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"The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant"

Notes

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The pages are numbered so that, in Winglyph format, each page of hieroglyphs fits on an A4 sheet.

Lines with numbers in round brackets (...) are from de Buck's Readingbook. The new numbering system, in square brackets [...], and additional lines, are from Parkinson's book.
Both old and new line numbering are included at the top of each page.

Headings are included for each petition.

I have put spaces between sentences and/or phrases that do not exist in the original text. This is a guide only to help recognise the constructions.

The story has survived in four incomplete manuscripts.
B1 Papyrus Berlin 3023
B2 Papyrus Berlin 3025
Bt Papyrus Butler = BM 10274
R Papyrus Ramesseum A = Berlin 10499

I am mostly following B1, with some of R at the beginning, and B2 at the end, and have added some individual words in brackets < > from R, Bt and B2, where I thought they might fill out the meaning.

For the word 'spr' - petition, I have replaced N11 with F42. When written in hieratic a quick penstroke looks like a simple line, even though the F42 sign was meant.

I was also tempted to change A17 to A21 for the determinative in 'srw' - officials, A21 being the correct hieroglyphic form, then I noticed there are actually four instances of A17 and four of A21 in the transcriptions of the text. The two signs are very similar in hieratic, but perhaps there's a reason for the difference.

Line number:
R(4) sf .. added from Parkinson [R,1.4]
R(4) #6 .. (at end of line) see Parkinson [R,1.4] note 5.b
R(6) kA anx=i - Parkinson [R,1.6]
R(16) de Buck uses three angled strokes which I took to be M33A, indicating that these are seed bearing plants, or perhaps even the seeds from the plants. Parkinson has them as plural markers.
R(38) {im} .. present in manuscript B1,18 and Bt,19, but not in R
R(39) For the name of Nemtynakht de Buck uses G26B-A24-A1, this has been changed to G7B-t:y-A24-A1. (According to Berlev, 1969)
R(42) {Hr} and {Dd=f} .. in B1,22 and Bt,24 (Parkinson- p.7,8)
R(43) {mnx} .. B1,23 and Bt,25 (P- p.8)
R(47) {wAt} .. {N31:t*Z1-f} in B1,27 {wA-A-t:N31} in Bt,31 (P- p.9)
R(49) {wn:n-i:n} .. B1,30 and Bt,34 (P- p.9)
B1(14) Sna - determinative uncertain. Parkinson has V37.
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B1(76) {in z nty r aqA=i} .. R,17.5
B1(80) {mdw=f} .. R,17.7
B1(82) --tA-- .. preceeded by uncertain traces. See Parkinson p.20, note 12.b
{i-t-Y1:Z2-p:r-x:D54-n:f-/#-Z1:f-r-tA:N23*Z1-n-#b-.-.-.-#e-H-n:a-sw-w:t}
B1[258] {mHyt} possible restoration. Parkinson p.33, note 11.a
B1(242) {nb Dw} .. inserted by be Buck.
B1[296] a plain circle in Parkinson.
B1[348] {n bhA n=k} .. B2,81

Back to Manuel de Codage of the Peasant

To Hieroglyphic text

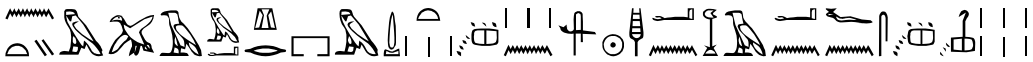
(This interlinear version borrows exclusively Mark-Jan Nederhof's scholarly text, Serge Rosmorduc's compact but powerful Jsesh, which exported all the one-line wmfs, and Jenny Carrington's accurate gifs, which helped me complete the MdC files. It pays to lurk and listen. MSS Nov 2006 *)*

Transliteration and translation for The Eloquent Peasant, following the transcription of Parkinson (1991). Consistently included are version R, up to 8.5, version B1, from 33 up to 357, and version B2, from 91. Sometimes other fragments of these three versions are included as well if they differ substantially from the main version. Alignment between these 3 versions and alignment with version B1 is occasionally, but not consistently, indicated.
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; Zonhoven (1992), pp. 271-272 (covers only the text up to B1 119). Also considered were the examples from Allen (2000), Gardiner (1957), Graefe (1994) and Loprieno (1995).

<1.1> ***s pw wn(.w) ^ḫw.n-^jnpw*** *Cf. p. 356 of Allen (2000).* ***rn=f*** ; <1.1> There was a man called Khunanup *Transcription following Parkinson (1997)..* ***sḫtj pw n sḫt-ḥmɜt*** ; He was a peasant of the Wadi Natrun,

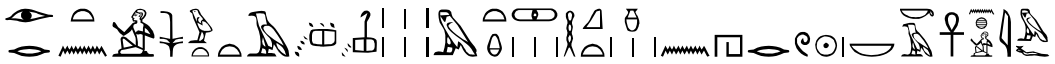
<1.2> ***jsṯ wn ḥmt=f mrt rn=s*** ; <1.2> and he had a wife called Meret *Transcription following Parkinson (1997)..* ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn n ḥmt=f tn*** ; This peasant said to this wife of his: ***mṯ wj m hɜt***

<1.3> ***r kmt*** ; `Look, I am going <1.3> to Egypt ***r jnt ʿḳw jm n ḫrdw=j*** ; to fetch provisions there for my children. ***šm swt ḫɜ n=j nɜ n jt*** ; Go and measure for me the barley



<1.4> ***ntj m pɜ mḫr m ḏɜt jt n sf*** ; <1.4> that is in the barn as the remainder of yesterday's barley.' ***ʿḥʿ.n ḫɜ.n=f n=s*** ; Then he measured for her ***jt ḥḳɜt 6*** ; six heqat of barley.

<1.5> ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn n ḥmt=f tn*** ; <1.5> Then this peasant said to this wife of his: ***mṯ*** **[...]** ***n=ṯ jt ḥḳɜt 2 r ʿḳw ḥnʿ ḫrdw=ṯ*** ; `Look, [...] two heqat of barley for rations to you and your children.



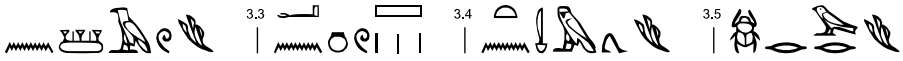
<1.6> ***jr r=ṯ n=j swt tɜ jt ḥḳɜt 6*** ; <1.6> But prepare for me the six heqat of barley ***m t ḥnḳt n hrw nb kɜ ʿnḫ=j jm=f*** ; as bread and beer for every day, so that I shall live on it.'

<1.7> ***ḥ3t pw jr.n sḫtj pn r kmt*** ; <1.7> Then this peasant left for Egypt, ***3ṯp.n=f ꜥ3w=f*** ; after he had loaded his donkeys

<2.1> ***m j33*** ; <2.1> with vine *Uncertain*., <2.2> ***rdmt*** ; <2.2> purple nutsedge *Uncertain.,* <2.3> ***ḥsmn*** ; <2.3> natron,

<2.4> ***ḥm3t*** ; <2.4> salt, <2.5> ***ḫtw*** [...] ; <2.5> sticks from [...], <2.6> ***ꜥwnwt nt t3-jḥw*** ; <2.6> pieces of wood from Farafra,

<2.7> ***ḫnwt nt b3w*** ; <2.7> hides of panthers, <3.1> ***ḫ3wt nt wnšw*** ; <3.1> skins of golden jackals,



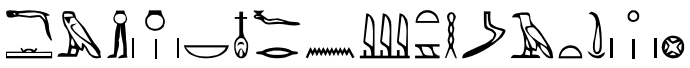
<3.2> ***nš3w*** ; <3.2> pondweed, <3.3> ***ꜥnw*** ; <3.3> anw-stone, <3.4> ***tnm*** ; <3.4> tnm-plants, <3.5> ***ḫpr-wr*** ; <3.5> wild carrot*Uncertain*.,

<3.6> ***s3hwt*** ; <3.6> serpentine *Uncertain*., <3.7> ***s3kswt*** ; <3.7> ???, <4.1> ***mjswt*** ; <4.1> mjswt-plants, <4.2> ***snt*** ; <4.2> ochre*Uncertain*.,

<4.3> [...] ; <4.3> [...], <4.4> ***jbs3*** ; <4.4> wild mint *Uncertain*., <4.5> ***jnbj*** ; <4.5> hedge plants, <4.6> ***mnw*** ; <4.6> pigeons *Uncertain*.,

<4.7> ***nꜥrww*** ; <4.7> narw-birds, <5.1> ***wgsw*** ; <5.1> gutted fish and plucked fowl, <5.2> ***wbn*** ; <5.2> wbn-plants, <5.3> ***tbsw*** ; <5.3> tbsw-shrubs,

<5.4> ***gngnt*** ; <5.4> gngnt-beans, <5.5> ***šnj-t3*** ; <5.5> fenugreek *Following Faulkner (1962); not confirmed by Hannig (1995).,* <5.6> ***jnst*** ; <5.6> and anise *Uncertain*.;



<6.1> ***mḥ(.w) m jnw nb nfr n sḫt-ḥm3t*** ; <6.1> abound with all good products of the Wadi Natrun.

<6.2> ***šmt pw jr.n sḫtj pn m ḫntyt***

<6.3> ***r nnj-nsw*** ; <6.2> This peasant then went south <6.3> to Heracleopolis, ***spr pw jr.n=f r w n pr-***

<6.4>***ffj*** ; and he arrived in the district of Per-Fefi *Transcription following Parkinson (1997).,* ***r mḥtj mdnjt*** ; to the north of Mednit. ***gm.n=f s im***

<6.5> ***ʿḥʿ(.w) ḥr mryt*** ; He came across a man <6.5> standing on the embankment. ***nmtj-nḫt rn=f*** ; His name was Nemtinakht *Transcription following Parkinson (1997).* ***s3 s pw***

<6.6> ***jsry rn=f*** ; and he was the son of a man <6.6> called Isry*Transcription following Parkinson (1997)..* ***ḏt pw nt jmj-r3 pr wr***

<6.7> ^***mrw s3 ^rnsj*** ; These were liegemen of the high steward <6.7> Rensi *Transcription following Parkinson (1997).,* son of Meru *Transcription following Parkinson (1997)..* ***ḏd.jn ^nmtj-nḫt pn m33=f***

<7.1> ***ʿ3w n sḫtj pn*** ; And this Nemtinakht said, when he saw <7.1> the donkeys of this peasant***,*** ***ʿ3byw jb=f*** ; which were desirable to his heart: ***ḏd=f***

<7.2> *ḥ3 n=j šsp nb ʿw3=j ḥnw n*

<7.3> *sḫtj pn jm=f* ; <7.2> `Would that I had some divine image with which I could rob the goods of <7.3> this peasant!' *jsṯ rf pr ^nmtj-nḫt pn ḥr sm3-t3*

<7.4> *n r3-w3t* ; Now, the house of this Nemtinakht was at a waterside path *ḥns pw n wsḫ js pw* ; that was narrow, it was not broad:

<7.5> *ḳnn=f r sḫw n d3jw* ; <7.5> it measured the width of a loincloth. *jw w3t=f wʿt*

<7.6> *ḥr mw* ; Its one side <7.6> was under water, *kt ḥr jt* ; the other under barley. *ḏd.jn ^nmtj-nḫt pn n šmsw=f* ; This Nemtinakht then said to a servant of his: *js*

<7.7> *jn n=j jfd m pr=j* ; `Hurry, <7.7> and bring me a cape from my house!' *jn.jn.tw=f n=f ḥr-ʿ* ; And it was brought to him immediately.

<8.1> *ʿḥʿ.n sš.n=f sw ḥr sm3-t3 n r3-w3t* ; <8.1> Then he spread it out on the waterside path, *wn.in*

<8.2> *ḫnn sdb=f ḥr mw npnpt=f*

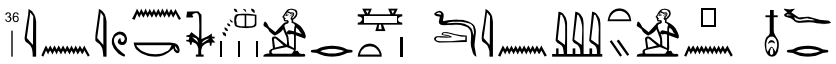
<8.3> *ḥr jt* ; <8.2> so that its hem came to rest on the water, and its selvedge <8.3> on the barley. *šmt pw jr.n sḫtj pn ḥr w3t*

<8.4> ***nt rmṯt nbt*** ; And this peasant came on the public path. ***ḏd.jn ^nmtj-nḫt pn*** ; This Nemtinakht then said: ***jr hrw***

<8.5> ***sḫtj*** ; `Beware, <8.5> peasant, *version = B1* <33> ***n ḫnd=k ḥr ḥbsw=j*** ; <33> you will not step on my clothes!' ***ḏd.jn sḫtj***

<34> ***pn*** ; And this peasant said: ***jry=j ḥst=k nfr mṯn=j*** ; `I shall do what you wish; my way is good.'

