

The monuments show us that in the 15th and 16th years of Amenasu-hat, Tutmes III. is mentioned as joint ruler. These years refer to the 21 years 7 months of Amenses, and not, as has been erroneously assumed, to the years of the joint reign of Amenses and Tutmes III. They simply indicate that the brother and sister reigned together *at least* (21-14) seven years, but they throw no light on the first year of association. According to our chronology, the sole reign of Tutmes III. falls in the fifteenth of his 53 years' reign. Now there is an inscription of this very year, of which an abstract has been given by Brugsch,¹ who has no doubt that it refers to *the coronation of the king*. In the course of the inscription Tutmes III. speaks of his sister driving him to the marshy country difficult of access. "There Tutmes III. remained without office or position in the temple of Ammon. For it is no fable: as long as I was a child and a boy I remained in his temple; never once as a seer of the god did I hold an office." From this we may infer with certainty that his sister was dead, as he hardly would have thus publicly spoken of her cruel treatment while she was alive.

13. The following astronomical dates confirm the preceding restoration:—

(a) In the 23rd of Tutmes III. there was a new moon on the 21st of Pachons.² As this could happen only once in 25 Egyptian vague years, this notice is of great chronological value. Mr. B. Cooper's calculation³ shows that a new moon fell on Pachons 21, in 1493 B.C., and he therefore places the accession of Tutmes III. in (1493 + 22) 1515 B.C. But the same coincidence happened in 1468 and 1443 B.C., and this last date is exactly the 23rd year of Tutmes III. in our system, and the next two dates prove that 1443 B.C. is the only possible year.

(b) One of the inscribed blocks in the island of Elephantine, a fragment of an immense temple erected there by Tutmes III., informs us that, in some unmentioned year of his reign, the rising of the dog-star Sothis happened on the 28th of Epiphi.⁴ As this fragment was once part of a com-

¹ *Hist. of Egypt*, i. 378-83.

² *Ibid.* i. 324, compare 396.

³ E. de Bunsen, *Chronol. of the Bible*, 105.

⁴ Brugsch, *Hist. of Egypt*, i. 395.