

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 2015-08-06.

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 2015-08-06.

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.
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- 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 

Ne R Nnj-nsw spr pw jr.n=f r w n Pr-^{6.4}lffj r mḥtj Mdnjt

Ne R Herakleopolis, and he arrived in the district of Per-^{6.4}lFefi¹, to the north of Mednit.

¹ Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

Pa R 

Ne R gm.n=f s ^{6.5} | ḥ(.w) ḥr mryt

Ne R He came across a man ^{6.5} | standing on the embankment.

Pa R 

Ne R Nmtj-nḥt rn=f s³ s pw ^{6.6} | Jsry rn=f

Ne R His name was Nemtinakht¹ and he was the son of a man ^{6.6} | called Isry².

¹ Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

² Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

Pa R 

Ne R dt pw nt jmj-r³ pr wr ^{6.7} | Mrw s³ Rnsj

Ne R These were liegemen of the high steward ^{6.7} | Rensi¹, son of Meru².

¹ Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

² Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

Pa R 

Ne R dd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn m³³=f ^{7.1} | ḥw n sḥtj pn

Ne R And this Nemtinakht said, when he saw ^{7.1} | the donkeys of this peasant,

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

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

Pa R 7.4
 Ne R jstṛ rf pr Nmtj-nḥt pn ḥr smꜣ-tꜣ | n rꜣ-wꜣt 7.4
 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 7.5
 Ne R | qnn=f r shw n dbjw 7.5
 Ne R | it measured the width of a loincloth. 7.5

Pa R 7.6
 Ne R jw wꜣt=f wꜣt | ḥr mw kt ḥr jt 7.6
 Ne R Its one side | was under water, the other under barley. 7.6

Pa R 7.6
 Ne R dd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn n šmsw=f
 Ne R This Nemtinakht then said to a servant of his:

7.7
 Pa R

7.7
 Ne R | jn n=j jfd m pr=j

7.7
 Ne R 'Hurry, I and bring me a cape from my house!'

Pa R

Ne R | jn.jn.tw=f n=f hr-c

Ne R And it was brought to him immediately.

8.1
 Pa R

8.1
 Ne R | h^c.n sš.n=f sw hr sm³-t³ n r³-w³t

8.1
 Ne R | Then he spread it out on the waterside path,

8.2
 Pa R

8.2
 Ne R | hnn sdb=f hr mw
 npnpt=f
 8.3
 | hr jt

8.2
 Ne R | so that its hem came to rest on the water, and its selvage
 8.3
 | on the barley.

8.4
 Pa R

8.4
 Ne R šmt pw jr.n shtj pn hr w³t
 | nt rm³t nbt

Ne R And this peasant came on the public path.

8.5
 Pa R


8.5
 Ne R | dd.jn Nmtj-nht pn jr hrw
 | shtj

8.5
 Ne R This Nemtinakht then said: 'Beware,
 | peasant,

Pa B1 ³³  ³⁴ 


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 

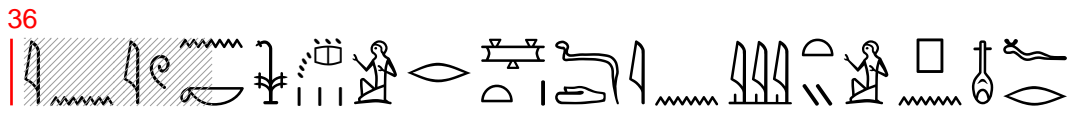
Ne B1 jry=j ḥst=k nfr mṯn=j

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

Pa B1 ³⁵ 

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 ³⁶ 

Ne B1 | jn-jw n=k šm^c=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 ³⁷ 

Ne B1 nfr | mṯnw=j

Ne B1 'My ways are good;

Pa B1 

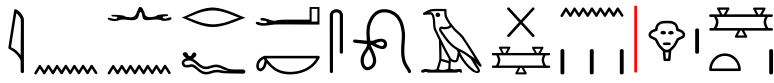
Ne B1 jḥmt qṓ.tj mṯnw ḥr šm^c

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^c.n mh.n w^c m n³ n ḥ

Ne B1 Then one of the donkeys filled

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | r3=f m b3t nt šm^c 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^c=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^ct | ḥd.tw=s¹

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

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jnn=j ³=j ḥr šn^c 10

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

Pa B1 


Ne B1 jt=k sw | ḥr mḥw n r³=f m b³t nt šm^c

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 sp³t tn

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 nj sj jmj-r³ pr wr Mrw s³ | Rnsj

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ntf grt ḥsf ^cw³ nb m t³ pn | r-|dr=f

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jn ^cw³.tw=j rf m sp³t=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 p3 pw hn n mdt dddw rmt

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

Pa B1  51


Ne B1 | dm.tw rn n hwrw 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-r3 pr wr pw sh3y=k

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

Pa B1  53

Ne B1 | h3.n b3.n=f n=f j33yt nt jsr w3d

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

Pa B1  54


Ne B1 | r=f h3.n 3g=f t=f nb jm=s

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 nhm ʕw=f | s^cq r sp³t=f

Ne B1 took his donkeys away | and drove them to his district.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 wn.jn shtj pn hr | rmyt ʕw wrt

Ne B1 Then this peasant proceeded to | wail very loudly

Pa B1 


Ne B1 n-mr-n jr³ryt r=f

Ne B1 on account of the wickedness of what was done to him.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | dd.jn Nmtj-nht pn m q³ hrw=k shtj

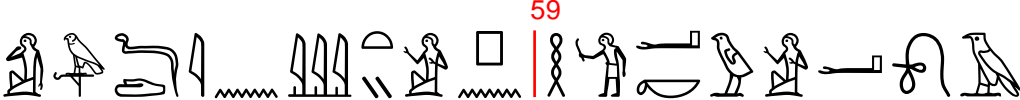
Ne B1 | But this Nemtinakht then said: 'Do not raise your voice, peasant,

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

Pa B1 



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 

Ne B1 dd.jn shtj pn | hw=k wj ʕw³=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 Herakleopolis in order to plead

Pa B1 

Ne B1 n jmj-r3 pr wr | Mrw s3 Rnsj

Ne B1 with the high steward | Rensi, son of Meru.

Pa B1 


Ne B1 gm.n=f sw hr prt m sb3 | n pr=f

Ne B1 He found him emerging from the door | of his house,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 r h3t r q3q3w=f n | rryt

Ne B1 to step into his official boat.

Pa B1 


Ne B1 dd.jn shtj pn | h3 rdj.tw | swd3|=j jb=k

Ne B1 And this peasant said: 'May I be allowed to inform you

Pa B1 

Ne B1 hr p3 hn n mdt

Ne B1 about this grievance.

Pa B1 


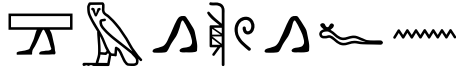
Ne B1 sp pw | rdj.tw jwt n=j šmsw=k n hrt-jb=k

Ne B1 Perhaps | one may have a servant of your choice



Pa B1 

Ne B1 | h3b=j | n=k sw hr=s


Ne B1 come to me, so that I may have him report to you about it.'



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,

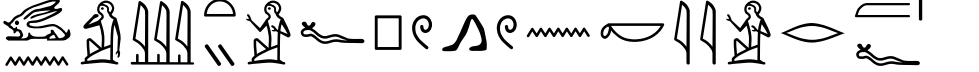
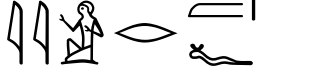
Pa B1  | 
 Ne B1 h3b | sw shtj pn
 Ne B1 and this peasant had him report back

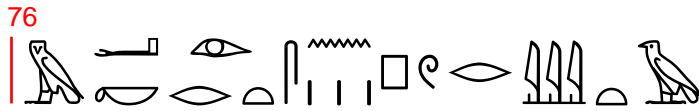
Pa B1  | 
 Ne B1 hr mdt tn mj | qj|=s nb
 Ne B1 about this entire matter.

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.