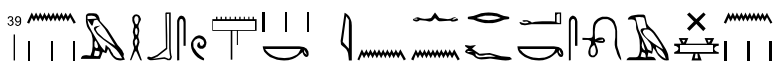
<35> ***prt pw jr.n=f r ḥrw*** ; <35> And he went up higher. ***ḏd.jn ^nmtj-nḫt pn*** ; Then this Nemtinakht said:



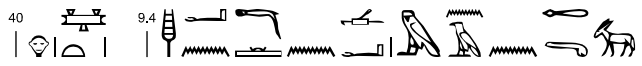
<36> ***jn-jw n=k šmˁ=j r wꜣt*** ; <36> `Is my Upper-Egyptian barley to be a path for you?' ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn*** ; And this peasant said: ***nfr***

<37> ***mṯnw=j*** ; `My ways <37> are good; ***jḫmt ḳꜣ.tj m***

<38>***ṯnw ḫr šmˁ*** ; the bank is steep, and the ways <38> are under barley ***ḥn=k rf wꜣt{t}***



<39>=***n m ḥbsw=k*** ; for you block our path <39> with your clothes! ***jn nn rf ḏj=k swꜣ=n***



<40> ***ḥr wꜣt*** ; Will you then not allow us to pass <40> on the path?' *version = R* ***pḥ.n=f rf ḏd <9.4> mdt*** **[...]** ; As he had finished saying **[<*9.4*> [...]** words,] *version = B1* ***ḥꜥ.n mḥ.n wꜥ m nꜣ n ꜥꜣ***

<41> ***rꜣ=f m bꜣt nt šmꜥ*** ; Then one of the donkeys filled <41> its mouth with a wisp of barley. ***ḏd.jn ^nmtj-nḫt pn*** ; And this Nemtinakht said:

<42> ***mk wj r nḥm ꜥꜣ=k sḫtj*** ; <42> `Look, I shall take away your donkey, peasant, ***ḥr***

<43> ***wnm=f šmꜥ=j*** ; because <43> it ate my barley. *version = R* ***mk ḥm ꜥꜣ=k*** <9.6> ***ḥr wnm jt=j*** ; `[But look, your donkey <9.6> is eating my barley!] *version = B1* ***mk sw r hbt ḥr ḳn=f*** ; It will tread (grain) for its offence.'

<44> ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn*** ; <44> This peasant then said: ***nfr mṯnw=j*** ; `My ways are good! ***wꜥt***

<45> ***ḥḏ.tw=s*** *What Parkinson (1991;1997) reads as 10 is here taken as* ***=s. jnn=j ꜥꜣ=j ḥr šnꜥ 10*** ; A single thing <45> has been destroyed; I will buy my donkey back for 10 times the value ***jṯ=k sw***

<46> ***ḥr mḥw n rꜣ=f m bꜣt nt šmꜥ*** ; if you take it away <46> for filling its mouth with a wisp of barley. ***jw=j grt***

<47> ***rḫ.kw nb n spꜣt tn*** ; Now, I <47> know the lord of this district; ***nj sj jmj-rꜣ pr wr ^mrw sꜣ***

<48> ^*rnsj* ; it belongs to the high steward Rensi, son of Meru. ***ntf grt ḫsf ꜥw3 nb m t3 pn r-***

<49>***ḏr=f*** ; He is the one who restrains every thief in this entire land. ***jn ꜥw3.tw=j rf m sp3t=f*** ; Shall I now be robbed in his district?' ***ḏd.jn ^nmtj-nḫt***

<50> ***pn*** ; Then this Nemtinakht <50> said: ***jn p3 pw ḫn n mdt ḏdw rmṯ*** ; `Is this not the proverb that people say:

<51> ***dm.tw rn n ḥwrw ḥr nb=f*** ; <51> ``One mentions the name of a commoner only on account of his lord."? ***jnk***

<52> ***pw mdw n=k jmj-r3 pr wr pw sḫ3y=k*** ; I <52> am the one who is speaking to you, and it is the high steward whom you are referring to.'

<53> ***ꜥḥꜥ.n ṯ3.n=f n=f j33yt nt jsr w3ḏ***

<54> ***r=f***; <53> Then, he took a rod of fresh tamarisk <54> to him, ***ꜥḥꜥ.n ꜥ3g=f ꜥt=f nb jm=s*** ; and he thrashed all his limbs with it, ***nḥm ꜥ3w=f***

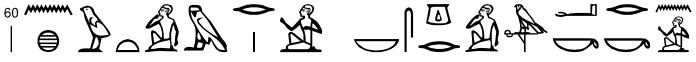
<55> ***sꜥḳ r sp3t=f*** ; took his donkeys away <55> and drove them to his district. ***wn.jn sḫtj pn ḥr***

<56> ***rmyt ꜥ3w wrt*** ; Then this peasant proceeded to <56> wail very loudly ***n-mr-n jrryt r=f*** ; on account of the wickedness of what was done to him.

<57> ***ḏd.jn*** *The X1 at this position in Parkinson (1991) is an erratum, confirmed by p.c. with the author on Sep 4 2000.* ***^nmtj-nḫt pn*** ; <57> But this Nemtinakht then said: ***m ḳ3 ḫrw=k sḫtj*** ; `Do not raise your voice, peasant,

<58> ***mk ṯw r dmj n nb sgr*** ; <58> or you will go to the abode of the Lord of Silence.' ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn***

<59> ***ḥw=k wj ʿw3=k ḥnw=j*** ; Then this peasant said: <59> `You beat me, you steal my goods, ***nḥm=k rf***



<60> ***nḫwt m r3=j*** ; and you even deprive me of <60> the lament from my mouth! ***nb sgr ḏj=k rk n=j***

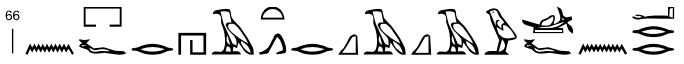
<61> ***jḫt=j*** ; Lord of Silence, may you give me back <61> my things, ***jḫ tm=j sbḥ nr=k*** ; so that I need not scream to startle you.' *version = R* <12.3> ***nrw=k*** ; <12.3> to Your Fearsomeness.' *version = B1*

<62> ***jr.jn sḫtj pn ʿḥʿw {10} r hrw 10*** ; <62> Then this peasant spent a period of 10 days ***ḥr spr n***

<63> ***^nmtj-nḫt pn*** ; pleading with <63> this Nemtinakht, ***n rḏj=f m3ʿ=f r=s*** ; but he did not pay attention to it. ***šmt pw***

<64> ***jr.n sḫtj pn*** ; This peasant then went *version = R* <12.5> [***šmt pw***] ***jr.n sḫtj pn m ḫntyt r ^nnj-nsw*** <12.6> ; <12.5> This peasant then went south to Heracleopolis <12.6> version = B1 ***r ^nnj-nsw r spr n*** ; to Heracleopolis in order to plead with ***jmj-r3 pr wr***

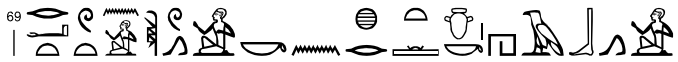
<65> ^*mrw sꜣ ^rnsj* ; the high steward <65> Rensi, son of Meru. ***gm.n=f sw ḥr prt m sbꜣ***



<66> ***n pr=f*** ; He found him emerging from the door <66> of his house, ***r hꜣt r ḳꜣḳꜣw=f n ꜥrr***

<67>***yt*** ; to step into his official boat. ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn*** ; And this peasant said: ***ḥꜣ rḏj.tw swḏꜣ***

<68>=***j jb=k*** ; `May I be allowed to inform you ***ḥr pꜣ ḫn n mdt*** ; about this grievance. ***sp pw***



<69> ***rḏj.tw jwt n=j šmsw=k n ḫrt-jb=k*** ; Perhaps <69> one may have a servant of your choice come to me, ***hꜣb=j***

<70> ***n=k sw ḥr=s*** ; so that I may have him report to you about it.' ***rḏj jn jmj-rꜣ pr wr ^mrw sꜣ ^rnsj*** ; And the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, had

<71> ***šm šmsw=f n ḫrt-jb=f tp-jm=f*** ; <71> a servant of his choice go to him, ***hꜣb***

<72> ***sw sḫtj pn*** ; and this peasant had him report back ***ḥr mdt tn mj ḳj***

<73>=***s nb*** ; about this entire matter. ***wn.jn jmj-rꜣ pr wr ^mrw sꜣ ^rnsj ḥr srḫt*** ; Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, accused

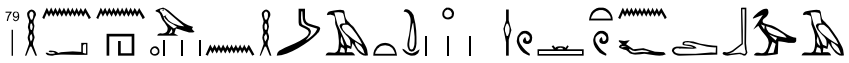
<74> ^***nmtj-nḫt pn n srw ntj r-gs=f*** ; <74> this Nemtinakht to the officials who were with him. ***ḏd.jn=sn***

<75> ***n=f*** ; But then they said <75> to him: ***smwn sḫtj=f pw jw n ky r-gs=f*** ; `Perhaps it is a peasant of his who went to someone else beside him.

<76> ***mk jrrt=sn pw r sḫtjw=sn*** ; <76> Look, that is what they do to peasants of theirs ***jww n***

<77> ***kt-ḫt r-gs=sn*** ; who have gone to <77> others beside them. ***mk jrrt=sn pw*** ; That is what they do. ***sp pw n***

<78> ***ḫsf.tw n ^nmtj-nḫt pn*** ; Is this a cause for <78> punishing this Nemtinakht, ***ḥr nh n ḥsmn***

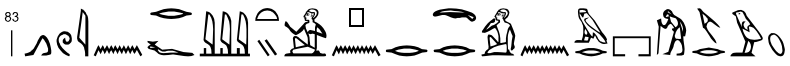


<79> ***ḥnꜥ nh n ḥmɜt*** ; on account of a little natron <79> and a little salt? ***wḏ.tw n=f ḏbɜ***

<80> ***st ḏbɜ=f st*** ; If he is ordered to replace <80> it, then he will replace it.' ***gr pw jr.n***

<81> ***jmj-rɜ pr wr ^mrw sɜ ^rnsj*** ; But the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, remained silent. ***n wšb=f***

<82> ***n nn n srw*** ; He did not answer <82> these officials, ***nn wšb=f n sḫtj pn*** ; nor did he answer this peasant.

