

P.Tebt. 268 transcription based on stitched MSI, scan, and autopsy

1	ca. 22 letters]υξε ου τουτοις αλκη ημε	no change
2	[ρων δε διαδραμουσων ου πα]νυ πολλων οι ελληνες κα	remove dot on upsilon and second nu
3	[θωπλιςμενοι ει]ς το παιδιον ερχονται προ	
4	[καλουμενοι ca. 12]... ηγειτο δε αυ των βαρ [[ι]	first letters either two or three;]ον and]ουc have been proposed (εις πόλεμον expected here); curvature of final trace seems to favor sigma, but rough surface could have caused unusual appearance and possibly this is right upright of nu; trace before that is an upright, seems to extend too far up to be the upright of upsilon, more suited to left side of nu
5	[βαρων αλεξανδρος μεμνον]ος μηκετι οντος. επομε	first two letters based on very uncertain traces; remove dot of second tau;
6	[νων δε των στρατων και μηπω] .πελθοντων εαυτοις των	first letter very uncertain; edd. επ
7	[βαρβαρων φυγοντων βαλλον]τε πολλο[ι] .αυ. αυτων εις	edd. note doubts about πανυ, also correctly note that it might have been crossed out
8	[ποταμον σκαμανδρον, ζωντ]εξ δε λαμ[β]ανοντε των παι	first two letters doubtful; remove dot on final iota
9	[δων πρειαμου λυκαων τε και] τρωιλος ους εν μεσσω των .	edd. give α at end
10	[χαιων ευθυσ προηγμενους α]χ.λλευς ςφαζει μηδε[	added dots on several letters, second letter not recognizable as iota; but remove dots on μη
11	πω αυτω του] πατρος πεμψαντος [υ]πε[ρ	remove dots on first alpha, rho and third pi
12	ων συνωμολογησεν. πενθος δε ο. μικρον τοις εν [ι]λι.	edd. ου; final final tiny trace (if really there) consistent with omega (edd.)

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13	[εγενετο τρωιλου απολομε]νου ην γαρ ετι νεος [κ]αι γ[εν	remove dot on upsilon; on MSI last letter not like gamma; perhaps more like pi; cannot make anything out on original
14	ναιος]... του απαν[τ]ων [τ]ων	edd. give dotted letter for first missing tau; final nu based on slight trace of diagonal
15	[.....].ικων .[.]αν[.]αλ[	remove dot on iota; letter after first nu more like omicron than epsilon; edd. report after lambda ..[.]ç—autopsy shows there is perhaps a trace of ink, but hard to see why it should be identified as sigma
16	[.....]εεεν ουτε ετωç.τ.	perhaps no letter lost between sigma and tau (fibers separated); remove dot on last tau; trace after last tau is part of a vertical and a down-sloping cross stroke originating from top; could be remnant of epsilon like the second one in this line, which has substantial straight portion of vertical; edd. claimed two more letter-traces
17	[.....].ε τους νε[κ]ρους.ε.....	trace before last epsilon seems to be top part of a vertical
18	[..... διαγ]εγομενων δε.[	editors claim traces of two letters after epsilon consistent with ολ[ι]γων; initial epsilon survives only in middle stroke, sloping down somewhat more than usual (perhaps by distortion of fibers), right side of first nu lost to stripped fibers
19	ημερων ενισταται εορτη απολλωνος θυμβ[ρ]α[ι]ο[υ, και αν	initial lambda dotted; add dot to upsilon

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20	οχη γινεται του πολεμου, εν δε τωθ... [edd. give after the theta υιϛ[.].... but say could be θεω
21	[..... ... π]ριαμος υπερ [πολυξενης	
22	ιδαιον πεμπει λογους φερροντα προς .χι[λλεα ου εν	merest trace survives where the right edge of loop of initial rho would be
23	αλσει προς τουτον ιδιαζο]ντος θορυβος [πολυς εν τοις	remove dot on omicron
24	Ελλησι εγενετο ως αχιλλεως] προδιδοντος του[στρατον]	edd. give δ[ι]δ, but there a faint trace; damaged traces of final two letters (edd. give τ[ον])
25	[.....]του πολυ αλεξα[νδρ.....	remove dots on first upsilon
26	.....]ον εχων συν.[.....]ε..[.]	first two letters new; trace before first break could be lower left of epsilon, omicron, sigma; edd. give two dots later, first readable as epsilon, probably trace of a third letter
27	[..].ον[.] α[ι]ας συν διομ[η]δει	first trace is right side slant of mu, alpha, or lambda; no dot on omicron and adjacent mu faintly visible; remove dots on final two letters
28	[και οδυσσει τ]ον λογο. εμιναν ...ον	both more and less legible than what edd. suggest τ]ον λογο[ν] εμινα[ν] αυτο[ν]
29	[.....εξω του αλκο]υς ως πα...[.]..[.]ωσ[ι]ν εαυ	some dots removed; some traces of ink in middle, but fibers very distorted and damaged, hard to justify edd. πα[ρ]αγ[γ]ει[λ]
30]τοις βαρβαροις [π]εις.[.]σαι	edd. [π]ειςτ[ε]σαι

