

established in Egypt, by a decree of the senate, cited by Dion Cassius, and which began in the month of September, or the day on which Augustus took Alexandria. (1)

M. de Paravey considered these zodiacs in a novel point of view, which embraces at once both the revolution of the equinoxes, and those of the great year. Supposing that the circular planisphere of Dendera must have been placed towards the east, and that the axis from north to south is the line of the solstices, he found the summer solstice at the second of Gemini; that of the winter solstice at the tail of Sagittarius; and the line of the equinoxes would have passed through Pisces and Virgo, which would give him the first century of our era for a date.

By this method, the division of the zodiac of the portico could no longer have any relation to the colures, and it would be necessary to seek elsewhere for the mark of the solstice. M. de Paravey, having remarked that between all the signs there were female figures bearing a star on their heads, and going in the same direction; and noticing that the female only who follows Gemini is turned in a contrary direction to the others, judged that she marks the tropic, or *conversion* of the sun, and that this zodiac thus agrees with the planisphere.

By applying the idea of the easting (*orientement*) to the small zodiac of Esne, we should find the solstices between Gemini and Taurus, and between Scorpio and Sagittarius. They would be even

(1) See the dissertation of the Abbé Dominique Testa. "Sopra due Zodiaci novellamente scoperte nell' Egitto." Rome, 1802, p. 34.