

$\sigma$ , with  $\zeta$  and  $\pi$ , may have been the Akkadian **Gu-ah-rab-ba**, the Yoke of the Sea.

The 5th-magnitude stars  $\psi^1$ ,  $\chi^1$ , and  $\chi^2$  were the Chinese asterism **Kow**, the Dog.

$\omega$ , 4.8; A, 5;  $b$ , 4.7; and  $c$ , 4,

forming a small quadrangle on the hind quarter of the horse, were the  $\tau\epsilon\tau\rho\acute{\alpha}\tau\lambda\epsilon\nu\rho\omicron\nu$  of Ptolemy, which Bayer repeated in the Low Latin **Terebellum**, still often seen for these stars. The *Standard Dictionary* gives it thus, but mentions the components as  $\omega$ , or  $a^1$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .

The Chinese knew this little figure as **Kow Kwo**, the Dog's Country.



### **Sceptrum Brandenburgicum, the Brandenburg Sceptre,**

was charted in 1688 by Gottfried Kirch, the first astronomer of the Prussian Royal Society of Sciences, and, more than a century thereafter, was published by Bode, who thus rescued it for a time from the oblivion into which, however, it seems to have lapsed again. It contains but four stars, of the 4th and 5th magnitudes, standing in a straight line north and south, below the first bend in the River, west from Lepus.

The Chinese here had an asterism, **Kew Yew**, the nine Scallops of a Pennon, but in this they included  $\mu$ ,  $\omega$ , and  $b$  of Eridanus.

There was, in the sky, still another **Sceptre** held by the **Hand of Justice**, introduced by Royer in 1679 in honor of King Louis XIV, in the place of Lacerta; but this also has been forgotten.



. . . that cold animal

Which with its tail doth smite amain the nations.

Longfellow's translation of Dante's *Purgatorio*.

### **Scorpio, or Scorpius, the Scorpion,**

was the reputed slayer of the Giant, exalted to the skies and now rising from the horizon as Orion, still in fear of the Scorpion, sinks below it; al-