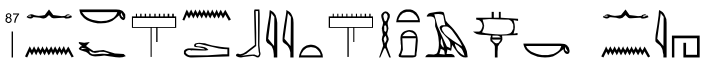


<83> ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn*** ; <83> Then this peasant came ***r spr n jmj-r3 pr wr ^mrw s3***

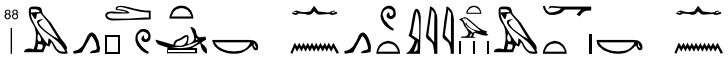
<84> ^***rnsj*** ; to plead with the high steward Rensi, son of Meru. *version = R* <14.1> ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn r spr n=f sp tpj*** ; <14.1> Then this peasant came to plead with him for the first time. *version = B1* ***ḏd=f jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j wr n wrw*** ; He said: `High steward, my lord, greatest of the great, *version = R* <14.2> ***jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j wr nb wrw*** ; <14.2> `High steward, my lord, great one, lord of the great, *version = B1*

<85> ***sšmw n jwtt ntt*** ; <85> leader of all that is not and all that is, ***jr h3=k r š n***

<86> ***m3ʿt*** ; if you go down to the Lake of <86> Truth, ***sḳd=k jm=f m m3ʿw*** ; you will sail on it with a fair wind,



<87> ***nn kf ndbyt ḥt3=k*** ; <87> the bunt will not strip away your sail, ***nn jh***

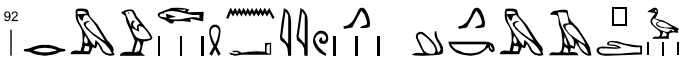


<88>***m dpwt=k*** ; your ship will not lag, ***nn jwt jyt m ḫt=k*** ; no disaster will befall your rudder stock***, nn***

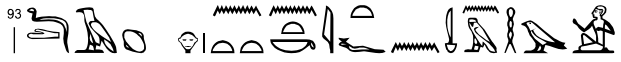
<89> ***sw3 sgrgw=k*** ; your yards will not break, ***nn sḫm=k ḥ3ʿʿ=k ḥr t3*** ; you will not founder when you land,

<90> ***nn jṯ ṯw nwt*** ; <90> no wave will carry you off, ***nn dp=k ḏwt***

<91> ***nt jtrw*** ; you will not taste the evil <91> of the river, ***nn mȝ=k ḥr snḏ*** ; you will not see the face of fear, ***jw n=k***



<92> ***rmw šnʿyw*** ; but shy fish will come to you ***pḥ=k m ȝpd***



<93> ***ḏdȝ*** ; and you will catch fatted fowl. ***ḥr ntt ntk jt n nmḥ*** ; For you are a father to the orphan,

<94> ***hȝj n ḫȝrt*** ; <94> a husband to the widow, ***sn n wḏʿt*** ; a brother to the divorced ***šnḏyt***

<95> ***nt jwtw mwt=f*** ; and an apron <95> to the motherless. ***jm jry=j rn=k m***

<96> ***tȝ pn r ḥp nb nfr*** ; Let me make your name in <96> this land according to every good rule: ***sšmw šw***

<97> ***m ʿwn-jb*** ; leader free <97> of greed, wr ***šw m nḏyt*** ; great one free of arrogance,

<98> ***sḥtm grg sḫpr mȝʿt*** ; <98> destroyer of falsehood, creator of truth, ***jj ḥr***

<99> ***ḫrw ḏḏ-rȝ*** ; one who comes at <99> the voice of the caller. *version = R* [***jm bw-ḏw r*** <16.3> ***tȝ*** ; Cast evil on <16.3> the ground!] *version = B1* ***ḏd=j sḏm=k*** ; I speak so that you will hear. ***jr mȝʿt*** ; Do justice, ***ḥs-***

<100>-***y ḥss ḥsyw*** ; praised one whom the praised praise! ***dr sȝ***

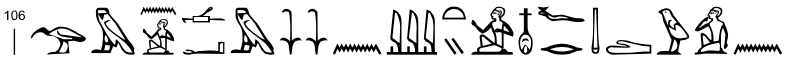
<101>[***r***] ; Relieve the distress, *version = R* <16.5> ***dr sȝr=j*** ; <16.5> Relieve my distress, *version = B1* ***mk wj ȝṯp.kw*** ; for I am burdened! *version = R* <16.6> ***ȝṯp.kw*** [***m***] ***jʿnw*** ; <16.6> laden with sorrow ***mk wj*** <16.7> ***fn.kw ḥr=f*** ; and <16.7> faint from it! *version = B1* ***jp***

<102> ***wj mk wj m nhw*** ; Examine <102> me, I am at a loss!' *version = R* <16.8> ***m ȝhw*** ; <16.8> in distress!' *version = B1* ***jsṯ rf***

<103> ***ḏd.n sḫtj pn mdt tn*** ; Now, <103> this peasant said these words ***m rk ḥm n nsw-bjtj***

<104> ^***nb-kȝw-^rʿ mȝʿ-ḫrw*** ; in the time of the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt <104> Nebkaure, justified. ***šmt pw jr.n jmj-rȝ pr wr***

<105> ^***mrw sȝ ^rnsj*** ; The high steward Rensi, son of Meru, then went ***tp-m ḥm=f ḏd=f*** ; before His Majesty and said: ***nb=j jw***



<106> ***gm.n=j wʿ m nn n sḫtj nfr mdw n***

<107> ***wn-mȝʿ*** ; `My lord, <106> I have found one of these peasants who is truly eloquent. ***ʿwȝ ḥnw=f*** ; His goods have been stolen *version = R* <17.5> ***jn s ntj r ʿḳȝ=j*** ; <17.5> by a man who is my peer, *version = B1* ***mk***

<108> ***sw jw.w r spr n=j ḥr=s*** ; and <108> he has come to plead with me about it.'

<109> ***ḏd.jn ḥm=f*** ; <109> And His Majesty said: ***m mrr=k mȝ=j snb.kw*** ; As you wish to see me in health, ***swḏf=k sw***

<110> ***ʿȝ*** ; you will delay him <110> here ***nn wšb r ḏdt=f nbt*** ; without answering anything he says. ***jn-mrwt wn=f***

<111> ***ḥr ḏd gr*** ; So that he keeps <111> speaking, remain silent. ***jḫ jn.tw n=n m sš sḏm=n st*** ; Then it will be brought to us in writing so that we may hear it. *version = R* ***n-mrwt jn.tw n=n mdw=f m sš*** ; so that his speech will be brought to us in writing. *version = B1*

<112> ***jr swt ʿnḫ ḥmt=f ḥnʿ ḫrdw=f*** ; <112> But provide sustenance for his wife and children. *version = R* ***jr swt ʿnḫ ḥmt sḫtj pn*** ; But provide sustenance for the wife of this peasant *version = B1* ***mk jw wʿ m nȝ***

<113> ***n sḫtj r šwt pr=f r tȝ*** ; That one of these peasants comes to Egypt is because his house is empty. ***jr grt ʿnḫ sḫtj pn***

<114> ***m-ḫʿw=f*** ; Furthermore, provide sustenance for this peasant <114> himself. *version = R* <18.4> [...] [***ḥnʿ swt jrt ʿn***<18.5>***ḫ sḫtj pn ḥr ḫʿw=f*** ; <18.4> [...] Furthermore, provide sustenance for this peasant himself. *version = B1*] ***wnn=k ḥr rḏjt ḏj.tw n=f ʿḳw*** ; You will let the provisions be given to him ***nn rḏjt rḫ=f*** ; without letting him know *version = R* ***nn rḫ=f*** ; without him knowing *version = B1*

<115> ***ntt ntk rḏj n=f st*** ; <115> that it is you who gave them to him.' *version = R* ***ḏḏ.tw n ḫnmsw[=f]*** <18.7> ***jn ḫnmsw=f ḏḏ n=f st*** ; They were given to friends of his, <18.7> and his friends gave them to him. *version = B1* ***wn.jn.tw ḥr rḏjt n=f t 10 ḥnḳt ds 2***

<116> ***rˁ nb*** ; And he was given ten loaves of bread and two jars of beer <116> every day. ***ḏḏ st jmj-rꜣ pr wr ^mrw sꜣ ^rnsj*** ; The high steward Rensi, son of Meru, gave them, ***ḏḏ=f st n ḫnms=f ntf***

<117> ***ḏḏ n=f st*** ; but he gave them to a friend of his, and it was he <117> who gave them to him. ***ḥˁ.n ḫꜣb.n jmj-rꜣ pr wr ^mrw sꜣ ^rnsj*** ; Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent a message ***n ḥḳꜣ-ḥwt n***

<118> ***^sḫt-ḥmꜣt*** ; to the mayor of <118> the Wadi Natrun ***ḥr jrt ˁḳw n ḥmt sḫtj pn*** ; about making provisions for the wife of this peasant, ***m jt ḥḳꜣt 3 rˁ nb*** ; consisting of three gallons of barley every day. *version = R* <19.4> ***wn.jn jmj-rꜣ pr wr ^mrw sꜣ ^rnsj ḥr rḏ***jt <19.5> ***ˁḳw*** ; <19.4> Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, gave <19.5> provisions ***n sḫtj pn m ḥnḳt [ds] [...]*** <19.6> ***t 50*** ; to this peasant, consisting of [...] [jars] of beer <19.6> and fifty loaves of bread. ***ḏḏ=f st n ḫnmsw=f*** ; He gave them to friends of his, <19.7> ***jn ḫnmsw=f ḏḏ n=f st*** ; <19.7> and his friends gave them to him. *version = B1*

<119> ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn r spr n=f sp 2*** ; <119> Then this peasant came to plead with him for a second time, *version = R* ***gm.n=f sw*** <20.2> ***m prt m [...]*** ; and found him <20.2> emerging from [...] *version = B1* ***ḏḏ=f jmj-rꜣ pr wr nb=j wr n wrw*** ; and said: `High steward, my lord, greatest of the great,

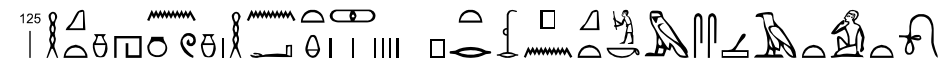
<120> ***ḫwd n ḫwdw*** ; <120> richest of the rich, ***ntj wn wr n wrw=f*** ; whose great ones have one greater, ***ḫwd***

<121> ***n ḫwdw=f*** ; whose rich ones have one richer, ***ḥmw n pt***

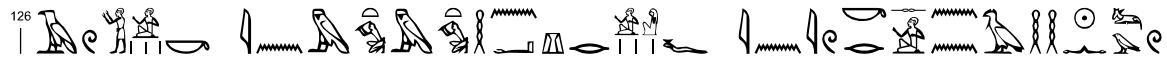
<122> ***sʒw n tʒ*** ; rudder of heaven, <122> beam of earth, ***ḫʒy fʒ wdnw*** ; plumb-line that carries the weight! ***ḥmw m sbn*** ; Rudder, do not deviate!

<123> ***sʒw m gsʒ*** ; <123> Beam, do not tilt! ***ḫʒy m jr nwdw*** ; Plumb-line, do not swing awry! ***nb wr***

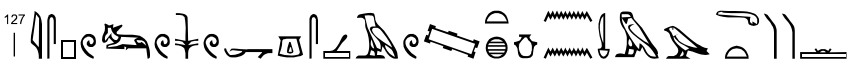
<124> ***ḥr jṯt m jwtt nb=s*** ; A great lord <124> takes what is without owner ***ḥr ḥʿḏʒ ḥr wʿ*** ; and robs only that. ***ḫrt=k m pr=k*** ; Your possessions are in your house.



<125> ***ḥnḳt hnw ḥnʿ t 3*** ; <125> Half a litre of beer and three loaves of bread, ***ptr pnḳt=k m ssʒt twʒ-***



<126>-***w=k*** ; what is it you expend to satisfy your dependants? ***jn mwt mwt ḥnʿ ḫrw=f*** ; A mortal man dies along with his underlings, ***jn-jw=k r s n nḥḥ*** ; or will you be a man of eternity? ***n jw***

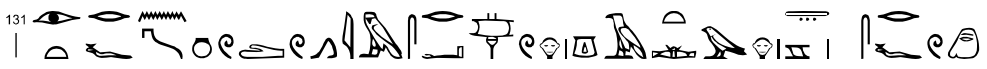


<127> ***js pw*** ; Is it not wrong, ***jwsw gsʒw tḫ nnm*** ; a balance that is crooked, the pointer of a balance that errs, ***mtj***

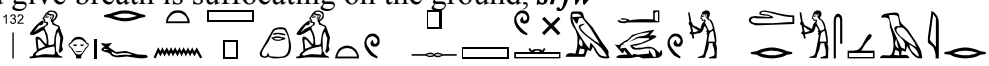
<128> ***mʒʿ ḫpr m tnbḫ*** ; a truly correct man who strays? ***mk mʒʿt wtḫ=s ḫr=k*** ; Look, justice is fleeing from you, ***nš.tj m***

<129> ***st=s*** ; expelled from <129> its place. ***srw ḥr jrt jyt*** ; Officials are doing evil, ***tp-ḥsb n mdt ḥr rḏjt ḥr gs*** ; the norm of speech is biased

<130> ***sḏmyw ḥr ḫnp jtt=f*** ; <130> and judges are carrying off what it seizes. ***sj3tj pw n mdt m ʿḳ3=s*** ; This means that he who twists speech from its correct sense ***ḥr***

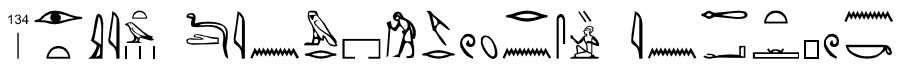


<131> ***jrt rf nwdw jm=s*** ; is <131> acting corruptly thereby. ***rḏj ṯ3w ḥr g3t ḥr t3*** ; He who should give breath is suffocating on the ground, ***srfw***



