

the same house of S. Brigit made a Nunne. Irem, Etheldreda who we terme S. Eldride, wife to king Ekfride of Northumberland, who beyng married to two husbands, could not be obtained to geue her consent to either of them during the space of 12. yeares, but would needs live a Virginitie, and was professed Nunne at Helling. Werburga was the daughter of Vlfersus king of Mercians, & made Nunne at Ely. Kinreda sister of king Vlfersus and Kinswida her sister, were both Nunnes professed. Sexburga daughter of kyng Anna king of Mercians, and wyfe of Ercombert kyng of Kent, was Abbess at Ely. Elfrida daughter of Oswy kyng of Northumberland, was Abbess of Whitney. Mildreda, Milburga, and Milguda, all three daughters of Merwaldus kyng of west Mercians, entered the profession and vowe of Spanish virginite. Kineburga, wyfe of Alfride kyng of Northumberland, and sister to Ofricus kyng of Mercians, and daughter of king Penda, was professed Abbess of the Monastery in Gloucester. Elfeda, daughter of Oswy kyng, and wyfe of Peda, some of kyng Penda, likewise inclosed her self in the same profession and vowe of Romish chastite. Like wyfe Alfritha wyfe to kyng Edgar. And Editha daughter to the sayd Edgar, with Wolfrith her mother, &c. All which holy Nunnes with diuers mo. the Romish catholikes haue canonised for Saintes, and put the most part of the in their Calender, and onely because of the vowe of chastite solemnly professed. Concerning the which chastite, whether they kept or no, little I haue to say against them, and lesse to sweare for them. But whether they so kept it or not, if this gift of chastite which they professed, were geuen them of God, small payle worthy was it in them to keepe it: If it were not geuen them, I will not say here of them so much, as hath bene sayd of some other, which sufficiently haue painted out to the world, the demeanour of these holy virgines. But this will I say, that although they kept it neuer so perfectly, yet it is not that which maketh saints before God, but only the blood of Christ Iesus, and a true fayth in him.

Like wyse remaineth, that as we haue declared the deuotion of these noble women, which professing Monastick life, haue cast of all worldly dignitie and delighes: so we should also intreat of such noble men, who among the Saxon kings in lyke zeale of deuotion, haue geuen ouer themselves from the world (as they thought) to the contemplative life of Monastick profession. The names of whō as in the Catalogue of the Saxon kings before is described, be these, to the number of ix.

A Table of such Saxon Kings, as were after made Monkes.

1. Kynigilsus, king of westsaxons.
2. Iue, king of westsaxons.
3. Ceolulfus, king of Northumberland.
4. Eadburtus, king of Northumberland.
5. Ethelredus, king of Mercia.
6. Kenredus, king of Mercia.
7. Offa, king of Eastsaxons.
8. Sebbi, king of Eastsaxons.
9. Sigebertus, king of Eastangles.

Now remaineth (by the grace of Christ) in the next booke followyng, to prosecute the order of such kings as principally raigning alone, had this realme in their possession: from the tyme of Egbert king of westsaxons, to the coming of William Conqueror the Normand, comprehending therein the rest of the next 300. yeares, with the actes & state of Religion, as in that space was in the Church; wherein may appere the declining tyme of the Church, and of true Religion, preparing the way to Antichrist, which not long after followed. For here is to be noted, that during yet this mean tyme, Sathan (as is sayd) was bound vp from his raging and furious violence, counting from the tyme of Constantinus, to the next loosing out of Sathan, which was foretold by the Reuelation of S. Iohn aboue mentioned, to be a thousand yeares, wherof by the order of the history (Christ granting) more shall be sayd hereafter.

Of whiche kynges and their doynges, what is to be iudged, looke gentle Reader before pag. 133.

By these histories it is apparant: what alterations, what perturbations, and what alteration of state hath bene in this Realme of Britayne, first from Brittaines kings, to Romaines, then to Brittaines agayn, after ward to the Saxons. First to vij. altogether raigning, then to one, &c. And thus alteration not onely happened in civile gouernment, but also followed in the state Ecclesiastical. For as in the Brittaines tyme the Metropolitan sea was in London: so in the Saxons time after the coming of Aulfen, it was removed to Canterburie, the Catalogue and order of which Metropolitanes, from the tyme of Aulfen to Egbertus, is thus, as in the history of Malmesberienensis described.

The names and order of the Archbishops of Caunterbury, from Augustine, to the tyme of king Ethelbert.

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| 1. | Augustinus. | 16. |
| 2. | Laurentius. | 5. |
| 3. | Mellitus. | 5. |
| 4. | Iustus. | 3. |
| 5. | Honorius. | 25. |
| 6. | Deus dedit. | 10. |
| 7. | Theodorus. | 22. |

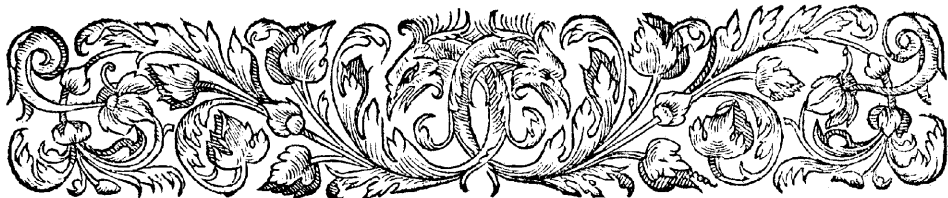
Hitherto from Augustine all the Archbishops of Caunterbury were Italians and foreiners.

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| 8. | Berctualdus English. | 37 | <p>In his tyme the Monasterie of S. Martin was builded in Worcesteria, by Witredus & hys brother, kings of Kent.</p> <p>This Cuthbert after his death forbade all funerall exequies or lamentation for him to bee made. William Malm. De vitis, Lib. 1.</p> <p>In his tyme king Offa translated the Metropolitan sea from Caunterbury to Lichfield by the graunt of Pope Adrian, beyng overcome with Apostolicall arguments, as sayth Flores Hist. that is with money.</p> <p>This Ethelardus by his Epistles to Pope Leo, obtayned the Metropolitan sea agayne to Canterburie.</p> |
| 9. | Tacuinus. | 3 | |
| 10. | Nothelinus. | 5 | |
| 11. | Cuthbertus. | 17 | |
| 12. | Breguinus. | 3 | |
| 13. | Lambrihtus, Lambertus. | 02 27 | |
| | Ethelardus. | 13 | |
| 15. | Vlfredus. | 28 | |
| 16. | Fegeldus. | 3 m. | |
| 17. | Celnochus. | 41 | |

During the course of these 17. Archbishops of Cant. in Rome passed in the meane tyme 34. Popes, of whom partly heretofore we haue declared.

And thus much touching the tyme of the seuen kingdomes of the Saxones, rulyng together in Englande, from the raygne of Hengist, vnto Egbert, the first kyng and Monarche of the whole lande, after the expulsion of the Brittaines.

The end of the second Booke.



Werburga.
Kynreda.
Kinswida.
Sexburga.
Elfrida.
Mildreda.
Milburga.
Milguda.
Kineburga.
Elfeda.
Alfritha.
Wulfritha.
Editha.

Kinges made Monkes,