

Isdegerdes, with sixteen priests, nine deacons, six monks, and seven virgins.

See Le Quien, *Oriens Christ.* t. 2. p. 1163.

SAINT ABDAS, ALSO BISHOP OF CASCAR,

IN the sixty-sixth year of the reign of Sapor, was crowned with martyrdom at Ledan, in the country of the Huzites, with twenty-eight companions, on Friday, the 15th day of Yar, which corresponds in part to our May.

See Sozomen, l. 2. c. 11.

ST. BRENDAN THE ELDER,

ABBOT OF CLUAIN-FEARTA, OR CLONFERT, UPON
THE RIVER SHANNON.

HE was son of Findloga, and a disciple of St. Finian at Clonard. Passing afterward into Wales, he lived some time under the discipline of St. Gildas, also several years in the abbey of Llan-carven, in Glamorganshire. He built in Britain the monastery of Ailech, and another church in a territory called Heth. Returning into Ireland he founded there several schools and monasteries, the chief of which was that of Cluain-fearta.¹ He wrote a monastic rule which was long famous in Ireland, taught some time at Ros-carbre, and died at Enach-duin, a monastery which he had built for his sister Briga, in Con-naught.

He is named in the Roman Martyrology on the 16th of May, on which he passed to bliss, in the year 578, in the ninety-fourth year of his age. His life extant in MS. in the Cottonian Library is filled with apocryphal relations of miracles. See Usher's *Antiq.* p. 271. 471. 494. Smith, *Natural and Civil History of Kerry*, p. 412. and 68.

1 Two great monasteries in Ireland, the heads of their respective orders, had the same name of Cluain-fearta: this on the Shannon, in Con-naught, in the county of Galway, where now is the episcopal see of Clonfert: the other founded by St. Luan or Molua in Leinster, called from him Cluain-fearta-Molua. Cluain, in the old Irish language, signifies a retired or hidden place; and Fearta, wonders or miracles.