<132> ***ḥr rḏjt nšp.tw*** ; he who should rest <132> is making people pant, ***psšw m ʿwnw*** ; the arbitrator is a cheat, ***dr s3r***

<133> ***{r} m wḏ jrt=f*** ; he who should relieve distress is ordering its creation, ***dmj m wḏnw=f*** ; the harbour is flooded, ***ḫsf jw ḥr***

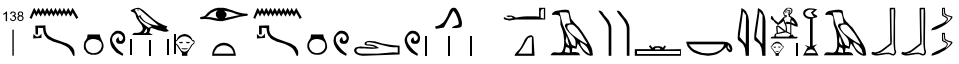


<134> ***jrt jyt*** ; he who should punish injustice is <134> doing evil.' ***ḏd.jn jmj-r3 pr wr ^mrw s3 ^rnsj*** ; Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, said: ***jn ʿ3t pw n=k***

<135> ***jmy ḥrj-jb=k*** ; `Is what is on your mind of greater concern to you ***r jṯ ṯw šmsw=j*** ; than that my servant might seize you?' ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn*** ; But this peasant said: ***ḫ3w n***

<136> ***ʿḥʿw ḥr sj3ṯ n=f*** ; `He who measures <136> heaps (of corn) is pilfering for himself; ***mḥ n ky ḥr ḥḳs h3w=f*** ; he who fills for another is withholding from his amount; ***sšm r***

<137> ***ḥpw ḥr wḏ ꜥw3t*** ; he who should govern according to <137> the laws is ordering theft. ***nm jrf ḫsf=f bw-ḥwrw*** ; Who then will repel evil? ***dr***



<138> ***nw ḥr jrt nwdw*** ; He who should dispel <138> weakness is acting corruptly; ***ꜥḳ3 ky ḥr ḫ3bb*** ; he who should correct another is being crooked;

<139> ***wf3 ky jr jyt*** ; <139> he who should reproach another is an evildoer. ***tr gm=k rk n=k*** ; Do you find anything for yourself? ***ḥwꜥ ḫsf 3w***

<140> ***jyt*** ; Redress is short but evil is long. ***jw bj r st=f nt sf*** ; A good deed returns to its place of yesterday. ***wḏ rf pw*** ; This is the precept: ***jr n jrr***

<141> ***r rḏjt jr=f*** ; act for him who acts, <141> to make him act; ***dw3-nṯr n=f pw ḥr jrrt=f*** ; it is thanking him for what he does; ***njt jḫt pw tp-ꜥ***

<142> ***st*** ; it is parrying a thing before <142> shooting; ***wḏ jḫt pw n nb ḥnt*** ; it is commissioning something from a craftsman. ***ḥ3 3 3t sḥtm***

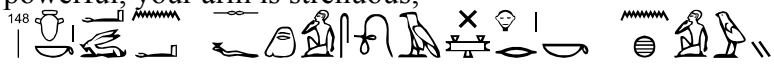
<143>***=s*** ; Would that a moment would destroy, ***pnꜥ m rwj=k*** ; havoc in your vineyard, ***ꜥnḏ m 3pdw=k*** ; decimation of your birds, ***ḫb3***

<144> ***m ḳbḥw=k*** ; destruction <144> among your water-fowl! ***pr m3w šp jrwt*** ; He who should see has turned blind, ***sḏmw sḫw*** ; one who should hear, deaf,

<145> ***sšmw ḫpr(.w) m stnmw*** ; <145> and one who should lead has gone astray.

<146> ***ʿnbrw jn tr snb.n=k*** ; <146> *Basket Uncertain*, *but not altogether implausible if meant figuratively as someone* accumulating *wealth*; cf. B1 164.! Have you (not) gone too far? ***jrr=k r=k jrf r-***

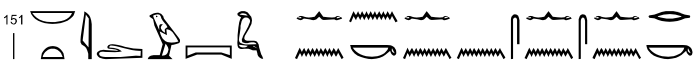
<147>***m*** ; Why do you act against yourself? ***mk ṯw nḫt(.tj) wsr.tj ʿ=k pr(.w)*** ; Look, you are strong and powerful, your arm is strenuous,



<148> ***jb=k ʿwn(.w)*** ; <148> but your heart is greedy ***sf sw3(.w) ḥr=k*** ; and mercy has left you. ***nḫ.wj***

<149> ***m3r sky=k*** ; How lamentable <149> is the poor man you ruin! ***twt=k n***

<150> ***wpwtj n ^ḫntj*** ; You are like <150> the messenger of Khenty. ***mk ṯw sw3.tj ḥr***

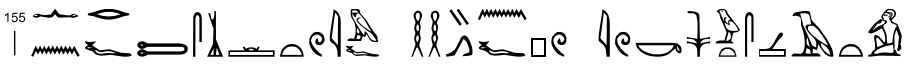


<151> ***nbt j3dw*** ; Look, you surpass <151> the Lady of Pestilence; ***nn n=k nn n=s*** ; if something is not for you, it is not for her; ***nn (r)=s nn r=k*** ; if something is not against her, it is not against you;

<152> ***n jrr=k st n jrr=s st*** ; <152> if you won't do it, she won't do it. ***sf nb t*** ; Who possesses bread should be merciful ***nḫt n***

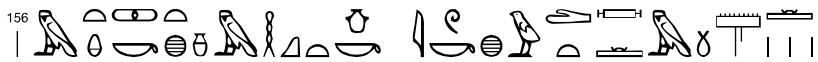
<153> ***ḫnr*** ; whereas brutality is for <153> the criminal. ***twt ṯ3wt n jwtw jḫt=f*** ; Theft suits those without belongings,

<154> ***ḫnp jḫt jn ḫnr*** ; <154> things are robbed by a criminal. ***sp bjn jwtj šwjw*** ; But an evil act of someone without need,



<155> ***nn rf ṯs.tw jm=f*** ; <155> is he not to be rebuked? ***ḥḥ n=f pw*** ; It is self-seeking. ***jw=k swt sꜣ.tj***

<156> ***m t=k*** ; But you are sated <156> with your bread ***tḫ.tj m ḫnḳt=k*** ; and drunk with your beer, ***jw=k ḫwd.tj m sšrw***

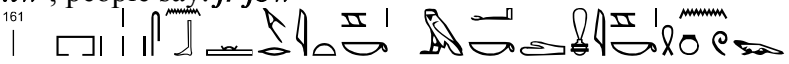


<157> ***nbw*** ; and you are rich in every respect. ***jw ḥr n ḥmy r-ḥꜣt*** ; While the face of the helmsman is forward, ***sbn dpt r***

<158> ***mrr=s*** ; the ship deviates as <158> it pleases. ***jw nsw m ḫntj*** ; While the king is in the stateroom ***jw ḥmw m ꜥ=k*** ; and the helm is in your hand,

<159> ***rḏj.tw jyt m hꜣw=k*** ; <159> evil is placed near you. ***ꜣw sprw=j wdn***

<160> ***fḏḳ*** ; My plea is long, and the division is difficult. ***jšst pw ntj jm*** ; ``What's with him there?" ***kꜣ.tw*** ; people say. ***jr jbw***



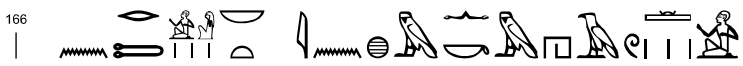
<161> ***snb mryt=k*** ; Create shelter <161> so that your shore will be safe, ***mk dmj=k šn.w*** ; for look, your harbour is surrounded by crocodiles!

<162> ***ꜥḳꜣ ns=k*** ; <162> May your tongue be truthful ***jm=k tnmw*** ; so that you won't go astray! ***tꜣmw***

<163> ***pw n s ʿt jm=f*** ; That organ in a man is his canker-worm. ***m ḏd grg*** ; Don't speak falsehood! ***sȝw srw*** ; Beware of officials!

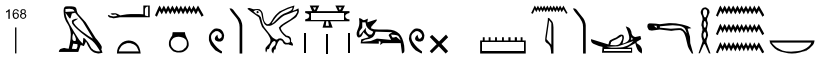
<164> ***mnḏm pw ʿḏyw sḏmyw*** ; <164> The judges are a fattened basket *Meant figuratively: rich from bribes*.; ***smw=sn***

<165> ***pw ḏd grg*** ; speaking falsehood is their herbage, ***wn=f js.w ḥr jb=sn*** ; it lies light on their hearts. ***rḫ-jḫt***

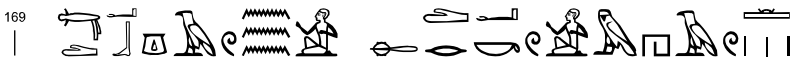


<166> ***n rmṯt nbṯ*** ; O wisest <166> of all mankind, ***jn ḫm=k m hȝw=j*** ; are you unaware of my case?

<167> ***dr sȝr n mw nb*** ; <167> Relieve all distress on the water! ***mk wj ḫr***



<168> ***mṯnw jw*** ; Look, I am under <168> way without a ship. ***mnj mḥ nb*** ; Rescue all who are drowning, *version = R* <26.4> ***mk wj ȝṯp.kw m*** <26.5> ***jʿnw*** ; <26.4> Look, I am laden with <26.5> sorrow. ***mk wj m ʿ=k*** ; Look, I am in your hands, ***jp=k wj*** ; so you should take account of me! ***mk wj m ȝhw*** ; Look, I am in distress. *version = B1*



<169> ***šd bgȝw*** ; <169> save the shipwrecked, ***ḫdr=k wj m hȝw***

<170> ***jrj ḏr=k*** ; rescue me in the domain <170> that is within your reach!' version = R ***šd wj*** <26.8> ***m hȝw ḏr[...]=k*** ; save me <26.8> in the domain within your reach!' *version = B1* ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn r spr n=f 3nw sp*** ; And this peasant came to plead with him for a third time. ***ḏd=f***

<171> ***jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j*** ; He said: <171> `High steward, my lord, ***ntk ^rᶜ nb pt ḥnᶜ šnw***

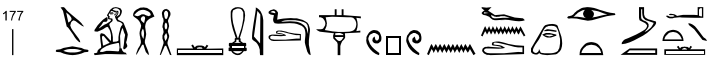
<172>***t=k*** ; you are Re, lord of heaven, with your courtiers. ***jw ḫrt bw-nb jm=k mj***

<173> ***nwy*** ; Everyone has a need for you, like <173> water. ***ntk ^ḥᶜpj sw3ḏ š3w*** ; You are Hapy, who makes the meadows green ***grg***

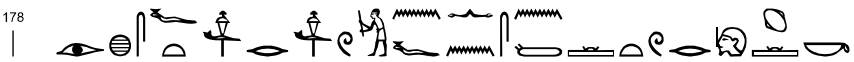
<174> ***j3wt ḫb3wt*** ; and restores <174> mounds that have been ravaged. ***ḫsfᶜw3*** ; Punish theft

<175> ***nḏ ḥr m3r*** ; <175> and protect the poor! ***m ḫpr m w***

<176>***ḏnw r sprw*** ; Don't become a flood against the suppliant! ***s3w tkn n nḥḥ*** ; Beware of the approach of eternity.



<177> ***mr w3ḥ mj ḏd*** ; <177> Desire to last, as is said: ***ṯ3w pw n fnḏ jrt m3ᶜt*** ; ``Doing justice is breath for the nose."



<178> ***jr ḫsft r ḫsfw n=f*** ; <178> Inflict punishment on him who ought to be punished, ***nn sn.tw r tp-ḥsb=k***

<179>; and none will surpass <179> your rectitude. ***jn-jw jwsw nnm=f*** ; Does the `hand'-balance*Handwaage.* err? ***jn-jw***

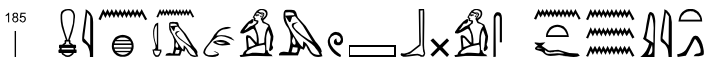
<180> ***mḫ3t ḥr rḏjt ḥr gs*** ; Is <180> the `stand'-balance*Standwaage. biased?* ***jn-jw rf ^ḏḥwtj***

<181> ***sfn=f*** ; Is Thoth <181> lenient*? jḫ {r}To be emended to Y1, (Parkinson 1991).* ***jr=k jyt*** ; Then may you do evil ***H rḏj=k ṯw snnw n***

<182> ***3 pn*** ; You should set yourself equal to <182> these three; ***jr sfn 3 ḫr=k sfn=k*** ; if the three are lenient, then you must be lenient. ***m***

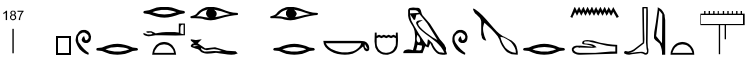
<183> ***wšb nfrt m bjnt*** ; Do not <183> answer good with bad. ***m rḏj kt m st kt*** ; Do not put one thing in place of another.

