

Trojan war with the 6th-c. war (cf. Gothic and Tarquinian wars). The shift is by c. 1,800 years.

Trojan war	Gothic and Tarquinian wars
1a. Greatest event in Greek history: Victors destroyed Trojan kingdom (see below)	1b. Greatest event in Greco-Roman history: Greeks (Romaic) destroyed Third Roman Empire and its last phase, Ostrogoths' kingdom
2a. First preserved medieval text describing war dates from 6th c. A.D. (though ascribed to 3rd-4th cc. A.D.)	2b. Took place in mid-6th c. A.D. (at any rate, not earlier than 6th c. A.D.)

The historians' attitude towards Dares' and Dictys' texts is negative. e.g.,

"Two newly discovered 'genuine eye-witnesses' of the Trojan war were regarded as more important (in the Middle Ages—A. F.) than 'Homer's fabulous poem' (known only in 'fragments'—A. F.)" ([251], p. 45).

"Many 19th-c. scientists denied the existence of the Greek manuscript (Dictys'—A. F.), and believed that Lucius Septimius was the author of this famous falsification ... However, a fragment of Dictys' diary was discovered in Egyptian papyri in 1907 ..." (*ibid.*).

It turns out that

"Thucydides regarded the very *Iliad* as unreliable ..." (*ibid.*).

The language of the Phrygian Dares' Latin texts ... "makes the classical philologists indignant ... the Greek original ... was not preserved" ([251], p. 45).

The above texts, and, especially, that of the 6th c. A.D., generated very large numbers of works on the Trojan war (the so-called "Trojan cycle"). Note that the well-known 8-9th-c. poet Angilbert, also bearing the name of Homer, was working in Charlemagne's court (see above). It is important that the "classical" Homer, author of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, did mention Dares in his poems (at the beginning of Sec. V). Furthermore, Homer mentioned the Cretan king Idomeneus whose fellow fighter in the Trojan expedition was Dictys (*ibid.*). Dares was also mentioned in Virgil's *Aeneid* ([251], pp. 45-46). Following the traditional historians logic, we should make the conclusion that the "classical" Homer was writing not earlier than the 6th c. A.D. (because he was aware of Dares and Dictys); the same should be applied to Virgil, too.

"For one thousand years until the very 17th c. A.D., Dares' and Dictys' fame eclipsed that of Homer. Isidore of Seville regarded Dares as the first historian after Moses, and Herodotus' forerunner. In the 12th c. A.D., Dares, the Phrygian, became one of the most famous writers of antiquity (the "falsification" theory was advanced only in the 19th c. A.D.—A. F.)" ([251], p. 47).

We constructed a graph demonstrating the distribution in time of the works of the Trojan cycle; it starts with the 6th c. (the century of the first preserved original text), and possesses an explicit maximum in the 12-13th cc. A.D. when especially many "Trojan legends" were written. We took the data from [107], [251]. As early as the 13th c., having retold the Trojan war according to Dares and Dictys, Joseph of Exeter insisted that