

*W. H. Gamble*

THE  
ORIGINAL DESIGN  
OF THE  
ANCIENT

ZODIACAL AND EXTRA-ZODIACAL  
CONSTELLATIONS,

*Arranged on the present Globes ; which by their  
attitudes and positions prove the place of the  
summer Solstice to have been in the middle  
of the Goat ; and the autumnal  
equinox in the Ram.*

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TO WHICH IS ADDED AN ACCOUNT OF THE  
BATTLE BETWEEN

VICRAMADITYA AND SALAVAHANA

*Which arose from a Combination of the Preces-  
sion and Nutation of the Earth's Axis.*

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ALSO, FURTHER REMARKS

*On the long Zodiac of Tentyra ; shewing that  
the unequal division of the Zodiac is a  
consequence of the Perihelion point  
in the autumnal Ram.*

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BY S. A. MACKEY,  
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# ORIGINAL DESIGN

## OF THE ANCIENT

### ZODIACAL AND EXTRA-ZODIACAL

### CONSTELLATIONS, &c.

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SINCE writing my little works on the Zodiacs of Tentyra and Thebes I have read a work of Baron Cuviere, translated by Professor Jamieson. This work, as far as Geology is concerned, proves the antiquity of the Earth to be immense; and the writer, a Man of Judgement: but where he departs from that Science *all is Sophistry*.

The Writer, not being acquainted with the Science of Astronomy; nor the figurative, allegorical manner of writing made use of by the ancients, is constantly mistaking their Symbols of astronomical Circles for real human Beings and the recorded Operations of the Elements in the different periods of time, he as constantly mistakes for the exploits of great Warriors; and as the actions of the Elements do not at all times admit of a happy figurative Allegory he calls them Reveries; acknowledging at the same time that he "can absolutely make nothing of them." But notwithstanding his ignorance, he has the Temerity to calumniate!

The Hindostanee Puranas mention a battle between Vicramaditya & Salavahana, Captain Wilford asked his Indian *Pundit* or historian, how many years had gone by since Vicramaditya's time. The *Pundit* asked him which of the four, for there were *four*. The writer of Cuviere's book mentions the above; and with a sarcastic jeer says "there might be eight or nine"—These half a dozen words betray a malignant intention mixt with *weakness*; and are more likely to have proceeded from the Pen of a JESUIT than that of

a Philosopher. And as the Jesuitical Calumniators of the sacred histories of the Ancients have no idea of the astronomical fact concealed in the above Allegory: I'll explain.

The Battle of [Vicramaditya and Salavahana.] In the Allegorical Battle of the above Combatants how few are the Europeans capable of perceiving the Hindoos have recorded the knowledge of not only the spiral motion of the Axis of the Earth, but of its Nutation. In the present age of the World the Pole of the Earth describes the *involute* of a Circle around the Pole of the Ecliptic in about 26,000 years; in which time it becomes nearer by four degrees, and consequently is further from the Sun or Tropic in Summer, by four degrees, in that time. But if we go back to the time of this Battle, and the age in which Babel was built; which, according to Berosus, was 470, 000 years ago; the Pole of the Earth described the *evolute* of a circle around the Pole of the Ecliptic and was, therefore, approaching the Summer Sun or tropic at the rate of 4 degrees every round.

Now to understand the terms involute and evolute it is necessary to conceive a cord coiled round a post. And if the post be one foot in diameter, a person in walking around the post with the end of the cord in his hand, so as to unwind the cord, would describe the evolute of a circle having the space of a yard between each volve. And when the cord is all uncoiled, if the person continues to go round the post as before (the end at the post attached) he will describe the involute of a circle; crossing his former spiral twice in each round at opposite points. Such is the *general* figure described among the stars by the polar point of the Earth. But the *particular* figure requires another process. Admitting

six yards were uncoiled, there would be formed a Spiral of six volve at the distance of one yard each; and the cord, kept tight, would shew the limits of each volve. Now, from the points 6, 5, 4, and 3 describe 4 concentric circles, which will inclose 3 distinct sections of space; the outer of which is Judister, the second, Vicramaditya, the third Salavahana, &c.