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31	.αι μα[....].πον[.].[edd. give kappa for first trace, possible; no dot on mu; trace before pi perhaps more suited to upsilon than alpha (too high and not slanted down enough for right side of alpha); edd. give dotted epsilon for last trace; autopsy no help
32	παραγ]ινε[τ]αι αλεξ[ανδρ]ο[ε .]ς τ..	edd. give ανδρ; final trace possibly nu, but in that case seems to leave little space for vowel before it
33	]ν[.]ου βωμ[1-2].[6-7]νι	spacing in middle uncertain, less readable than edd. give: βωμον..[.].νι
34	]οβου α[.]ιλλε.[	apparent new trace first letter on MSI, but not confirmed by autopsy
35	].....ος[δε..] .[.].τα.	edd. give at end].[.].τ...
36	].....τρον[.][]εϋ	edd. give only one dot before dotted tau, don't dot final εϋ
37	]ιρ...ιαν ε[.].[	remove dot from sigma; edd. saw ε[.].ν[....].
38	]υς[.]ηςτ[5-6]χ..[	second letter read as sigma (edd. just have dot); edd. after gap report]χιλ
39	]υκ[.]δη[]ε[.]υς	remove dot delta; edd. give δη[...].[αλ]ε[ο]υς
40	]χ[.]εα[.]]ι[	before sigma, stem of iota or upsilon
41	[.... ους ιδων ειπεν οδυσε]εϋ[ε] ους [] ουτοι	remove dot second upsilon
42]χειρησαμε[νοι ει]ελεθ[ο]ν	remove dots on theta and nu
43	[τες ουν εις το αλκος και το ολ]ον περισκοπο[υ]μενοι ωρω	

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44	[σι τον αχιλλεα κειμενον εντος] της ειρκτης [τ]ου βωμου	add dot on beta
45	[καθημαγμενον μεν ετι δε και εμ]πνεοντα πρ[οc ο]ν αιαις ει	edd. πρ[ο]c [ο]ν
46	[πεν ην αρα αληθεc οτι ουδεις]αλλοc ce ανθρωπων ηδυνα	ink from first letter survives on partly detached fiber
47	[το κτειναι αλκη διαφεροντα πα].των αλλ η cη .ροπετεια	trace of bottom of a vertical before tau, edd. give dotted nu; scribe began an alpha before switching to omega; tiny trace of ink at midline before rho is only remnant of pi read undotted by edd
48	[απωλεceν ce ο δ ειπε δια πολυξεν]ην ταυτα με ειργ[α]σαντο αλ[	edd. at end αλε; but reading the lambda is already close to wishful thinking
49	[ξανδροc και δηφοβοc δολω κυμ]πλακεντεc δ αυτ[ω] ηcπ[α]σαντ.	added dot on pi; edd. ηcπ[α]σαντo
50	[αυτον το τελευταιον οι ηγεμον]εc νεκρον δ.[γε]νομ.νο[	edd. δε[γε]νομενον
51	[ο αιαιc ..... ].ωμω φερειν α[.].ευκ.	edd. ε]π ωμω
52	[..... οι δε τρωεc ιδοντεc ταυτ]α τον νεκρο.[ca. 6]ητε	heavy damage after 2nd omicron, may be ink traces, but not interpretable; edd. give ιτ. at end, but first vertical trace bends to right, wrong direction for iota
53	]ωcιν οι ελλη[ν]εc συν.δ.ν	edd. ελλη[νεc] δε συν, but letters would be too tightly spaced; at end edd. συνιδον
	Column ii	
54	τεc το γενομενον αναλαμβανουσιν τα οπλ[α] και τοι[c	add dots to lambda alpha
55	τον αχιλλεα κομιζουσιν συνηπαντων δ αλληλοικ παρα	add dot

