw=k m nwdw | ʿqʿ n bw-nb

Ne B2 and every man in your environment is corrupt.

---

<sup>294</sup>  
Pa B1

<sup>294</sup>  
Ne B1 jʿ|tj n tʿ r-dr=f

Ne B1 Molester of the entire land!

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 kʿny n bw-ḥwrrw ḥr

Ne B1 The cultivator of wickedness is

<sup>295</sup>

<sup>295</sup>  
| ntf ḥsp=f m jwyt

<sup>295</sup>  
| watering his garden with

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 r shpr ḥsp=f

Ne B1 evil, to make his garden grow

<sup>296</sup>

<sup>296</sup>  
| m grg

<sup>296</sup>  
| with falsehood

---

Pa B1

Ne B1 r ntf jyt n dt

Ne B1 and to water everlasting doom.'

---


<sup>297</sup>  
Pa B1

<sup>297</sup>  
Ne B1 | jw.jn rf shtj pn r spr n=f 7nw sp

<sup>297</sup>  
Ne B1 | And this peasant came to plead with him for a seventh time,

---


---

Pa B1  298

Ne B1 dd=f | jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j ntk hmw n t3 r-dr=f

Ne B1 and he said: | 'High steward, my lord, you are the helm of the entire land,

---

Pa B1  299

Ne B1 sqdd | t3 hft wd=k ntk snnw n Dhwjt

Ne B1 the land sails in accordance with your command. You are the equal of Thoth,

---

Pa B1  300

Ne B1 | wd<sup>c</sup> nn rdjt hr gs

Ne B1 | who judges without being partial.

---

Pa B1  301

Ne B1 nb=j w3h=k njs tw s | r sp=f n wn-m<sup>3c</sup>

Ne B1 My lord, may you condone that a man calls upon you | concerning his just cause.

---

Pa B1  302

Ne B1 m šnt jb=k n n=k st

Ne B1 Don't be outrageous, it is not for you!

---

Pa B1  302

Ne B1 | hpr 3w hr m hw jb m w3 n ntt n jjt

Ne B1 | One who was happy becomes anxious. Do not scheme for what has not yet come,

---



---

Pa B1 <sup>308</sup> 

Ne B1 | ngt pw m dnjt mw=s ʒs(.w)

Ne B1 <sup>308</sup> | it is the breach of a dike, its waters pouring through,

---

Pa B1 <sup>309</sup> 

Ne B1 wn | <sup>309</sup> rʒ=j r mdt ḥ<sup>c</sup> ʒ ḥ<sup>3</sup>.n=j mrj=j

Ne B1 as my mouth opens to speak. So, I have now plied my sounding rod,


---

Pa B1 <sup>310</sup> 

Ne B1 pnq.n=j | <sup>310</sup> mwy=j snf.n=j ntt m ht=j

Ne B1 bailed | <sup>310</sup> my water, given vent to what was on my mind

---

Pa B1 <sup>311</sup> 

Ne B1 j<sup>c</sup>.n=j š<sup>3</sup>mw=j | <sup>311</sup> hn=j hpr(.w)

Ne B1 and washed my dirty linen. | <sup>311</sup> My speech is done

---

Pa B1 <sup>312</sup> 

Ne B1 mʒr=j dr(.w) hft-ḥr=k ptr | <sup>312</sup> dʒrw=k

Ne B1 and my misery has ended up before you, what (more) | <sup>312</sup> do you need?

---


Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw wsf=k r tht=k

Ne B1 Your neglect will lead you astray,

---

---

Pa B1  313

Ne B1 jw <sup>c</sup>wn-jb=k | r sw<sup>h</sup>3=k

Ne B1 your avarice | I will befool you


---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw snm=k r sh<sup>r</sup>pr hrwyw=k

Ne B1 and your greed will make you acquire enemies.

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | jn-jw=k swt r gmt ky sh<sup>tj</sup> mjt<sup>w</sup>=j

Ne B1 | Will you even find another peasant like me?

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | jn-jw wsfw sp<sup>ry</sup> r <sup>h</sup>c r r<sup>3</sup> n pr=f

Ne B1 | Or will the lazy petitioner be waiting at the door of his house?