<184> ***rwḏ*** or ***rd***, grow. ***mdt r snmyt*** ; <184> The spoken word is more persistent than weed (*Lit. snmyt-plants*.), ***r d***



<185>***mj n ḫnm m wšb=s*** ; to <185> reach the smeller with its retort. ***ntf jyt***

<186> ***r rḏjt rd ḥbsw*** ; The one who waters mischief <186> to make deception*Uncertain*. grow, ***spw 3***



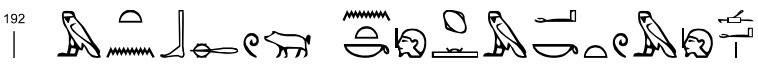
<187> ***pw r rḏjt jr=f*** ; this is three times <187> to induce him to act!I.e. this is already the third time that I induce him to act! ***jr rk ḥmw r ndbyt*** ; Steer according to the sail.

<188> ***šd wḏnw r jrt mɜʿt*** ; <188> Withdraw the flood, so as to do justice. ***sɜw***

<189> ***ḥ3=k rk ḥr nfryt*** ; Be careful that <189> you do not run aground, while at the tiller. ***ʿḳ3yt nt t3***

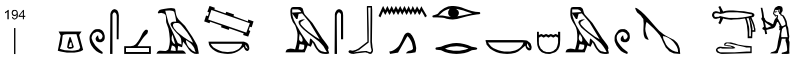
<190> ***jrt m3ʿt {w}*** ; To straighten out the land <190> is to do justice. ***m ḏd grg jw=k wr.tj*** ; Do not speak falsehood, for you are mighty. ***m js***

<191> ***jw=k dns.tj*** ; Do not be light-hearted, <191> for you are weighty. ***m ḏd grg ntk jwsw*** ; Do not speak falsehood, for you are the balance.



<192> ***m tnbḫw ntk tp*** ; <192> Do not be careless, for you are the key. ***mk ṯw m tp wʿ***

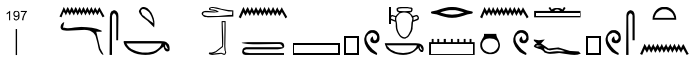
<193> ***ḥnʿ jwsw*** ; You are just <193> like the balance: ***jr gs3=f ḫr=k***



<194> ***g{w}s3=k*** ; if it is crooked, then you must <194> be crooked. ***m sbn jr rk ḥmw šd***

<195> ***ḥr nfryt*** ; Do not deviate, but operate the rudder, pull <195> on the tiller rope. ***m jṯ jr rk r jṯw*** ; Do not rob, but act against the robber.

<196> ***n wr js pw wr jm ʿwn-jb*** ; <196> A great one who is greedy is not (really) great. ***tḫ pw***



<197> ***ns=k*** ; Your tongue is the pointer (of the balance), ***dbn pw jb=k rmnw=f pw sptj***

198

<198>*=kj* ; your heart is the weight, and your lips are its arms. *jr ḥbs=k ḥr=k r nḫt-ḥr* ; But if you shut your eyes to the impudent,

199

<199> *nm jrf ḫsf=f bw-ḥwrw* ; <199> then who will repel evil? *mk ṯw m*

200

<200> *ḥwrw n rḫtj* ; Look, you are <200> a dishonourable washerman *ʿwn-jb ḥr ḥḏt*

201

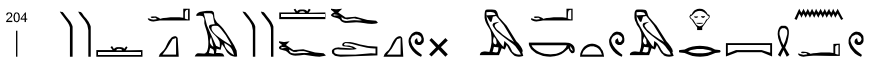
<201> *ḫnms* ; who is keen on destroying <201> friendship, *bt3 n mḥnk=f n tw3*

202

<202>*=f* ; one who wrongs his confidant for his client; *sn=f pw jy jn n=f* ; anyone who comes and supplies to him is his brother. *mk ṯw m*

203

<203>*ḫntj ḏ3 nb hmt* ; Look, you are a ferryman <203> who ferries across anyone who has the fare, *ʿḳ3y*

204 

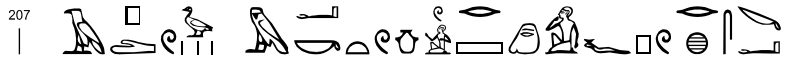
<204> *ʿḳ3=f fḏḳ.w* ; a righteous man <204> whose righteousness has crumbled. *mk ṯw m ḥrj šnʿw* ; Look, you are the chief of a workhouse

205

<205> *n rḏj.n=f sw3 šw ḥr-ʿ* ; <205> who won't let an unemployed person through at once. *mk ṯw*

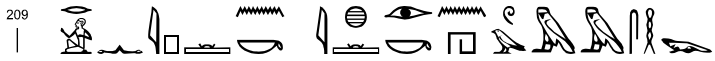
206

<206> *ṯnḥr n rḫyt* ; Look, you are <206> a hawk to the people, *ʿnḫ m ḥwrww nw*



<207> ***ȝpdw*** ; one who lives on defenceless <207> birds. ***mk ṯw wdpw rš=f pw rḫs*** ; Look, you are a cook whose joy is to slaughter,

<208> ***nn jȝṯjw jrj*** r=f ; <208> and who is not touched by the gruesomeness thereof. ***mk ṯw m mnjw*** ; Look, you are a herdsman; ***n ḏw=s js***



<209> ***r=j*** ; is it not bad for me then ***n jp.n=k*** ; that you cannot be prudent? ***jḫ jr=k nhw m msḥ***

<210> ***skn*** ; May you become less like a ravenous crocodile, ***jbw tš(.w) r dmj n tȝ r-ḏr=f*** ; for shelter has vanished from the harbour of the entire land.

<211> ***sḏmw n ȝ sḏm.n=k*** ; <211> Hearer, you do not really hear. ***tm=k tr sḏm ḥr-m*** ; But why do you not hear? ***jw mjn***

<212> ***ȝ ḫsf.n=j ȝdw*** ; Now <212> I have spoken out against the aggressor, ***jw msḥ ḫt=f*** ; and the crocodile retreats. ***ptr rf***

<213> ***km jrj n=k*** ; But what is <213> the gain thereof to you? ***gm.tw jmnw mȝꜥt*** ; The secret of the truth will be found, ***rḏj.tw sȝ***

<214> ***grg r tȝ*** ; and falsehood will be cast on the ground. ***m grg dwȝ n jjt=f*** ; Do not make provision for the following day before it has come, ***n***

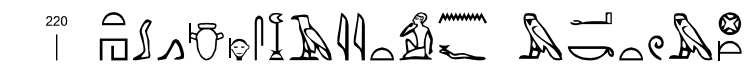
<215> ***rḫ.n.tw jyt jm=f*** ; since one cannot know what is going to happen in it.' ***jsṯ rf ḏd.n sḫtj pn mdt***

<216> ***tn*** ; When this peasant had said these words, ***jmj-r3 pr wr ^mrw s3 ^rnsj*** ; the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, ***r pg3 n ʿrryt*** ; went to the entrant of the portal,

<217> ***ʿḥʿ.n rḏj.n=f ʿḥʿ jmj-s3 2 r=f ḫr smjw*** ; <217> and made two guards turn against him with whips, ***ʿḥʿ.n ʿ3***

<218>***g=sn ʿt=f nbt jm*** ; and they thrashed all his limbs therewith. ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn*** ; Then this peasant said: ***s3 ^mrw***

<219> ***tnm.ḫr=f*** ; `So the son of Meru <219> must go astray, ***ḥr=f šp(.w) r m33t=f*** ; since his face is blind to what he sees ***sḫ(.w) r sḏmt=f*** ; and deaf to what he hears,



<220> ***th(.w) jb ḥr sḫ3yt n=f*** ; <220> and is straying from what it is reminded of. ***mk ṯw m njwt***

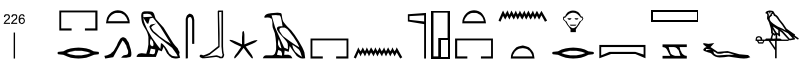
<221> ***nn ḥḳ3-ḥwt=s*** ; Look, you are a town <221> without a mayor, ***mj ḫt nn wr=s*** ; like a meeting without a chairman, ***mj dpt***

<222> ***nn sḫry jm=s*** ; like a ship <222> without a captain, ***sm3yt nn sšmw***

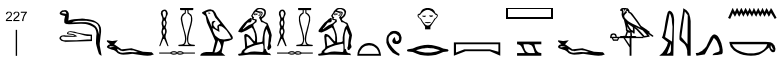
<223>=*s* ; like a gang without a leader. ***mk ṯw m šnṯ jṯ3*** ; Look, you are a policeman who steals, ***ḥḳ3-ḥwt šspw*** ; a major who accepts (bribes),

<224> ***jmj-r3 w ḫsf ḥ ḏ3*** ; <224> a district overseer who should restrain robbery ***ḫpr m jmj-ḫ3t n jrr*** ; but who has become a pattern for the criminal.'

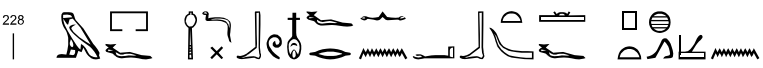
<225> ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn r spr n=f 4nw sp*** ; <225> And this peasant came to plead with him for a fourth time, ***gm.n sw ḥr***



<226> ***prt m sb3 n ḥwt-nṯr nt ^ḥrj-š=f*** ; and found him <226> emerging from the gate of the temple of Arsaphes.



<227> ***ḏd=f ḥsw*** ; <227> He said: `Praised one, ***ḥs ṯw Šḥrj-š=f jj.n=k***



<228> ***m pr=f*** ; may Arsaphes, from whose temple you have come, praise you! ***ḥḏ bw-nfr nn ḫt=f*** ; Goodness has been harmed; there is no accumulation of it, *For* ***ḫt*** *see* ***jḫb. pṯḥ s3 n***

<229> ***grg r t3*** ; nor is there casting of <229> falsehood on the ground. ***jn-jw t3 mḫnt sḫḳ.tj*** ; Has the ferry sunk? ***š(s?)***

<230>***ḏ3.tw jrf m*** ; Who can be ferried across ***sḫpr sp m msḏḏ*** ; when the one who should bring about the deed is unwilling? ***ḏ3t***

<231> ***jtrw m s3 ṯbtj*** ; Crossing <231> the river on foot: ***ḏ3t nfr nn*** ; a good crossing, or not?

