

Carpenter, Rhys, Folk Tale, Fiction and Saga in the Homeric Epics, U. of Calif, 1946

p. 35 Let it be said at once that no informed reader has ever doubted the actuality of its geographic setting! . . . From the text alone we may gather a fairly extensive picture of Trojan topography.

FACT

p. 36 In the thirteenth book it is recounted how Poseidon seated himself on the highest peak of wooded Samothrace "whence all Ida was visible and the city of Priam and the ships of the Achaeans." . . . But the visitor to Troy is startled and delighted to discover on a clear day over a notched shoulder of intervening Imbros the sharp 5,000-foot peak of Samothrace. And he will turn again to his Iliad, knowing with what precise accuracy was composed the verse which put Poseidon, not vaguely somewhere on Samothrace, but exactly "on the topmost peak of wooded Samos" to look at Troy.

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p. 38 Homer's poem is the product of a mind completely informed of the exterior physical setting which he has accepted for his story and anxious to treat it with complete literal accuracy.

p. 40

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