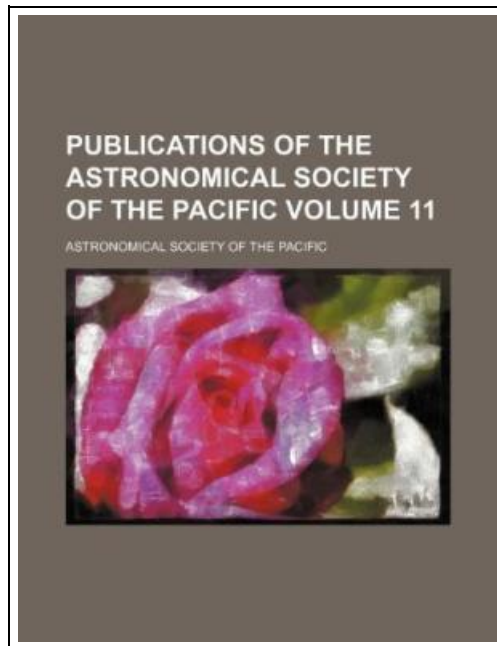


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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1899 Excerpt: .him upon the new star in 1572. These observations showed that comets possess no parallax measurable with the instruments then in use, thus removing them far beyond the confines of the Earth, s atmosphere, where they had been placed by the philosophy of Aristotle. This perhaps is not one of the least of Tycho, s contributions to science. Tycho, s early observations of comets and the new star of 1572 showed him the necessity of more accurate positions of the fixed stars, and he therefore set about compiling a new catalogue of stars as soon as possible after the completion of his observatory. No catalogue of stars had been published since the time of Ptolemy, and his was probably mainly a reproduction of the still older one compiled by Hipparchus. In determining the longitude of a star Hipparchus used the Moon as a steppingstone from the Sun to the star; but Tycho adopted the method of Walther, of using Venus instead of the Moon, on account of her smaller parallax, slower motion, and smaller diameter. In 1582, Venus was so situated that she could be observed in full daylight for several weeks, and her distance from the Sun could then be measured at a time when both bodies were sufficiently far from the horizon to make errors of the adopted refractions small. The distance between the Sun and Venus was measured with a sextant, and at the same time their Declinations were taken with armillae. These...



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