

BIBLICAL CHRONOLOGY.

1. A comparison between the chronology of the two rival kingdoms of Israel and Judah shows that the reigns in the former kingdom were reckoned according to a system that requires a reduction of one year in every case. Hence the Biblical numbers from Jeroboam I. to the accession of Ahab are *chronologically* as follows: $21 + 1 + 23 + 1 + 11 = 57$ years.

2. Josaphat of Judah begins to reign in the fourth year of Ahab, and Ahab's son Ahaziah begins to reign in the seventeenth of Josaphat. Ahaziah, after one year's reign, is succeeded by his brother Joram, who reigns 11 years to his assassination by Jehu. Hence from 1 Jeroboam to 1 Jehu are $(57 + 3 + 16 + 1 + 11)$ 88 years. The Assyrian Eponym Canon places the accession of Jehu in 841 B.C., therefore the era of the kingdom of Israel was 929 B.C. As the kings of Judah dated their official years from the *Nisan* following their accession, whereas the kings of Israel appear to have dated them six months earlier from *Tisri*, it follows that the first year of Roboam was 928 B.C., and his fifth, in which Shishak's invasion took place, was 924 B.C.

3. The 40 years assigned to Solomon begin therefore in $(928 + 40)$ 968 B.C., but Scripture indicates an association with his father David for some time, not specified. The Tyrian annals, according to Menander (in Josephus) reckon 145 years from the fourth year of Solomon to the building of Carthage, which, according to the unanimous testimony of Aristotle, Timæus, Dionysius, Halicarnassus, Velleius, Cicero, and Eusebius, must be placed in 814-13 B.C. Therefore the fourth of Solomon was $(814 + 145)$ 959 B.C., and his associated reign with his father David lasted for six years.

4. The year 959 B.C. as the Tyrian date for the fourth of Solomon, is confirmed by another Tyrian reckoning, according to which the fourth of Solomon was the year 240 of the building of Tyre. Justin says the building of Tyre was one year before the fall of Troy. Lydian chronology, Africanus, the list of the "Thallassocratie" of Castor of Rhodes, a