

Are our lives a constant exercise of patience under all trials, and a continual renunciation of our senses and corrupt inclinations, by the practice of self-denial and penance? Are we not impatient under pain or sickness, fretful under disappointments, disturbed and uneasy at the least accidents which are disagreeable to our nature, harsh and peevish in reproving the faults of others, and slothful and unmortified in endeavouring to correct our own? What a monstrous contradiction is it not to call ourselves followers of Christ, yet to live irreconcilable enemies to his cross! We can never separate Christ from his cross, on which he sacrificed himself for us, that he might unite us on it eternally to himself. Let us courageously embrace it, and he will be our comfort and support, as he was of his martyrs.

SAINT KIARAN, OR KENERIN. B. C.

CALLED BY THE BRITONS, PIRAN.

AMONG the Irish saints who were somewhat older than Saint Patrick, the first and most celebrated is Saint Kiaran, whom the Irish style the first-born of their saints. According to some he was a native of the country of Ossory, according to others, of Cork. Usher places his birth about the year 352. Having received some imperfect information about the Christian faith, at thirty years of age he took a journey to Rome, that he might be instructed in its heavenly doctrine, and learn faithfully to practise its precepts. He was accompanied home by four holy clerks, who were all afterwards bishops, their names are, Lugacius, Columban, Lugad, and Cassan. The Irish writers suppose him to have been ordained bishop at Rome; but what John of Tinnmouth affirms, seems far more probable, the he was one of the twelve, whom St. Patrick consecrated bishops in Ireland to assist him in planting the gospel in that Island. For his residence, he built himself a cell in a place encompassed with woods, near the water of Fuaran, which soon grew into a numerous monastery. A town was afterwards built there called Saigar, so named from the saint Sier-keran. Here he converted to the faith his family and whole clan, which was that of the Osraigs, with many others. Having given the religious veil to his mother, whose name was Lidan, he appointed her a cell of monastery near his own, called by the Irish Ceall Lidain. In his old age, being desirous to prepare himself for his passage to

eternity in close retirement, he passed into Cornwall, where he led an eremitical life, near the Severn sea, fifteen miles from Padstow. Certain disciples joined him, and by his words and example formed themselves to a true spirit of Christian piety and humility. In this place he closed his mortal pilgrimage by a happy death: a town upon the spot is to this day called from him St. Piran's in the Sands, and a church is there dedicated to God in his memory, where was formerly a sanctuary near St. Mogun's church, upon St. Mogun's creek.* See John of Tinmouth, Usher, &c. collected by Henschenius: also Leland's Collections, published by Hearne, t. 3. p. 10. and 174.

* A great number of other Irish saints retired to Cornwall, where many towns and churches still retain their names. Thus St. Burian's is so called from an Irish virgin called Buriana, to whose church and college here King Athelstan, in 936, granted the privilege of sanctuary. See Leland. Collect. t. 3. p. 7, 8.

ST. IA

Was daughter to an Irish nobleman, and a disciple of St. Barrius; Iä and Erwine, and many others, came out of Ireland into Cornwall, and landed at Pendinas, a stony rock and peninsula. At her request Dinan, a lord of the country, built there a church, since called St. Iës, eighteen miles from Saint Piran's in the Sands, on the Severn. St. Carantoke's is two miles above St. Piran's. St. Iës stands two miles from Lannant; St. Erth is a parish church two miles above Lannant. St. Cua and St. Tedy's parishes are situated in the same part. St. Lide's Island, where her tomb was formerly visited by the whole country, still retains her name. See the Life of St. Iä quoted by Leland, Coll. t. 3. p. 11.

ST. BREACA, V.

SHE was born in Ireland, on the borders of Leinster and Ulster, and consecrated herself to God in a religious state under the direction of St. Bridget, who built for her a separate oratory, and afterwards a monastery, in a place since called the Field of Breaca. She afterwards passed into Cornwall in company with Abbot Sinnin, a disciple of St. Patrick, Maruan, a monk, Germoch, or Gemoch, King Elwen, Crewenna, and Helen. Saint Breaca landed at Revyer, otherwise called Theodore's castle, situated on the eastern bank of the river Hayle, long since, as it seems, swallowed-up by the sands in the coast of the northern sea of Cornwall. Tewder, a Welchman, slew part of this holy company. St. Breaca proceeded to Pencair, a hill in Pembro parish, now commonly called St. Banka. She afterwards built two churches, one at Trenewith, the other at Talmeneth, two mansion places in the parish of Pembro, as is related in the life of St. Elwin. See Leland's Itinerary, published by Hearne, p. 5.

ST. GERMOKE's church is three miles from St. Michael's Mount, by east-south-east, a mile from the sea. His tomb is yet seen there, and his chair is shown in the church-yard, and his well a little without the church-yard. Leland, ib. p. 6.

ST. MAWNOUN's church stands at the point of the haven, towards Falmouth, ib. p. 13.

See June 6