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | nn gr rdj.n=k mdw=f | nn sdr rdj.n=k rs=f

Ne B1 | There is none silent whom you let speak, none sleeping whom you roused,

Ne B2 | nn sdr srs.n=k

Ne B2 | none sleeping whom you roused,

---

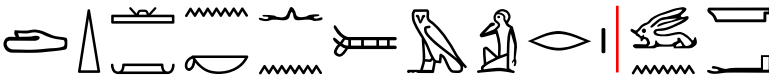
Pa B1 

Ne B1 | nn hb<sup>3</sup> hr ssp<sup>d</sup>.n=k

Ne B1 | none downcast whom you enlivened,

---

---

Pa B1  318

Ne B1 nn tm r<sup>3</sup> | wn.n=k

Ne B1 none speechless whose mouth you opened,

---

Pa B1  318


Ne B1 nn hm rdj.n=k rh=f nn wh<sup>3</sup> sb<sup>3</sup>.n=k

Ne B1 none ignorant whom you let know, none foolish whom you educated.

Ne B2 | hm sb<sup>3</sup>.n=k

Ne B2 | uneducated whom you instructed.

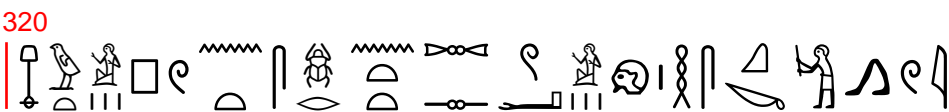
---

Pa B1  319

Ne B1 | hsrw dwt pw srw nbw bw-nfr pw

Ne B1 | Yet officials should be people who dispel injustice, lords of goodness,

---

Pa B1  320

Ne B1 | hmwt pw nt shpr ntt tsw tp hsq

Ne B1 | craftsmen in creating what is, people who mend a severed head.'

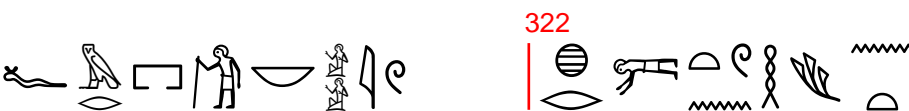
---

Pa B1  321

Ne B1 jw.jn rf | shtj pn r spr n=f 8nw sp

Ne B1 And this peasant came to plead with him for an eighth time,

---

Pa B1  322

Ne B1 dd=f jmj-r<sup>3</sup> pr wr nb=j jw | hr.tw n hnt w<sup>3</sup>

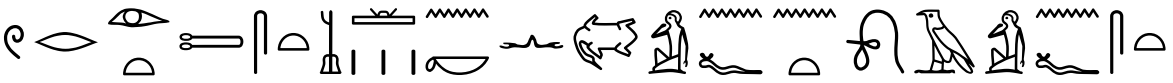
Ne B1 and said: 'High steward, my lord, one sinks low through greed.'

---





---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 r jrt t̄st n=k n snd.n=f n tw³ n=f st

Ne B1 to make a complaint to you, he cannot fear him to whom it is submitted,

63

Ne B2 | r jrt t̄st=f n snd.n=k n tw³ n=k st

63

Ne B2 | to make his complaint, you cannot fear him who submits it to you.

---

331

Pa B1 


331

Ne B1 | n jn sn=f r=k m-hnw mr̄rt

331

Ne B1 | though no brother of his can be fetched to side against you in the street.

---

Pa B1 

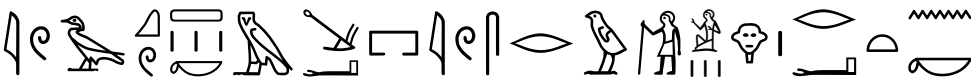
332

Ne B1 jw ³ šdww=k m sht | jw fq³=k m sp³t

332

Ne B1 Your plots of land are in the country, | your earnings are in the estate

---

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw ᶜqw=k m šnᶜ jw srw ḥr rdjt n=k

Ne B1 and your provisions in the storehouse. Officials are giving to you,

67

Ne B2 | ḥr rdjt jn n=k

67

Ne B2 | are giving gifts to you,

---

333

Pa B1 

333

Ne B1 | jw=k ḥr jtt jn-jw=k m ᶜw³y jw sḅ.tw n=k

333

Ne B1 | and you are still robbing. Are you a thief? People are ushered in to you,

68


Ne B2 jn-jw=k rf | m ᶜw³y jn-jw sḅ.tw n=k

Ne B2 Are you a thief then? Are people ushered in to you,

---






Pa B1  <sup>345</sup>


Ne B1 n rdj.n=s hr gs mk wj | r jwt mk ky r jwt <sup>345</sup>

Ne B1 then it is not biased. Look, I | will come, and another will come, <sup>345</sup>

Pa B1 


Ne B1 wšd=k

Ne B1 so you should inquire!