<232> ***nm tr sḏr r sšp*** ; <232> Now, who can sleep till dawn? ***ḥḏ šmt m***

<233> ***grḥ sbj m hrw*** ; For obstructed are going by <233> night, travelling by day, ***rḏjt ꜥḥꜥ s r***

<234> ***sp=f nfr n wn mɜꜥt*** ; and letting a man attend <234> his truly good cause. ***mk nn km n ḏd***

<235> ***n=k st*** ; Look, it is no use to tell <235> you this, ***sf swɜ(.w) ḥr=k*** ; for mercy has left you. ***nḫ.wj mɜr***

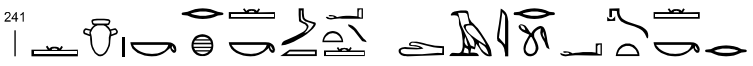
<236> ***sky=k*** ; How lamentable is the poor man <236> you ruin! ***mk ṯw mḥw***

<237> ***jꜥ jb=f*** ; Look, you are a hunter <237> who slakes his desire, ***wdd r jrt mrt=f*** ; bent on doing what he wants, ***ḫɜꜥ dbw***

<238> ***st smɜw*** ; who harpoons hippopotami, <238> shoots wild bulls, ***pḥ rmw sḫt***

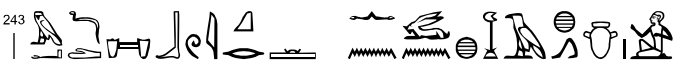
<239> ***ɜpdw*** ; catches fish and snares <239> birds. ***nn ḫɜḫ rɜ šw m wꜥrw*** ; Yet there is none hasty of speech who is free of spluttering,

<240> ***nn js-jb dns sḫr ḫt*** ; <240> and none light of heart who is weighty of thought. ***wɜḥ***



<241> ***jb=k rḫ=k mɜʿt*** ; Be tender-hearted, so that you will learn justice! ***dɜr stpt=k r***

<242> ***nfr bss grw*** ; Suppress your choice for <242> the good of him who enters humbly. ***nn sḫmw***



<243> ***mḏd bw-jḳr*** ; For there is no brute <243> who attains excellence, ***nn wn ḫɜḫ jb***

<244> ***jn.tw*** ; and there is no impatient man <244> whom one turns to. ***sgmḥ jrtj swḏɜ.tw jb*** ; Let the eyes see so that the heart be informed. ***m kɜḥ***

<245>***sw ḫft wsr=k*** ; Don't be haughty in proportion to your might, ***tm spr bw-ḏw r=k*** ; so that evil doesn't reach you.

<246> ***swɜ ḥr sp jw=f r snw*** ; <246> Tolerate one misdeed, and it will become two. ***jn wnm dp***

<247> ***jw wšdw wšb=f*** ; It is the eater who tastes, <247> so one who is questioned replies; ***jn sḏrw mɜɜ***

<248> ***rswt*** ; it is the sleeper who dreams. ***jr wḏʿ-rwt m***

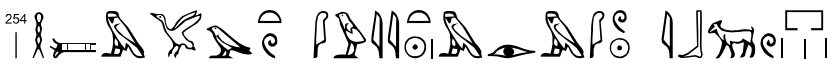
<249> ***ḫsfw n=f*** ; As for a judge <249> who ought to be punished, ***jw=f m jmj-ḫɜt n jrr*** ; he is a pattern for the criminal. ***wḫɜ***

<250> ***mk ṯw pḥ.tj*** ; Fool, <250> look, you are found out! ***ḫm-jḫt mk ṯw***

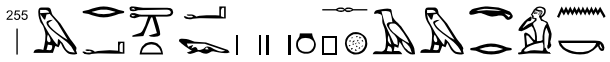
<251> ***wšd.tj*** ; Ignoramus, look, you <251> are questioned! ***pnḳy mw mk ṯw ʿḳ.tj*** ; Bailer of water*Meant figuratively: someone urinating.*, look, you are noticed!

<252> ***ḥmy m sbn dpwt=k*** ; <252> Helmsman, don't let your ship go off course! ***sʿnḫw***

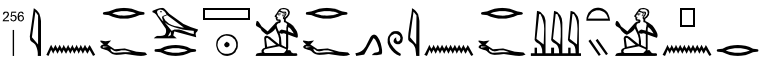
<253> ***m rḏj mwt.tw*** ; Giver of life, <253> don't let people die! ***sḥtmw m rḏj***



<254> ***ḥtm.tw*** ; Destroyer, don't let <254> people perish! ***šwyt m jr m šw*** ; Shade, don't be as the blazing sun! ***jbw***



<255> ***m rḏj jṯ msḥ*** ; Shelter, <255> don't let the crocodile snatch! ***4nw sp 3 m spr n=k*** ; The fourth time already of pleading with you;



<256> ***jn rf wrš=j r=f*** ; <256> shall I spend all day at it?' ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn r***

<257> ***spr n=f 5nw sp*** ; And this peasant came to <257> plead with him for a fifth time. ***ḏd=f jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j*** ; He said: `High steward, my lord, ***jw***

<258> ***ḫwḏw ḥr*** **[...] [*mḥyt* Following the suggestion by Parkinson (1991).]** ; the netter is [...] [fish], ***n***

<259>***yw****Uncertain*. ***ḥr sm3 jy*** ; the nyw-fisherman*Uncertain*. is killing jy-fish, ***st rm***

<260>***w ḥr ḫ3ḫ ʿwbbw*** ; the fish-spearer is harpooning awbbw-fish, ***ḏ3bḥw***

<261> ***r p3ḳrw*** ; the DAbHw-fisherman <261> is after pAqr-fish. ***jw wḥʿ ḫb3=f jtr***

<262>***w*** ; The fisherman ravages the river. ***mk ṯw m mnt-jrj*** ; Look, you are the same. ***m ʿwn ḥwrw***

<263> ***ḥr jḫt=f*** ; Do not defraud a poor man <263> of his property, ***fn rḫ.n=k sw*** ; a slight man whom you know. ***ṯ3w pw n***

<264> ***m3r jḫt=f*** ; The belongings of a pauper are his breath, ***dbb fnḏ=f pw nḥm***

<265> ***st*** ; to take them away is to stop up his nose. ***rḏj.n.tw=k r sḏm mdt*** ; You were appointed to hear cases, ***r wḏʿ snwj*** ; to judge between litigants, ***r***

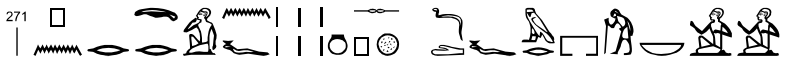
<266> ***ḫsf ʿw3-jrr=f*** ; and to <266> punish the robber. ***mk f3 pw n jṯ3***

<267> ***jrry=k*** ; But look, what you are doing is supporting the thief. ***jw mḥ.tw jb jm=k*** ; You are trusted, ***jw=k***

<268> ***ḫpr.tj m thw*** ; yet you <268> have become a transgressor. ***rḏj.n.tw=k r dnjt***

<269> ***n mɜr*** ; You were appointed to be a dike <269> for the pauper, ***sɜw mḥ=f*** ; so take care that he doesn't drown! ***mk ṯw***

<270> ***m š=f sṯɜw*** ; But look, you <270> are the lake that pulls him under.' ***jw.jn rf sḫtj***

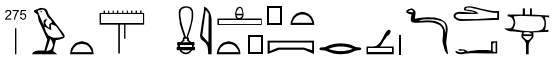


<271> ***pn r spr n=f 6nw sp*** ; And this peasant came <271> to plead with him for a sixth time, ***ḏd=f jmj-rɜ pr wr nb=j*** ; and he said: `High steward, my lord,

<272> ***nb sjsf grg*** ; <272> lord who eradicates falsehood, ***sḫpr mɜꜥt sḫpr***

<273> ***bw nb nfr*** ; who creates truth and creates <273> all goodness, ***sḥtm bw*** Perhaps meant was ***bw-ḏw***. ; who destroys [evil], ***mj jw sɜw***

<274> ***ḏr=f ḥḳr*** ; like when satiety comes <274> and ends hunger, ***ḥbsw ḏr=f ḥɜ***



<275>***wt*** ; and clothes end nakedness, ***mj ḥtp pt r-sɜ ḏꜥ***

<276> ***ḳɜ*** ; like when the sky becomes calm after a heavy storm ***sšmm=s ḥsw nb*** ; and warms all who are chilled,

277

<277> ***mj ḫt pst wꜣḏwt*** ; <277> like fire that cooks what is raw, ***mj***

278

<278> ***mw ʿḫm jbt*** ; like <278> water that quenches thirst! ***mꜣꜣ m***

279

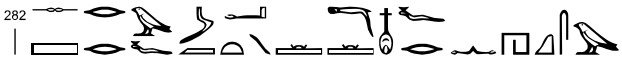
<279> ***ḥr=k*** ; See with <279> your own eyes: ***psšw m ʿwnw*** ; the arbitrator is a cheat,

280

<280> ***shrr m jr ꜣhw*** ; <280> the appeaser is causing misery, ***stw***

281

<281>***t m jr mnt*** ; and he who should mitigate is causing suffering. ***jw sjꜣṯ***

282 

<282> ***sšrr=f mꜣʿt mḥ nfr*** ; Cheating <282> diminishes justice, so render good account, ***n ḥḳs***

283

<283> ***n wbn mꜣʿt*** ; and justice will be neither insufficient nor excessive. *version = B2* ***jr twt*** ; So act accordingly! *version = B1* ***jr jn=k jm n snnw=k*** ; If you acquire, then give to your fellow man,

284

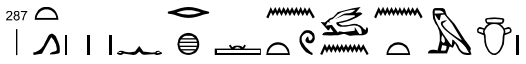
<284> ***wgyt šw.tj m ʿḳꜣ*** ; <284> for chewing is without merit.

285

<285> ***jw ꜣhw=j sšm=f r jw***

286

<286>***dt*** ; <285> My anguish leads to separation ***jw srḫy=j jn.n=f rww***



<287>***t*** ; and my accusation brought departure; ***n rḫ.n.tw wnnt m jb*** ; one cannot know what is in the heart.

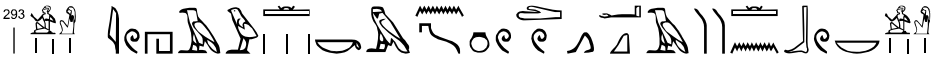
<288> ***m wsf jr rk r smjt*** ; <288> Don't be negligent, act at the accusation! ***fdḳ=k nm ṯs=f*** ; If you sever, who will join?

<289> ***ꜥḥ3-mw m ꜥ=k*** ; <289> The sounding rod is in your hand, ***mj ḫt wn sp n mwy ḫpr(.w)*** ; a rod that makes waters accessible that have stayed behind (during low tide).

<290> ***jr ꜥḳ dpt jw šd.tw=s*** ; <290> If a ship goes down, it is looted ***3ḳ 3ṯpw=s n t3***

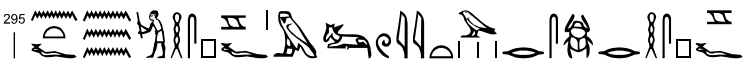
<291> ***ḥr mrywt nbt*** ; and its cargo perishes on the ground <291> at every embankment. *version = B2* ***jw gs n*** <13> ***3ṯpw=k r šdt=k ḥr mryt nbt*** ; and your share of the cargo will be what you seize, at every embankment. <14> ***jw rḫ.tw*** ; <14> It is known: *version = B1* ***jw=k sb3.tj jw=k wb3.tj jw=k***

<292> ***twt(.tj)*** ; You are educated, enlightened <292> and accomplished***, n js n ꜥwn*** ; but not for cheating! ***jw=k jrr=k twtw bw-nb*** ; You act the same as everyone,

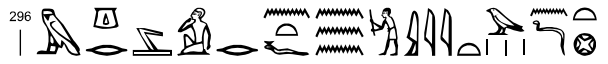


<293> ***jw h3w=k m nwdw ꜥḳ3*** ; <293> and your environment is corrupt. *version = B2* ***jw h3w=k m nwdw*** <17> ***ꜥḳ3 n bw-nb*** ; and every man in your environment is corrupt. *version = B1* ***j3***

<294>***ṯj n t3 r-ḏr=f*** ; Molester of the entire land! ***k3ny n bw-ḥwrw ḥr***



<295> ***ntf ḥsp=f m jwyt*** ; The cultivator of wickedness is <295> watering his garden with evil, ***r sḫpr ḥsp=f***



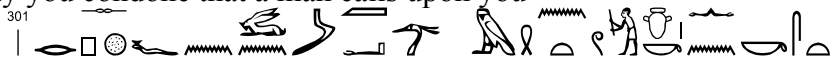
<296> ***m grg*** ; to make his garden grow <296> with falsehood ***r ntf jyt n ḏt*** ; and to water everlasting doom.'

<297> ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn r spr n=f 7nw sp*** ; <297> And this peasant came to plead with him for a seventh time, ***ḏd=f***

<298> ***jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j*** ; and he said: <298> `High steward, my lord, ***ntk ḥmw n t3 r-ḏr=f*** ; you are the helm of the entire land, ***sḳdd***

<299> ***t3 ḫft wḏ=k*** ; the land sails in accordance with your command. ***ntk snnw n ^ḏḥwtj*** ; You are the equal of Thoth,

<300> ***wḏʿ nn rḏjt ḥr gs*** ; <300> who judges without being partial. ***nb=j w3ḥ=k njs ṯw s*** ; My lord, may you condone that a man calls upon you

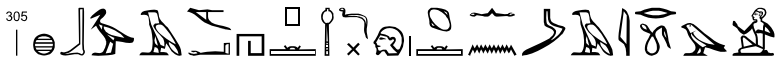


<301> ***r sp=f n wn-m3ʿ*** ; <301> concerning his just cause. ***m šnṯ jb=k n n=k st*** ; Don't be outrageous, it is not for you!