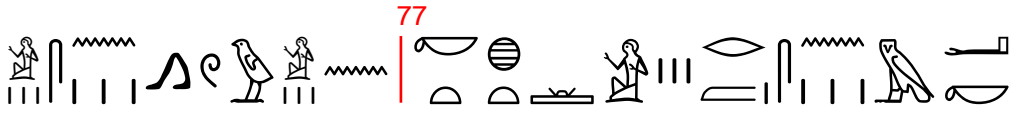
Pa B1  | 
 Ne B1 dd.jn=sn | n=f
 Ne B1 But then they said | to him:

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.

76
Pa B1 

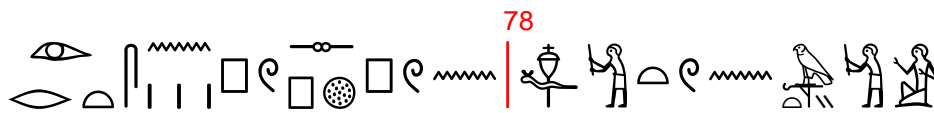
76
Ne B1 | mk jrirt=sn pw r shtjw=sn

76
Ne B1 | Look, that is what they do to peasants of theirs

77
Pa B1 

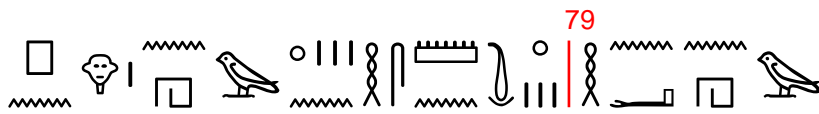
77
Ne B1 jww n | kt-ht r-gs=sn mk jrirt=sn pw

77
Ne B1 who have gone to | others beside them. That is what they do.

78
Pa B1 

78
Ne B1 sp pw n | hsf.tw n Nmtj-nht pn

78
Ne B1 Is this a cause for | punishing this Nemtinakht,

79
Pa B1 

79
Ne B1 hr nh n hsmn | hn^c nh n hm³t

79
Ne B1 on account of a little natron | and a little salt?

80
Pa B1 


80
Ne B1 wd.tw n=f db³ | st db³=f st

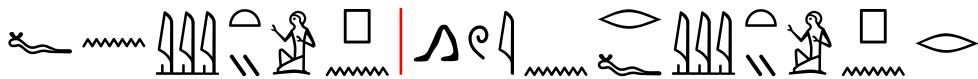
80
Ne B1 If he is ordered to replace | it, then he will replace

81
Pa B1 


81
Ne B1 gr pw jr.n | jmj-r³ pr wr Mrw s³ Rnsj


Ne B1 it.' But the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, remained silent.


82
 Pa B1 
 Ne B1 n wšb=f | n nn n srw wšb=f n šhtj pn
 Ne B1 He did not answer | these officials, nor did he answer this peasant.

83
 Pa B1 
 Ne R | jw.jn rf šhtj pn r spr n=f
 Ne R | Then this peasant came to plead with him
 Ne B1 | jw.jn rf šhtj pn r spr n
 Ne B1 | Then this peasant came to plead with

84
 Pa B1 
 Ne R sp tpj
 Ne R for the first time.
 Ne B1 jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 | Rnsj dd=f
 Ne B1 the high steward Rensi, son of Meru. He said:

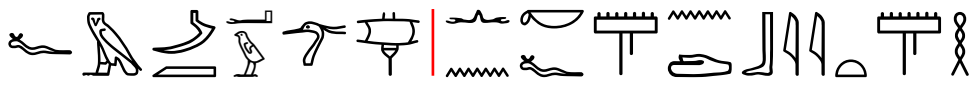
14.2
 Pa B1 
 Ne R | jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j wr nb wrw
 Ne R | 'High steward, my lord, great one, lord of the great,
 Ne B1 jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j wr n wrw
 Ne B1 'High steward, my lord, greatest of the great,

85
 Pa B1 
 Ne B1 | sšmw n jwtt ntt
 Ne B1 | leader of all that is not and all that is,

Pa B1  86

Ne B1 jr h³=k r š n | m³c^t sqd=k jm=f m m³c^w

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 ht³=k

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

Pa B1  88

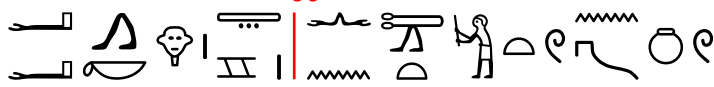
Ne B1 nn | jh³m dpwt=k nn jwt jyt m ht=k

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

Pa B1  89

Ne B1 nn | sw³ srgw=k nn shm=k h³cc=k hr t³

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 m³=k hr snd jw n=k | rmw šn^cyw

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 p_h=k m ³pd | d₃ hr ntt ntk jt n nm_h

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | h₃j n h₃rt sn n wd^ct

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 šndyt | nt jw^tw mwt=f

Ne B1 and an apron | to the motherless.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jm jry=j rn=k m | t₃ 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 ^cwn-jb wr šw m ndyt

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

Pa B1 98

Ne B1 | sḥtm grg šḥpr m³ct

Ne B1 | destroyer of falsehood, creator of truth,

Pa B1 99

Ne R jm bw-ḏw r | t³

Ne R Cast evil on | the ground!

Ne B1 jj ḥr | ḥrw ḏḏ-r³

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

Pa B1 100

Ne B1 ḏḏ=j sḏm=k jr m³ct ḥsly ḥss ḥsyw

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 | dr s³r=j mk wj | ³tp.kw [m] j³nw

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

Ne B1 dr s³r mk wj | ³tp.kw

Ne B1 Relieve the distress, for I | am burdened!

Pa R 16.7

Ne R mk wj | fn.kw ḥr=f

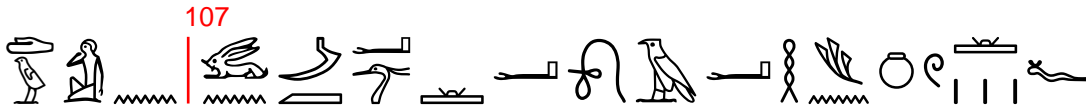
Ne R and | faint from it!

Pa R



17.5

Pa B1



107

Ne R

17.5
| jn s ntj r ^cq³=j

Ne R

17.5
| by a man who is my peer,

Ne B1

107
| wn-m^{3c} w³ hnw=f

Ne B1

His goods have been robbed

Pa R



Pa B1



108

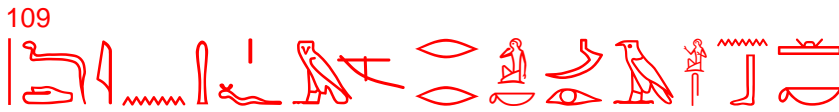
Ne B1 mk

108
| sw jw.w r spr n=j hr=s

Ne B1 and

108
| he has come to plead with me about it.'

Pa B1



109

Ne B1

109
| dd.jn hm=f m mrr=k m³=j snb.kw

Ne B1

109
| And His Majesty said: As you wish to see me in health,

Pa B1



110

Ne B1

swdf=k sw | nn wsb r ddt=f nbt

Ne B1

you will delay him | here without answering anything he says.

Pa B1



111

Ne B1

jn-mrwt wn=f | hr dd gr

Ne B1

So that he keeps | speaking, remain silent.

Pa B1

Ne R n-mrwt jn.tw n=n mdw=f m sš | 18.1

Ne R so that his speech will be brought to us in writing. | 18.1

Ne B1 jh jn.tw n=n m sš sdm=n st

Ne B1 Then it will be brought to us in writing so that we may hear it.

Pa B1 ¹¹² |

Ne R jr swt ḥnh ḥmt shtj pn | 18.2

Ne R But provide sustenance for the wife of this peasant | 18.2

Ne B1 ¹¹² | jr swt ḥnh ḥmt=f ḥnḥ ḥrdw=f

Ne B1 ¹¹² | But provide sustenance for his wife and children.

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk jw wḥ m nḥ | ¹¹³ n shtj r šwt pr=f r tš

Ne B1 That one of these peasants comes here is because his house is empty.

Pa B1

Ne R | ^{18.4} [...] ḥnḥ swt | ^{18.5} jrt ḥnh shtj pn ḥr ḥḥw=f

Ne R | ^{18.4} [...] Furthermore, provide sustenance for this peasant himself.

Ne B1 jr grt ḥnh shtj pn | ¹¹⁴ m-ḥḥw=f

Ne B1 Furthermore, provide sustenance for this peasant | ¹¹⁴ himself.

