

Cassian, a golden crown set with jewels, a gold cup, and a silver paten, preserved to this day with great reverence, and famed for miracles. Peter died at Imola, probably on the 2d of December, 450, and was buried there in St. Cassian's church. The greater part of his relics are preserved there; but one arm is kept in a rich case at Ravenna.

Learning is recommended by reason, authority, and the example of the saints, and, next to virtue, is doubtless the greatest improvement of the human mind, and instrument of piety and religion. By it the nobleman is qualified for the superior rank he holds among men, is made capable of directing himself and others, is drawn off from sotting, debauchery, and idleness, possesses the art of filling most usefully and agreeable all his vacant hours, and acquires a relish for the pleasure of true rational knowledge, than which man can enjoy no greater or more noble, except those which piety and virtue infuse. By exercise and application the memory and other powers of the soul are perfected, the understanding is furnished with true ideas and a just way of thinking, and the judgment acquires true justice and taste. In a pastor of souls, and minister of religion, how essential the qualification of a consummate skill in sacred learning is, it is needless to show, the infinite obligations of that charge making it manifest to all men. How grievous, then, is the crime of those who are engaged in this state, yet idly throw away the time they owe to the study of the sacred writings, to holy meditation, and application to the science of morality and the pulpit?

ST. BARBARA, V. M.

THIS holy virgin and martyr is honoured with particular devotion in the Latin, Greek, Muscovite, and Syriac calendars, but her history is obscured by a variety of false acts. Baronius prefers those who tell us, that she was a scholar of Origen, and suffered martyrdom at Nicomedia, in the reign of Maximinus the First, who raised the sixth general persecution after the murder of Alexander Severus, in 235. But Joseph Assemani shows the acts which we have in Metaphrastes and Mombrinius to be the most exact and sincere. By these we are informed that St. Barbara suffered at Heliopolis in Egypt, in the reign

of Galerius, about the year 306. This account agrees with the emperor Basil's Menology, and the Greek Synaxary. There stood an old monastery near Edessa, which bore her name.(1) See Jos. Assemani in Calend. Univ. t. 5, p. 408.

ST. ANNO, ARCHBISHOP OF COLOGNE, C.

ANNO, a young nobleman, served in the army, but was very young when, by the exhortations of an uncle, a pious canon of Bamberg, he renounced all earthly pursuits, and dedicated himself to God in an ecclesiastical state at Bamberg. His improvement in virtue and learning was much spoken of at court, and the emperor, Henry III. or The Black, called him near his person : and some time after nominated him provost of Goslar in Lower Saxony, and, in 1056, archbishop of Cologne. The tears he abundantly shed during the whole ceremony of his consecration were a proof of his sincere humility and devotion. The foot of the altar was his soul's delight, comfort, and refuge. The poor he sought out in their cottages, and carried them, sometimes on his own shoulders, blankets, and other necessities. He fasted much, watched the greater part of the night, subdued his body with hair shirts, and preached to his flock with the assiduity and zeal of a St. Paul. He reformed all the monasteries of his diocese, and built two regular canons at Cologne, and three of Benedictines in other parts. After the death of Henry III., Anno was chosen by the Empress Agnes and the states, regent and prime minister during the minority of Henry IV. Flatterers and debauched companions poisoned the mind of the young prince, who, growing impatient at his remonstrances, at length removed him from the helm ; but the extortions and injustices of those whom he employed, raised so loud a cry for recalling Anno, that, in 1072, the administration of affairs was again committed to him. He died on the 4th of December, in 1075. His name occurs in the Roman Martyrology. See his life written by Lambert, author of the Chronicle of Aschaffenburg ; Fleury, b. 60 and Surius.

ST. OSMUND, B. C.

OSMUND (sometimes written Osimund, Edimund, or Edmund)

(1) Jos. Assemani, *Bibl. Orient.* t. 1. p. 63.