Pa B1  <sup>346</sup> <sup>347</sup>


Ne B1 | m wšbw m wšd <sup>346</sup> gr|w <sup>347</sup>

Ne B1 | But do not respond as one who questions a humble man. <sup>346</sup>

Pa B1  <sup>348</sup>

Ne B1 m ph ntj n ph.n=f n sfl.n=k n mn.n=k <sup>348</sup>

Ne B1 Do not attack one who cannot attack. You show no mercy, you are not troubled,

Pa B1  <sup>349</sup>

Ne B1 n sksk|n=k <sup>349</sup>

Ne B1 you do not destroy,

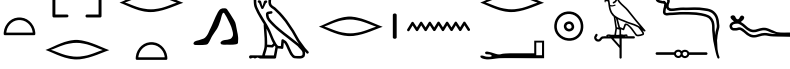
Ne B2 n bh³.n=k

Ne B2 you do not flee,

Pa B1  <sup>350</sup>

Ne B1 n rdj.n=k n=j db³w n mdt <sup>350</sup> | tn nfrt

Ne B1 nor do you give me a reward for this good speech

Pa B1 

Ne B1 prrt m r³ n R<sup>c</sup> ds=f

Ne B1 that comes forth from the mouth of Re himself!



Pa B1 357  
 Ne B1 n spr.n sp ḥs r | {r} dmj  
 Ne B1 An evil deed cannot reach | harbour,

Pa B1 357  
 Ne B1 ḥrj-s3 r s3ḥ t3  
 Ne B1 but the hindermost will reach land.'

Pa B2 91  
 Ne B2 | jw.jn rf sḥtj pn r spr n=f 9nw sp  
 Ne B2 | And this peasant came to plead with him for a ninth time,

Pa B2 92 93  
 Ne B2 | dd=f jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j mh3t pw nt | rmt ns=sn  
 Ne B2 | and said: 'High steward, my lord, the tongue of people is their 'stand'-balance,

Pa B2 94  
 Ne B2 jn jwsw d3r | d3t  
 Ne B2 and it is the 'hand'-balance that detects | deficiency

Pa B2 94  
 Ne B2 jrr ḥsft r ḥsfw n=f  
 Ne B2 and inflicts punishment on him who ought to be punished.

Pa B2 95  
 Ne B2 sn.tw tp-ḥsb r=k | [...] grg ḥpr ḥrt=f  
 Ne B2 One sets the standard after you. | Falsehood [...] when its need arises,

96  
 Pa B2 | 97  
 Ne B2 | <sup>c</sup>nn sj m<sup>3</sup>t r <sup>c</sup>q<sup>3</sup>=f jht pw nt | grg m<sup>3</sup>t

96  
 Ne B2 | but the truth returns to correct it. Truth is an aspect of falsehood,

96  
 Pa B2 | 97  
 Ne B2 | sw<sup>3</sup>d=f pw n nw.tw=f

96  
 Ne B2 | which means it is made to thrive but it is not gathered in.

98  
 Pa B2 |

98  
 Ne B2 | jr šm grg jw=f tnm=f

98  
 Ne B2 | When falsehood sets out, it goes astray.

99  
 Pa B2 |

99  
 Ne B2 | n | d<sup>3</sup>.n=f m mhnt n sš<sup>33</sup>.n=f<sup>1</sup>

99  
 Ne B2 | It cannot cross in a ferry and it cannot row.

<sup>1</sup> Restored as proposed in the note by Parkinson (1991).

