

Page, Denys, History and the Homeric Iliad (Los Angeles) 1963

- p. 151 Page believes that the places given in the Catalogue are real; most of the persons are real +
- p. 153 Page considers the numbers of ships "reckless exaggerations". . . . He concludes that the Catalogues are "substantially Mycenaean compositions, rather expanded than altered by the Ionians." - +

Page takes it that

1. The Achaean and Trojan Catalogues are substantially inheritances from the later Mycenaean period, orally transmitted through the Dark Ages +
2. That both Catalogues are, . . . Orders of Battle; and that their connexion with an overseas expedition must be historically true; +
3. That they were preserved independently of the poetical tradition which culminated in the Iliad
4. That the Iliad, which diverges widely from the lines drawn by the Catalogues, incorporated the Catalogues at a very late stage of its development
5. that numerous minor additions and adjustments were made within the Catalogues at the time or, or after, their incorporation in the Iliad; but that the lists of persons and places were not much altered; ?
6. that the numbers of ships are certainly to some extent and may be wholly Ionian additions to the Catalogue -

Some Mycenaean Relics in the Iliad

boar's tusk helmet ✓
 p. 218 The Iliad and Odyssey describe in accurate detail places and objects which never existed in the world after the Mycenaean era. The boar's-tusk helmet in the Tenth Book of the Iliad is one of the best examples: here is a distinctive and complex object, accurately described in the Iliad at the latest stage of its development, known to have been fashionable so far back as the 16th and 15th centuries B.C., obsolete in the 13th and extinct in the 12th century. +

p. 219 The second proof is provided by the Homeric dialect. The language of the Epic is predominantly Ionic: but deeply embedded within it are forms and features alien to Ionic but familiar to the Arcadian and Aeolic dialects. - +

et
 p. 232-233 Page believes the shield of Ajax ("like a tower") goes back into the Minoan Mycenaean era. This type is seen on dagger blade and signet ring from the shaft graves at Mycenae, and on other works of art down to, but not after, the third Late Helladic period. The traditional description of the shield of Ajax, together with one or two episodes in the Iliad, preserves the memory of an object which was common in the Mycenaean era but never existed in the world afterwards. And there is no way by which that memory could have been preserved through the Dark Ages into our Iliad except through the medium of Greek Epic poetry, orally composed and continuously transmitted. +

p. 248 Page does not believe that "Hector" was invented by Homer. +