

Adcock, F. E., Thucydides and his History (Cambridge) 1963

Revisions and Additions

It has been observed that in a number of places throughout the work as we have it, short passages are inserted without introducing modifications of their context. An eminent instance of this, a sentence apparently inserted, is 1, 97, 2 which is strictly inconsistent with what immediately precedes and follows it . . . Where we find slight inconsistencies of inconnninities of this kind they may be there to remind the author to take account of them in a later and more final revision of the work, which would happen on the eve of publication (95)

Publication

It is generally agreed that T did not himself supervise the publication of his work as we have it. Its division into books was not of his making. (96/1)

It has been a long-disputed question how faithfully this autograph was copied out for multiplication when the work was made available for those persons who wished to procure a copy. Some have supposed the work was edited by someone who did not hesitate to make changes which his judgment approved. This thesis is difficult to maintain, for such an 'editor' would hardly have been content to allow the narrative of Book VIII to end in the middle of an incident, just because that was where the autograph in his possession ended. Only a person dominated by fidelity to the material before him would have let this happen. (974-8)

The name of Xenophon has been suggested for that of "Redactor" (98/1) Xenophon wrote a work of his own which began where the published books of T left off (98/7) M. Delebecque suggests that T chose out X to continue his work and provided him with material to do so. This idea is not accepted by Adcock. (98-99) Are there no cogent reasons for believing T lived into the 4th cent BC (100/4). Theories regarding whether T finished his narrative (101-103). Is possible he may have come short of a complete narrative, but that he did write more than we possess seems almost inescapable (103/9)

Conclusion

For well over a century scholars have tried to discover a provable and indisputable answer to the question by what stages and when T composed his work as we have it. No one theory has driven out all its rivals so as to stand alone universally accepted. (107)