Now, in winding up the cord, let the end at 6 be put round the head of a cane but not fastened to it; guide the cane steadily before you, and as the cord gradually coil on the Post, the cane would as gradually depart from the circle 6, and when half round would be half way between the circles 5 and 6; and by finishing the volute would coincide with the circle 5 at 5, where the reign of Judister ends, and that of Vicramaditya begins. But this volute does not describe a figure like that conceived among the Stars, which is a volute composed of epicycloidal figures, each one being the representative of about 18 or 19 years. This may be rendered comprehensible by a *dot* on one side of the head of the cane; and while the cane proceeds from 5, as before from 6, let it be made to revolve horizontally, so as to have the *dot* sometimes on the inner side of the volute and sometimes on the outer. Thus proceeding, the dot, as representative of vicramaditya, would threaten to invade the territory of Salavahana every time it came to the inner side of the volute; and actually commences hostilities 30 years before he arrives at the end of his reign at 4.

The history of each of these reigns is written in elegant poetry of a thousand Stanzas. And it is in this way that all the astronomical occurrences have been recorded in the vast Hindostan Empire; but when European Dulness expects to find, in their fine Allegories, the history of human Beings,

it is no wonder to hear them treated as Reveries. But though Wilford, Bently, Cuviere and many others shut *their* Eyes, that will not make the world blind. Nor will all the Chicanery, which we see in daily practice answer the end intended; which is that of arresting the progress of *true Science*.

Though men in private agree to differ before the public, yet, Man will think for himself; and, if pretending Philosophers in Germany attempt to prove the Earth to be annually receding from the Sun at the rate of 90,000 miles; and, in 6,000 years from the present time, the distance to be so great, and the heat from the Sun so reduced; that the Earth will be covered with eternal Ice, in the same manner as we now see the plains of the north, where the *Elephant formerly lived*, shall we not see the drift of such contemptible Sophisms.

They *insinuate* that formerly the Earth was so near the sun, that its heat on the plains of the north was equal to its heat in the present Tropics, or where we find Elephants. Does not this German know that the plains in the north are nearer the sun in winter than in the summer by 3,000,000 of miles. The heat from the sun then does not depend on the distance, but on the meridian Altitude. And that depends on the polar motion: at which they are so terror struck; yet cannot hide it.

But, in England there is a set of men who asserts that the Earth is annually getting nearer to the Sun; and in time will fall into that body. There seems to be a design in this differing-men, finding that *Philosophers* disagree, may be deterred from searching. And that is the hope by which so many writers are stimulated. They dread the growth of knowledge among the most useful part of mankind. "Men who are anxi-

"ous to put out the lights may fairly be suspected of evil intentions."

Cuviere, calumniates all the ancients by wholesale. He accuses the Egyptians of being incorrect observers of the motion of the Sun on which all their histories depend, and as their observations and calculations were erroneous, they were not worthy of our notice: and as all the histories of other ancient nations rested on observations and calculations equally imperfect they are all swept off the stage with one dash of his pen. But let us examine on what ground he has raised his Bulwark of universal calumny. He asserts that the Egyptians made their year to consist of 365 days; which, being too short, brought their new-year's-day through all the signs in the Zodiac in 1508 years; but according to the Egyptians in 1460 years which, says Cuviere proves the inaccuracies of their observations.

What could induce Cuviere to assert such flagitious falsehood:—To defend the much slandered Sons of the Nile, I'll turn school-boy at 70.

They made *their* years to consist of 365 days, and so do we; they made their years all of a length; but we make every *fourth* year to consist of 366 days from which we have the following Query,

If in four years we take in 1 day how many years will 365 require; 4 times 365 is 1460 & 1460 years they reckoned as 1461. What, therefore, could possibly induce the Baron to say it would require 1508 Here, we find the inaccuracy on the side of Cuviere: and it is from this Lie, thrown upon the shoulders of our Fathers, that he has the temerity to claim the assumption of having overturned all the boasted Monuments

of a remote Antiquity. Perhaps this Baron, this Cuviere thought with Gregory Nazianzen, who, in the time of St. Jerome, said " A little *jargon* is all that is necessary to impose on the people. The less they understand the more they admire, &c.