100  
 Pa B2 |

100  
 Ne B2 | jr hwd {h}hr=f

100  
 Ne B2 | As for him who is enriched by it,

101  
 Pa B2 |

101  
 Ne B2 | nn msw=f | nn jw<sup>c</sup>ww=f tp t<sup>3</sup>

101  
 Ne B2 | he has no children | and no heirs on earth.

---

Pa B2  102

Ne B2 jr sqdd | hr=f n s3h.n=f t3

Ne B2 As for him who sails | with it, he cannot reach land,

---

Pa B2  103

Ne B2 n mnj.n | dpwt=f r dmj=s

Ne B2 his boat cannot moor in its harbour.


---

Pa B2 

Ne B2 m dns n js=k

Ne B2 Don't be heavy, you haven't been light!

---

Pa B2  104

Ne B2 | m jhm n h3h=k m nm<sup>c</sup>

Ne B2 | Don't delay, you haven't been swift! Don't be partial!

---

Pa B2  105

Ne B2 m sdm n | jb m hbs hr=k r rh.n=k

Ne B2 Don't listen to | the heart! Don't disregard someone you know!

---

Pa B2  106

Ne B2 m šp hr=k r | dg n=k

Ne B2 Don't be blind to | someone who looks to you!

---





---

Pa B2 | 117

Ne B2 | wn.jn shtj pn snd(.w)

Ne B2 | And this peasant was afraid,

---

Pa B2 | 118

Ne B2 | jb=f jrr.tw | r hsf n=f

Ne B2 | thinking it was done | to punish him

---

Pa B2 | 118

Ne B2 | hr mdt tn ddt.n=f | dd.jn shtj pn

Ne B2 | on account of these words that he had said. And this peasant said:

---

Pa B2 | 119

Ne B2 | hsfw n jb m mw

Ne B2 | 'A thirsty man's approach of water,

---

Pa B2 | 120

Ne B2 | d3t r3 | n hrd n sbnt m jr3t

Ne B2 | the reach of a nursing's mouth for milk,

---

Pa B2 | 121

Ne B2 | ntf mwt | n nhy m3=f n jy=f

Ne B2 | such is death for him who prays to see it come

---



Pa B2  129

Ne B2 rdj.jn=f šd.tw | ḥr ʿrt mʿt sprt nbt

Ne B2 And from a new papyrus roll he had every petition read out

Pa B2  129

Ne B2 r ḥrt[=s]

Ne B2 according to [its] content.

Pa B2  130

Ne B2 | s<sup>c</sup>q.jn sj jmj-r<sup>3</sup> pr wr Mrw s<sup>3</sup> Rnsj

Ne B2 | Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, delivered them

Pa B2  131

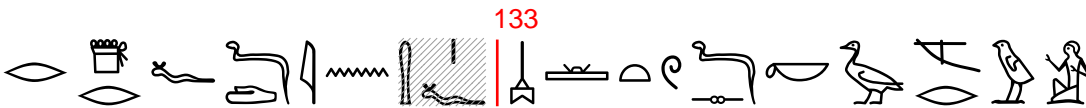
Ne B2 | n ḥm n nsw-bjt Nb-k<sup>w</sup>-R<sup>c</sup> m<sup>3</sup><sup>c</sup>-ḥrw

Ne B2 | to the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Nebkaure, justified,

Pa B2  132

Ne B2 wn.jn nfr st ḥr jb=f | r jḥt nbt ntt m t<sup>3</sup> pn r-dr=f

Ne B2 and they pleased his heart | more than anything in this entire land.

Pa B2  133

Ne B2 dd.jn ḥm=f | wd<sup>c</sup> tw ds=k s<sup>3</sup> Mrw

Ne B2 Then His Majesty said: | 'Pass judgement yourself, son of Meru!'

Pa B2  134

Ne B2 rdj.jn jmj-r<sup>3</sup> pr wr | Mrw s<sup>3</sup> Rnsj šm jmj-s<sup>3</sup> 2 r [jnt Nmtj-nḥt]

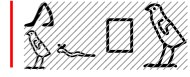
Ne B2 And the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent two guards to [fetch Nemtinakht].



---

142

Pa B2



142

Ne B2 | jw=f pw [h³t=f r phwj=fj mj gmyt m sš]

142

Ne B2 | This was copied [from start to finish as found in writing].

---