

taining, according to the very legible Greek inscription upon it, the body of a young man who died in the ninth year of Trajan, 116 years after Christ \*, presents a zodiac divided at the same point as those of Dendera † ; and all the appearances indicate that this division marks some astrological theme relative to the individual,—a conclusion which may probably be equally applied to the division of the zodiacs contained in the temples. It may mark either the astrological theme of the time of their erection, or that of the prince to whose safety they had been consecrated, or such another epoch with relation to which the position of the sun would have appeared of importance to be noticed.

Thus are dissipated for ever the conclusions which people had drawn from some ill explained monuments, against the newness of the continents and nations ; and we might have dispensed with treating of them so much in detail had they not been so recent, and had they not made suffi-

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\* Letronne. Critical and Archæological Observations upon the object of the zodiacal representations which remain to us of antiquity, occasioned by an Egyptian zodiac painted in a mummy case, which bears a Greek inscription of the time of Trajan ; Paris, 1824, 8vo, p. 30.

† Idem, p. 48, and 49.