Pa B1

Ne R nn rh=f
Ne R without him knowing

Ne B1 wnn=k ḥr rdjt dj.tw n=f ḥqw nn rdjt rh=f

Ne B1 You will let the provisions be given to him without letting him know

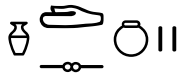
115
 Pa B1 

18.6
 Ne R | dd.tw n hnmsw[=f]

18.6
 Ne R | They were given to friends of his,

115
 Ne B1 | ntt ntk rdj n=f st

115
 Ne B1 | that it is you who gave them to him.'

Pa B1 


18.7
 Ne R | jn hnmsw=f dd n=f st

18.7
 Ne R | and his friends gave them to him.

116
 Pa B1 

116
 Ne B1 wn.jn.tw hr rdjt n=f t 10 hnqt ds 2 | r^c nb

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 dd st jmj-r³ pr wr Mrw s³ Rnsj

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

117
 Pa B1 

117
 Ne B1 dd=f st n hnms=f ntf | dd n=f st

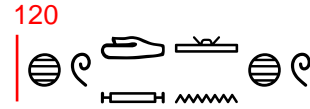
117
 Ne B1 but he gave them to a friend of his, and it was he | who gave them to him.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 c^h.n h³b.n jmj-r³ pr wr Mrw s³ Rnsj

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

Pa B1



Ne B1 dd=f jmj-r³ pr wr nb=j wr n wrw

120 | ḥwd n ḥwdw

Ne B1 and said: 'High steward, my lord, greatest of the great, | richest of the rich,

Pa B1



Ne B1 ntj wn wr n wrw=f

ḥwd n

121 | ḥwdw=f

Ne B1 whose great ones have one greater, whose rich ones have one richer,

Pa B1



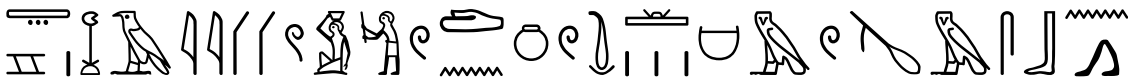
Ne B1 ḥmw n pt

122 | s³w n t³

Ne B1 rudder of heaven,

122 | beam of earth,

Pa B1



Ne B1 ḥy f wdnw

ḥmw m sbn

Ne B1 plumb-line that carries the weight! Rudder, do not deviate!

Pa B1

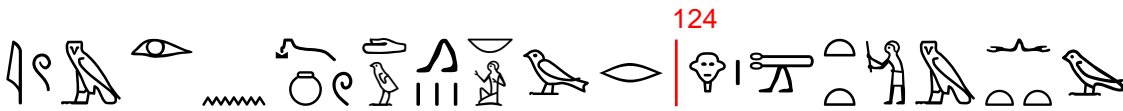


Ne B1 | s³w m gs³

ḥy m jr nwdw

Ne B1 | Beam, do not tilt! Plumb-line, do not swing awry!

Pa B1



Ne B1 nb wr

124 | ḥr jt m jwtt nb=s

Ne B1 A great lord

124 | takes what is without owner

Pa B1



Ne B1 ḥr ḥcḏ ḥr w^c ḥrt=k m pr=k

Ne B1 and robs only that. Your possessions are in your house.

125
Pa B1

125
Ne B1 | ḥnqt hnw ḥn^c t 3

125
Ne B1 | Half a litre of beer and three loaves of bread,

126
Pa B1

126
Ne B1 ptr pnqt=k m ssʾt twʾ|w=k

Ne B1 what is it you expend to satisfy your dependants?

Pa B1

Ne B1 jn mwt mwt ḥn^c ḥrw=f jn-jw=k r s n nhḥ

Ne B1 A mortal man dies along with his underlings, or will you be a man of eternity?

127
Pa B1

127
Ne B1 n jw | js pw jwsw gsʾw th nnm

Ne B1 Is it not wrong, a balance that is crooked, the pointer of a balance that errs,

128
Pa B1

128
Ne B1 mtj | m^{3c} ḥpr m tnbḥ mk m^{3c}t wth=s ḥr=k

Ne B1 a truly correct man who strays? Look, justice is fleeing from you,

129
Pa B1

129
Ne B1 nš.tj m | st=s srw ḥr jrt jyt

129
Ne B1 expelled from | its place. Officials are doing evil,

Pa B1

Ne B1 tp-ḥsb n mdt ḥr rdjt ḥr gs

Ne B1 the norm of speech is biased

Pa B1

Ne B1 dd.jn jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 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 h3w n | 3h3w hr sj3t n=f

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

Pa B1

Ne B1 mh n ky hr hqs h3w=f

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

Pa B1

Ne B1 ššm r | hpw hr wd 3w3t

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

Pa B1

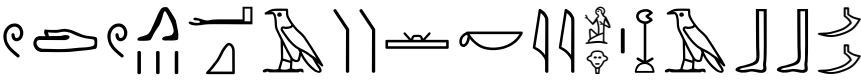
Ne B1 nm jrf hsf=f bw-h3rw

Ne B1 Who then will repel evil?

Pa B1  138

Ne B1 dr | nw hr jrt nwdw 138

Ne B1 He who should dispel | weakness is acting corruptly; 138

Pa B1 

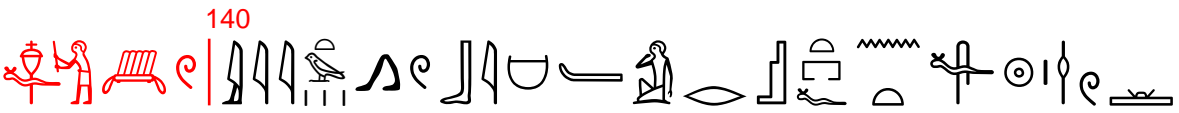
Ne B1 ʿqʾ ky hr hʾbb

Ne B1 he who should correct another is being crooked;

Pa B1  139

Ne B1 | wʾ ky jr jyt 139 tr gm=k rk n=k

Ne B1 | he who should reproach another is an evildoer. Do you find anything for yourself? 139

Pa B1  140

Ne B1 hw^c hsf ʾw | jyt 140 jw bj r st=f nt sf

Ne B1 Redress is short but evil is long. A good deed returns to its place of yesterday.

Pa B1  141

Ne B1 wd rf pw jr n jrr | r rdjt jr=f 141

Ne B1 This is the precept: act for him who acts, | to make him act; 141

Pa B1  142

Ne B1 dw³-ntr n=f pw hr jr^rt=f njt jht pw tp^{-c} | st 142

Ne B1 it is thanking him for what he does; it is parrying a thing before | shooting; 142

Pa B1 

Ne B1 wd jht pw n nb hnt

Ne B1 it is commissioning something from a craftsman.

Pa B1 

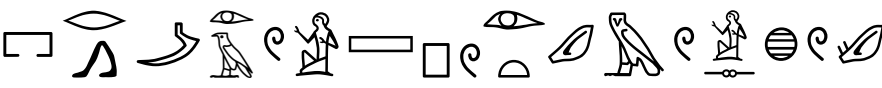
Ne B1 ḥꜣꜣꜣt šḥtm|=s pn^c m rwj=k

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

Pa B1 

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 

Ne B1 | sšmw ḥpr(.w) m stnmw


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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | ḥnbrw jn tr snb.n=k


Ne B1 | Basket¹! Have you (not) gone too far?

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

Pa B1 

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,

¹⁴⁸
 Pa B1 | 

¹⁴⁸
 Ne B1 | jb=k ^cwn(.w) sf sw3(.w) hr=k

¹⁴⁸
 Ne B1 | but your heart is greedy and mercy has left you.

¹⁴⁹
 Pa B1 | 


¹⁴⁹
 Ne B1 nh.wj | m3r sky=k

¹⁴⁹
 Ne B1 How lamentable | is the poor man you ruin!

¹⁵⁰
 Pa B1 | 


¹⁵⁰
 Ne B1 twt=k n | wpwtj n Hntj

¹⁵⁰
 Ne B1 You are like | the messenger of Khenty.