But a little *jargon* will not refute my Works in which I have proved by astronomical demonstration that the antiquity of their Monuments is founded on celestial observations; and their fables are recitals of astronomical Allegories.

Cuviere has said much about the Zodiacs of Dendera; but what is it all, but *jargon*. What is all his string of quidities but a collection of sophisms to draw the mind from this plain simple truth, that the Goat is a Summer sign, and the winter Solstice is in Cancer. He also quibbles about the unequal divisions of signs. But the whole twelve make the round, through which the Equator passes in 26,000 years nearly in our time. The unequal division of the two halves, require a serious attention. Its cause escaped me at the time of writing the Treatise on the Zodiacs of Dendera and Thebes. But as this little work will accompany the other, the long Plate of Dendera can easily be referred to. It is well known in our time, that the summer half of our year is longer than the winter half by *eight* days. This is a consequence of the Earth being nearer the Sun in winter than in summer. See plate 10.

But the eccentricity of the Earth's Orbit is observed to be constantly diminishing; therefore, in taking a retrospective view of Time, the eccentricity must have been greater; and consequently, the difference between the nearer half year and the remote half year must formerly have been more than eight days. And as the perihelion point moves through the Ecliptic in something more than twenty thousand years, it



must be vertical to different parts of the Earth. And when over the Equator, in Autumn, the autumnal half year would be shorter than the Spring half, or in other words, from midsummer to midwinter, the Earth would require less time than from midwinter to midsummer. Now if we examine the long Zodiac of Dendera, it will be seen why *all* the Goat and half the Crab with the *five* signs between, are on one side; while on the other side there are but five signs and a half: hence there must have been, at that time, more than eight days difference between the two half years. The cause of all which is so clearly pointed out by the two *Decans* in the Ram seated on flames and pointing their fingers to their mouth, expressive of thirst, that no man of science can doubt that, at that time, the place of the perihelion point was in the *autumnal* Ram. I say, and repeat it, the *autumnal* Ram. For were we to consider the Sun returning from the winter to the Ram, there could not have been that heat and thirst experienced in Spring especially in the beginning of Spring, as to warrant the two expressive Decans in Aries.

Cuvier has strung together a few *Sophisms* about the circular Planisphere, in order to render it perplexing, by supposing the Colure may be here, or it may be there, or, or, or, &c. but he has not displayed the least appearance of knowing, that in a Planisphere where the Equator and Ecliptic coincide, there is no Solstitial point; for all the year is Spring.

But the greatest weakness of Cuvier and the rest of the *Jargon Mongers*, is displayed in their *pretended* discovery of Greek Inscriptions; from which they *insinuate* that the monuments they were written on must be modern. Observe! they don't positively assert that they were mo-

dern, they only *insinuate*. They dont *plunge* you into Error, they only *decoy*. When I take into the account the Host of writers employed, and the money yearly spent to slander and calumpiate the Ancients, and their Monuments, and whatever belong to them, I think what a saving it would be to find one or two who would undertake to prove that *my Book* is founded on Falsehood. But,—hah! But, *Jargen* wont do that. They must arrest—not me!—that they dare not do. But they must arrest the Polar motion and that they cannot do.

When Sir Isaac Newton wrote about the *cause* of the polar motion, it excited some alarm; but Sir Isaac was made Master of the Mint and we heard no more of the polar motion from him.

But tho' all the Monuments on Earth were destroyed, the knowledge of Antiquity would not perish; for there are Registers in heaven that clearly proclaim the existence of man as a *Scientific Being*, sixteen thousand years at least. And as these Monuments are in every part of our Country, arranged on the Celestial Globes, every person may have access to them without travelling abroad. But attempts have been made to rob mankind of the knowledge contained on these celestial monuments, by leaving out the animal Figures; and tho' in our time the figures are retained some of them are distorted. And last winter when I was in London, I saw a new Globe, that had only the twelve Zodiacal Figures; the rest of the stars not being inclosed in the outline of animal Figures. This, I believe, is a new device of the Enemies of heavenly truth; but even such innovations in the science of astronomy ought to be treated with contempt, as there is nothing in the position of the Zodi-

