

some order of any Bishop or other booke was received, as hath bene heretofore discoursed.

Now from the Popes to returne againe to the emperours from whence we digressed, like as Pipinus the father of Charles (as hath bene before sufficiently told) had gotten to the sea Idall all the principdomes of Auncenna, with other donations and reuerences, & landes in Italy: so this Carolus following his fathers deuotion, did confirme the same, adding moreouer therunto, the Citie and dominion of Venice, Histria, the Dukedome Foroitiense, the dukedom Spoletanum and Beneuentanum, and other possessions moe, to the patrimoine of S. Peter, making him the Prince of Rome and of Italy. The Pope agayne to recompence his so gentle kindnes, made him to be intituled most Chyffest king, and made him Patricium Romanum. Moreouer ordeined him onely to bee taken for Emperour of Rome. For these and other causes moe, Carolus bare no little affection to the sayd Adrian about all other Popes: as may well appeare by this letter of Carolus Magnus sent to king Offa, what tyme the said Offa (as is aboue prescribed) sent to hym Alcuinus for entreatie of peate: wherunto the foresayd Carolus answered agayne to the message of Offa in a letter, the contents wherof be these.

Carolus Magnus beneficiall to the sea of Rome.

Rex Christianissimus intituled to the sea of France.

The tenour of a Letter sent by Carolus Magnus to king Offa, answering to his request concerning the intreatie of peace betwene them.

A letter of Charles the great sent to king Offa.

Carolus Rex Francorum & Longobardorum, Patricius Romanorum viro uenerando, & fratri charissimo Offa Regi Merciorum Salut. Primò gratias agimus omnipotenti Deo, de Catholica fidei sinceritate, quam in vestris laudabilibus paginis reperimus exaratum. De peregrinis uero qui pro amore Dei, & salute animarum suarum, beatorum Apostolorum limina desiderant adire, cum pace sine omni perturbatione vadant. Sed si aliqui religioni non seruientes, sed luca sectantes inueniantur inter eos, locis opportunis statuta soluto telonia. Negotiatores quoque uolumus ut ex mandato nostro patrociniuum habeant in regno nostro legitime. Et si in aliquo loco, iniusta affligantur oppressione, reclamant se ad nos, vel nostros iudices, & plenam iustitiam iubemus fieri. Cognoscit quoque dilectio uestra quod aliquam benignitatem de Delmaticis nostris vel pallijs ad singulas sedes Episcopales regni uestri vel Ethelredi direximus, in eilemosinam Domini Apostolici Adriani, deprecantes ut pro eo intercedi iubeatis, nullam habentes dubitationem beatam illius animam in requie esse, sed ut fidem & dilectionem ostendamus in amicum nobis charissimum. Sed & de thesauro humanarum rerum, quum Dominus Iesus gratuita pietate concessit aliquid per Metropolitanas ciuitates: Direximus uestræ quoque dilectioni unum balneum, & unum gladium & duo pallia serica, &c.

How the Pope heareth the cry of poore widowes and Orphanes

The cause why this Carolus writeth so fauorablye of Adria partly is touched before, partly alio was, for y<sup>e</sup> Carolomane his elder brother being dead, his wife called Bertha with her two Children came to Adrian, to haue them confirmed in their fathers kingdom: wherunto the Pope to shew a pleasure to Carolus would not agree: but gaue the mother with her two children, & Desiderius the Lombard king with hys whole kingdom, hys wife and Children, into the hands of the said Carolus, who led them with him captiue into France, and there kept them in seruitude during their lyfe.

The Empire translated from Greece to France.

Thus, Carolus Magnus being proclaymed Emperour of Rome, through the preferment of Adrian, and of Pope Leo the third which succeeded next after him, was the Empire translated from the Grecians about the yeare of our Lord 801. vnto the Frenchmen: where it continued about 102. yeares till the comming of Conractus and hys nephew Otho, which were Germanys: and so hath continued after them among the Almanes vnto this present tyme. This Charles builded so many Monasteries as there be letters in the row of A. B. C. he was beneficiall chiefly to Churchmen also mercifull to the poore, in hys actes valiant and triumphant, skilde in all languages, he held a counsell at Francoford, where was condemned the Council of Nice and Irene, for setting vp and worshipping Images, &c.

Concerning which Council of Nice, & things there concluded and enacted (because no man that thinke, the delecting of Images to be any new thing now begon) thus I finde it recorded in an auncient witten history of Roger Houeden, called Continuaciones Bedæ, his wordes in Latin be these: Anno 792. Carolus Rex Francorum misit Sinodalem librum ad Britanniam, sibi à Constantinopoli directum. In quo lib. Heu, pro dolor, multa inconuenientia, & ueræ fidei contraria reperiuntur, maximè quòd pene omnium orientalium Doctorum non minus quam 300. uel eo amplius Episcoporum unanimi assertionem confirmatum sit, imagines adorari debere: Quod

omnino Ecclesia Dei execratur. Contra quod scripsit Albinus Epistolam ex autoritate diuinarum scripturarum mirabiliter affirmatam, illamq; cum eodem libro ex persona Episcoporum ac principum nostrorum, Regi Francorum attulit. Hæc ille. That is. In the yeare of our Lord, 792. Charles the French King sent a booke containing the actes of a certene Synode, vnto Wittayne, directed vnto hym from Constantinople. In the which booke (lamentable to behold) many things inconuenient, & cleane contrary to the true sayth are there to be found: especially for that by the common consent of almost all the learned bishops of the East Church, not so few as 300. it was there agreed that Images should be worshipped. Which thing the church of god hath alwayes abhorred. Against which booke Albin wrote an Epistle substantially grounded out of the authoritie of holy Scripture. Which Epistle with the booke, the sayde Albinus in the name and person of our Bishops and Princes, did present to the French king.