¹⁵¹
 Pa B1 | 

¹⁵¹
 Ne B1 mk tw sw3.tj hr | nbt j3dw

¹⁵¹
 Ne B1 Look, you surpass | the Lady of Pestilence;


¹⁵²
 Pa B1 | 

¹⁵²
 Ne B1 nn n=k nn n=s

¹⁵²
 Ne B1 if something is not for you, it is not for her;


¹⁵²
 Ne B1 nn (r)=s nn r=k

¹⁵²
 Ne B1 if something is not against her, it is not against you;

¹⁵²
 Pa B1 | 

¹⁵²
 Ne B1 | n jrr=k st n jrr=s st sf nb t

¹⁵²
 Ne B1 | if you won't do it, she won't do it. Who possesses bread should be merciful

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 ḥ.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 hntj jw hmw m c=k

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

Pa B1 ¹⁵⁹ 

Ne B1 ¹⁵⁹ | rdj.tw jyt m h3w=k

Ne B1 ¹⁵⁹ | evil is placed near you.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 3w sprw=j wdn

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

¹⁶⁰
¹⁶⁰ | fdq

Pa B1 

Ne B1 j3st pw ntj jm k3.tw

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jr jbw

Ne B1 Create shelter

¹⁶¹
¹⁶¹ | snb mryt=k
¹⁶¹ | so that your shore will be safe,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk dmj=k 3n.w

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

¹⁶²
¹⁶² | c'q' ns=k
¹⁶²

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jm=k tnmw

t3mw

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

¹⁶³
¹⁶³ | pw n s c't jm=f

Pa B1 

Ne B1 m ḏd grg sꜣw srw


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

Pa B1 ¹⁶⁴ 

Ne B1 ¹⁶⁴ | mndm pw ꜥdyw sdmyw

Ne B1 ¹⁶⁴ | The judges are a fattened basket¹;

¹ Meant figuratively: "rich from bribes".

Pa B1 

Ne B1 smw=sn | 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 | n rmtt nbꜥ

Ne B1 O wisest | of all mankind,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jn ḥm=k m ḥꜣw=j | dr sꜣr n mw nb

Ne B1 are you unaware of my case? | Relieve all distress on the water!

Pa B1 

Ne R ^{26.4} | mk wj ꜥtp.kw m ^{26.5} | jꜥnw mk wj m ꜥ=k

Ne R ^{26.4} | Look, I am laden with ^{26.5} | sorrow. Look, I am in your hands,

Ne B1 mk wj ḥr | mꜥnw jw

Ne B1 Look, I am under | way without a ship.

Pa B1  169

Ne R jp=k wj mk wj m 3hw 26.7

Ne R so you should take account of me! Look, I am in distress. | 26.7

Ne B1 mnj mh nb 169 | šd bg3w

Ne B1 Rescue all who are drowning, 169 | save the shipwrecked,

Pa B1  170

Ne R šd wj | m h3w dr[...] =k 26.8

Ne R save me | in the domain within your reach! 26.8

Ne B1 hdr=k wj m h3w 170 | jrj dr=k

Ne B1 rescue me in the domain 170 | 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  171 172

Ne B1 dd=f | jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j ntk R^c nb pt hn^c 171 172 | šnw|t=k

Ne B1 He said: | 'High steward, my lord, you are Re, lord of heaven, with your courtiers. 171

Pa B1  173


Ne B1 jw hrt bw-nb jm=k mj 173 | nwy


Ne B1 Everyone has a need for you, like 173 | water.


Pa B1 


Ne B1 ntk H^cpj sw3d š3w


Ne B1 You are Hapi, who makes the meadows green


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

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

Pa B1  177
 Ne B1 s3w tkn n nh3 | mr w3h mj dd
 Ne B1 Beware of the approach of eternity. | Desire to last, as is said:

Pa B1  178
 Ne B1 3w pw n fnd jrt m3t
 Ne B1 "Doing justice is breath for the nose."

Pa B1  178
 Ne B1 | jr h3ft r h3fw n=f
 Ne B1 | Inflict punishment on him who ought to be punished,

Pa B1  179
 Ne B1 nn sn.tw r tp-h3b=k jn-jw jws w nnm=f
 Ne B1 and none will surpass | your rectitude. Does the 'hand'-balance¹ err?

¹ "Handwaage".

Pa B1  180

Ne B1 jn-jw | mhꜣt ḥr rdjt ḥr gs


Ne B1 Is | the 'stand'-balance¹ biased?


¹ "Standwaage".

Pa B1  181

Ne B1 jn-jw rf Dḥwtj | sfn=f jḥ {r}¹ jr=k jyt


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

¹ To be emended to  (Parkinson, 1991).

Pa B1  182

Ne B1 rdj=k ṯw snnw n | 3 pn

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

Pa B1  183

Ne B1 jr sfn 3 ḥr=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  184

Ne B1 | rwd¹ mdt r snmyt

Ne B1 | The spoken word is more persistent than weed²,

¹ Or rd, "grow".

² Lit. "snmyt-plants".

Pa B1  185

Ne B1 r d|mj n ḥnm m wšb=s

Ne B1 to | reach the smeller with its retort.

Pa B1  186


Ne B1 ntf jyt | r rdjt rd ḥbsw

Ne B1 The one who waters mischief | to make deception¹ grow,
¹ Uncertain.

Pa B1  187

Ne B1 spw 3 | pw r rdjt jr=f jr rk ḥmw r ndbyt

Ne B1 this is three times | to induce him to act!¹ Steer according to the sail.
¹ I.e. "this is already the third time that I induce him to act!"

Pa B1  188

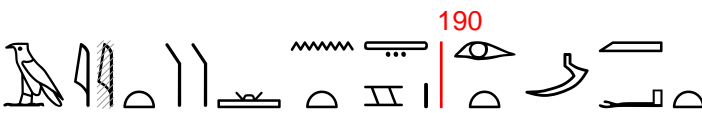
Ne B1 | šd wḏnw r jrt m³t

Ne B1 | Withdraw the flood, so as to do justice.

Pa B1  189


Ne B1 s³w | ḥ³=k rk ḥr nfryt

Ne B1 Be careful that | you do not run aground, while at the tiller.

Pa B1  190


Ne B1 ^cq³yt nt t³ | jrt m³t {w}

Ne B1 To straighten out the land | is to do justice.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 m dd grg jw=k wr.tj

Ne B1 Do not speak falsehood, for you are mighty.

Pa B1 


Ne B1 m js | jw=k dns.tj

Ne B1 Do not be light-hearted, | for you are weighty.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 m dd grg ntk jwsw

Ne B1 Do not speak falsehood, for you are the balance.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | m tnbhw ntk tp

Ne B1 | Do not be careless, for you are the key.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk tw m tp w^c | hn^c jwsw

Ne B1 You are just | like the balance:

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jr gs³=f hr=k | g{w}s³=k

Ne B1 if it is crooked, then you must | be crooked.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 m sbn jr rk hmw šd | hr nfryt

Ne B1 Do not deviate, but operate the rudder, pull | on the tiller rope.

Pa B1

Ne B1 m jt jr rk r jt w

Ne B1 Do not rob, but act against the robber.

Pa B1 ¹⁹⁶

Ne B1 | n wr js pw wr jm wn-jb

Ne B1 | A great one who is greedy is not (really) great.

Pa B1

Ne B1 th pw ns=k

Ne B1 Your tongue is the pointer (of the balance),

Pa B1

Ne B1 dbn pw jb=k rmnw=f pw sptj=k

Ne B1 your heart is the weight, and your lips are its arms.

Pa B1

Ne B1 jr hbs=k hr=k r nht-hr nm jrf hsf=f bw-hwrrw

Ne B1 But if you shut your eyes to the impudent, then who will repel evil?

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk tw m hwrrw n rhtj

Ne B1 Look, you are a dishonourable washerman

Pa B1

Ne B1 wn-jb hr hdt hnms

Ne B1 who is keen on destroying friendship,

Pa B1  202

Ne B1 bt3 n mhñk=f n tw3|=f

Ne B1 one who wrongs his confidant for his client;

Pa B1 

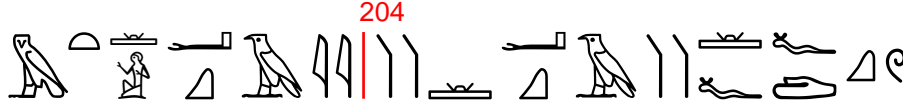
Ne B1 sn=f pw jy jn n=f

Ne B1 anyone who comes and supplies to him is his brother.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk tw mlhntj d3 nb hmt

Ne B1 Look, you are a ferryman | who ferries across anyone who has the fare,

Pa B1 


Ne B1 c'q'3y | c'q'3=f fdq.w

Ne B1 a righteous man | whose righteousness has crumbled.

