

Page, Denys, History and the Homeric Iliad (Los Angeles: U of Calif. Press) 1963

- p. 111-112 The Iliad does not disagree with the Hittite documents; it supplements them . . . .
- p. 120 What The Catalogue offers is a description of Greece as it was in the Mycenaean period; and the questions must be answered, is it a fictitious description, or is it wholly or partly true? And, if there is truth in it, how did the truth survive through the Dark Ages into the Iliad?

. . . in 1921 . . . T. W. Allen . . . observed that the majority of the identifiable places . . . were in fact occupied by the Mycenaeans. . . . The evidence was . . . brought up to date by Viktor Burr in 1944 . . . . the general conclusion is now established beyond reasonable doubt. . . . the most cautious critic will have to admit that of the 164 places named in the Catalogue some 96 have been more or less certainly identified; and that archaeology has already proved the Mycenaean occupation of at least 48 of these 96. As for the other 48, the evidence of place names or intimate connection with earliest legend assigns about a quarter of them to the Mycenaean era. The same cautious critic will allow that the number of places whose approximate location is known, or whose exact location is probably known, amounts to a further 33; and that at least a quarter of these are known to be Mycenaean sites. There is a remainder of some 35 places whose location is unknown or very doubtful; but several of these have names which support their claim to be pre-Dorian. In brief, not one of the identifiable places is known to have been founded later than the Dorian occupation; at least half the identifiable places, and almost all the excavated places, are known to have been inhabited during the later Mycenaean period. That is to say, so far as we can judge, the portrait of Mycenaean Greece is true to life.

- p. 121 . . . A final and decisive proof of the Mycenaean origin of the Catalogue . . . is to be found in the observation that many places named in the Catalogue could not be identified by the Greeks themselves in historic times; and that some of them were abandoned before the Dorian occupation and never resettled. . . .

- p. 122 There is no escape from this conclusion: the names in the Catalogue afford proof positive and unrefuted that the Catalogue offers a truthful, though selective, description of Mycenaean Greece. . . (How did this list survive through the Dark Ages?) . . . the Catalogue survived by word of mouth; and that means through the oral tradition of Epic poetry.

pp. 124- Page points out whereas the Catalogue and the Iliad have certain presuppositions in common, they are also in violent conflict in three matters and especially about the nature and extent of the kingdoms of three of the principal heroes, - Achilles, Odysseys, and Agamemnon. Page is willing to assert that "the two differ, not that the one contradicts the other, as if we knew which of them spoke first." (p. 128). . . . "one of them is misleading us, but there is no objective means of deciding which one it is."

- p. 136-7 To Page it is inconceivable that the connexion between the Catalogue and the Trojan War should be fictitious. He regards the Catalogue as substantially of Mycenaean origin and therefore proof positive of a war of Greeks against Trojans in the Mycenaean period. He regards the Trojan Catalogue as having parts of Mycenaean origin