

THE SECOND
RADCLIFFE CATALOGUE
OF STARS.



OXFORD:

BY T. COMBE, M.A., E. B. GARDNER, F. P. HALL, AND H. LATHAM, M.A.

Printers to the University.

SECOND
RADCLIFFE CATALOGUE,

CONTAINING

2386 STARS;

DEDUCED FROM OBSERVATIONS EXTENDING

FROM 1854 TO 1861,

AT THE

RADCLIFFE OBSERVATORY,
OXFORD;

AND REDUCED TO THE EPOCH

1860.

UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF

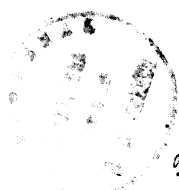
THE REV. ROBERT MAIN, M.A.,

RADCLIFFE OBSERVER.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE RADCLIFFE TRUSTEES.

OXFORD:
JAMES PARKER AND CO.
1870.





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INTRODUCTION.

THE present Catalogue of Stars, entitled the *Second Radcliffe Catalogue*, contains the results of all the meridional Star-Observations which were made at the Radcliffe Observatory from the year 1854 to the year 1861, both inclusive. During the year 1861, the Carrington Transit-Circle was established at the Observatory, and the use of the Meridian Circle by Jones, and of the Transit Instrument, was totally discontinued at the end of that year. It was desirable, therefore, to collect the results of the observations made with those instruments, and to compile a catalogue of stars which should embody them in a definitive form.

The formation of the Catalogue was commenced three or four years ago, but the heavy pressure of business prevented much progress from being made in it till within the last two years, during which time it has been completed and printed. The whole of the work connected with it has been performed by myself and Mr. Luff, without the aid of any extra computers.

I will now describe the processes which have been used in the compilation of the Catalogue, taking the columns of the printed tables in order.

Column 1 gives the ordinal numbers of reference, and requires no explanation.

Column 2 gives the magnitude of each star observed. The magnitudes to which no asterisks are affixed are deduced from observation, the number of estimations being given in column 3. In explanation of the fractions which occur in the latter column, it may be stated that the estimation is allowed to have only half weight when a query has been put against it in the note-book of the observer. The magnitudes to which asterisks are affixed are not observed magnitudes, but are taken either from Argelander, or from the Catalogue of the British Association, or other good authority.