acal signs that can lead to the knowledge of any remote time, unless the place of the Colures be marked. But without that, the position and attitudes of the Horse of Sagittarius, Serpentarius, Bootes, Ursa-major, Auriga's whip-handle, Perseus and Caput Medusa the two Triangles, and a few others, are sufficient of themselves to convince any rational mind that the Pole of the Earth has moved around the Pole of the Ecliptic 225 degrees of a Circle; and as it is known to move 1 degree in 72 years, a School-boy would pronounce the time to be 16,200 years. Or the equinoctial points have moved through 7 signs and a half, and as they move through 1 sign in 2160 years, the time thus, would be the same.

The annex plate, is a Celestial Planisphere projected on the plane of the Ecliptic.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANISPHERE.

Let C, be the centre or Pole of the Ecliptic, around which the Pole of the Earth revolves in less time than twenty-six thousand years, and A, b, B, a, the Ecliptic through which the Equator passes in the same time. The Circle A, D, B, is the place of the Equator sixteen thousand years ago; the curve A, P, B, the equinoctial Colure at the same time, and S, D, C, P, the solstitial Colure, and P, the place of the Pole of the Earth at the same time. Little p, the present place of the Pole of the Earth; h, d, a, the Equator; and a, p, b, the equinoctial Colure; whilst the winter solstitial Colure of the present day passes from the bow of Sagittarius through C, p, &c.

The Spiral from l to P shews the trace described by the Earth's axis from the time of the Zodiac of Thebes to the time of the Zodiacal and extra-Zodiacal figures on the present Globes herein represented.

Having explained the various Circles, lines, points, &c. in the plate I shall proceed to speak of the Figures therein contained.

Various are the tales related concerning these ancient Celestial monuments. Most of which are indecent and disgusting; and yet most of them are allowed to be read in Schools of polite Education! Macrobius is often quoted as having had a happy thought in explaining the Goat, and the Crab, asserting the Goat to be at first a Symbol of winter, and then it follows that the Crab is the Symbol of summer: and as this does not lead us more than two or three thousand years from the present time, that is a lucky hit. Pluche quotes Macrobius. And Pinnock's last week's penny Guide to knowledge has almost its whole article on the Constellations taken from Pluche. But, unfortunately for those advocates for the *happy thought* of Macrobius, if Cancer be the Symbol of the Sun in July, the Lion must be the Symbol of August, and of course the Virgin the *Sun-burnt* harvest maid of Pinnock is the representative of *September*. But in Egypt they have their harvest in March; and during the three Summer Months the Country is under water, and yet neither the Crab, nor the Lion, nor the Virgin say a single syllable about it, but Pinnock has given us another *happy thought* to patch up this blunder.

In his No. for Nov. 1833, page 676 is the following from Pluche "Although the Greeks received the figures of the Constellations from Egypt, it by no means follows that they were invented there; those who diffused them over the rest of the world might themselves have brought them from some other country. Indeed it is certain that the Egyptians did receive them from some distant place."—Though he says "it

is *certain* &c." yet this *Guide* does not say from what place; but says *probably* from that country, where all mankind lived together, immediately after the flood, and that the Egyptians carried them to the borders of the Nile, <sup>when</sup> they went to settle there!!! What a *happy thought*! so much for the *Guide to knowledge*; and his Lamb month, his Calf month, and his Kidd's month. The Abbe Pluche wrote of the kidds, but he did not inform Pinnock where they were to be found. Goodacre told me they were in the Zodiac of Dendera; but there are no such things. Where is the utility of telling lies about such seeming trifles. If the Lambs in April, and the Calves in May trotted into the meadows with their dams why not allow the Ladies in June to take their two pretty little boys into the meadows to pick a few butter cups.

And now, by placing the Goat in July in the Zenith of Thebes, where we see it placed in the Zodiac of that ancient city, we shall be able to shew, without the *happy thought* of Macrobius, or, *certain probability* of Pinnock, that the *sable, frizzle-headed, thick-lipped*, Sons of the Nile did not bring these symbols from that place where all mankind lived immediately after the Flood; but, that they are the result of observations, blending the actions of the Elements arising from the place of the Pole with those of the Agriculture and Commerce of that particular place where these Memorials are so happily registered.

