

**THE PHAINOMENA, OR
'HEAVENLY DISPLAYS' OF
ARATUS, DONE INTO
ENGLISH VERSE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649452385

The Phenomena, or 'Heavenly Displays' of Aratus, Done into English Verse by Robert Brown

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ROBERT BROWN

**THE PHAINOMENA, OR
'HEAVENLY DISPLAYS' OF
ARATUS, DONE INTO
ENGLISH VERSE**

THE
'HEAVENLY DISPLAY.'



FIG. I.—SIGN-POWENT NIGHT.

THE
PHAINOMENA OR 'HEAVENLY DISPLAY'
OF
ARATOS:

DONE INTO ENGLISH VERSE

BY
ROBERT BROWN, JUN., F.S.A.

AUTHOR OF 'THE GREAT DIONYSIAC MYTH,' 'LANGUAGE, AND THEORIES OF ITS ORIGIN,'
'THE RELIGION AND MYTHOLOGY OF THE ANAXES OF NORTHERN EUROPE,' 'THE UNICORN,' 'THE LAW OF
COSMIC ORDER,' 'ERIDANUS, RIVER AND CONSTELLATION,' 'THE MYTH OF KIRKÉ,' ETC.

Διὸς ἀστεφανὸς αἰθήρ.—EURIPIDES.

LONDON:
LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
1885.

All rights reserved.

29261. d. 2.



TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE, M.P.

WHO, AMID THE MOST ARDUOUS PUBLIC LABOURS,

HAS NEVER CEASED TO FIND REFRESHMENT

IN THE STUDY OF ARCHAIC TIMES.

P R E F A C E .

IN the present work I place before the reader in an English form, the famous Poem of Aratos which has supplied our modern world with the now familiar ancient constellations. The *Phainomena* was one of the most popular productions of antiquity, and its theme is replete with a many-sided interest—astronomical, historical, mythological, and psychological. On Hellenic astronomy generally I have touched only slightly, for reasons mentioned in the following pages; and the work purports far more to indicate than to exhaust the numerous lines of thought and branches of investigation which are connected with stellar research generally and with the *Phainomena* in particular. The statements of Aratos are frequently very incorrectly quoted, and it seemed desirable, in the first place, to place them plainly on record, and to accompany them with a short Introduction and some brief illustrative notes. Certain lines of investigation and study of the Poem have become obsolete, for reasons which will appear to the reader as he proceeds. One of the chief points of interest in the enquiry is the connexion, ever becoming clearer, between Hellenic and Euphratean astronomy, a subject necessarily almost entirely unknown to earlier writers.

This work is also in strict continuation of my former studies on

The Sun (*The Great Dionysiak Myth*),

The Moon (*The Unicorn*, and *The Myth of Kirke*), and

The Stars (*The Law of Kosmic Order*, and *Eridanus: River and Constellation*).

The same system, mythological and general, which I have supported and illustrated in former monographs reappears in these pages. It does not pretend