

REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE

Cambridge Antiquarian Society,

AT ITS THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

MAY 19, 1873,

WITH AN ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY

(INCLUDING THE ANNUAL REPORTS XXVII—XXXII),

1866—1873.

ALSO

Communications

MADE TO THE SOCIETY.

No. XVII.

BEING No. 3 OF THE THIRD VOLUME.

CAMBRIDGE:

PRINTED FOR THE CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

SOLD BY DEIGHTON, BELL & CO.; AND MACMILLAN & CO.
G. BELL AND SONS, LONDON.

1878.

Price Eight Shillings.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN
COMMUNICATIONS,

BEING

PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE MEETINGS

OF THE

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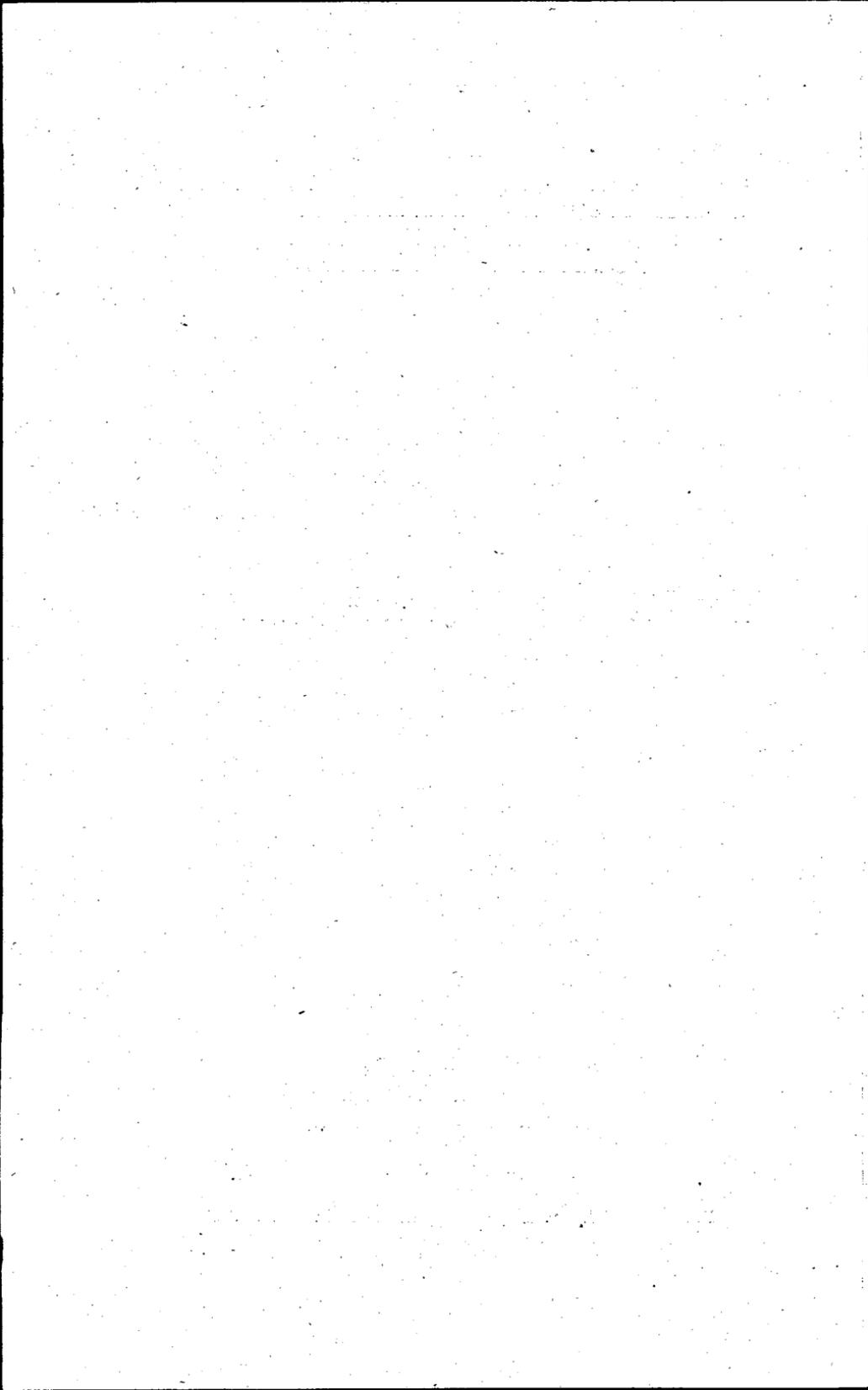
CAMBRIDGE:

PRINTED BY C. J. CLAY, M.A.

AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

M.DCCC.LXXVIII.

N.B. No. XVI. was erroneously printed on the title No. XV.



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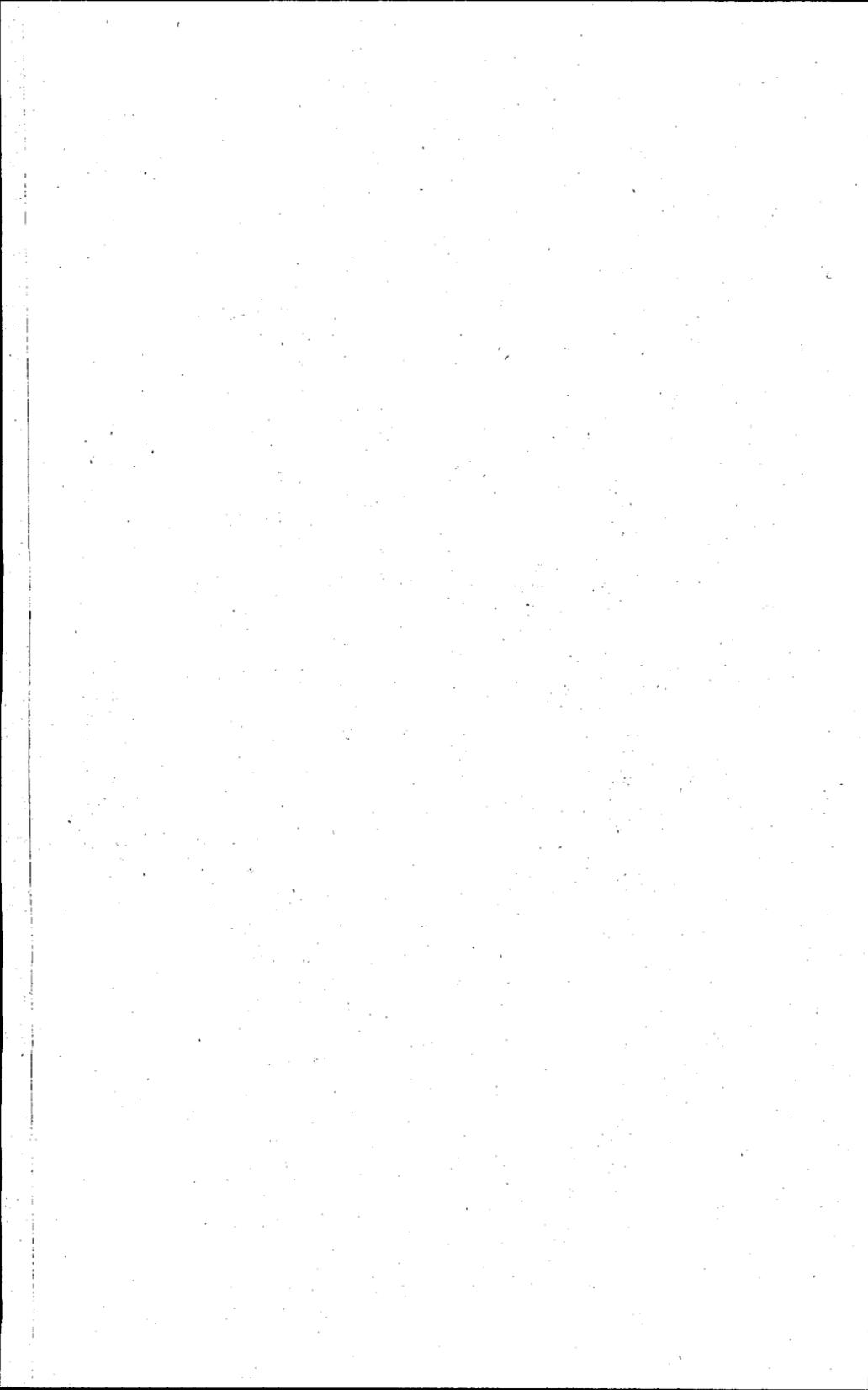
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XI. A LETTER FROM BISHOP BALE TO ARCHBISHOP PARKER. Communicated by the REV. H. R. LUARD, M.A., University Registry.

