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FROM THALES TO EUCLID**

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Allman

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**GEORGE JOHNSTON ALLMAN**

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GREEK GEOMETRY

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THALES TO EUCLID.



ARCHYTAS.

'non sordidus auctor  
naturæ verique.'

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY PRESS SERIES.

# GREEK GEOMETRY

FROM

THALES TO EUCLID.

BY

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## PREFACE.

THIS book is the reproduction of a Paper, the several parts of which appeared in *Hermathena* during the last eleven years. The favourable reception which from the first it met with on the part of many competent authorities, as well in this country as on the Continent, and the desire which has been expressed in several quarters that the Articles should be collected and published in a volume, have led to this publication.

I have prefixed headings to the chapters, and introduced some additional diagrams. I have also added some notes and an index. Some changes, too, were necessitated by the new form of the Work; and I have made a few corrections, which are indicated for the most part by brackets. With these exceptions the book is textually the same as the Paper in *Hermathena*. In this Paper great pains were taken to ensure accuracy in the references: these I have since checked, and I trust that they will now be found quite reliable.

It has been, throughout, my aim to state clearly the facts as known to us from the original sources, and to make a distinct separation between them and conjectures, however probable the latter might be.

The bust in the frontispiece is taken from Gronovius, *Thesaurus Graecarum Antiquitatum*, Vol. II., Tab. 49. The inscription under it in the engraving is :—

ARCHYTAS

Pythagoricus Mechanicis Clarus  
*Ex Nummo aereo apud Fulvium Ursinum.*

Ample references are given in the notes to the authors whose works I have studied.

It only remains for me now to express my warmest thanks and acknowledgments, in the first place, to my friend DR. JOHN K. INGRAM, Senior Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, to whom this Work from its inception and during its course is much indebted. Indeed it would scarcely have been written but for the hospitable reception afforded to it in the pages of *Hermathena*, which periodical, edited by DR. INGRAM, enabled me to publish the results of my labours gradually. In the midst of his many and arduous duties, and of his own important literary work, he has been always ready to assist me by his kind encouragement and sound judgment.

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I have, in the next place, to acknowledge my great obligations to my late friend and colleague DR. JOHN F. DAVIES, Professor of Latin in Queen's College, Galway, whose recent death I deplore. In the later Articles in *Hermathena* I was much aided by his counsel and valuable suggestions: he kindly supervised all the translations that were not purely mathematical; he carefully revised the proofs, and added some critical notes. Nor can I close this reference to DR. DAVIES without dwelling for a moment on his rare qualifications as a scholar, his disinterested love of learning, and the nobleness of his personal character.

In conclusion, I have to express my thanks to the Provost and Senior Fellows of Trinity College, Dublin, for including this Work in the Dublin University Press Series.

GEORGE J. ALLMAN.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, GALWAY,

*January 10th, 1880.*