

ST. BENIGNUS, PRIEST, MARTYR,

APOSTLE OF BURGUNDY.

AMONGST the holy Roman missionaries who preached the faith in Gaul, in the third century, St. Benignus laid the foundation of the Church of

piece is extant in the library of the Fathers and in the *Orthodoxographa*, with his Exposition of the Apostles' Creed. Muratori (*Anecd. Lat.* p. 212.) has published his Exposition of the Creed of St. Athanasius, which Dr. Waterland had quoted in manuscript. (*Comm. on the Creed of St. Athan.* p. 32. 171.) The lives of the following saints compiled by this author, are barren of facts, and filled with relations of miracles: of St. Germanus of Paris, St. Albin of Angers, St. Paternus of Avranches, St. Amantius of Rhodes, St. Remigius of Rheims, the second book of the life of St. Hilary, the life of St. Medard published by Dachery. (*Spicil. t.* 8. p. 391,) that ascribed to Venantius Fortunatus by Surius, being the work of Radbod II. bishop of Poitiers in the eleventh age. But his life of St. Radegundes, different from his others, is a very useful narrative of her actions and virtues: as is also the supplement, or second life of the same holy queen, compiled by Baudonivia, corruptly called Bandonivia, the learned nun of her monastery whilst Fortunatus was bishop. See Rivit, t. 3. p. 464, and the last edition of Cave's *Historia Literaria*, in 1740, in which most of his former mistakes on this article are corrected, except that the two Fortunatus's are confounded together.

Another St. Fortunatus, bishop of an unknown see in Lombardy, a native of Vercelli, for his learning surnamed the philosopher, came into France a little before the former, perhaps expelled by the Lombards. He settled near Chelles, was much honoured by St. Germanus, bishop of Paris, and died a little before him, as Usuard testifies in his *Martyrology*, about the year 569, when St. Germanus lay sick. He is honoured on the 5th of May, and 18th of June; the place where he was interred bears his name; his relics are kept with respect, and two churches are built in his honour. See the Bollandists, 18 Jun. Du Bois, *Hist. Eccl.* Paris, 1. l. c. 8. Tillem. t. 10. p. 416. This is the Fortunatus who, at the request of St. Germanus of Paris, compiled the life of St. Marcellus. See Dom, Rivet, *Hist. Litter. de Fr.* t. 3. p. 298.

Burgundy, and received the crown of martyrdom near Dijon, probably in the reign of Aurelian, who, in 272, raised a cruel persecution against the Christians, and after his victory over Zenobia in the East, waged war in Gaul, and led Tetricus, the Gaulish general, in triumph. This emperor is said to have built the town of Dijon, which was a place of no great note till long after this it became the seat of many of the sovereign dukes of Burgundy; since which time, there are few gayer cities in France.

ST. AUSTREMONIUS,

Who in the third century planted the faith with great zeal in Auvergne, and died a holy confessor, is also honoured on this day. His head is preserved in the abbey which bears his name at Issoire in Lower Auvergne: the rest of his relics chiefly in the abbey of Mauzac near Riom; and at Pierre-Encise or St. Guoine in Aquitain. His name was famous in France in the eighth century, and is mentioned in the Roman Martyrology. See St. Gregory of Tours, Hist. 1. 1. c. 20.

SAINT HAROLD VI. KING OF DENMARK, M.

THE archbishops of Bremen from St. Willehad, the apostle of Saxony, and St. Anscharius, the first archbishop of Bremen, laboured successively in planting the faith in the northern parts of Europe. Eric the Younger, king of Denmark, was converted to the faith by St. Anscharius. But his successors persecuted the Christians till Fronto VI. king of Denmark, brother and successor of Swein I. embraced the faith of Christ in his wars in England, and sent an ambassador to pope Agapetus II. about the year 950; but died