Pa B1 

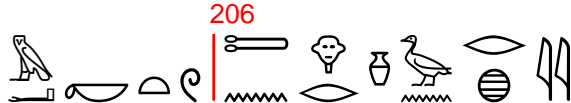
Ne B1 mk tw m hrj šn^cw

Ne B1 Look, you are the chief of a workhouse

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | n rdj.n=f sw3 šw hr-^c

Ne B1 | who won't let an unemployed person through at once.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk tw | tñhr n rhyt

Ne B1 Look, you are | a hawk to the people,

Pa B1 207

Ne B1 ḥnh m ḥwrww nw | 3pdw 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 jštjw 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 t3 r-ḏr=f

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

Pa B1


Ne B1 | sdmw n 3 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 212

Ne B1 Now | I have spoken out against the aggressor, 212

Pa B1  213


Ne B1 jw msh ht=f ptr rf | km jrj n=k 213

Ne B1 and the crocodile retreats. But what is | the gain thereof to you? 213

Pa B1  214


Ne B1 gm.tw jmnw m3ct rdj.tw s3 | grg r t3 214

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

Pa B1 

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 215

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 216

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,

²¹⁷
 Pa B1 | 

²¹⁷
 Ne B1 | ḥ^c.n rdj.n=f ḥ^c jmj-s3 2 r=f hr smjw

²¹⁷
 Ne B1 | and made two guards turn against him with whips,

²¹⁸
 Pa B1 | 


²¹⁸
 Ne B1 | ḥ^c.n ḥg=sn ḥt=f nbt jm ḏd.jn šhtj pn

Ne B1 | and they thrashed all his limbs therewith. Then this peasant said:

²¹⁹
 Pa B1 | 

²¹⁹
 Ne B1 | s3 Mrw | tnm.hr=f

²¹⁹
 Ne B1 | 'So the son of Meru | must go astray,

Pa B1 | 


Ne B1 | hr=f šp(.w) r m33t=f sh(.w) r sdmt=f

Ne B1 | since his face is blind to what he sees and deaf to what he hears,

²²⁰
 Pa B1 | 

²²⁰
 Ne B1 | th(.w) jb hr sh3yt n=f

²²⁰
 Ne B1 | and is straying from what it is reminded of.

²²¹
 Pa B1 | 

²²¹
 Ne B1 | mk tw m njwt | nn ḥq3-ḥwt=s mj ht nn wr=s

²²¹
 Ne B1 | Look, you are a town | without a mayor, like a meeting without a chairman,

222
 Pa B1

222
 Ne B1 mj dpt | nn shry jm=s

222
 Ne B1 like a ship | without a captain,

223
 Pa B1

223
 Ne B1 sm3yt nn sšmw|=s

Ne B1 like a gang without a leader.

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk tw m šnt jḫ ḥq3-ḥwt šspw

Ne B1 Look, you are a policeman who steals, a major who accepts (bribes),

224
 Pa B1

224
 Ne B1 | jmj-r3 w ḥsf ḥḏ3

224
 Ne B1 | a district overseer who should restrain robbery

Pa B1

Ne B1 ḥpr m jmj-ḥ3t n jrr

Ne B1 but who has become a pattern for the criminal.'

225
 Pa B1


225
 Ne B1 | jw.jn rf šḥtj pn r spr n=f 4nw sp

225
 Ne B1 | And this peasant came to plead with him for a fourth time,

226
 Pa B1


226
 Ne B1 gm.n sw ḥr | prt m sb3 n ḥwt-ntr nt Ḥrj-š=f

226
 Ne B1 and found him | emerging from the gate of the temple of Arsaphes.

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  229


Ne B1 ḥd bw-nfr nn j^cbt=f

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

Pa B1  229

Ne B1 pth s³ n | grg r t³ jn-jw t³ mhnt s^cq.tj

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

Pa B1  230

Ne B1 | sld³.tw jrf m

Ne B1 Who can be ferried across

Pa B1  231

Ne B1 shpr sp m msdd

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

Pa B1  231

Ne B1 d³t | jtrw m s³ tbtj d³t nfr nn

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

²³²
 Pa B1 |

²³²
 Ne B1 | nm tr sdr r ššp

²³²
 Ne B1 | Now, who can sleep till dawn?

²³³
 Pa B1 |

²³³
 Ne B1 | grḥ sbj m hrw

²³³
 Ne B1 | For obstructed are going by night, travelling by day,

²³⁴
 Pa B1 |

²³⁴
 Ne B1 | rdjt ḥc s r sp=f nfr n wn m3ct

²³⁴
 Ne B1 | and letting a man attend his truly good cause.

²³⁵
 Pa B1 |

²³⁵
 Ne B1 | mk nn km n dd n=k st

²³⁵
 Ne B1 | Look, it is no use to tell you this,

²³⁶
 Pa B1 |

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

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

²³⁷
 Pa B1 |

²³⁷
 Ne B1 | mk ṭw mḥw jc jb=f

²³⁷
 Ne B1 | Look, you are a hunter who slakes his desire,

Pa B1  238

Ne B1 wdd r jrt mrt=f h^{3c} dbw | st sm³w 238

Ne B1 bent on doing what he wants, who harpoons hippopotami, | shoots wild bulls, 238

Pa B1  239

Ne B1 p_h rmw s_ht | 3pdw 239

Ne B1 catches fish and snares | birds. 239

Pa B1 

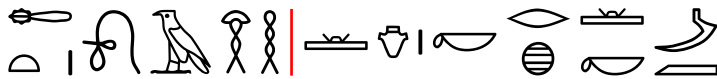
Ne B1 nn h³h r³ šw m w^crw

Ne B1 Yet there is none hasty of speech who is free of spluttering,

Pa B1  240

Ne B1 | nn js-jb dns shr ht 240

Ne B1 | and none light of heart who is weighty of thought. 240

Pa B1  241

Ne B1 w³h | jb=k rh=k m^{3c}t 241

Ne B1 Be tender-hearted, so that you will learn justice!

Pa B1  242

Ne B1 d³r stpt=k r | nfr bss grw 242

Ne B1 Suppress your choice for | the good of him who enters 242

Pa B1  243

Ne B1 nn shmw | mdd bw-jqr

Ne B1 humbly. For there is no brute | who attains excellence,

Pa B1  244

Ne B1 nn wn h3h jb | jn.tw

Ne B1 and there is no impatient man | whom one turns to.

Pa B1 


Ne B1 sgmh jrtj swd3.tw jb

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

Pa B1  245


Ne B1 m k3h|sw hft wsr=k 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  246

Ne B1 | sw3 hr sp jw=f r snw

Ne B1 | Tolerate one misdeed, and it will become two.

Pa B1  247


Ne B1 jn wnm dp | jw wšdw wšb=f


Ne B1 It is the eater who tastes, | so one who is questioned replies;


Pa B1  248


Ne B1 jn sdrw m33 | rswt

Ne B1 it is the sleeper who dreams.


Pa B1  249
 Ne B1 jr wd^c-rwt m | ḥsfw n=f 249
 Ne B1 As for a judge | who ought to be punished, 249


Pa B1  250
 Ne B1 jw=f m jmj-ḥḥt n jrr wh³ | mk tw pḥ.tj 250
 Ne B1 he is a pattern for the criminal. Fool, | look, you are found out! 250


Pa B1  251
 Ne B1 ḥm-jḥt mk tw | wšd.tj 251
 Ne B1 Ignoramus, look, you | are questioned! 251

Pa B1  252
 Ne B1 pnqy mw mk tw ^cq.tj
 Ne B1 Bailer of water¹, look, you are noticed!

