

central passage¹ of the Great Pyramid of Cheops (Knum Khufu) at Ghizeh, in 30° of north latitude, as also from the similar points in five other like structures; and the same fact is asserted by Sir John Herschel as to the two pyramids at Abousseir.

Herschel considered that there is distinct evidence of Thuban formerly being brighter than now, as its title from its constellation, and its lettering, would indicate; for with Bayer it was a 2d-magnitude,—in fact the only one of that brilliancy in his list of Draco,—and generally so in star-catalogues previous to two centuries ago. It culminates on the 7th of June.

β , probably Binary, 3 and 14, yellow.

Rastaban and **Rastaben** are from **Al Rās al Thu'bān**, the Dragon's Head,—Schickard's **Raso tabbani**.

In early Arab astronomy it was one of **Al 'Awāld**, the Mother Camels, γ , μ , ν , and ξ completing the figure, which was later known as the **Quinque Dromedarii**. From the Arabic word comes another modern name, **Alwaid**, unless it may be from a different conception of the group as **Al 'Awwād**, the Lute-player. Still other Desert titles were **Al Rākis**, the Dancer, or Trotting Camel, now given to μ ; and it formed part of **Al Ṣalīb al Waki'**, the Falling Cross, β and ξ forming the perpendicular, γ , μ , and ν the transverse; and thus designated as if slanting away from the observer to account for the paucity of stars in the upright.

Asuia, current in the Middle Ages and since, was from **Al Shujā'**, and often has been written **Asvia**, the letter *u* being mistakenly considered the early *v*. The companion, 4'' away, at a position angle of 130.4 , was discovered by Burnham.

β and γ , 4° apart, near the solstitial colure, have been known as the **Dragon's Eyes**, incorrect now, although Proctor thought them so located in the original figuring of a front view of Draco. Modern drawings place them on the top of the head.

In China they were **Tien Kae**.

γ , Double, 2.4 and 13.2, orange.

Eltanin, also written **Ettanin**, **Etannin**, **Etanim**, **Etamin**, etc., is from Ulug Beg's **Al Rās al Tinnin**, the Dragon's Head, applied to this, as it also

¹ This passage, 4 feet by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter and 380 feet long, was directed northward to this star, doubtless by design of the builder, from a point deep below the present base, at an inclination of $26^\circ 17'$ to the horizon. At the time of its building, perhaps four millenniums before our era, the Southern Cross was entirely visible to the savage Britons.