

to both constellations; although the supposed stormy character of the whole group in affecting navigation may have induced the epithet for Orion's greatest star.

Astrologers said that splendor and honors fell to the lot of those who were born under it.

In the Norsemen's astronomy Rigel marked one of the great toes of Orwandil, the other toe having been broken off by the god Thor when frost-bitten, and thrown to the northern sky, where it became the little Alcor of the Greater Bear.

Although lettered below Betelgeuze, it is usually superior to it in brightness, being estimated in the *Harvard Photometry* as exactly equal to Arcturus, Capella, and Wega. Its spectrum is like that of Sirius, and it is receding from our system about $10\frac{1}{4}$ miles a second.

The smaller star, at a position angle of 200° , is $9''.1$ away, but not easily seen owing to the brightness of the principal. It is strongly suspected that this smaller star itself is closely double.

Another minute companion is $44''.5$ away.

γ , Slightly variable, 2, pale yellow.

Bellatrix, the Female Warrior, the **Amazon Star**, is from the translation, rather freely made in the *Alfonsine Tables*, of its Arabic title, **Al Najid**, the Conqueror. Kazwini had this last, but Ulug Beg said **Al Murzim al Najid**, the Roaring Conqueror, or, according to Hyde, the Conquering Lion heralding his presence by his roar, as if this star were announcing the immediate rising of the still more brilliant Rigel, or of the whole constellation. This Murzim occasionally appears in our day as **Mirzam**, which is also applied to both of the stars β in the two Dogs as heralds of Sirius and Procyon.

Al Sufi had **Al Ruzam**, which Hyde said was another of the very many Arabic words for the lion, but Beigel thought it also a reference to the camel, another roarer. Still it is well to remember in this connection Ideler's remark that "etymology has full play with a word which has not traveled beyond astronomical language,"—a statement equally applicable to very many other star-names.

Caesius cited **Alganza** from the name for the whole.

γ marks the left shoulder of Orion, and naturally shared the Arabs' **Mankib**, and the Hindus' **Bahū**, titles of the star α on the right shoulder of Orion and forearm of the Stag.

In Amazon River myth Bellatrix is a **Young Boy in a Canoe** with an old

man, the star Betelgeuze, chasing the Peixie Boi, a dark spot in the sky near Orion.

In astrology it was the natal star of all destined to great civil or military honors, and rendered all women born under its influence lucky and loquacious; or, as old Thomas Hood said, "women born under this constellation shall have mighty tongues."

Its spectrum is Sirian in character, and indicates that it is receding from our system at the rate of about $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles a second.

♂, Double and slightly variable, 2.4 and 6.8, brilliant white and pale violet.

Mintaka, from **Al Mintakah**, the Belt, is the first star seen in that portion of the rising constellation. Burritt has it **Mintika**.

Astrologers considered it of importance as portending good fortune.

It is about 23' of arc south of the celestial equator, the components 53" apart, at a position angle of 0°. The spectrum is Sirian, and the star seems to have very little motion either of approach or recession.

Burnham has discovered still another companion of the 13th to 14th magnitudes, one of the faintest ever seen near a brilliant star.

ε, 1.8, bright white.

Alnilam, **Anilam**, **Ainilam**, and **Alnihan** are from **Al Niṭhām**, or **Al Naṭhm**, the String of Pearls, or, as Recorde said, the Bullions set in the middle of Orion's Belt.

It portended fleeting public honors to those born under its influence.

The spectrum is Sirian, and the star recedes from us at the rate of about $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles a second.

It is the central one of the Belt, culminating on the 25th of January.

ζ, Triple, 2.5, 6.5, and 9, topaz yellow, light purple, and gray.

Alnitak, or **Alnitah**, for this, the lowest star in the Belt, is from **Al Niṭāk**, the Girdle.

The spectrum is Sirian, and the star recedes from us about nine miles a second.

One of its components, 2".4 distant from the largest, at a position angle of 155°, was singularly missed by Sir William Herschel, but discovered by Kunowski in 1819, and seems of some nondescript hue about which ob-