

430 B.C. and on the 22 Sept. 70 A.D. it must have been visible after geometrical rising, and before there was so much daylight as to extinguish stars of the first magnitude. It is likely that Arcturus would have thus been first visible as early as 12 Sept. 430 B.C., and as 20 Sept. 70 A.D. The first visibility of Arcturus took place between seven and eight days earlier in the month in 430 B.C. than in 70 A.D. In a clear climate like that of Greece the first visibility, after the period of invisibility due to the nearness of the sun, would fix the time of year within two or three days. At this season the rapid decrease of the sun's declination conspires with the increase of his right ascension to produce a rapid increase in the interval by which the rise of Arcturus precedes that of the sun. As above stated, this interval would increase from 22 to 61 minutes between Sept. 7 and 15, 430 B.C. In a week after Sept. 15 the star would have risen long before sunrise, and the appearance of the star in the east and the rapidity of its extinction by the rays of the sun would cease to be a remarkable phenomenon.'

NOTE XVI.

Verse 1505.

μή σφε περιίδης.

Porson on *Med.* 284 holds that Tragedy *never* admitted *περί* before a vowel (whether the prep. stood alone or was compounded with another word) in senarii, in trochaics, or in a regular system of anapaests. In *Ar. Th.* 1070 *περίαλλα* occurs in an anapaestic verse from Eur., but this, says Porson, seems to have belonged to a free or irregular system (*systema illegitimum*). In *Soph.* 225 *περίαλλα* belongs to lyrics: so *περιόργως* (not a certain reading) in *Aesch. Ag.* 216: *περιώδυνος* *ib.* 1448: and *περιώσια* *Soph. fr.* 611. Where a compound of *περί* occurs elsewhere than in lyrics, Tragedy, Porson says, used tmesis: as *Eur. Bacch.* 619 τῶδε περὶ βρόχους ἔβαλλε: *fr. ap. Cornut. De N. D.* 184 κορυφή δὲ θεῶν ὁ περὶ χθόν' ἔχων | φαεινὸς αἰθήρ. Similarly such a form as *ἡμφιεσμένος* (*Ar. Eccl.* 879) belongs to Comedy, not Tragedy. Here, then, he would write *παρά σφ' ἰδης* (the MSS. having *παρίδης*): Fritzsche, *περί σφ' ἰδης*. But it may be urged: (1) such a tmesis is alien from the style of ordinary tragic dialogue: (2) the extant remains of Attic Tragedy justify Porson's remark that compounds of *περί* were avoided, but are too small to warrant a rule absolutely excluding them: (3) the probability