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56	δουc αιac τοic περι τον διομηδην φυλαccιν τον νεκρ[ον	only tiny traces of the δι
57	βαλλει πρωτον ακιον αδυμαντοc εκαβηc αδελφον μ[ε	
58	τα δε τουτο ναcτην και αμφιμαχον καρων ηγεμοναc	add dot to omicron
59	παριcτανται δ αυτω αιac και cθενελοc κτεινοντ[εc τουc]	add dots to two alphas
60	πρωτοcταταc γειτονων δε ακοcμωc πολλων φυγ[	remove dot on last omega
61	ται των βαρβαρων και αμαμαχη α[ν]ηρ[η]μεν[	edd. ανηρ[η]μεν[ων
62	μηκετι ανι[c]ταcθαι δυναμενων διωκουc[ιν αυ	added dots
63	τ]ουc εωc[εν] τε[ι]χεcc εγενοντο επει δ ενε[γκον]	fewer dots needed in τε[ι]χεcc
64	τεc ηλθον[ει]c τ. c κηναc τον νεκρ[ο]ν αχιλ[λεωc ου]	edd. ηλθον [ειc] ταc κηναc; edd. νεκ[ρο]ν but images and autopsy seem to show trace of bottom of rho, though rather low
65	διc των λα[ων] παθουc cνεcτε[.]ν[αξε	added dots in opening letters, removed dots in middle of line
66	[4-5]δ εc[...]αντο υποπτεуcαν[τεc	edd. give [.]..o[v]δ at start; trace after epsilon consistent with sigma or omicron
67	[3-4]ντι[3-4].ειχεν[.]..αυτου φη[	edd. [.]...ντι[.]..αρ.σειχεν and claim trace of another letter between upsilon and phi
68	[3-4]ε[6-7]χα[.]η.[...]εc του ανδρ[οc	trace after eta could be upper left of upsilon or chi, or if fiber is twisted, iota
69	[6-7].η[.]ε[.]νε[4-5]ειν...[..]η	edd. see first trace as ν; traces of bottoms of letters after second nu consistent with ναυτ[
70	[6-7] .ξαπεφερ[.ν ..] τον αχιλλεα εφ [ον και του	edd. εξαπεφ[ε]ρο[ν ..]

71	πατ]ροκλ[ον ε.εφ[ε]ρ[ον κ]αι επι τρεις ημερα[ς]	merest faint trace of dotted lambda; nothing specifically interpretable as dotted xi; no trace of omicron (undotted) after small dot of ink remaining from rho; but appears to be bottom right edge of alpha preserved before bottom of iota
72	βαλλο[...].ος τη δε πυρα παρηδρευεν αι[α]ς κ[α]ι	edd. give βαλλο...φος
73	..υδ..[.].. διανυκτηρευ[α]ς τ[α]ς πασας ημε[ρα]ς	added dot to second sigma
74	π..α.ν[.]..ιτιτω κ[α]ι φιλον .[.]ι συνετη [κ]αι [	add dotted nu and sigma (or epsilon?); edd. give φιλον κ[α]ι, but nothing left of kappa now;
75	[.]...[.] παντ[α]ς τους λο[ι]πους ηρω[α]ς αλκη .π[ε].[	edd. at end [υ]περ[βαλ, but hardly any trace of rho, while there is remnant of ink on torn fiber possibly from the upsilon or some other letter
76	..ν[ι]τα χαρ[α] δ ην πολλην επι τοις τρωσιν [	edd. χα[ρα], so rho trace is new
77	..αχ[ι]λλ[εω]ς περ[ο]ντος ου γαρ ηλπιζον ε[.....]	added dots on epsilon and nu; no trace left of first omicron (reported undotted by edd.)
78	2-3]α..ν..ν μηδ[ε] περιοντ[.....]...[	new dotted nu (visible on scan as well as MSI); indecipherable traces of tops of letters not reported by edd.
79	[.].....[.....]ρο[.] .π[.]νοιαν ον[	remove dot on final nu; edd. [τ]ην αλε[ξ]ανδ]ρο[υ] επι[ι]
80	αν..[4-5] μη δυναμενος επ[	more dots than edd.; edd. have [α] but there is a slight trace of ink of bottom right of letter

