

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	vii
Abbreviations of editions and works of reference	xi
Introduction	1
Part 1: The tradition of the contest between Homer and Hesiod	5
1. The origins	5
Hesiod, <i>Works and Days</i> 648–62	5
[Hesiod], fr. 357 MW	7
2. Ancient scholarship on the <i>Works and Days</i> :	
Plutarch and Proclus	10
The scholium to Hesiod's <i>Works and Days</i> 650–62	11
Plutarch, <i>Table Talk</i> 674f–675a and <i>Dinner of the Seven Sages</i> 153f–154a	13
Proclus, <i>Life of Homer</i> 6	20
3. Second Sophistic: Dio Chrysostom, Philostratus, and Lucian ..	23
Dio Chrysostom, <i>Oration on Kingship</i> 2.7–12	24
Philostratus, <i>Heroicus</i> 43.7–10	27
Lucian, <i>True Story</i> 2.20–22	30
4. Late antique rhetoric: Themistius and Libanius	34
Themistius, <i>Oration</i> 30.348c–349a	34
Libanius, <i>Defence of Socrates</i> 65–6	37
5. The Byzantine age: John Tzetzes and Eustathius	40
John Tzetzes	40
Eustathius, <i>Commentary on Homer's Iliad</i> (I 6, 28–7, 1 van der Valk)	45
Part 2: Textual tradition	47
1. Manuscripts	48
Florence, Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana, Plut. 56.1	48
Vienna, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Phil. gr. 187	52
2. Papyri	60
P.Petr. I 25 (1) (P.Lond.Lit. 191)	60
P.Mich. inv. 2754	67
P.Ath.Soc.Pap. inv. M2	75
P.Freib. 1.1 b (inv. 12)	77
P.Duk. inv. 665 (<i>olim</i> P.Duk. inv. MF75 6)	80

Part 3: Text and translation	83
Part 4: Commentary	115
Introductory remarks	115
1. Introduction (1–2); Hesiod's birthplace (2–6)	117
2. Homer's birthplace (7–17)	118
3. Homer's parents (18–27); Homer's name (27–32); Hadrian (32–43)	123
4. Homer's and Hesiod's chronology and genealogy (44–53)	131
5. Homer's oracle (54–62)	136
6. Introduction to the contest (62–74)	139
7. The 'riddles of the superlative' (74–89)	141
8. The reaction to Homer's performance (90–4); the 'insoluble challenge' (94–101)	144
9. The 'ambiguous propositions' (102–37)	147
10. The 'numerical problem' (138–48)	156
11. The 'philosophical questions' (148–75)	158
12. The 'finest passages' (176–204)	164
13. The verdict (205–14); Hesiod's oracle (215–23)	167
14. Hesiod's death (224–53)	170
15. Homer's <i>Thebaid</i> and <i>Epigoni</i> (254–60); the Midas epigram and the silver cup (260–74)	176
16. <i>Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i> (275–6); Homer in Athens (276–85)	181
17. Homer in Corinth (286–7); Homer in Argos (287–314)	183
18. Homer in Delos (315–21); Homer's death (321–38)	188
Figures	195
Bibliography	199
General index	215
Index of Greek words	220
Index of passages	221