

chief among the stars of the Ostrich's Nest, which the word signifies. The other components were  $\zeta$ ,  $\rho$ , and  $\sigma$ ; but this last, the 17th of Ptolemy, is not now to be identified in the sky, although it may be one of the three stars  $\rho$  displaced by proper motion since Ptolemy's time.

Near  $\eta$ , towards  $\tau$ , are some other stars —  $\varepsilon$  and  $\pi$  Ceti among them — which in early days were included in the Nest, but later were set apart by Al Sufi as **Al Sadr al Ketos**, the Breast of the Whale.

$\theta$ , Double, 3 and 5.25.

**Achernar** was the early name for this at the then recognized end of the stream, Halley saying of it, *ultima fluminis in veteri catalogo*, referring to Tycho's work, of which his own was a supplement. Various forms of its title are given under  $\alpha$ , but **Acamar**, from the *Alfonsine Tables*, is peculiar to  $\theta$ .

Ulug Beg called it **Al Thalim**, the Ostrich, but Hyde rendered this the Dam, as if blocking the flow of the stream to the south.

Bullialdus, in his edition of Chrysococca's work, had it 'Αὔλαξ, the Furrow, equivalent to the *sulcus* used by Vergil to denote the track of a vessel, appropriate enough to a star situated in the Stream of Ocean; and Riccioli distinctly gave **Sulcus** for it in his *Astronomia Reformata*.

It is the solitary star visible from the latitude of New York City in early winter evenings, low down in the south, on the meridian with Menkar of the Whale; but Baily said that its brilliancy has probably lessened since Ptolemy's time, for the latter designated it by  $\alpha$  — *i. e.* of the 1st magnitude.

Between it and Fomalhaut lie many small stars, not mentioned by Ptolemy, that Hyde said were **Al Zibāl**; but Al Sufi had already called them **Al Ri'al**, the Little Ostriches.

$\iota$ ,  $\kappa$ ,  $\phi$ , and  $\chi$ , of about the 4th magnitude, were another **Tien Yuen** of the Chinese, different from that marked by  $\gamma$ ;  $\iota$  and  $\kappa$  are the lowest in the constellation visible from the latitude of New York.

$\mu$  and  $\omega$ , 4th-magnitude stars lying westward of  $\beta$ , were **Kew Yew** in China; Reeves including under this title  $\delta$  and the stars of the Sceptre.

$\sigma^1$ , 4.1, clear white.

In early Arabia this was **Al Baiḍ**, the Egg, from its peculiarly white color, as well as from its position near the Ostrich's Nest. Modern lists generally write it **Beid**.

**Situla**, the Urn, also has been used for it, although there is no apparent applicability here, and the title is universally recognized for  $\kappa$  Aquarii.