

Philippus Martyr.

had lost indecde. This Phillippus (sayth the storye) was made afterwarde Bishop of Alexandria, and there suffered Martyrdom. Concerning whole Martyrdom I deny not but it may be true, but that he was byshop of Alexandria, that cannot be admitted, as is before insufficiently proved, out of Eusebius and other ancient historians.

A lykewyle it is sayd, that Eugenia after the Martyrdom of her father, returning to Rome with Prothus, and Hiacinthus, by occasion of comertyng Bassila (who shoulde have bene married to a Pagane husband, and was then beheaded) to the Christian faith, was assayed wth sundrye kinds of death, first being tied to a great stone & cast into Tyber, where she was caried up from drowning, then put in the boate bathes, which were extingued, and she pierced: after ward by famishment in prison, where they saye she was fed at the hande of our Saviour, all which Legendary miracles I leave to the Reader to iudge of them, as thal seeme good unto him. At last the story sayeth, she was with the sword beheaded, Antonin. Bergom. Ado.

And because in this present history mention was made of Helenus whom Antoninus with his fellowes noteth to be the byshop of Hierapolis, here is to be understood & observed by the way, & as Phillippus in the foresaid history is falsly sayd to be byshop of Alexandria, so lykewyle vntreue it is that Helenus was bishop of Hierapolis sfoz by Eusebius it appeareth, Lib. 7. cap. 5. alleadging the words of Dionysius that he was bishop of Tarsus in Cilicia, and had there ouertight of that Church from the tyme of our Lorde, 254. to the yeare. 274.

The vi. yeare of Valerianus and Galienus we read in the story of Herfordiensis, cited out of Iliardus, or Victor and Victorinus, who lying in prison the space of thre yeares with Claudianus and Boffa his wife, are sayde to haue sustayned great tormentes, and Martyrdom, for the testimony and name of Christ. Ex. Iliardo.

Aurelius Prudentius in his booke intituled Peristephanon, interreth mention of Fructuosus Byshop of Tarracoena in Spaine, who with his two Deacons Augurius and Eulogius, suffered also Martyrdom being burnt after xye daies imprisonment, vnder y^e foresaid Emperours in this persecution. The cause of their punishment was for the profession of Christs name. Their Iudge and condemner was Emilianus: Their imprisonment indured fixe dayes. The kinde of death ministered vnto them was fire, wherein they being altogether cast wth their armes bound behind them, their ganches (as Prudentius writeth) were dissolved, their hands vntouched with the fire, and their bodies remayning whole. The charge of this Iudge vnto the Byshop was this, that he would worship the Gods, whom the Emperour Galienus worshipped. To whom Fructuosus the byshop answering: nay, (sayde he) I worship no doombe God of stockes and blockes, whom Galienus doth worship, but I worship the Lord and maker of Galienus, the father and creator of all times, and his ouerly Sonne, sent downe to vs of whose flock I am here the Pastor and shepherde. At this worde Emilianus answering agayne, say, (saith he) say not thou art, but say thou wast. And forthwith commanded them to be committed to the fire, where (as is sayd) their handes and manicles being loosed, by the fire, they lifted vp their hands to heauen, praying the living God, to the great admiration of them that stood by, praying also that the element which seemed to sic from them, might worke his full force vpon them, & speedely dispatche them, which was after their request obtained. In the meane space as they were in the fire, there was accoyne souldier in the house of Emilianus, who did see the heauens about to open, and these foresayd Martyrs to enter in the same, which souldiour likewise shewed the light the same tyme vnto the daughter of Emilianus, the president who beholding the same sight with the souldiour, was a present witness of the blessednesse of them, whom her cruell father had condemned.

As thys godly Byshop was preparyng to his death (sayth Prudentius) the brethren appoaching to him, brought him drinke, desiring him with much weeping to receaue & drinke wth them, but that he refused to do, requiring the moreouer to receayne their reares, with like readines the brethren also were diligent about him to pluck of his shoes & hose, as he was addressing himselfe to the fire. But neither would he suffer any seruants helpe in that, wherein he was no lesse willing as able to helpe himself. And thus this blessed and feruent byshop Fructuosus with his two Deacons Augurius and Eulogius, being brought to the fire, witnessed the constant confession of the name of christ, with the shedding of their bloude. Aurel. Prudentius. Ado. Equilinus.

And thus farre continued wicked Valerian, in his ty-

ranmy against the Sainctes of Christ. But as all the Tyrantes before, and oppressors of the Christians had their desired reward at the last hand of God, which rewardeth to euery man according to his workes: so this cruel Valerian, after he had reigned with his soune Galienus, y^e tyme of vi. or viij. yeares, and about two yeares had afflicted the Church of Christ, felt the just stroke of his hande, whoe indignation before he had pronounced, whereof we haue to witnes Eutropius, Pollio, Sabellicus, Volateranus: sfoz making hys expedition agaynst the Persians, whether by the fraude and treason of some about him, or whether by hys owne rashnes, it is doubtfull: But this is certayne, that he fell into the handes of hys enemies, being about the age of lxx. yeares, where he led hys wretched age in a more wretched captiuitie. In so much that Sapore the king of the Persians dyed him (and well worthy) not for his riding foole, but for hys riding blocke. sfoz whereasouer the king should light vpon hys horse openly in the sight of the people, Valerian Emperour quondam, was brought forth in steele of a blocke, for the king to tread vpon hys backe, in going to hys horsebacke. And so continued this blockishe butcherly Emperour with shame and spozt mough vnto his small end, as witnesseth Latus and Aurelius Victor.