<302> ***ḫpr 3w ḥr m ḥw jb*** ; <302> One who was happy becomes anxious. ***m w3 n ntt n jjt*** ; Do not scheme for what has not yet come,

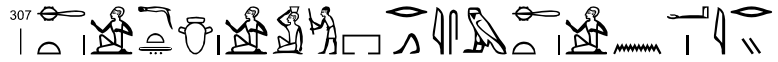
<303> ***m ḥʿw n ntt n ḫprt*** ; <303> do not rejoice in what has not yet happened! ***jw wḫd s3w=f m ḫnms*** ; Considerateness extends friendship

<304> ***sḥtm sp ḫpr*** ; <304> and dismisses an offence that happens; ***n rḫ.n.tw wnnt m jb*** ; one cannot know what is in the heart.

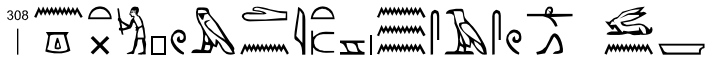


<305> ***ḫbȝ hp ḥḏ tp-ḥsb*** ; <305> Subverter of the law, destroyer of rectitude! ***nn mȝr***

306> ***ꜥnḫ*** ; There will be no poor man <306> alive ***ḥꜥḏȝw=f n wšd sw mȝꜥt*** ; if justice does not attend to him when he is robbed. ***jw grt***



<307> ***ḫt=j mḥ.tj*** ; Now, <307> my body is full (of misery) ***jb=j ȝtp(.w)*** ; and my heart is laden (with grief). ***pr js m ḫt=j n ꜥ jrj*** ; It comes from my body because of the condition thereof:



<308> ***ngt pw m dnjt mw=s ȝs(.w)*** ; <308> it is the breach of a dike, its waters pouring through, ***wn***

<309> ***rȝ=j r mdt*** ; as my mouth opens to speak. ***ꜥḥꜥ ȝ ꜥḥȝ.n=j mrj=j*** ; So, I have now plied my sounding rod, ***pnḳ.n=j***

<310> ***mwy=j*** ; bailed <310> my water, ***snf.n=j ntt m ḫt=j*** ; given vent to what was on my mind ***jꜥ.n=j šȝmw=j*** ; and washed my dirty linen.

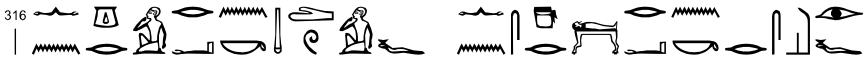
<311> ***ḫn=j ḫpr(.w)*** ; <311> My speech is done ***mȝr=j*** Dr(.w) ***ḫft-ḥr=k*** ; and my misery has ended up before you, ***ptr***

<312> ***ḏ3rw=k*** ; what (more) <312> do you need? ***jw wsf=k r tht=k*** ; Your neglect will lead you astray, ***jw ꜥwn-jb=k***

<313> ***r swḫ3=k*** ; your avarice <313> will befool you ***jw snm=k r sḫpr ḫrwyw=k*** ; and your greed will make you acquire enemies.

<314> ***jn-jw=k swt r gmt ky sḫtj mjtw=j*** ; <314> Will you even find another peasant like me?

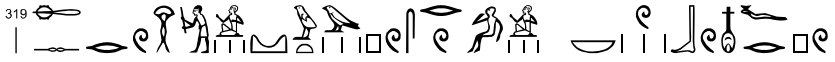
<315> ***jn-jw wsfw spry r ꜥḥꜥ r r3 n pr=f*** ; <315> Or will the lazy petitioner be waiting at the door of his house?



<316> ***nn gr rḏj.n=k mdw=f*** ; <316> There is none silent whom you let speak, ***nn sḏr rḏj.n=k rs=f*** ; none sleeping whom you roused, *version = B2* ***nn sḏr srs.n=k*** ; none sleeping whom you roused, *version = B1*

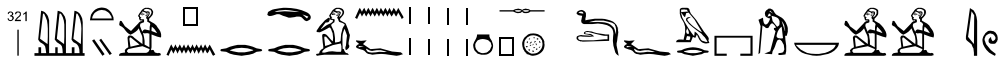
<317> ***nn ḫb3 ḥr sspd.n=k*** ; <317> none downcast whom you enlivened, ***nn tm r3***

<318> ***wn.n=k*** ; none speechless whose mouth you opened, ***nn ḫm rḏj.n=k rḫ=f*** ; none ignorant whom you let know, ***nn wḫ3 sb3.n=k*** ; none foolish whom you educated. *version = B2* ***ḫm sb3.n=k*** ; uneducated whom you instructed. *version = B1*

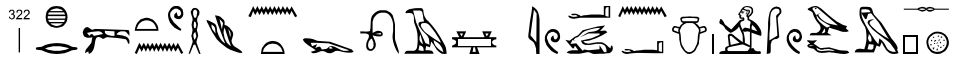


<319> ***ḫsrw ḏwt pw srw*** ; <319> Yet officials should be people who dispel injustice, ***nbw bw-nfr pw*** ; lords of goodness,

<320> *ḥmwt pw nt sḫpr ntt* ; <320> craftsmen in creating what is, *ṯsw tp ḥsḳ* ; people who mend a severed head.' *jw.jn rf*



<321> *sḫtj pn r spr n=f 8nw sp* ; And this peasant came to plead with him for an eighth time, *ḏd=f jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j* ; and said: `High steward, my lord*, jw*



<322> *ḫr.tw n ḥnt w3* ; one sinks low through greed. *jw ʿwn-jb šw=f m sp* ; A greedy man is without achievement,

<323> *jw wn sp=f n wht* ; <323> he achieves only failure. *jw ʿwn jb=k nn n=k st* ; You are greedy but it does nothing for you, *jw ʿw3=k*

<324> *nn 3ḫ n=k* ; you steal <324> but it's of no benefit to you. *rdj 3 ʿḥʿ s r sp=f nfr n wn-m3ʿ* You who should let a man attend his truly good cause!

<325> *ḫrt=k pw m pr=k*; <325> In fact, your possessions are in your house *ḫt=k mḥ.tj*; and your stomach is full; *wbn jt ṯtf=s*; the barley brims over since it is so abundant

<326> *3ḳ prw=s n t3*; <326> and its excess perishes on the ground.

<327> *jṯw ʿw3 nḥmw* <327> Thief, robber, snatcher! *srw jr.n.tw r {r}Error by Parkinson (1991) or scribal error? ḫsf r*

328

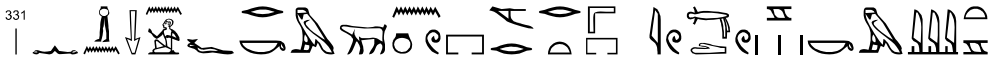
<328> ***jyt***; The officials who were appointed to repel <328> evil ***jbww pw n ȝdw***; should be shelters from the agressor; ***srw jr.n.tw r ḥsf***

329

<329> ***r grg*** ; the officials who were appointed to eradicate <329> falsehood! ***n rḏj.n snḏ=k spr n=k*** ; And the fear of you wouldn't permit appealing to you? *version = B2* ***n rḏj.n snḏ=k spr=j*** <62> ***n=k*** ; And the fear of you wouldn't permit me to appeal <62> to you? *version = B1* ***n sjȝ.n=k jb=j*** ; You do not perceive my heart! ***gr***

330

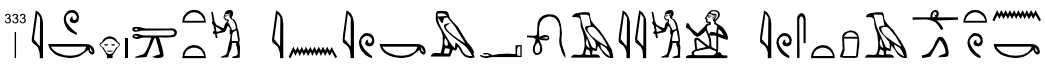
<330> ***ʿnn sw r jrt ṯst n=k*** ; The humble man <330> who returns to make a complaint to you, ***n snḏ.n=f n twȝ n=f st*** ; he cannot fear him to whom it is submitted, *version = B2* <63> ***r jrt ṯst=f*** ; <63> to make his complaint, ***n snḏ.n=k n twȝ n=k st*** ; you cannot fear him who submits it to you. *version = B1*

331 

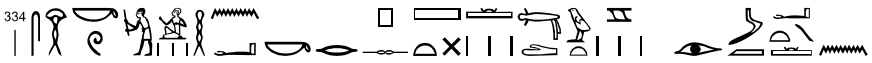
<331> ***n jn sn=f r=k m-ḫnw mrrt*** ; <331> though no brother of his can be fetched to side against you in the street. ***jw ȝ šdww=k m sḫt*** ; Your plots of land are in the country,

332

<332> ***jw fḳȝ=k m spȝt*** ; <332> your earnings are in the estate ***jw ʿḳw=k m šnʿ*** ; and your provisions in the storehouse. ***jw srw ḥr rḏjt n=k*** ; Officials are giving to you, *version = B2* <67> ***ḥr rḏjt jn n=k*** ; <67> are giving gifts to you, *version = B1*

333 

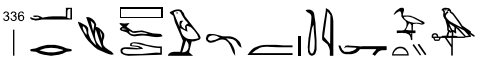
<333> ***jw=k ḥr jṯt*** ; <333> and you are still robbing. ***jn-jw=k m ʿwȝy*** ; Are you a thief? ***jw sṯȝ.tw n=k***

334 

<334> ***skw ḥnʿ=k*** ; People are ushered in to you, <334> troops being with you, ***r psšt šdwwt*** ; for the division of plots of land. *version = B2* ***jn-jw=k rf*** <68> ***m ʿwȝy*** ; Are you a thief then? ***jn-jw sṯȝ.tw n=k skw*** <69> ***ḥnʿ=k*** ; Are people ushered in to you, troops <69> being with you, ***r psšt m šdwwt*** ; for the division of plots of land? *version = B1* ***jr mȝʿt n***

335

<335> ***nb mɜʿt*** ; Do justice for <335> the Lord of Justice, ***ntj wn mɜʿt nt mɜʿt=f*** ; whose justice has justice!

336 

<336> ***ʿr šfdw gstj ^ḏḥwtj*** ; <336> Pen, papyrus, palette of Thoth,

337

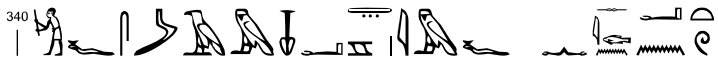
<337> ***ḥr.tj r jrt jyt*** ; <337> beware of doing evil! ***nfr nfrt nfr r=f*** ; The goodness of a good man is good to him, *version = B2* ***nfr nfrt nfr rf nfrt*** ; When goodness is good, goodness is good indeed, *version = B1*

338

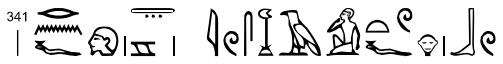
<338> ***jw swt mɜʿt r nḥḥ*** ; <338> but justice is for eternity. ***hɜɜ=s***

339

<339> ***m-ʿ jrr sj r ḫrt-nṯr*** ; It goes down <339> with him who does it to the necropolis. ***jw ḳrs.tw***

340 

<340**>=*f*** ; When he is buried, ***smɜ tɜ jm=f*** ; and earth envelops him, ***n sjn.tw***

341 

<341> ***rn=f tp tɜ*** ; his name is not effaced on earth ***{jw=f} jw sḫɜ.tw=f ḥr bw-***

342

<342>***nfr*** ; and he is remembered on account of the goodness. ***tp-ḥsb pw n mdw-nṯr*** ; This is the norm of the divine word. *version =* ***B2 tp-ḥsb n mdw-nṯr*** ; The norm of the divine word: *version = B1* ***jn jwsw***

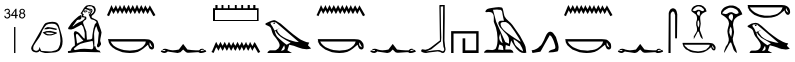
<343> ***pw*** ; If it is a `hand'-balance, ***n g{r}s3.n=f*** ; then it is not crooked. ***jn mḫ3t***

<344> ***pw*** ; If it is a `stand'-balance, ***n rḏj.n=s ḥr gs*** ; then it is not biased. ***mk wj***

<345> ***r jwt*** ; Look, I <345> will come, ***mk ky r jwt*** ; and another will come, ***wšd=k*** ; so you should inquire!

