

certain state of the sky dependent on the precession of the equinoxes, which causes the colours to make the tour of the zodiac in twenty-six thousand years;

The female figures who embrace them are not placed lengthwise, but in the breadth of the bands; so that one is across near the eastern entrance, the head and arms towards the north, and the feet towards the lateral wall, or southward, and the other is at the bottom of the portico, also across and facing the first.

The nearest band to the axis of the portico, or north, first presents, on the side of the entrance, or eastward, and towards the head of the female figure, the Lion, placed a little backwards and going towards the bottom, the feet towards the lateral wall; behind the Lion, at the commencement of the band, are two smaller Lions; before it is the Scarabæus, and then the Twins advancing in the same direction; then the Bull, the Ram, and the Fishes, close to each other, placed across the middle of the band. The Bull with his head towards the lateral wall, the Ram towards the axis. The Aquarius is farther off, and takes the same direction towards the bottom as the three first signs.

On the band nearest to the lateral wall and the north, we see at first, but at some distance from the bottom or west, the Capricorn, which is going in an opposite direction to the Aquarius, and directs his course eastward, or towards the entrance of the portico with the feet turned towards the lateral wall. Close to it is the Sagittary, corresponding with the Fishes and the Ram. He advances towards the entrance, but his feet are turned towards the axis in an opposite direction to those of the Capricorn.

At a certain distance in front, and near each other are the Scorpion and a female holding a balance; finally, a little more in front, but still sufficiently distant from the anterior, or eastern extremity, is the Virgin, who is preceded by a Sphynx. The Virgin and the female who holds the balance have their feet towards the wall, so that the Sagittary is the only sign which is placed with its head differently to those of the other signs.

Northward of Esne, is a small isolated temple, equally directed towards the east, and whose portico has also a zodiac:* it is on two lateral and separated bands. That which is along the south side begins with the Lion, who is advancing towards the bottom, or westward; the feet turned towards the wall, or south-

* See the great work on Egypt. Antiq. v. i. pl. lxxxvii.