

observed, being 1500 feet in length; and that at least seven different temples were oriented toward it. When precession had put an end to this use of these temples, others are thought to have been built with the same purpose in view; so that there are now found three different sets of structures close together, and so oriented that the dates of all, hitherto not certainly known, may be determinable by this knowledge of the purpose for which they were designed. Such being the case, Lockyer concludes that Hipparchos was not the discoverer of the precession of the equinoxes, as is generally supposed, but merely the publisher of that discovery made by the Egyptians, or perhaps adopted by them from Chaldaea.

He also states that **Apet, Bast, Mut, Sekhot, and Taurt** were all titles of one goddess in the Nile worship, symbolized by  $\gamma$  Draconis.

It is interesting to know that the Boeotian Thebes, the City of the Dragon, from the story of its founder, Cadmus, shared with its Egyptian namesake the worship of this star in a temple dedicated, so far as its orientation shows, about 1130 B. C.: a cult doubtless drawn from the parent city in Egypt, and adopted elsewhere in Greece, as also in Italy in the little temple to Isis in Pompeii. Here, however, the city authorities interfered with this star-worship in one of their numerous raids on the astrologers, and bricked up the opening whence the star was observed.

$\gamma$  lies almost exactly in the zenith of Greenwich, in fact, has there been called the **Zenith-star**; and, being circumpolar, descends toward the horizon, but, without disappearing, rises easterly, and thus explains the poet's line:

the East and the West meet together.

It was nearer the pole than any other bright star about 4000 years ago.

Its minute companion,  $21''$  distant, at a position angle of  $152^\circ$ , was discovered by Burnham.

$\delta$ , 3.1, deep yellow,

is the **Nodus secundus** of several catalogues, as marking the 2d of the four Knots, or convolutions, in the figure of the Dragon.

Al Tizini called it **Al Tāis**, the Goat, as the prominent one of the quadrangle,  $\delta$ ,  $\pi$ ,  $\rho$ , and  $\epsilon$ , which bore this title at a late period in Arabic indigenous astronomy; although that people generally gave animal names only to single stars. The **Jais**, which is found in various lists, maps, and globes, would seem to be a typographical error, or an erroneous transliteration of the original Arabic.  $\delta$  also may have been one of Firuzabadi's two undetermined stars **Al Tayyasān**, the Two Goatherds.