But though I have proved a lapse of forty thousand years by the Zodiac of Thebes, yet, from the position and attitudes of the Figures on our present Globes we are not able to venture an Antiquity of more than sixteen thousand years which no *happy thought* of sophists shall overturn. I

shall, however, first of all, lay down a few stepping-stones of Truth, from known historical Facts.

Well authenticated Histories inform us that the Nile overflowed its Banks and laid all lower Egypt under water for ten or eleven weeks during the three summer months; beginning at Midsummer, and continuing till the latter end of September, before the land became dry. And that every kind of labour was done by Proclamation; or, by exhibiting some kind of Tool used in the work to be done, whilst the time of commencement was expressed by shewing the Moon's age by a Crescent for the new Moon, a Half-Moon, with the strait side to the left for the first Quarter, the strait side to the right for the third Quarter, and the circle for the Full Moon, these Symbols were placed on the head of a female Figure, or of a Woman; and the symbols of labour were mostly placed on the figure of a Man. The Egyptians to eternize the most important symbols, arranged them along the Ecliptic or sun's annual Path, while others were imagined to be placed along the meridian from the Sun's place at noon for every month, with their heads towards the then Pole and their feet on the Equator. There is another historical fact of some importance to be known, which I don't recollect to have seen mentioned by any writer on Egypt; but in the Hindostanee Puranas or books of Geography the Fact is often mentioned in various ways. It is this. The inhabitants of the northern hemisphere had an astronomical hatred of the inhabitants of the Southern hemisphere. And in the Asiatic Researches, mention is made of frequent Battles having been fought between the Hindoos and the Egyptians on that part of Africa where the Equator cuts the Sea-Coast just below

the mouth of the Red-Sea. This hatred seems to have arisen from the circumstance of the north pole being denominated the **TEMPLE** of the Sun, whilst the South pole was observed to be the **TOMB** of the Sun. The Jews have recorded something relative to the above fact in Joshua, where it is said, that the Sun stood still on Mount Gibeon and hasted not to *go down* for the space of a whole day; and when Samson, which in Hebrew, is one of the names of the Sun, went *down* into the valley of Sorek, he had his hair cut off and his Eyes put out!!! See Myth. Astr.

However the Equator was looked on as a line of separation, and as that is always varying its position among the Stars, and the rate of its motion known, the time of its departure from any Star, or cluster of Stars, can easily and positively be known.

The Egyptians had their year of 365 days. They had also their Sideral year, and the Tropical year. But as this last was the rule of the seasons, it was the rule of all their labours. And as their river began to rise at Midsummer, that time ended one year and began another. In consequence of the rivers beginning to rise when the Sun came to their Zenith, it is said that the river was the gift of the Sun; for they have no rain in Egypt. They therefore represented the Sun in the Zenith, vomiting a torrent of water. (see Zodiac of Thebes) and as the Sun is there in the Goat, at Midsummer, the Goat was then a Summer sign. The river was, therefore, the gift of the *Sun in the Goat*, and called Ageon, from Agis, a goat, and On, the Sun. In this river there were Whales, and Ageon is represented as a Giant that swallowed Whales. The Sun in their Zenith being then in its greatest Glory, was likened to a Goat whose delight is to be on the

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top of a Mountain, and therefore the Stars in that part of heaven were called the Stars of the Goat; and as the river began to overflow, at that time they added a Fische's tail to the Goat, which is seen on the present Globes and in both the Zodiacs of Dendera. The Zodiac of Thebes is therefore, anterior to the other, by 25,000 years at least. The next month, August, was represented by a man pouring a pitcher of water down on the Earth; and as at that time, the Egyptians carried on their commerce by Sea, this maritime traffic is represented by horses with wings, (Symbols of sails.) I have seen a Chronological Table of events recording a time when the frost was so severe that the Merchants carried their goods across the Mediterranean Sea *on Horses*. Had these punsters said *in Horses* (meaning Ships) they would not have needed the assistance of *Stenelus\** to have paved the Sea as with a stone.

