

the work of an extraordinary grace, as truth itself hath assured us. Happy are they who follow the Lord without incumbrance or burden; who make their journey to him without the load of superfluous baggage or hindrance! All are entitled to this present and future happiness, who repeat these words of St. Peter in their hearts and affections, though they are seated on thrones, or engaged by the order of providence in secular affairs. They used the world as if they used it not, living in it so as not to be of it, and possess its goods so as to admit them into their houses not into their hearts. They are solicitous and careful in their temporal stewardship, that they may be able to give an account to their Master, who has intrusted them with it; yet live in their affections as strangers on earth, and citizens of heaven. Those on the other side are of all others most unhappy, who in some measure imitate the hypocrisy of Ananias and Saphira, whilst they repeat the sacred words of the apostle with lying mouths; who renounce the world in body only, and carry in affection its inordinate desires and lusts, its spirit and contagion, into the very sanctuaries which are instituted to shelter souls from its corruption.

ST. HEMMA, WIDOW.

SHE was nearly allied to the holy emperor, St. Henry, and having sanctified the world and her family by her holy example in a married state, after the death of her husband, she founded the great double Benedictin monastery of Gurk, in Carinthia, for twenty monks and seventy-two nuns, in which she took the religious veil, and died the death of the saints in 1045.* See Papebroke, Jun. t. 5. p. 499.

* The Archbishop of Salzburg, by the authority of Pope Alexander II. and the concurrence of Henry IV. founded a bishopric at Gurk in 1073, to which the revenues of this abbey were united in 1120, the nunnery being extinguished, and the monks made regular canons, who still serve that church, and are of the congregation of Lateran.