¹ 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^cnhw | m rdj mwt.tw 253
 Ne B1 Giver of life, | don't let people die! 253

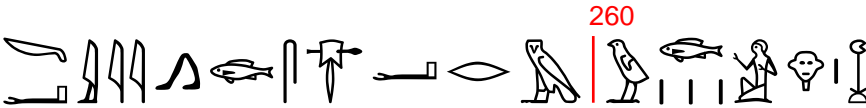
Pa B1  259

Ne B1 nlyw¹ ḥr sm³ jy

Ne B1 the nyw-fisherman² is killing jy-fish,

¹ Uncertain.

² Uncertain.

Pa B1  260

Ne B1 st rmlw ḥr ḥ³h³ ᶜwbbw

Ne B1 the fish-spearer is harpooning ᶜwbbw-fish,

Pa B1  261

Ne B1 ḏ³bḥw | r p³qrw

Ne B1 the ḏ³bḥw-fisherman | is after p³qr-fish.

Pa B1  262


Ne B1 jw wh^c ḥb³=f jtr^lw mk tw m mnt-jrj

Ne B1 The fisherman ravages the river. Look, you are the same.

Pa B1  263


Ne B1 m ᶜwn ḥwrw | ḥr jht=f

Ne B1 Do not defraud a poor man | of his property,

Pa B1  264

Ne B1 fn rh.n=k sw ḫw pw n | m³r jht=f

Ne B1 a slight man whom you know. The belongings of a pauper are his breath,

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^c snwj

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

Pa B1 

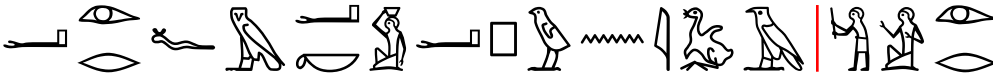
266

Ne B1 r

266
| hsf^c 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 

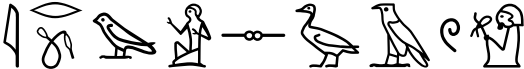
269

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 bw¹


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

¹ Perhaps meant was bw-ḏw.

Pa B1  274

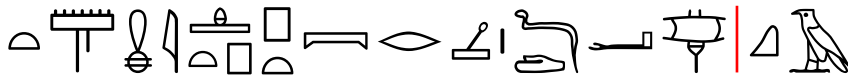
Ne B1 mj jw sṯw | ḏr=f ḥqr

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  276

Ne B1 mj ḥtp pt r-s³ dꜥ | q³

Ne B1 like when the sky becomes calm after a heavy storm

Pa B1  277

Ne B1 sšmm=s ḥsw nb | mj ḥt pst w³dwt

Ne B1 and warms all who are chilled, | like fire that cooks what is raw,

Pa B1  278 279

Ne B1 mj | mw ḥm jbt m³ m | ḥr=k

Ne B1 like | water that quenches thirst! See with | your own eyes:

Pa B1  280

Ne B1 psšw m ḥwnw | shrr m jr ³hw

Ne B1 the arbitrator is a cheat, | the appeaser is causing misery,

Pa B1  281

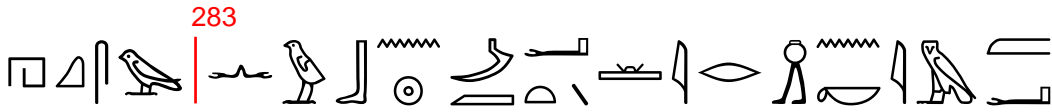
Ne B1 stwlt m jr mnt

Ne B1 and he who should mitigate is causing suffering.

Pa B1  282

Ne B1 jw sjt | sšrr=f m³t mḥ nfr

Ne B1 Cheating | diminishes justice, so render good account,

Pa B1  283

Ne B1 n hqs | n wbn m³t

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 ʿq³

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

Ne B2 ¹³ jw gs n | ʿtpw=k r šdt=k

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

Pa B1  285

Ne B1 | jw ʾhw=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  288

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 ʿs=f

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

²⁸⁹
 Pa B1 |

²⁸⁹
 Ne B1 | ḥ³-mw m c=k

²⁸⁹
 Ne B1 | The sounding rod is in your hand,

Pa B1 |

Ne B1 | mj ht wn sp n mwy hpr(.w)

Ne B1 | a rod that makes waters accessible that have stayed behind (during low tide).

²⁹⁰
 Pa B1 |

²⁹⁰
 Ne B1 | jr c q dpt jw šd.tw=s 3q 3tpw=s n t3

²⁹⁰
 Ne B1 | If a ship goes down, it is looted and its cargo perishes on the ground

²⁹¹
 Pa B1 |

²⁹¹
 Ne B1 | hr mrywt nbt

²⁹¹
 Ne B1 | at every embankment.

Ne B2 | hr mryt nbt ¹⁴ | jw rh.tw

Ne B2 | at every embankment. | ¹⁴ It is known:

Pa B1 |

Ne B1 | jw=k sb3.tj jw=k wb3.tj jw=k ²⁹² | twt(.tj)

Ne B1 | You are educated, enlightened ²⁹² | and accomplished,

Pa B1 |

Ne B1 | n js n cwn jw=k jrr=k twtw bw-nb

Ne B1 | but not for cheating! You act the same as everyone,

²⁹³
 Pa B1

²⁹³
 Ne B1 | jw h3w=k m nwdw c'q3

²⁹³
 Ne B1 | and your environment is corrupt.

¹⁷
 Ne B2 jw h3w=k m nwdw | c'q3 n bw-nb

Ne B2 and every man in your environment is corrupt.

²⁹⁴
 Pa B1

²⁹⁴
 Ne B1 j3|tj n t3 r-dr=f

Ne B1 Molester of the entire land!

Pa B1

Ne B1 k3ny n bw-h3rw hr ²⁹⁵ | ntf h3p=f m jwyt

Ne B1 The cultivator of wickedness is ²⁹⁵ | watering his garden with

Pa B1

Ne B1 r shpr h3p=f ²⁹⁶ | m grg

Ne B1 evil, to make his garden grow ²⁹⁶ | with falsehood

Pa B1


Ne B1 r ntf jyt n dt

Ne B1 and to water everlasting doom.'

²⁹⁷
 Pa B1


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

²⁹⁷
 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^c 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^{3c}

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

Pa B1  302


Ne B1 m šnt j b=k n n=k st

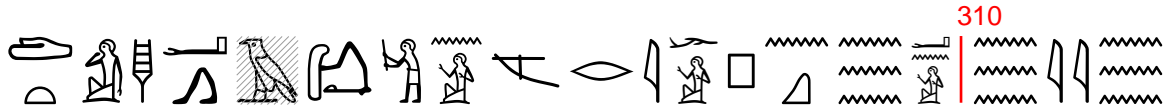
Ne B1 Don't be outrageous, it is not for you!

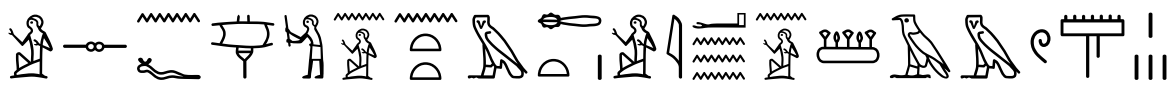
Pa B1  302


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

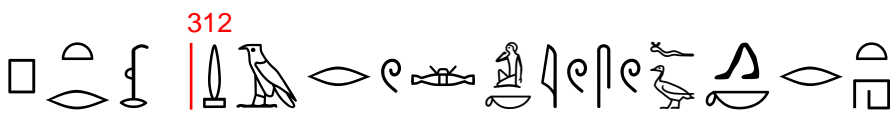
Ne B1 | One who was happy becomes anxious. Do not scheme for what has not yet come,


308
 Pa B1 
 Ne B1 | ngt pw m dnjt mw=s 3s(.w) wn | r3=j r mdt
 308
 Ne B1 | it is the breach of a dike, its waters pouring through, as my mouth opens to speak.


310
 Pa B1 
 Ne B1 | h3 3 h3.n=j mrj=j pnq.n=j | mwj=j
 310
 Ne B1 So, I have now plied my sounding rod, bailed | my water,


Pa B1 
 Ne B1 snf.n=j ntt m ht=j j3.n=j š3mw=j
 Ne B1 given vent to what was on my mind and washed my dirty linen.