But the Horse Pegasus with the Star markab on his wing, in our time, circulates over the center of Africa, where Ships cannot sail; but when the Goat was vertical at Thebes, Pegasus and his neighbour were vertical to that part of the midland Sea which is contiguous to the Nile, were the Phœnician Ships used to assemble. Besides, the name of the principal Star *markab* is, the *Sea vessel*, from *mar* or *mer*, the Sea, and *kab*, a vessel or measure. The position of the Feet and forehead of Pegasus are directed to the place of the Pole sixteen thousand years ago. I am aware that Dr. Jamieson, in his *Celestial Atlas*, makes Markab to be *probably* "the Horse of our fathers."

The two Fishes, in the third month of Summer, united by a Fillet to their Tail, very happily

\* See *Mythological Etymologies*.



express the state of their Country, as the water retired from the land; miriads of fishes must have been left on the soil; these and other things left, as the water disappeared, inticed the birds from the south to follow the retreating Nile quite down to the shore of the Midland Sea. The principal bird from the South, is called the Whoop, which being of a singular form, the Egyptians exhibited its wing as a Symbol of the South wind.

All historians who have visited Egypt speak of the superb entertainments exhibited on the water during the summer months at night; these gave an opportunity of observing the midnight Stars, as they came in succession month after month to the meridian, or South.

Accordingly, when the Sun was in the Goat at noon the river *began* to rise, the Stars that appeared south at midnight were represented by the head of a Serpent called, hydra, or the water Serpent, and on the Globes and on the Planisphere, opposite the middle of the Goat, is the head or beginning of hydra. When the Sun, at noon, appeared by the Urn of Aquarius; at *midnight* they placed a Cup on the hydra's back, where it still remains in the precise attitude of holding liquor, when the Pole was near Vega: but from the present place of the Pole it stands aslant. If this be doubted, bring the Crater on the hydra, to the meridian of a Celestial Globe, and behold the fact. Is it possible for Symbols to speak plainer, that the Pole was once at P. And when the Sun is at Pisces at noon, behold the bird, the Whoop, at midnight on the *tail* of hydra in the attitude of picking up whatever it might find to his palate.

The three symbols by which they represented the nightly entertainments, were called Syrens, which I explained in my other works.

The soil deposited from fourteen Cubits of water, made it necessary to measure each person's quantity of land as soon as the soil became stiffened. This work was proclaimed by setting up the square and compasses; and whilst they measured their lands in October, the country was covered with sheep, feeding on the fresh herbage before the ploughing in November. To commemorate the occurrences in October, the Ram was placed next after Pisces in the Zodiac, and the square or *right-angled* Triangles above the horns of the Ram, with one side in the direction of the then meridian and an other parallel to the, then, horizon. And what is still more remarkable they are not both of a size, but this is not the work of chance,—the lesser has its acute angle pointing to the East; the greater, to the West. By the map we perceive, to the eastward of the Nile, a much less quantity of land to measure, than there is to the west, and consequently the acute point of the large Triangle is placed among the Stars pointing to the West.

And as the Ox was used in ploughing, in November the Stars in the fifth month were called the Bull, and the bright Star on his head is named *Aldebaran*, the great bull's eye. It is also called, *Palilitium*, which means, the rule of Festivals. While the measuring, ploughing, and sowing the Grain, was performing by a certain description of the people, another description, were gathering and pressing their Olives; after which, they had a festival, a rejoicing, for the abundance of Oil received, in which they surrounded the wheels with serpents to express abundance. These wheels were called *Golgot* corrupted into Gorgons, and one is placed among the Stars suspended by the snakes, in the hand of a man in a very painful attitude; called Per-

**seus.** Let any person turn the constellation of Perseus to the meridian of our Globes and Perseus will be found to be placed aslant under it, and the head of Medusa far from obeying the laws of gravitation will make as great an angle as its holder; but a line from Taurus to the Pole at P will pass through Perseus and in the Planisphere the Equator projected around the corresponding pole P proves, beyond contradiction that Perseus was placed in that position when the Equator was there, which is at least sixteen thousand years ago. But Ovid has mentioned his precise position.

