

The Iliad
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Ann Arbor

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Dedication and Acknowledgments

While I was working on my translation of the *Odyssey*, the *Iliad* loomed as a yet higher peak to be scaled. In the event, it has taken me much less time, for I was able not only to draw on the skills I developed and the formulaic phrasing I worked out for that earlier undertaking but also to spend almost all my time on the task. I owe much of the credit for this happy state of affairs to my mother, Ivanelle Merrill, who has helped support me financially, and to my partner, Bruce Burton, who has given me support of many kinds. I dedicate this translation to them.

I must also acknowledge the indispensable contributions of commentators, translators, and lexicographers listed in the bibliography. I have constantly had at my side the versions of Richmond Lattimore and A. T. Murray—the latter revised by William F. Wyatt—and have plundered them freely for felicitous phrasing. I want especially to thank, among my friends, two learned devotees of Homer, J. K. Anderson and Stephen Daitz, who have read through the entire translation and given me valuable suggestions for improving it and the introduction. Thanks also to Gregory Nagy for his counsel and support, and to him and the members of his Berkeley seminar, Spring 2002, for admitting me to their stimulating discussions of ancient hexameter poetry. Michael Tillotson and Thomas R. Walsh have advised me on many matters of translation and interpretation, as well as helping me with matters introductory and bibliographical. They and the other members of the Berkeley Greek Club—Prof. Anderson, Frederick Amory, Louise Chu, Gary Holland, John Nickel, Christopher Simon, and Andrew Stewart—have heard me read many passages of the work and responded sympathetically and critically. Linda Anderson and Anne Stewart have commented helpfully on the introduction. Those who have encouraged me by their favorable response to my earlier translation are too numerous to name, but I

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