And albeit Eusebius in a certaine Sermon to the Congregation, declarerh a more cruell handling of him, affirming that he was slaine, writing in these wordes: Sed & tu Valeriane, quoniam eandem homicidiorum scuitiam erga subditos Dei exercuisti, iustum Dei iudicium declarasti, dum captiuus ac vincitus vna cum ipsa purpura ac reliquo imparatorio ornatu abductus, ac tandem a Sapore Perfarum Rege excoiari iustus, saleg, conditus, perpetuum infelicitatis tuæ trophæum exiisti. &c. That is and thou Valerian, for so much as thou hast exercised the same crudelitie in murdering the subiects of God, therefore hast proved vnto vs the righteous iudgement of God, in that thy selfe hast bene bound in chaynes, and caried away for a captiue slaue, with thy gorgeous purple, and thy imperiall attire, and at length also being commaunded of Sapore the king of the Persians to be slaine and pondered with sault, hastier vp vnto al men a perpetuall monument of thine owne wretchednes. &c. Euseb.

The like lenitie of God his terrible iudgement is also to be noted in Claudius, his Heiuder, and minister of his persecutions. Of which Claudius, Henricus de Erfordia thus writeth, that he was possessed and vexed of the deuill, in such sort, that he byying of his owne tongue in many small peeces, so ended hys life. Erford.

Neither did Galienus the sonne of Valerian, after the captiuitie of hys father, utterly escape the righteous hand of God. sfoz beside the miserable captiuitie of hys father whom he could not rescue, such portences strange, & out of the court of nature, such Earthquakes did happen, also such tumultes, commotions, and rebellions did followe, that Trebellio doth reckon vpon to the number of 30. together with in many places all at one tyme tooke vpon them to be tyrantes and Emperours ouer y^e Monarchie of Rome, by the meanes whereof he was not able to succour hys father, though he would. Notwithstanding the sayd Galienus being (as is thought) terrified by the crayle of his father, did reuolue: at least did moderate the persecutio stirred vp by the Forces of Valerian hys father, directing forth hys imperiall Proclamation, the tenor whereof proceedeth after this effect, as is to be seene in Euseb. Lib. 7. ca. 13. Emperour and Caesar, Publius Licinius, Galienus, Pius Fortunatus, Augustus, vnto Dionysius, to Pinna, and to Demetrian and to all other the like Bishops. The bountifull benignitie of my gift, I haue willed and commaunded to be proclaimed through the whole worlde, to the intent that such which are detained in banishment for discipline sake, may safely returne home agayne, from whence they came. And for the same cause I haue here sent to you the example of my rescript for you to peruse & to enioy, so that no man lo hardy to vexe or molest you. And thys which you may now layfully enioy, hath bene long since by me graunted. And therefore for your more warrant in the same, I haue committed the exemplar hereof to the custody of Aurelianus Cyrenius my chiefe Steward, where you may fet the copy to see at your pleasure.

This mandate about prefixed did Galienus sent to Dionysius Alexandrinus, and to other Bishops as is prefixed. An other rescript also the sayd Emperour sent to other Christian Bishops, permitting to them full libertie to receaue agayne their wonted places, where they were wont to associate together, called of them Cæmeteria.

By this it may appeare that some peace was then graunted vnder this Galienus, to the Church of Christ: albeit not so, but y^e some there were which suffered. Among whom was one Marinus mentioned in Eusebius. Lib. 7. This Marinus being a warriour and a noble man in Cesarea, stode

The notable plague of God agaynst Valerian the persecutor.

Gods iust punishment to be noted.

Ex Euseb. in Sermon ad Conuentum. Sanctorum. Valerian the persecuting Emperour, excoiariate of the Persians.

The punishment of God vpon Claudius president to the Emperour. Galienus plagued for hys persecution.

Peace graunted to the Church. Euseb. lib. 7. Cap. 13.

An other graunt of Galienus vnto the Christian Bishops.

An. 263. Marinus Martyr. Ex Euseb. lib. 7. ca. 15.

Corrections in the story about touched. Euseb. lib. 7. Cap. 5. Helena Byshop of Tarsus.

Anno. 262.

Victor, Victorinus, Claudianus, Bessa, Martyrs. Fructuosus Byshop of Tarracoena in Spayne, with his 2 Deacons Augurius, Eulogius, Martyrs. Ex Prudent.

Fructuosus and his Deacons strengthened in the fire.

The fauour of God toward hys martirs openly declared.

The modesty of Fructuosus.