

XII.

Ciceronis Arateorum v. 472—480.

Sed cum se medium caeli in regione locavit
 Magnus Aquarius, et vestivit lumine terras,
 Tum pedibus simul et supera cervice iubata
 Cedit Equus fugiens; at contra signipotens nox
 Cauda Centaurum retinens, ad se rapit ipsa;
 Nec potis est caput atque umeros abducere latos;
 At vero serpentis Hydrae caligine caeca
 Cervicem atque oculorum ardentia lumina vestit:
 Hanc autem totam properant depellere Pisces.

Ex Cod. Musei Britannici in Dissertationibus a Societate Antiquariorum Londini publicatis edidit Otteius Vol. XXVI 1856 p. 212. (William Young Otteley on a MS. in the British Museum believed by him to be of the 2d or 3d century and containing the translation of Aratus by Cicero, accompanied by drawings of the constellations: with a preliminary dissertation in proof of the use of minuscule writing by the ancient Romans; and a corrected edition of the poem itself, including ten (nine) lines not heretofore known, v. Archaeologia or miscellaneous Tracts relating to antiquity Vol. XXVI p. 47—214.) Quam sui in his similis sit Cicero comparatis locis eiusdem poematis compluribus ostendit editor doctissimus. Et cum adiectivo *signipotens*, invento Ciceronis, eiusdem componit *sagittipotens* v. 73 et 459, quod nec ipsum ultra notum est. Arati versus, quos a Cicerone expressos nunc legimus, hi sunt:

Ἴππος δ' Ὑδροχόοιο νέον περιτελλομένοιο,
 ποσσὶ τε καὶ κεφαλῇ ἀνελίσσεται· ἀντία δ' Ἴππου
 ἔξ οὐρῆς Κένταυρον ἐφέλκεται ἀστερίη νύξ.
 ἀλλ' οὐ οἱ δύνανται κεφαλὴν, οὐδ' εὐρέας ὤμους
 αὐτῷ σὺν θώρηκι χυδεῖν, ἀλλ' αἰθροπος Ἰδρησ

αὐγενίην κατὰγει σπείρην καὶ πάντα μέτωπα.
ἧ δὲ καὶ ἐξόπιθεν πολλὴ μένει· ἀλλ' ἄρα καὶ τὴν
αὐτῷ Κενταύρω, ὅπότε Ἰχθύες ἀντέλλωσιν
ἀθρόον ἐμφέρεται.