311
 Pa B1 
 Ne B1 | hn=j hpr(.w) m3r=j dr(.w) hft-hr=k
 311
 Ne B1 | My speech is done and my misery has ended up before you,

312
 Pa B1 
 Ne B1 ptr | d3rw=k jw wsf=k r tht=k
 312
 Ne B1 what (more) | do you need? Your neglect will lead you astray,

313
 Pa B1 
 Ne B1 jw 3wn-jb=k | r sw3=k
 313
 Ne B1 your avarice | will befool you

Pa B1 
 Ne B1 jw snm=k r shpr hrwyw=k
 Ne B1 and your greed will make you acquire enemies.

314
 Pa B1 | 

314
 Ne B1 | jn-jw=k swt r gmt ky shtj mjt看=j

314
 Ne B1 | Will you even find another peasant like me?

315
 Pa B1 | 

315
 Ne B1 | jn-jw wsfw spry r ʕhʕ r rʔ n pr=f

315
 Ne B1 | Or will the lazy petitioner be waiting at the door of his house?

316
 Pa B1 | 

316
 Ne B1 | nn gr rdj.n=k mdw=f nn sdr rdj.n=k rs=f

316
 Ne B1 | There is none silent whom you let speak, none sleeping whom you roused,

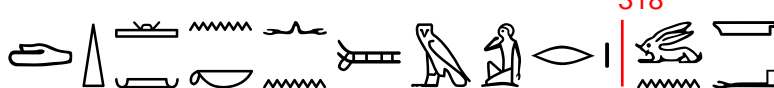
Ne B2 nn sdr srs.n=k

Ne B2 none sleeping whom you roused,

317
 Pa B1 | 

317
 Ne B1 | nn hbʔ hr sspd.n=k

317
 Ne B1 | none downcast whom you enlivened,

318
 Pa B1 | 

318
 Ne B1 nn tm rʔ | wn.n=k

Ne B1 none speechless whose mouth you opened,


Pa B1 | 

Ne B1 nn hm rdj.n=k rh=f nn whʔ sbʔ.n=k

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

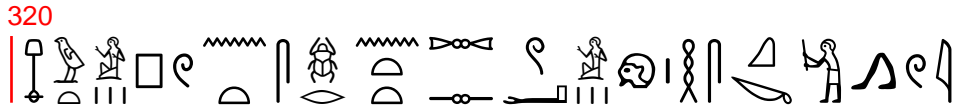
Ne B2 | hm sbʔ.n=k

Ne B2 | uneducated whom you instructed.

319
 Pa B1 | 

319
 Ne B1 | ḥsrw ḏwt pw srw nbw bw-nfr pw

319
 Ne B1 | Yet officials should be people who dispel injustice, lords of goodness,

320
 Pa B1 | 

320
 Ne B1 | ḥmwt pw nt shpr ntt ṯsw tp ḥsq

320
 Ne B1 | craftsmen in creating what is, people who mend a severed head.'

321
 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,

322
 Pa B1 | 

322
 Ne B1 | ḏd=f jmj-rʹ pr wr nb=j jw | ḥr.tw n ḥnt wʹ

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

Pa B1 | 


Ne B1 | jw ḥwn-jb šw=f m sp

Ne B1 A greedy man is without achievement,

323
 Pa B1 | 

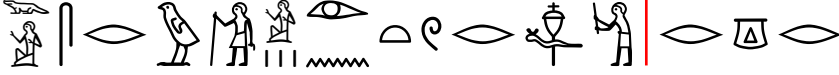
323
 Ne B1 | jw wn sp=f n wht jw ḥwn jb=k nn n=k st

323
 Ne B1 | he achieves only failure. You are greedy but it does nothing for you,

324
 Pa B1 | 

324
 Ne B1 | jw ḥwʹ=k | nn ʹh n=k

324
 Ne B1 | you steal | but it's of no benefit to you.

Pa B1  329

Ne B1 srw jr.n.tw r ḥsf | r grg 329

Ne B1 the officials who were appointed to eradicate | falsehood! 329

Pa B1 

Ne B1 n rdj.n snd=k spr n=k

Ne B1 And the fear of you wouldn't permit appealing to you?


Ne B2 n rdj.n snd=k spr=j | n=k 62

Ne B2 And the fear of you wouldn't permit me to appeal | to you? 62

Pa B1  330

Ne B1 n sjḏ.n=k jb=j gr | ḥnn sw 330

Ne B1 You do not perceive my heart! The humble man | who returns 330

Pa B1 

Ne B1 r jrt ṯst n=k n snd.n=f n twḏ n=f st

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


Ne B2 | r jrt ṯst=f n snd.n=k n twḏ n=k st 63

Ne B2 | to make his complaint, you cannot fear him who submits it to you. 63

Pa B1  331

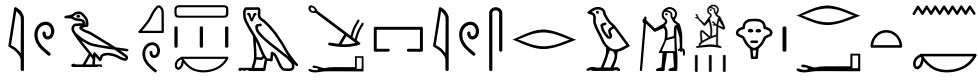
Ne B1 | n jn sn=f r=k m-ḥnw mrrt 331

Ne B1 | though no brother of his can be fetched to side against you in the street. 331

Pa B1  332

Ne B1 jw ḏ šdww=k m sḥt | jw fqḏ=k m spṯ 332

Ne B1 Your plots of land are in the country, | your earnings are in the estate 332

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw ^cqw=k m šn^c jw srw ḥr rdjt n=k

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

Ne B2 ⁶⁷ | ḥr rdjt jn n=k

Ne B2 ⁶⁷ | are giving gifts to you,

Pa B1 ³³³ 

Ne B1 ³³³ | jw=k ḥr jtt jn-jw=k m ^cwȝy jw sḏ.tw n=k

Ne B1 ³³³ | and you are still robbing. Are you a thief? People are ushered in to you,

Ne B2 ⁶⁸ jn-jw=k rf | m ^cwȝy jn-jw sḏ.tw n=k

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


Pa B1 

Ne B1 ³³⁴ | skw ḥn^c=k r psšt šdwwt

Ne B1 ³³⁴ | troops being with you, for the division of plots of land.

Ne B2 ⁶⁹ skw | ḥn^c=k r psšt m šdwwt

Ne B2 ⁶⁹ troops | being with you, for the division of plots of land?

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jr m³ct n ³³⁵ | nb m³ct

Ne B1 Do justice for ³³⁵ | the Lord of Justice,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ntj wn m³ct nt m³ct=f

Ne B1 whose justice has justice!

Pa B1  343

Ne B1 tp-ḥsb pw n mdw-ntr jn jwsw | pw 343

Ne B1 This is the norm of the divine word. If it is a 'hand'-balance,

Ne B2 tp-ḥsb n mdw-ntr

Ne B2 The norm of the divine word:

Pa B1  344

Ne B1 n g{s}n=f jn mhꜣt | pw 344

Ne B1 then it is not crooked. If it is a 'stand'-balance,

Pa B1  345

Ne B1 n rdj.n=s ḥr gs mk wj | r jwt mk ky r jwt 345

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

Pa B1 

Ne B1 wšd=k

Ne B1 so you should inquire!

Pa B1  346 347

Ne B1 | m wšbw m wšd | gr/w 346 347

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

Pa B1  348

Ne B1 m ph ntj n ph.n=f n | sf.n=k n mn.n=k 348

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

Pa B1  349

Ne B1 n sksk|.n=k

Ne B1 you do not destroy,

Ne B2 n bh³.n=k

Ne B2 you do not flee,

Pa B1  350

Ne B1 n rdj.n=k n=j ḏb³w n mdt | tn nfrt

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

Pa B1  351

Ne B1 prrt m r³ n R^c ḏs=f

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

Pa B1  351

Ne B1 | ḏd m³ᶜt jr m³ᶜt ḏr-ntt wr sj

Ne B1 | Speak justice and do justice! For it is mighty,

Ne B2 | jr rk n=j m³ᶜt

Ne B2 | Do justice to me!

Pa B1  352

Ne B1 | ᶑ sj w³ḥ sj gmw.tw kft=s

Ne B1 | it is great, it is enduring, one will find its trustworthiness,


Pa B1 ³⁵³  ³⁵⁴ 

Ne B1 | sbw=s r jm³h jn gs³ | jwsw

Ne B1 | it will lead to blessedness. Can a balance be crooked

Ne B2 n gs³ jwsw

Ne B2 A balance cannot be crooked

Pa B1 

Ne B1 hnkww=f pw ³⁵⁵ | fyw jhw

Ne B1 when it is its pans that weigh things?