The victor Perseus, with the Gorgon-head,  
O'er **LIFTAN** sands his airy Journeying sped.  
Thence Perseus, like a cloud, by storms was driven,  
Through all the expanse beneath the cope of heaven.

Perseus, however, in our time, does not revolve over any part of Africa; but sixteen thousand years back he did.

In the month of December the Egyptians closed their out-door business with a Fair, at which all kinds of utensils, and every thing necessary for the winter, might be had. This great assemblage of the people is represented by only a pair of young men, on our Globes. But some of the Hindu Zodiacs have a boy and a girl, and though I have seen many Zodiacs, I have never seen one with *kidds*, but on our Globes above the horns of the Bull, is Auriga; on whose shoulders are two goats; on the left Capella, the She goat; on the right, Hircus, or He goat; and below, are some kidds, but they are none of them in the Zodiac.

Winter, now setting in, the labour in Egypt was spinning and weaving of Flax; and the Symbols by which this was proclaimed were numerous: I believe, Erichonius, is the most celebrated. Its name implies Flax-weav-

ing: sometimes it is called *Erictheus*, but by whom corrupted I am not certain. Bryant and Holwell dealt much in corruptions of this kind. *Eriethonius*, would not so easily admit of being turned into "The Arkite God.

But *Eric* is a slight alteration of *Arag*; and *Arag-oni* which is weaving work, has been changed into *Arachne*. However, none of these Symbols, are placed on our Globes, and therefore, foreign to the present purpose. *Ursa-major*, is the only Symbol, relative to weaving, that has been placed among the Stars. During the two short months of winter in Egypt the Stars that passed over their land were characterised by the animal that delights in cold countries, the Bear. Its name of *Arctos*, however, is the only thing among the Stars that has any relation to weaving.

In Pinnoek's Guide to knowledge it is asserted that the original of its name was *Bier*; and from its proximity of sound has been corrupted into the animal. Pinnoek seems not to know that the animal is placed on the Globes by the name of *Ursa*; but Ovid calls it *Arctos*; and Bootes is called *Arctophilax*, because he follows that animal.

As the Sun began to turn back in January, the backward sideway walking Crab was thought a fit Symbol of the Sun's motion at that time.

And, Manilius, informs us that the Crab, was represented *without eyes*, and when painted was of a *black* colour; which strongly alludes to winter.

In the eighth month, or February, the waters being dried up in the forests, the Lions resorted to the banks of the Nile; which gave that animal the next place in the Zodiac. I shall here make some remarks on the position of the three Symbols of winter. The two Zodiacal figures,

the Crab and the Lion, are remarkable for their great northern latitude; especially the latter; as some of the Stars on him are twelve, some are fourteen degrees above the Ecliptic. This circumstance alone would prove it a *wint'ry sign*: for Leo, being a summer sign, would circulate over the midland Sea. And the position of the Bear is as remarkable for its being so equally balanced upon the then, Equator. Cuviere quibbles about what particular part of the constellations the Colures passed through at first; whether at the beginning or the middle.

Here from the position of the Equator, we are sure the solstitial Colure was in the *middle* of the Goat, for by placing the Colure at the beginning of the Goat, the Equator would be below the hind paws of the Bear, and above the fore paws; as is shown in the Planisphere. The same remark would equally apply to the feet of Perseus. Again, observe how the Symbols of labour gradually depart from the Ecliptic as the Sun departs from the Equator; Perseus, on the Equator, stands with one foot on the Bull; but the Bear on the Equator is far removed from Cancer and Leo.

The ninth month, or March, was their harvest month this they very properly represented by a virgin with a ripe ear of Corn in her hand, called Spica; whilst upon the, then meridian, they placed the harvest man Bootes, with a Sickle in his hand, which touches the tail of the Bear, near a small Star called *mizar* which Dr. Jamieson, in his celestial Atlas, says, means the *reaping hook*.

This virgin is thrice repeated in the long Zodiac of Dendera, one of which holds up a wheat-ear between Leo and the Ballance or Scales, in the circular Planisphere there are three virgins;

which represent the three Decans, into which each sign of the Zodiac was divided. But, here, the first virgin is represented with a *Child* on her knee; which proves that the story of the virgin and her child, was known to the Egyptians more than a Million of years back.