Images written agaynst, as contrary to the true sayth.

This Albinus was Alcuinus aboue mentioned.

The Bishops and Princes of England against Images.

And thus much by the way of Romish matters: now to returne agayne to the Northumberland kings where left at Egbert, which Egbert as is before declared, succeeded after Ceolulphus after he was made Monke. And likewise the sayd Egbert also following the deuotion of hys vncle Ceolulphus, and Kenredus before him: was likewise thorne monke after he had raigned 20. yeeres in Northumberland, leauing his sonne Osulphus after him to succede: about which tyme, and in the same yeare when Ceolulphus deceased in his Monastery, which was the yeare of our Lord, 764. diuers Cities were burnt with sodaine fire, as the citie of wenta, the citie of London, the citie of Yorke, Worcester, with diuers other townes besides. Roger Houeden. Lib. Contin. post Bedam, who the first yeare of hys reign, which was the yere of our Lord, 757. being innocently slayne, next to him followed Mollo, otherwile called Adelwald, who likewise being slayne of Alcredus after hee had raigned 11. yeeres departed. After, Alcredus wher he had raigned 10. yeeres, was expelled out of his kingdom by his people. Then was Ethelbert otherwile named Edred the sonne of the foresayd Mollo recreated kyng of Northumberland. Which Ethelbert, or Adred in like sort after he had raigned 9. yeeres, was expelled. After whome succeeded Alfwold, who likewise when he had raigned 11. yeeres, was vniustly slaine. So likewise after him his nephew, and the sonne of Alcredus named Ofredus raigned one yeare & was slayne. Then the foresayd Ethelbert the sonne of Mollo after 12. yeeres banishment, raigned agayne in Northumberland the space of foure yeeres, and was slayne: the cause wherof (as I finde in an old witten story) was that forsaking his old wife, he married a new. Concerning the reasoning of whō Alcuinus writeth in this manner: Benedictus Deus qui facit mirabilia solus. Nuper Edredus filius Edelwaldi de carcere processit in solium, & de miseria in maiestatem, cuius regni nouitate detenti sumus ne ueniremus ad vos, &c. And afterward the same Alcuin agayne speaking of his death, writeth to king Offa, in these wordes: Sciat ueneranda dilectio uestra, quod Do. Carolus amabiliter & fideliter sæpe mecum locutus est de uobis, & in eo habeti fidelissimum amicum. Ideo & uestræ dilectioni digna dirigit munera, & per Episcopales sedes regni uestri, similiter & Edredulo Regi, & ad iuas Episcoporum sedes direxit dona. Sed heu Proh dolor, donis datis, & Epistolis in manus missorum, superuenit tristis legatio per missos qui de Scotia per nos reuersti sunt, De infidelitate gentis, & nece Regis. Ita Carolus retracta donorum largitate in tantum iratus est contra gentem illam, ut ait, perfidam & peruersam, & homicidam dominorum suorum, peiorem eam paganus estimans, ut nisi ego intercessor essem pro ea quicquid eis boni abstrahere potuisset, & mali machinari, iam fecisset, &c.

King Egbert made a monke. Anno. 757.

Osulphus, Mollo, otherwile called Adelwald, Alcredus or Alcredus, Ethelbert otherwile named Adred or Eardulphus, Alfwold, Ofredus, Adred, agayn kynges of Northumberland.

Anno. 764.

The kingdom of Northumberland ceaseth.

Thus as you haue heard, after the raigne of king Egbert, before mentioned, such trouble and perturbation was in the dominion of Northumberland: with slaying, expelling, and disposing, their kings one after another, that after the murdering of this Edred aboue specified, none durst take the gouernement vpon him, being the great danger thereupon ensuing. Insomuch that the foresayd kingdom did lye void and waste the space of xxxij. yeeres together, after the tyme of which yeeres this kingdom of Northumberland, with the kingdomes also of the other Saxons besides, came all together into the handes of Egbert king of the westsaxons and his progeny: which Monarchy began in the yeare of our Lord, 827. and in the 28. yeare of the raygne of the sayd Egbert: whereof more shall be sayd (thust willing) hereafter. Of this trouble some & ragious tyme of Northumberland people, speaketh also the sayd learned man Alcuinus otherwile called Albinus, in the

Northumberland kingdomes ceated.

Alcuinus otherwile called Albinus.