Pa B1 

Ne B1 n hpr.n ³⁵⁶ prlw n tp-hsb

Ne B1 There can be no excess of rectitude.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 n spr.n sp hs r ³⁵⁷ | {r} dmj

Ne B1 An evil deed cannot reach ³⁵⁷ | harbour,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 hrj-s³ r s³h t³

Ne B1 but the hindermost will reach land.'

Pa B2 ⁹¹ 

Ne B2 | jw.jn rf shtj 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 | $\ddot{d}d=f$ jmj-r³ pr wr nb=j mh³t pw nt | rmt₁ ns=sn

Ne B2 | and said: 'High steward, my lord, the tongue of people is their 'stand'-balance,

Pa B2 


Ne B2 jn jws₁w d₁r | d₁t

Ne B2 and it is the 'hand'-balance that detects | deficiency

Pa B2 

Ne B2 jrr h₁sf₁t r h₁sf₁w n=f

Ne B2 and inflicts punishment on him who ought to be punished.

Pa B2 

Ne B2 sn.tw tp-h₁sb r=k | [...] grg h₁pr h₁rt=f

Ne B2 One sets the standard after you. | Falsehood [...] when its need arises,

Pa B2  

Ne B2 | ⁹⁶ c₁nn sj m³t r c₁q³=f | ⁹⁷ grg m³t

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

Pa B2 

Ne B2 sw³d=f pw n nw.tw=f

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

Pa B2 

Ne B2 | jr šm grg jw=f tnm=f


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

Pa B2  99

Ne B2 n | d̄.n=f m mhnt n sšš.n=f¹

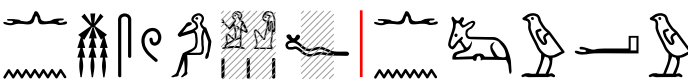
Ne B2 It cannot cross in a ferry and it cannot row.

¹ Restored as proposed in the note by Parkinson (1991).

Pa B2  100

Ne B2 | jr hwd {h} hr=f

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

Pa B2  101

Ne B2 nn msw=f | nn jw^cww=f tp t̄

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

Pa B2  102

Ne B2 jr sqdd | hr=f n s̄h.n=f t̄

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 

114

Ne B2 mk wj hr spr

114

| n=k n sdm.n=k st

Ne B2 Look, I am pleading with

114

| you but you do not hear it.

Pa B2 

115

Ne B2 jw=j r šmt spr=j

115

| hr=k n Jnpw

Ne B2 I will go and plead

115

| concerning you with Anubis.'

Pa B2 

116

Ne B2 rdj.jn jmj-r³ pr wr

116

| Mrw s³ Rnsj šm jmj-s³ 2 r cⁿ n=f

Ne B2 Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent two guards to bring him back.

Pa B2 

117

Ne B2

117

| wn.jn štj pn snd(.w)

Ne B2

117

| And this peasant was afraid,

Pa B2 

118

Ne B2 jb=f jrr.tw

118

| r hsf n=f

Ne B2 thinking it was done

118

| to punish him

Pa B2 

Ne B2 hr mdt tn ddt.n=f

dd.jn štj pn

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

119
 Pa B2 |

119
 Ne B2 | ḥsfw n jb m mw

119
 Ne B2 | 'A thirsty man's approach of water,

120
 Pa B2 |

120
 Ne B2 | ḏt rʿ n ḥrd n sbnt m jrṯt

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

121
 Pa B2 |

121
 Ne B2 | ntf mwt n nḥy mʿ=f n jy=f

121
 Ne B2 | such is death for him who prays to see it come

122
 Pa B2 |

122
 Ne B2 | jj wdf mwt=f r=f

122
 Ne B2 | when his death comes tardily for him.'

123
 Pa B2 |


123
 Ne B2 | ḏd.jn jmj-rʿ pr wr Mrw sʿ Rnsj m snd ṣḥtj


Ne B2 Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, said: 'Don't be afraid, peasant!'


124
 Pa B2 |


124
 Ne B2 | mk jrr=k r jrt ḥn^c=j rdj.jn ṣḥtj pn ḥn ḥr

124
 Ne B2 Look, | you will arrange the matter with me.' But this peasant swore | an oath:

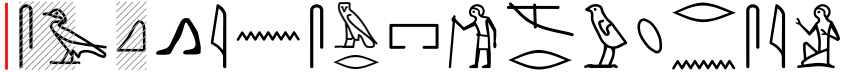
Pa B2  126
 Ne B2 wnm=j 3 m t=k swr=j 3 | [ḥnqt]=k r nḥḥ
 Ne B2 'So I will eat your bread and drink | your [beer] forever!'

Pa B2  127
 Ne B2 ḏd.n jmj-r3 pr wr | Mrw s3 Rnsj s3 grt 3
 Ne B2 The high steward Rensi, son of Meru, said: 'Now wait here'

Pa B2  128
 Ne B2 | sdm=k n3y=k n sprwt
 Ne B2 | and hear your petitions!'

Pa B2  129
 Ne B2 rdj.jn=f šd.tw | ḥr 3rt m3t sprt nbt
 Ne B2 And from a new papyrus roll he had every petition read out

Pa B2  130
 Ne B2 r ḥrt[=s]
 Ne B2 according to [its] content.

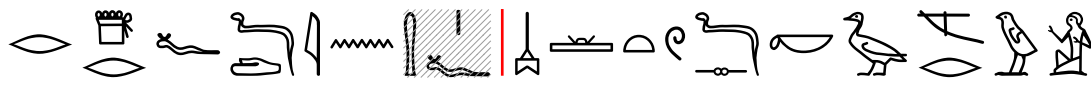
Pa B2  131
 Ne B2 | s3q.jn sj jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj
 Ne B2 | Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, delivered them

Pa B2  131
 Ne B2 | n ḥm n nsw-bjtj Nb-k3w-R3 m33-ḥrw
 Ne B2 | to the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Nebkaure, justified,

132
 Pa B2 

132
 Ne B2 wn.jn nfr st hr jb=f | r jht nbt ntt m t3 pn r-dr=f

132
 Ne B2 and they pleased his heart | more than anything in this entire land.

133
 Pa B2 


133
 Ne B2 dd.jn hm=f | wd^c tw ds=k s3 Mrw

133
 Ne B2 Then His Majesty said: | 'Pass judgement yourself, son of Meru!'

134
 Pa B2 


134
 Ne B2 rdj.jn jmj-r3 pr wr | Mrw s3 Rnsj šm jmj-s3 2 r [jnt Nmtj-nht]

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

135
 Pa B2 

135
 Ne B2 | ^ch.n=f jn(.w) jr wpwt m [...]

135
 Ne B2 | Then he was brought and an inventory was made of [...]

136
 Pa B2 

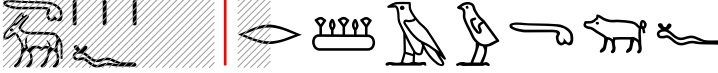
136
 Ne B2 | ^ch.n gm.n=f tpw 6

136
 Ne B2 | He found six persons

137
 Pa B2 


137
 Ne B2 hrw-r [...] | r šm^c=f r btj=f r 3w=f

137
 Ne B2 as well as [...] | his barley, his emmer, his donkeys,

138
 Pa B2 

138
 Ne B2 | r šw=f r r^cwt[=f] [...]

138
 Ne B2 | his swine, [his] small cattle, [...]

139 140
 Pa B2 


139 140
 Ne B2 [...] | Nmtj-nht pn n shtj pn [...] [...] | [...] =f nbt [...]

139 140
 Ne B2 [...] | this Nemtinakht [...] to this peasant [...] [...] | [...] all his [...]

141
 Pa B2 

141
 Ne B2 [...] | n Nmtj-nht pn [...]

141
 Ne B2 [...] | of this Nemtinakht [...]

142
 Pa B2 

142
 Ne B2 | jw=f pw [h^t=f r p^hwj=fj mj gmyt m sš]

142
 Ne B2 | This was copied [from start to finish as found in writing].