

It is now certain, and the Greek inscriptions agree with the hieroglyphical inscriptions in proving it,—it is certain, we say, that the temples in which zodiacs have been sculptured, were built during the time when Egypt was subject to the Romans. The portico of the temple of Dendera, according to the Greek inscription of its frontispiece, is consecrated to the safety of Tiberius\*. On the planisphere of the same temple we read the title of *Autocrator* in hieroglyphical characters†; and it is probable that it refers to Nero. The small temple of Esne, that of which the origin has been placed on the lowest calculation between 2700 and 3000 years before Christ, has a column sculptured and painted in the sixth year of Antonine, 147 years after Christ, and it is painted and sculptured in the same style as the zodiac which is near it‡.

Further, we have a proof that this division of the zodiac, in such or such sign, has no reference to the precession of the equinoxes, or to the displacement of the solstice. A mummy case, lately brought from Thebes by M. Caillaud, and con-

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\* Letronne. Researches into the history of Egypt during the domination of the Greeks and Romans, p. 180.

† Id. *ibid.* p. xxxviii.

‡ Letronne. *Ibid.* p. 456, and 457.