About the latter end of March the days are known to lengthen more rapidly than at other times; and when the angle of the two Poles was greater, at that time, the increase was more rapid; so that the time of the equality of the days and nights was of short duration. Consequently the *Scales*, Symbols of equality occupy but a short space in the Zodiac. About this time the Sun; and the winds from Arabia produced scorching Blasts, which drove their light sands about their naked bodies and produced blotches like the venom of the scorpion: to commemorate which the Scorpion was placed in the eleventh division. A little to the south of the Ecliptic is a large Star of a dismally red colour, called Antares, and is placed in the constellation as the Heart of the Scorpion. Its name seems to be *Ain Tarah* i. e. the Star of *terror*. The work necessary to be done at this time of drought, (when the Nile consisted of many *stagnant* puddles of fœtid water, covered with *arid weeds*, which caused the Nile to be Symbolized by a *red dragon*, &c.) was that of scouring and cleansing the Channel, so as to give the water its proper direction to the Sea; which was done by men called *Titans*, or *mud-men*; one of which is placed in the division of the Scorpion, with a Serpent so disposed of as to convey a clear idea of a man commanding the Serpent, Symbol of the Nile. Now, observe the particular position of the man; his body is in the line of the Harp, like all the other Symbols of labour; and one

of his feet is on the Ecliptic and the other is placed, on our Globes below the Ecliptic, resting on nothing; but by projecting the Equator through its true place, in the scales of Spring, we see what inducement the ancient sages had to place the other foot of Serpentarius below the Ecliptic; it was, that, it might be supported on the Equator, and thereby, having two firm props he was better able to contend with his Symbolical enemy, the *great red Dragon*!—the Nile.

In the twelfth and last division of the year, it was necessary to drive all the tame animals into close quarters, so as to be able, upon any short notice, to have them conveyed to the high raised *Country of Thebes*, called the Thebah. At the lowest part of the Thebaid, was Tentyra, (Dendera) so that whoever went with their cattle and other concerns to the *Thebah*; had an easy passage up the Nile into the Thebaid by way of Tentyra where they could remain with safety till the *annual* waters returned: which was marked by the coming of the Numidan Hen, from the south, which is placed on the tail of Hydra; and which is known to follow the track of the Nile quite down to the Sea. It is also very probable, that, while they drove up their *tame* stock they might secure as much of the *wild* kind as was desirable: this seems very likely, by Sagittarius being furnished with a *bow and arrow*. However, the position of this hunting Symbol is the main thing to be noticed. Of all the animals in the Solar round, this is placed lowest in the Ecliptic; indeed, his head is but just allowed to touch that circle; and all the horse-part extends far to the south. The inducement to this is obvious,—the Horse rests on the Equator of sixteen thousand years back; which is a convincing proof of its being the Symbol of June; and as this is the month of

*fiery blasts* the night was better adapted for business than the day. And at midnight, when the Sun was in the line between the tail of Sagittarius, (where the year ended) and the horns of the Goat, (where the year began) the constellation Lyra, was then erect near the then north Pole; and, on the Globe where the Tortoise and Harp are placed on the breast of the bird, the bird's mouth is wide open, and the bright Star is called Vega, or *Phega*, which is, *the place of the mouth*. In the present time, at midnight in the summer, this constellation is seen to the north of the Zenith of Thebes, with its head downwards and at midnight in winter, when north, it cannot be seen, being below the horizon.

If Sagittarius had been a winter sign what could have induced the Sons of the Nile to place it so far *below* the Ecliptic that it must have circulated over the most southern parts of Africa where we know it could have nothing to do with the concerns of Egypt. Hence we see why Leo, a winter sign, was placed so far above the Ecliptic, and Sagittarius a summer sign, so far below.

These incontrovertible facts agreeing with the positions and attitudes of all the Symbols of labour on the Globe, prove, beyond the possibility of being overturned, that since their arrangement the Polar point among the Stars has removed from P. to p; and that men of great learning, lived in the Thebaid of Egypt, at least sixteen thousand years ago.

**FINIS.**

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