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A BREUCUS AND HIS FAMILY ON A FRAGMENTARY AUXILIARY DIPLOMA

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An unpublished fragment of tabella II of a diploma has been available in the Online Gallery of Edgar L. Owen.¹ I should like to thank him for permission to publish it here. It comprises the top right hand corner of tabella II from which slightly more than the lower left quarter was removed when the later repurposing took place. Height 7 cm; width 6 cm; thickness not available; weight not available. The surface of each face is damaged and worn with, in places, no trace of the expected lettering. Where the script has survived intact it is neat and easy to decipher. There are twin framing lines along the edges.

Extrinsecus: tabella II

[--] HOMERI
 [--]
 [--]////////++++I
 [--]
 [--]+I
 [--]
 [--]I

Intus: tabella II

[--]A R T
 [--]O //OS
 [--]ST
 5 [--]LINVS
 [--]
 [--]BRE//C
 [--]RI EIVS BREVC
 [--]F EIVS
 [--]F EIVS
 10 [--]AÆ FILIAE EIVS
 [--]+ EX TABVLA AENEA
 [--]

Line 1 of the inner face preserves part of the day date and [M]ART can be read which indicates a day of issue between 14 February and 15 March. The consular date was on the next line but nothing useful has survived. Next would have been the unit of the auxiliary recipient along with that of his commander. Only [---]LINVS survives of the latter. The ensuing gap would have contained the recipient's rank. On line 6 only the home of the recipient has survived which shows he was Breucus from Pannonia. Also named in the grant is his wife, also from the tribe, and two sons and a daughter.² The last lines have the remains of the shortened *descriptum et recognitum* formula common to inner faces until 118.³

The outer face contained the names of the seven witnesses of which remains of the *cognomina* of first four have survived. Fortunately, the *cognomen* of the one who signed first is complete. Only one Homerus is currently attested. Q. Pompeius Homerus is known to have signed between 93 and 108.⁴ He is recorded in first place on the following diplomas:

¹ <http://www.edgarlowen.com/a49ar.shtml>, no. 11430.

² For a detailed discussion on wives and children in diplomas, see E. M. Greene: *Conubium cum uxoribus: Wives and Children in the Roman Military Diplomas*. *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 28, 2015, 125–159, especially 137–143 for wives.

³ RMD V Appendix II.

⁴ RMD V Index 1 Witnesses Period 2.

Number	Date	Province	Cognomen of Witness 2
AE 2014, 1656	April/May 99	Cappadocia	SECVNDI
RMD I 7	14 August 99	Moesia superior	[---]
CIL XVI 46	8 May 100	Moesia superior	EPAPHRODITI
CIL XVI 48	19 January 103	Britannia	EVSEBITIS
CIL XVI 55	30 June 107	Raetia	VERECVNDI

None of the day dates of the diplomas where Homerus signed in first position match with the date of the new fragment. It also explains why none of the known witnesses in second place possess a cognomen which can be matched with the remaining letter traces on the fragment.

Between 93 and 108 a total of 17 diplomas are known where dependents are included.⁵ The recipients of the following named both wives and children:

Number	Date	Province
AE 2007, 1783	May/June 97	Dalmatia
RMD IV 216	20 February 98	Germania inferior
AE 2006, 1862	14 August 99	Moesia inferior
AE 2013, 650	5 May 102	Sardinia
CIL XVI 49	12 January 105	Moesia superior
RGZM 11	13 May 105	Moesia inferior
CIL XVI 55	30 June 107	Raetia

Only the grant of 28 February for Germania inferior falls within the required time frame. Indeed, it is one of only seven grants dated between 14 February and 15 March when Homerus is known to have signed:

Number	Date	Province	Tabella
CIL XVI 42	20 February 98	Pannonia	tab. I and II
RMD IV 216	20 February 98	Germania inferior	tab. I
CIL XVI 43	20 February 98	Britannia	tab. I
AE 2004, 858	20 February 98	Britannia	tab. I
AE 2014, 1627	20 February 98	Britannia	tab. I
AE 2004, 1913	March/April 100	Cappadocia	tab. I
RGZM 9	13 March 101	Germania inferior	tab. I

Q. Pompeius Homerus signed in fifth place on the diploma of 20 February 98 for Pannonia and so it cannot belong to the same grant as the new fragment.⁶ Potentially, the incomplete witness list of this fragment could have formed part of the list of the other examples in the table. It is also possible that other grants with Homerus in first place have yet to be found.

The text can be reconstructed as:

*[Imp. Caesar, ---], /
 (auxilia)
 [a. d. --- M]art(ias) / [---]o [c]os. /
 [alae aut cohortis --- cui prae]st / [---]linus, / [ex ---], / Bre[u]c(o) / [et --- uxo]ri eius, Breuc(ae) /
 [et ---]f. eius / [et ---]f. eius / [et ---]ae filiae eius. /
 [Descriptum et recognitum]+ ex tabula aenea / [quae fixa est Romae].
 [Q. Pompei] Homeri; / [---]; / [---]+++i; / [---]; / [---]+i; / [---]; [---]i.*

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⁵ P. Holder: Auxiliary Recruitment as Reflected in Military Diplomas issued AD 71–168. *Revue Internationale d'Histoire Militaire Ancienne* 6, 2017, 13–33 and Appendix.

⁶ See further RMD V Appendix IV.



Extrinsicus



Intus