Capricorn is, after Cancer, the most inconspicuous in the zodiac, and chiefly noticeable for the duplicity of its *lucida*.

Argelander charted 45 naked-eye stars within its borders; and Heis 63.

α^1, Double, 3.2 and 4.2, yellow.
α^2, Triple, 3, 11.5, and 11.5, pale yellow, ash, and lilac.

These are the **Prima** and **Secunda Giedi,** or plain **Algedi,** from the Arabian constellation title Al Jady.

Other titles, **Dabih** and the degenerated **Dschäbbe** and **Dshabeh,** applied to them, but more commonly to β, have been traced by some to Al Jabbah, the Forehead, although the stars are nearer the tip of the horn; but the names undoubtedly come from **Al Sa'd al Dhābiḥ,** the Lucky One of the Slaughterers, the title of the 20th *manzil* (of which these *alphas* and β were the determinant point), manifestly referring to the sacrifice celebrated by the heathen Arabs at the heliacal rising of Capricorn. And of similar signification was the Euphratean **Shak-shadi** and the Coptic **Eupeutōs**, or **Opeutus,** for the same lunar asterism of those peoples.

Brown thinks that a, then seen only as a single star, with β and ν was known by the Akkadians as **Uz,** the Goat; and as **Enzu** in the astronomy of their descendants; while Epping is authority for the statement that this, or perhaps β, marked the 26th ecliptic asterism of the Babylonians, **Qarnu Shahū,** the Horn of the Goat. Brown also says that a represented the 8th antediluvian king Amar Sin,— Ἀμέμψινος.

In Hipparchos' time the two *alphas* were but 4′ apart, and it was not till towards Bayer's day that they had drifted sufficiently away from each other to be readily separated by the naked eye. Their distance in 1880 was 6¼′, and this is increasing by 7″ in every hundred years.

They culminate on the 9th of September.

Smyth described a minute blue companion of a^2 which he caught "in little evanescent flashes, so transient as again to recall Burns's snow-flakes on a stream"; and mentioned Sir John Herschel's suggestion that this might shine by reflected light. Alvan G. Clark doubled this in 1862, the distance being 1″.2, and the position angle 239°.

β^1, and β^2, 2.5 and 6, each double, orange yellow and sky blue.

Dabih Major and **Dabih Minor** are the names of this so-called double, but telescopically multiple, star, taken from the title of the *manzil* of which, with a, it formed part.

These *betas*, with a, ν, o, π, and ρ farther to the south, were the 20th *sieu* of China, **Nieu**, or **Keen Nieu**, the Ox, anciently **Ngu**, or **Gu**, themselves being the determinants. The lunar asterism was in some way intimately connected in religious worship with the rearing of the silkworm in that country.

The two stars mark the head of the Goat, the components 205″ distant from each other, and each very closely double. The duplicity of β^1 was first recognized in 1883 by Barnard from its behavior at an occultation by the moon, this discovery being soon verified and measured by Professor Young, Hough, and other observers.

γ, 3.8.

Nashira is from **Al Sa'd al Nashirah**, the Fortunate One, or the Bringer of Good Tidings, which the early Arabs applied to this when taken with δ. Smyth gave it as **Sa'dubnáshirah**; and the *Standard Dictionary* repeats this as **Saib' Nasch-rú-ah!**

Bayer had the later **Deneb Algedi**, the Tail of the Goat, that is more proper for δ; the *Alfonsine Tables* of 1521, **Denebalchedi**, which has degenerated to **Scheddi**; and the fine wall star-map of Doctor Ferdn. Reuter, **Deneb Algethi**; but this is erroneous, and a confusion with the Arabian title for the constellation Hercules.

γ marked the 27th Babylonian ecliptic asterism, **Mahar sha hi-na Shahū**, the Western One in the Tail of the Goat.

With δ, ε, κ and stars in Aquarius and Pisces it was the Chinese **Luy Pei Chen**, the Intrenched Camp.

δ, 3.1.

Deneb Algedi is the transcription by Ulug Beg's translator of **Al Dhanab al Jady**, the Tail of the Goat; changed to **Scheddi** in some lists,—a name also found for γ.

Ideler said that these stars were **Al Muḥibbain**, the Two Friends, an Arabic allegorical title for any two closely associated objects; but Beigel differed with him as to this, and wrote it **Al Muhanaim**, the Two Bending Stars,—in the flexure of the tail,—for "moral beings are foreign to the nomad sky."

It marked the 28th ecliptic constellation of Babylonia, **Arkat sha hi-na Shahū**, the Eastern One in the Tail of the Goat.

5° to the eastward is the point announced by Le Verrier[1] as the position

[1] Flammarion, who was intimate with Le Verrier, thinks that the latter never had the curiosity to observe his planet through the telescope, strangely content with his mathematical achievement! And it is interesting to know that Doctor Galle, in his 85th year, in 1896 received the congratulations of the astronomical world upon the 50th anniversary of the finding of Neptune.