

the god **Dāgōn** of the Syrians, the **Phagre** and **Oxyrinque** adored in Egypt; and it even has been associated with the still greater **Oannes**.

It also was **Ἰχθύς** and **Ἰχθύς νότιος**; **Ἰχθύς μέγας** and **Piscis magnus**; **Ἰχθύς μονάζων** and **Piscis solitarius**; **Piscis Capricorni**, from its position; and it is specially mentioned by Avienus as the **Greater Fish**. Longfellow, in the notes to his translation of the *Divine Comedy*, called it the **Golden Fish**, probably as being so much more conspicuous than those in the north.

When the Arabians adopted the Greek constellations and names this became **Al Ḥūt al Janūbiyy**, the Large Southern Fish, distorted in late mediæval days into **Haut elgenubi**, and given by Chilmead as **Ahaut Al-genubi**; but their figure was extended further to the south than ours, and so included stars of the modern Grus. Smyth wrote of it:

The Mosaicists held the asterism to represent the **Barrel of Meal** belonging to Sarephtha's widow; but Schickard pronounces it to be the **Fish** taken by St. Peter with a piece of money in its mouth.

Bayer said that it partook of the astrological character of the planet Saturn. Gould assigns to it 75 naked-eye components.

α , 1.3, reddish.

Fomalhaut, from the Arabic **Fum al Ḥūt**, the Fish's Mouth, has long been the common name for this star, Smyth saying that **Fom Alhout Al-genubi** appears, with its translation *Os Piscis Meridiani*, in a still existing manuscript almanac of 1340.

Aratos distinctly mentioned it as

One large and bright by both the *Pourer's* feet,

which is its location in the maps of to-day, although sometimes it has marked the eye of the Fish, and formerly was still differently placed, as is noted at β .

In addition to putting it in its own constellation, Ptolemy inserted it in his **Ἰσθμικός**, and Flamsteed followed him in making it his 24 of **Piscis Australis** and 79 of **Aquarius**, calling it *Aquæ Ultima Fomalhaut*.

No other star seems to have had so varied an orthography.

The *Alfonsine Tables* of 1521 locate it in **Aquarius** as **Fomahant** and of the 1st magnitude, but they describe it in **Piscis Meridionalis** as *in ore*, omitting its title and calling it a 4th-magnitude. The other editions of these *Tables*, and **Kazwini**, do not mention it at all in this constellation, but

in Aquarius; nor does Bullialdus in his edition of the *Rudolphine Tables*, although in his reproduction of the *Persian Tables* of Chrysococca he calls it **Os Piscis notii** and **Fumahand**. The *Astronomica Danica* of Longomontanus includes it in Aquarius as *ultima in effusione* **Fomahant**, giving no Piscis at all; Tycho's *Rudolphine Tables*, in Kepler's edition of 1627, have the same, and Hevelius also puts it there as **Fomahandt**. Bayer cites it, in Piscis Notius, as **Fumahant**, **Fumahaut** *rectius* **Fumalhaut**; Chilmead, **Phom Ahut**; Caesius has **Fomahand** and **Fontabant**; Riccioli's names for it are **Fomauth**, **Phomaut**, **Phomault**, **Phomant**, **Phomaant**, **Phomhaut**, **Phomelhaut**; La Caille's, **Phomalhaut**; La Lande's are **Fumalhant**, **Fomahant**, and **Phomahant**; and Schickard's, **Fomalcuti**. Costard gives it as **Fomahout**; and Sir William Herschel had it **Fomalhout**, writing to his sister:

Lina,—Last night I “popt” upon a comet . . . between Fomalhout and β Ceti.

More correctly than all these, Hyde wrote it **Pham Al Hüt**. Burritt's *Atlas* has the present form Fomalhaut, but his *Planisphere*, **Fomalhani**. It generally, but wrongly, is pronounced **Fomalo**, as though from the French.

The *Harleian Manuscript* of Cicero's *Aratos* has the words *Stella Canopus* at the Fish's mouth, which is either an erroneous title, or another use of the word for any very bright star, as is noted under α Argüs,—Canopus.

Among early Arabs Fomalhaut was **Al Difti' al Awwal**, the First Frog: and in its location on the Borgian globe is the word **Thalim**, the Ostrich, evidently another individual title.

Flammarion says that it was **Hastorang** in Persia 3000 B. C., when near the winter solstice, and a Royal Star, one of the four Guardians of Heaven, sentinels watching over other stars; while about 500 B. C. it was the object of sunrise worship in the temple of Demeter at Eleusis; and still later on, with astrologers, portended eminence, fortune, and power.

The Chinese knew it as **Pi Lo Sze Mun**.

With Achernar and Canopus it made up Dante's **Tre Facelle**; and sixty years ago, Boguslawski thought that it might be the Central Sun of the Universe.

It lies in about $30^{\circ} 15'$ of south declination, and so is the most southerly of all the prominent stars visible in the latitude of New York City, but it is in the zenith of Chile, the Cape of Good Hope, and South Australia. To the uninstructed observer it seems a full 1st-magnitude, perhaps from the absence of near-by stars. It culminates on the 25th of October. As one of the so-called lunar stars it is of importance in navigation, and appears in the *Ephemerides* of all modern sea-going nations.

See calls its color white, and has discovered a 14.8 bluish companion 30" away, at a position angle of 36°.2.

β , Double, 4.3 and 8.

Al Tizini knew this, instead of α , as **Fum al Hūt**,—evidence either of a different figuring of the constellation from that of Ptolemy, which we follow, or of its extension towards the northeast by the Arabian astronomers. This may account for the location of Fomalhaut in Aquarius by some early authors.

With δ and ζ it was the Chinese **Tien Kang**, the Heavenly Rope.

Al Tizini mentioned the stars, now γ , α , and β of Grus, as the Tail, the Bright One, and the Rear One of the Fish,—additional proof that our *lucida* of Piscis Australis was not his *nā'ir* of Al Hūt al Janūbiyy.

η , θ , ι , and μ were **Tien Tsien**, Heavenly Cash.

Bayer's lettering extended only to μ , and there seems to be no star lettered κ in the constellation.

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Piscis Volans, the Flying Fish,

now known by astronomers as **Volans**, is the **Poisson Volant** of the French and the **Fliegende Fisch** of the Germans. The *Rudolphine Tables* have it **Passer**, the Sparrow, and, as such, it is translated **Fe Yu** by the Chinese. This is another of the new southern constellations formally introduced by Bayer, comprising forty-six stars south of Canopus and Miaplacidus,— α and β Argūs.

Julius Schiller included it with Dorado and the Nubecula Major in his biblical figure of **Abel the Just**.

The *lucida* is β , a colored 3.9-magnitude, culminating on the 12th of March.

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Psalterium Georgii or Georgianum,

sometimes **Harpa Georgii**, was formed in 1781 by the Abbé Maximilian Hell, and named in honor of King George II of England. On the Stielers *Planisphere* it is **Georg's Harfe**, from Bode's **Georgs Harffe**.