<346> ***m wšbw m wšd gr***

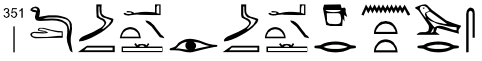
<347>***w*** ; <346> But do not respond as one who questions a humble man. ***m pḥ ntj n pḥ.n=f*** ; Do not attack one who cannot attack. ***n sf***



<348>***.n=k n mn.n=k*** ; You show no mercy, you are not troubled, *version = B2* ***n bh3.n=k*** ; you do not flee, *version = B1* ***n sksk***

<349>***.n=k*** ; you do not destroy, ***n rḏj.n=k n=j ḏb3w n mdt***

<350> ***tn nfrt*** ; nor do you give me a reward for this good speech ***prrt m r3 n ^rᶜ ḏs=f ;*** that comes forth from the mouth of Re himself!



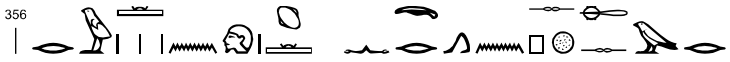
<351> ***ḏd m3ᶜt jr m3ᶜt*** ; <351> Speak justice and do justice! *version = B2* <85> ***jr rk n=j m3ᶜt*** ; <85> Do justice to me! *version = B1* ***ḏr-ntt wr sj*** ; For it is mighty,

<352> ꜥ3 *sj wꜣḥ sj* ; <352> it is great, it is enduring, *gmw.tw kft=s* ; one will find its trustworthiness,

<353> *sbw=s r jmꜣḫ* ; <353> it will lead to blessedness. *jn gsꜣ*

<354> *jwsw* ; Can a balance be crooked *version = B2* ***n gsꜣ jwsw*** ; A balance cannot be crooked *version = B1* ***ḥnkww=f pw***

<355> *fꜣyw jḫwt* ; when it is its pans that weigh things? ***n ḫpr.n pr***



<356>***w n tp-ḥsb*** ; There can be no excess of rectitude. ***n spr.n sp ḫs r***

<357> {*r*} *dmj* ; An evil deed cannot reach <357> harbour, ***ḫrj-sꜣ r sꜣḥ tꜣ*** ; but the hindermost will reach land.' *version = B2*

<91> ***jw.jn rf sḫtj pn r spr n=f 9nw sp*** ; <91> And this peasant came to plead with him for a ninth time,

<92> ***ḏd=f jmj-rꜣ pr wr nb=j*** ; <92> and said: `High steward, my lord, ***mḫꜣt pw nt***

<93> ***rmṯ ns=sn*** ; the tongue of people is their `stand'-balance, ***jn jwsw ḏꜥr***

<94> ***ḏ3t*** ; and it is the `hand'-balance that detects <94> deficiency ***jrr ḫsft r ḫsfw n=f*** ; and inflicts punishment on him who ought to be punished. ***sn.tw tp-ḥsb r=k*** ; One sets the standard after you.

<95> [...] ***grg ḫpr ḫrt=f*** ; <95> Falsehood [...] when its need arises,

<96> ***ʿnn sj mɜʿt r ʿḳɜ=f*** ; <96> but the truth returns to correct it. ***jḫt pw nt***

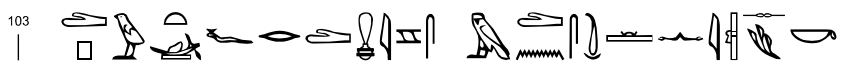
<97> grg mɜʿt ; Truth is an aspect of falsehood, ***swɜḏ=f pw*** ; which means it is made to thrive ***n nw.tw=f*** ; but it is not gathered in.

<98> ***jr šm grg jw=f tnm=f*** ; <98> When falsehood sets out, it goes astray. ***n***

<99> ***ḏ3.n=f m mḫnt*** ; It cannot cross in a ferry ***n sšɜ3.n=f*** *Restored as proposed in the note by Parkinson (1991).* ; and it cannot row.

<100> ***jr ḫwd {ḫ}ḫr=f*** ; <100> As for him who is enriched by it, ***nn msw=f***
<101> ***nn jwʿww=f tp tɜ*** ; he has no children <101> and no heirs on earth. ***jr sḳdd***

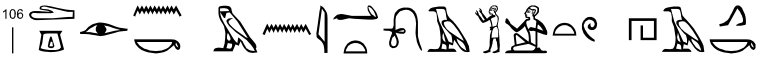
<102> ***ḫr=f*** ; As for him who sails <102> with it, ***n sɜḥ.n=f tɜ*** ; he cannot reach land, ***n mnj.n***



<103> ***dpwt=f r dmj=s*** ; his boat cannot moor in its harbour. ***m dns n js=k*** ; Don't be heavy, you haven't been light!

<104> ***m jhm n ḫ3ḫ=k*** ; <104> Don't delay, you haven't been swift! ***m nmˁ*** ; Don't be partial! ***m sḏm n***

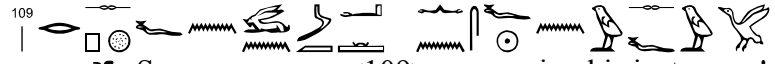
<105> ***jb*** ; Don't listen to <105> the heart! ***m ḥbs ḥr=k r rḫ.n=k*** ; Don't disregard someone you know! ***m šp ḥr=k r***



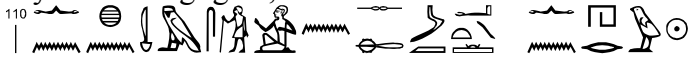
<106> ***dg n=k*** ; Don't be blind to <106> someone who looks to you! ***m nj tw3 ṯw*** ; Don't fend off someone who appeals to you! ***h3=k***

<107> ***m p3 wsf*** ; May you abandon <107> this neglect, ***smj.tw ṯs=k*** ; and may your verdict be announced!

<108> ***jr n jrr n=k*** ; <108> Act for him who acts for you ***m sḏm n bw-nb r=f*** ; and don't listen to anyone who is against him! ***njs s***



<109> ***r sp=f n wn-m3ˁ*** ; Summon a man <109> concerning his just cause! ***nn sf n wsfw*** ; There is no yesterday for the negligent,



<110> ***nn ḫnms n sḫ m3ˁt*** ; <110> no friend for him who is deaf to truth ***nn hrw***

<111> ***nfr n ˁwn-jb*** ; and no holiday for the greedy. ***ḫpr wṯsw m***

<112> ***m3ry*** ; The accuser becomes <112> wretched, ***m3ry r sprw*** ; wretched to be a suppliant,

<113> ***ḫpr ḫft m sm3w*** ; <113> and the opponent becomes a murderer. ***mk wj ḥr spr***

<114> ***n=k*** ; Look, I am pleading with <114> you ***n sḏm.n=k st*** ; but you do not hear it. ***jw=j r šmt spr=j***

<115> ***ḥr=k n ^jnpw*** ; I will go and plead <115> concerning you with Anubis.' ***rḏj.jn jmj-r3 pr wr***

<116> ***^mrw s3 ^rnsj šm jmj-s3 2*** ; Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent two guards ***r ʿn n=f*** ; to bring him back.

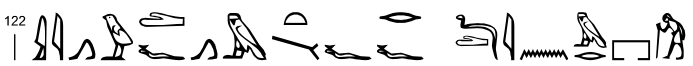
<117> ***wn.jn sḫtj pn snḏ(.w)*** ; <117> And this peasant was afraid, ***jb=f jrr.tw***

<118> ***r ḫsf n=f*** ; thinking it was done <118> to punish him ***ḥr mdt tn ḏdt.n=f*** ; on account of these words that he had said. ***ḏd.jn sḫtj pn*** ; And this peasant said:

<119> ***ḫsfw n jb m mw*** ; <119> `A thirsty man's approach of water, ***ḏ3t r3***

<120> ***n ḫrd n sbnt m jrṯt*** ; the reach of a nurseling's mouth for milk,

<121> ***ntf mwt*** ; <121> such is death ***n nḥy mȝ=f n jy=f*** ; for him who prays to see it come

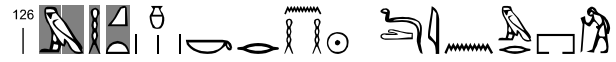


<122> ***jj wdf mwt=f r=f*** ; <122> when his death comes tardily for him.' ***ḏd.jn jmj-rȝ pr wr***

<123> ***^mrw sȝ ^rnsj*** ; Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, said: ***m snḏ sḫtj*** ; `Don't be afraid, peasant! ***mk***

<124> ***jrr=k r jrt ḥnʿ=j*** ; Look, <124> you will arrange the matter with me.' ***rḏj.jn sḫtj pn***

<125> ***ʿnḫ ḥr*** ; But this peasant swore <125> an oath: ***wnm=j ȝ m t=k*** ; `So I will eat your bread ***swr=j ȝ***



<126> ***[ḥnḳt]=k r nḥḥ*** ; and drink <126> your [beer] forever!' ***ḏd.n jmj-rȝ pr wr***

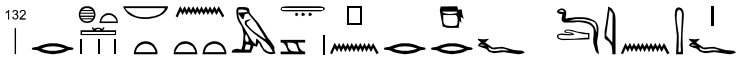
<127> ***^mrw sȝ ^rnsj*** ; The high steward Rensi, son of Meru, said: ***sȝ grt ʿȝ*** ; `Now wait here

<128> ***sḏm=k nȝy=k n sprwt*** ; <128> and hear your petitions!' ***rḏj.jn=f šd.tw***

<129> ***ḥr ꜥrt mɜt sprt nbt r ḫrt[=s]*** ; And from a new papyrus roll he had every petition read out according to [its] content.

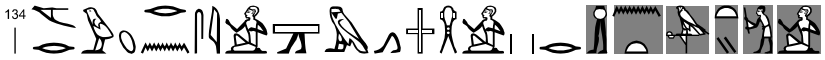
<130> ***sꜥḳ.jn sj jmj-rɜ pr wr ^mrw sɜ ^rnsj*** ; <130> Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, delivered them

<131> ***n ḥm n nsw-bjtj ^nb-kɜw-^rꜥ mɜꜥ-ḫrw*** ; <131> to the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Nebkaure, justified, ***wn.jn nfr st ḥr jb=f*** ; and they pleased his heart



<132> ***r jḫt nbt ntt m tɜ pn r-ḏr=f*** ; <132> more than anything in this entire land. ***ḏd.jn ḥm=f*** ; Then His Majesty said:

<133> ***wḏꜥ ṯw ḏs=k sɜ ^mrw*** ; <133> `Pass judgement yourself, son of Meru!' ***rḏj.jn jmj-rɜ pr wr***



<134> ***^mrw sɜ ^rnsj šm jmj-sɜ 2*** r **[*jnt ^nmtj-nḫt*]** ; And the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent two guards to [fetch Nemtinakht].

<135> **ꜥḥꜥ.n=f jn(.w)** ; <135> Then he was brought ***jr wpwt m*** **[...]** ; and an inventory was made of [...]

<136> **ꜥḥꜥ.n gm.n=f tpw 6** ; <136> He found six persons ***ḥrw-r*** **[...]**

<137> ***r šmˁ=f r btj=f r ˁ3w=f*** ; as well as [...] <137> his barley, his emmer, his donkeys, For ***btj*** see ***bdt***

<138> ***r š3w=f r ˁwt[=f]*** **[...]** ; <138> his swine, [his] small cattle, [...] [...]

<139> ^***nmtj-nḫt pn n sḫtj pn*** **[...]** ; [...] <139> this Nemtinakht [...] to this peasant [...] [...]

<140> **[...]=*f nbt*** [...] ; [...] <140> [...] all his [...] [...]

<141> ***n*** ^***nmtj-nḫt pn*** [...] ; [...] <141> of this Nemtinakht [...]

<142> ***jw=f pw*** **[*ḥ3t=f r pḥwj=fj mj gmyt m sš*]** ; <142> This was copied [from start to finish as found in writing].