

which he drew down on the people abundant spiritual blessings. His name occurs in the Liberian Calendar, compiled soon after his death, and in all other Martyrologies of the Western church. A church bore his name in Rome in the fifth century. His remains were translated into it by the order of Gregory VII. The pontificals mention that the church was repaired by Adrian I., Gregory IV., and Paul II. This last pope built near it a palace which was the summer residence of the popes till Sixtus V. preferred the Quirinal hill, or Monte Cavallo.

It was by constant watchfulness over themselves, by assiduous self denial, and humble prayer, that all the saints triumphed over their spiritual enemies. They never laid down their arms. A Christian ought to be afraid of no enemy more than himself, whom he carries always about with him, and whom he is not able to flee from. He therefore never ceases to cry out to God: Who will preserve me from falling through myself! Not my own strength. Unless thou, O Lord, art my light and support, I watch in vain.

SS. SERGIUS AND BACCHUS, MM.

THESE two glorious martyrs are mentioned with great distinction by Theodoret, John Mosch in the Spiritual Meadow, Evagrius, St. Gregory of Tours, Bede, and other ancient Martyrologists. They were illustrious officers in the army, and suffered with great constancy cruel torments and a glorious death under Maximian: the theatre of their triumph was Rasaphe in Syria, in the diocess of Hierapolis. Their tomb at Rasaphe was famous for miracles in the year 431,(1) when Alexander, bishop of Hierapolis, built there a stately church in their honour. Out of respect for their relics, Justinian caused this town to be fortified, called it Sergiopolis, and made it the metropolis of the province. He also built many churches in their honour in several provinces of the East. They are the titular saints of a church in Rome, which has been famous at least ever since the seventh century, as appears from Anastasius; nevertheless no authentic acts of their martyrdom have reached us. Two other churches in Rome bear their names, one called *ad montes* belongs to the Russian college, and

(1) See Lupus in Conc. Ephes. pp. 232, 279, 299.

possesses a portion of their relics brought from Syria in the crusades : as does the cathedral of St. Vitus at Prague, by the gift of the Emperor Charles IV., in 1354. See Tillemont, t. 5, p. 491.

SS. MARCELLUS AND APULEIUS, MM. AT ROME.

FAMOUS in ancient Martyrologies, honoured with a mass in Pope Gelasius's Sacramentary published by Cardinal Thomasius. The Emperor Lewis II, in 872, received their relics from the pope, which his wife Angilberga bestowed on the nunnery which she founded at Placentia in Italy, in which city these martyrs are honoured with singular devotion.

ST. JUSTINA OF PADUA, V. M.

SHE suffered at Padua in the persecution of Dioclesian, about the year 304, or, according to some, in that of Nero. Fortunatus ranks her among the most illustrious holy virgins, whose sanctity and triumph have adorned and edified the church, saying that her name makes Padua illustrious, as Euphemia Chalcedon, and Eulalia the city Emerita. And in his poem on the life of St. Martin, he bids those who visit Padua, there to kiss the sacred sepulchre of the blessed Justina, on the walls of which they will see the actions of St. Martin represented in figures or paintings.(1) A church was built at Padua, in her honour, about the middle of the fifth age, by Opilio, prefect of the prætorium, who was consul in 453.(2) Her precious remains, concealed in the irruption of Attila, who destroyed Aquileia and Padua in the middle of the fifth century, were found in 1177, and are kept with great veneration in the famous church which bears her name. It was most elegantly and sumptuously rebuilt in 1501, and, with the adjoining Benedictin monastery, (to which it belongs,) is one of the most finished models of building of that nature in the world. A reformation of the Benedictin Order was settled in this house in 1417, which was propagated in many parts of Italy under the name of the Congregation of St. Justina of Padua. The great monastery

(1) Fortunatus Carm. 4, l. 8, et l. 4, de vita S. Martini, sub finem.

(2) Ughelli, t. 5, p. 398. Cavacius, l. 1, de Cœnobio Patavino S. Justinæ. Sertorius Ursatus de Rebus Patavinis. Muratori, &c.