

earlier than at the present day, and that the temple had stood at least 4000 years.(1)

He, at the same time, assigned an antiquity of 7000 years to that of Esne, although it is not known how he meant to make these numbers agree with what was known of the precession of the equinoxes.

The late Lalande, seeing that the Crab was repeated on the two bands, imagined that the solstice passed through this constellation; but as it was so in the sphere of Eudoxus, he concluded that some Greek might have represented this sphere on the ceiling of an Egyptian temple, without knowing that he was depicting a state of the heavens which had for a long time ceased to exist.(2) It was, as we may perceive, a very different inference from that of M. Burkard.

Dupuis was the first who deemed it necessary to seek for confirmation of this idea, and he in some sort confidently adopted, that it was the solstice that was denoted; he found them, for the great zodiac of Dendera, in the globe at the apex of the pyramid, and in many emblems placed near different signs, and which sometimes, according to the ancient authors, such as Plutarch, Horus Apollo, or Clemens Alexandrinus; sometimes, according to his own conjectures, he imagined to represent phenomena which could have really been those of the seasons affected at each sign.

Besides, he maintained that this state of the heavens gives the date of the monument, and that they had, at Dendera, the original, and not a copy of the

(1) M. Grobert's Description of the Pyramids of Geza, p. 117.

(2) *Connaissance des Temps*, for the year XIV.