HECTOR'S HAIR-STYLE

On Aen. 2. 277 DServius notes 'non sine ratione etiam hoc de crinibus dolet Aeneas, quia illis maxime Hector commendabatur, adeo ut etiam tonsura ab eo nomen acceperit, sicut Graeci poetae docent.' Fraenkel showed (J.R.S. xxxix [1949], 151 f., = Kl. Beitr. ii. 381 f.) that the reference in Graeci poetae is to Lycophron (1133 τοὺς Ἑκτορείοις ἢγλαϊσμένους κόμαις), the source of the comment being provided by Eustathius 1276. 29, a scholion on Il. 22. 401 f. He adds a caution against supposing that Servius' source referred not only to Lycophron but also to other Greek poets, 'e.g. some Attic comedians'. That such allusions were in fact made in Comedy is proved by Pollux (2. 29, discussing κουρᾶς εἶδη): ἐκαλεῖτο δέ τις καὶ Ἑκτόρειος κόμη, περὶ ἢς φησὶν Ἀναξίλας "τὴν Ἑκτόρειον τὴν ἐφίμερον κόμην" (Anaxilas, fab. incert. vi, Meineke F.C.G. iii. 355).

The Cod. Marc. scholiast to Lycophron, l.c., states Εκτόρειος κόμη λέγεται η΄ τὰ ὀπίσω καθειμένα ἔχουσα, τὰ δὲ ἔμπροσθε κεκαρμένα: i.e., Hector wore his hair long at the back, cropped in front. This description tallies with an observation by Timaeus, recorded by Pollux (2. 30) in the context of the <math>Εκτόρειος κόμη: Τίμαιος δὲ τὴν κουρὰν ταύτην προσεστάλθαι μὲν δεῖν περὶ τὸ μέτωπον λέγει, τῷ δὲ τραχήλῳ περικεχύσθαι (F. Gr. H 566 F 54). Timaeus presumably made his statement in connection with the hair-style of the Daunians; Jacoby quotes Hesychius, s.v. <math>Εκτόρειοι κόμαι ως Δαύνιοι καὶ Πενκέτιοι, ἔχοντες τὴν ἀπ' Ἰλίον τοῖς ιωμοις περικεχυμένην τρίχα. The Daunians are mentioned, with a reference to Timaeus, in schol. Tzetz. on Lycophron 1137–8 (cf. schol. Marc. on 1138); this suggests the possibility that the scholion on Lycophron 1133 is also based on Timaeus, although admittedly there is no correspondence in language.

One would have expected vase-paintings to illustrate this obviously celebrated $\kappa ov \rho \acute{a}$, but the living Hector is always shown helmeted, while the representations of his dead body being ransomed by Priam give no help in the detection of his hair-fashion (e.g. the Vienna skyphos by the Brygos Painter, $A.R.V.^2$ 380/171 = Paralipomena 366/171, or the Munich Oltos cup, $A.R.V.^2$ 61/74 = Paralipomena 327/74). However, there is one remarkable exception, a hydria which can be dated c. 510, now in America, listed and illustrated in Münzen und Medaillen A. G. Basel, Auktion 34, May 1967, no. 149. In this ransom-scene Hector is shown lying on his back, with a great fuzz of hair bulging mop-fashion behind his head, a quite astonishing style; and whereas Achilles has a tuft of hair projecting over his forehead, Hector's front hair is apparently close-cut. It looks very much as if the curiously persistent literary tradition of the $E\kappa\tau \acute{o}\rho\epsilon\iotaos$ $\kappa\acute{o}\mu\eta$ gains definite and early support from this sixth-century vase.

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