[Sir Thomas L. Heath, *The Thirteen Books of Euclid's Elements* (2nd edition), p. 232 (1925).]

[Heath's commentary on Euclid, *Elements*, Book I, Common Notion 5.]

Common Notion 5.

καὶ τὸ ὅλον τοῦ μέρους μεῖζόν [ἐστιν]. The whole is greater than the part.

Proclus includes this "axiom" on the same ground as the preceding one. I think however there is force in the objection which Tannery takes to it, namely that it replaces a *different* expression in Eucl. I. 6, where it is stated that "the triangle DBC will be equal to the triangle ACB, the less to the greater: which is absurd." The axiom appears to be an abstraction or generalisation substituted for an immediate inference from a geometrical figure, but it takes the form of a sort of definition of whole and part. The probabilities seem to be against it being genuine, notwithstanding Proclus' approval of it.

Clavius added the axiom that the whole is equal to the sum of its parts.