81	δρῶν[.]μ.ντῶ[ν] ἀ[γ]γέλοι παρα[γίνονται] πριαμῶι	remove dot second nu, add dots gamma, iota; edd. give μ[.]ν, but there is a trace of ink, possibly from omicron or epsilon (space rather wide for omicron)
82	ἀπαγγέλλοντες ευρυπυλον το.[τηλεφου] παρειναι	at end a slight trace, could be τοῦ
83	πριαμος γ[α]ρ αὐτ[ο]ν πρὶν ἐκτοῖρα π[ε]σειν παρεκαλεσε	add four dots, but remove dot on final pi
84	ὁμολογησ[α]ς καὶ κ[α]ρσανδραν [αὐτῶι] δουναι καὶ πεμ[ι]	add dots
85	ψας αὐτῶ τὴν χρυσὴν ἀμπελον .[	barest trace of first tau; add dot to eta, or τ[η]ν; final trace looks like bottom of omicron or epsilon
86	ἐπ ἀνδρειαὶ καὶ παραγίνεται ἐτ[ι]	final trace more likely to be tau than eta
87	.... [κ]αὶ κ[η]τ.οῦς ἐχοντο δε .[1-2]...γ[.]...[.]...[.]	edd. give ζῶς[κα] at start, but trace of second letter doesn't seem consistent with omicron; perhaps it is upper right of eta; edd. give τῆς, but all very uncertain; trace of bottom of vertical of iota or rho or gamma after dotted epsilon; after dotted gamma, second letter is lower part of a long vertical, fourth letter probably bottom of omicron or theta
88	φρονως υπαντησαντες τ[ω]ν μελλωντων αμεινο[ι]	edd. give in middle τῶν, but I see no trace of omega left; dotted omicron nondescript traces
89	ἐλ[.]...ας ἀχιλλεω[ς] καταβληθεντες οἱ δε ελληνες	dots added in middle; edd. ἐλ[πι]δας, but trace of delta nondescript
90	α κυ[λλ]εξαν[τ]εσ τα [.]ταια χιλλεως εἰς ὕδριαν φερου	edd. give τὰ ὄστια (no traces remain); diaeresis very faint

91	ϸιν θ[α]πτοντες εν ϸιγίω ϸυν δ αυτω και πατροκλουν	
92	νευ..μερο[.]ν[.].. τους λαους αιαντος επι μηδεν	opening letters very uncertain; could be two or three between dotted upsilon and dotted mu; don't see basis for edd. to see kappa in νευ.κιμερο[.]ν[.]τος; could be a tau, or some other letter smudged
93	α[.]·ιλυ[.]ηςτου .επιτ̣ αχειλλι τ̣..ηϸαϸθαι θανοντ[ι	fourth letter could be nu instead of iota; possible upsilon after lambda (λυπηϸ?); could it be τηρηϸαϸθαι (aor. mid. exceedingly rare?); edd. α[.]·λ[.]ηςτου ... αχειλλι προηϸαϸθαι θανοντ[ι
94	τ [γει]νε[σθ]αι εκδο[ϸ]εις ναου αχιλλεωϸ υπο αιαντος	dot belongs on nu, not epsilon (as edd.)
95	των εν ϸ[ι]γιω̣ ϸαταϸκευαϸαι μιϸθον λαβοντων εν	second letter doesn't show on MSI, but on scan looks more like epsilon than omega; autopsy suggests omicron or omega
96	δε τω̣ αυτω̣ χρ̣.νω̣ πυρροϸ ον νεροπτολε[μ]ον εκαλουν	far more dotting needed than edd. give; most of the letters barely recognizable without assumption of the phrase
97	κα..ν[τ].ϸαϸ ευρικι τον ταφον και το[ν] ναον γινο	edd. κατ̣αν[τ]ηϸαϸ ευρ
98	μ[ε]νον ϸ[.]παν[.]α̣ πυθομενοϸ τον γεν[ο]μενον αυ	edd. ϸα̣ι παν[τ]α̣
99	το[ν] θ̣ανατ[ο]ν̣ ϸα̣θοπλιϸαϸ τους ϸυν αυτω̣ λαοϸ ηϸα[ghost of first theta visible on MSI; edd. reported trace of nu at end, no longer visible

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100	δε μυρμιδονε[ο]υτοι μαχιμον τι εθ[νοσ] απο[λ]ι.[dotted letters at start very faint; if [νοσ] was there, then written very tight; final trace is dot of ink, looks like top of a vertical, not pi
101	επιμελητην [τω]ν εργαων φοιν[.]ικα ελ..ν [	added dots first three letters; edd. claim trace of first omega; edd. ελθων[
102	τας του πατροσ νηασ και την σκηνην [ca. 6-7 ιπ	after the space of two letters, there is what appears to be a tiny dot high in line; autopsy suggests this is part of nu of line above, fiber having been twisted down
103	πο[δ]αμ[ι]αν φυλακα των αχι[λ]λεωσ π.[	final trace consistent with lower left of alpha
104	ειδ.ντες δι οι β[α]σιλισ παντε[σ] παρακ[αλουσι του]	more dots
105	νεοπτολεμον γενναιωσ φεριν ο .[ε τουσ αυ]	dots on two omicrons; very tiny trace of ink, could be lower left of delta (as edd.) or of other letters
106	τον ποικιλωσ παραμυθησαμενου[σ	remove dot first nu