

### OBSERVATION RECORD

Date: 3/7/03  
Time Started: 8:34 PM CST  
Time Finished: 9:32 PM CST  
Transparency: 4.0  
Seeing: 3.0

Telescope: 12.5" Dob  
Eyepiece: 40mm Plössl  
Filter: —  
Magnification: 38X

OBJECT (Sword Handle)  
Common Name: Double Cluster in Perseus  
C#: 1A  
NGC #: 869 & 884

Type: OC  
Magnitude: NGC 869 4.3  
NGC 884 4.4  
Size: 30.0' / 30.0'  
Coordinates: NGC 869 02h 19m 00.0s +57° 09' 00"  
NGC 884 02h 22m 24.0s +57° 07' 00"

Special Features: Only a few hundred  
light years apart  
Dist. ~ 7000 H. yrs.  
Each cluster has actual  
diameter of about  
70 H. yrs.

The two clusters  
share a common  
ancestry.

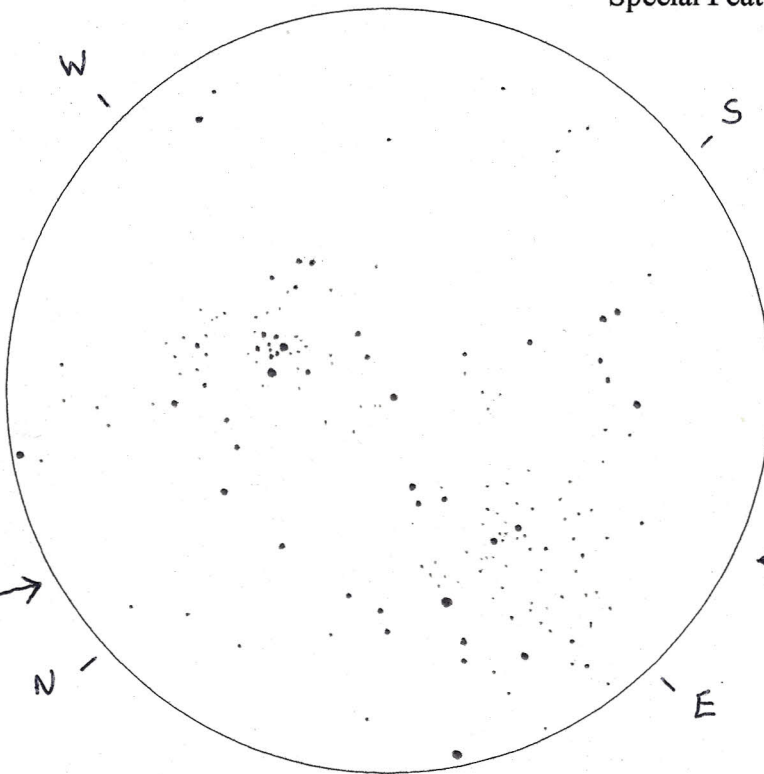
Observing the  
Caldwell Objects  
-David Rathledge

First cataloged by  
Hipparchus in 145 BC

NGC 869 →

Bright Red  
Super-giant  
between clusters →

← NGC 884



Locating  
Sketch:



Description and Field Notes: One of my favorite pair of clusters.  
Big, bright, many stars both brighter and dimmer.  
Two for the price of one! The western cluster  
(NGC 869) appears divided in half with a NW portion  
and a SE portion (containing the two brightest stars.) NGC 884  
appears more spread out with many dim stars. It does not  
have a concentrated core of dim stars like NGC 869, but it  
does have many red super-giants.