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978-0-521-83866-5 - Bearing the Heavens: Tycho Brahe and the Astronomical
Community of the Late Sixteenth Century

Adam Mosley

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BEARING THE HEAVENS

This is a ground-breaking study of the astronomical culture of sixteenth-century Europe. It examines, in particular, the ways in which members of the nascent international astronomical community shared information, attracted patronage and respect for their work, and conducted their disputes. Particular attention is paid to the Danish astronomer, Tycho Brahe (1546–1601), known for his observatory Uraniborg on the island of Hven, his operation of a printing press, and his development of a third world-system to rival those of Ptolemy and Copernicus. Adam Mosley examines the ways in which Tycho interacted with a Europe-wide network of scholars, looking not only at how he constructed his reputation through print, but also at his use of correspondence and the role that instruments played as vehicles for data and theories. The book will be of interest to historians of science, historians of the book, and historians of early modern culture in general.

ADAM MOSLEY is Lecturer in History at Swansea University.

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For my parents

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Abbreviations

- ADB* Königliche Akademie der Wissenschaften, Historische Commission. *Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie*, Leipzig and Munich: Verlag von Duncker and Humblot. 56 vols.
- CCC* Baldini, U. and P. Napolitani, eds., 1992. *Christoph Clavius: corrispondenza*, Pisa: Università di Pisa. 7 vols.
- CWE* Corrigan, B. and R. Shoenke *et al.*, eds., 1974–. *Collected Works of Erasmus*, Toronto and London: University of Toronto Press.
- DBE* Killy, W., ed., 1995–2000. *Deutsche Biographische Enzyklopädie*, Munich: Saur. II vols.
- DSB* Gillispie, C., ed., 1970–1990. *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 18 vols.
- KGW* Caspar, M. and W. von Dyck *et al.*, eds., 1938–. *Johannes Kepler, Gesammelte Werke*, Munich: Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- NDB* Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Historische Kommission. 1953–. *Neue Deutsche Biographie*, Berlin: Duncker and Humblot.
- OdG* Favaro, A. *et al.*, eds., 1890–1907. *Le Opere di Galileo Galilei*, Edizione Nazionale, Florence: G. Barbèra. 21 vols.
- ODNB* Matthew, H. C. G. and B. Harrison, 2004. *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford: Oxford University Press. 60 vols.
- TBOO* Dreyer, J. *et al.*, eds., 1913–1929. *Tychonis Brahe Dani Opera Omnia*, Copenhagen: Nielsen and Lydiche. 15 vols.