

**GIROLAMO
SACCHERI'S EUCLIDES
VINDICATUS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649078905

Girolamo Saccheri's *Euclides vindicatus* by George Bruce Halsted

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GEORGE BRUCE HALSTED

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EUCLIDES VINDICATUS

EDITED AND TRANSLATED BY

GEORGE BRUCE HALSTED

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CHICAGO LONDON
THE OPEN COURT PUBLISHING COMPANY

1920

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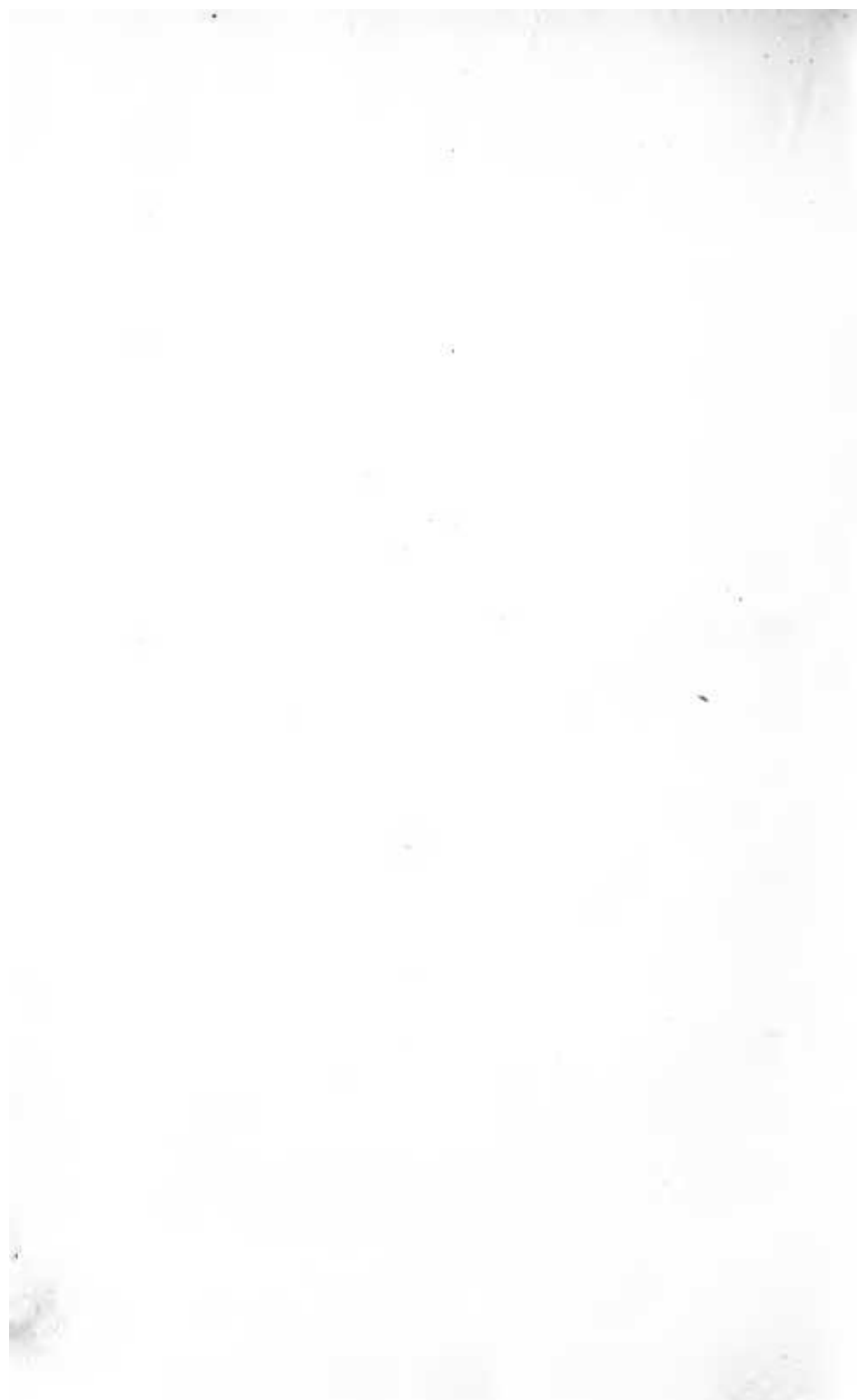
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TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

Saccheri was discovered accidentally by Father Mangotti, S. J., in 1889, a discovery which could not have happened on the Western Continent, as it was only my instant realization of the treasure found which then, through my friend Prof. Paul Mansion, drew to me overseas the first Saccheri ever to have crossed the ocean. This, upon my securing Earl Stanhope's copy, I sent back, to be whelmed in a common death with the dearly beloved Mansion and the magnificent Alberto Pascal.

How rare, practically extinct, Saccheri has been is illustrated by the fact that the greatest of living non-Euclidean, Prof. Paul Barbarin, though resident in the world's capital, Paris, the modern Alexandria, yet sent, as I had done before him, to Mansion for a glimpse of this pearl of great price; and again by the fact that no one has remarked that the erudite and accurate Sir Thomas Heath, in his three-volumed masterpiece, has listed Saccheri's *Euclides vindicatus* as a Latin edition of Euclid, calling Saccheri its *editor*, a mistake so gross it could never have been made by any one who had been privileged to see Saccheri's diadem.

Does it not seem to be the irony of fate that the only existing copy of the posthumous edition of Saccheri's wonderful *Logica demonstrativa* reposes in the "Stadtbibliothek" of the foreign city built by Nero's mother—Colonia Agrippina on the banks of the Rhine? May the present volume help to avert from it the imminent peril of perishing for-