[November 18, 1867.]

The original of the following letter, which is wholly in Bale's autograph, is preserved in the University Registry. Offensive as much of it is, it affords an evidence of the truth of Dr Maitland's remark, "whatever may have been his faults and vices, he had a sincere love of letters." (Essays on the *Reformation*, p. 94.)

MOST reverende father in God, and my specyall good lorde : I receyved your graces letters the xviii daye of thys moneth, with no small rejoyce, etc. And as concernynge bokes of antiquite, not printed : whan I was in Irelande I had great plenty of them, whome I obtayned in tyme of the lamentable spoyle of the lybraryes of Englande, through miche fryndeshypp, labour, and expenses. Some I founde in stacyoners and boke bynders store howses, some in grosers, sopesellars, taylers, and other occupyers shoppes, some in shyppes ready to be carryed over the sea into Flaunders to be solde—for in those uncircumspect and carelesse dayes, there was no quyckar merchaundyce than lybrary bokes, and all to destructyon of learnynge and knowledge of thynges necessary in thys fall of antichriste to be knowne—but the devyll is a knave, they saye—well, only conscyence, with a fervent love to my contray moved me to save that myghte be saved. And how I have bene rewarded of my contraye hytherto for my

paynes, the Lorde wele knoweth. Sens that tyme, I was in Irelande, depryved of all that I had, by the papystes undre quene Marye, and havock was made of the bokes, by another wurke of the devyll, that they shulde not yet come to lyghte. I sende unto your grace a registre of their tyttles, imprented at the requeste of Gesnerus, Lycosthenes, Simlerus, and other learned men at Zuryck and Basyll. I desyre your grace at your layser, to sende it me agayne, least I lose the whole volume by the want therof. Sir Antony Sellenger, beyng than deputye of Irelande, had for hys part, a great drye vessell full of those bokes: and at hys deathely departure, left them to hys brother maistre Robert Sellenger in Kente and to hys sonne maistre Warham Sellenger also. These men receyved now of late, a lettre from the quenes majestyes counsell in my behalf, to dellyver them, for perfourmaunce of an Englysh chronycle, whych I have begonne and not fynyshe: eyther els to tell me where they are. But their mockyng excuse is, that they never had them, neyther yet knowe where they are become. And yet do I knowe that they have disparsed and distributed them amonge the most obstynate papystes of all the whole contraye, to bryng them to naughte. And thys is the thirde devyse of the devyll, to have them destroyed. One Glayser¹, in quene Maryes tyme a prebendar of Canterbury, had a great nombre of them, and disparsed them amonge hys companyons, the Popes sworne soldyours.

In Irelande are more than iiii score of them, as I am credibly infourmed, in the keypyng of maistre Nicolas Hearne capytayne of Lechlyne bridge, and an other sort of them at Dublyne, besydes them that remayne at Kylkenny, amonge the prebendars there: for I had in Irelande more than ii great wayne loades of them. If it wolde please your grace to sende for the vycar of Yealdyng in Kent, called Robert Cage, dwellyng but

¹ [Hugh Glazier, canon in the seventh prebend, appointed by the charter of incorporation, 1542. Hardy's *Le Neve* i. p. 54.]

iiii myles from Maydeston: he woulde not only infourme your grace of the whole hystorye, but also recover a great nombre of them: for whye, he knoweth the persones, places, bokes and all. My myserable state and povertie is and hath bene suche, that I am able to do nothyng as yet, towards the recover of them. Now to the answeyng of your registre.

Omnes ecclesiasticæ historicæ nondum editæ.

Sigebertus Gemblacensis, *Latine scripsit, Ecclesiasticæ historicæ continuationes post Eusebium: Græce*, Joannes Zonoras, Nicetas Acominatus and Nicephorus Calistus, whose written copyes I have seane at Basyll. *Ecclesiasticam historiam gentis Anglorum* wrote Beda, lyke as did other for the other nacyns: and hys wurke hath bene in dyverse places printed. Whose continuacyouns wrote Wyllyam of Malmesbury, Simeon of Durham, Johan and Richarde of Hexham, Roger Hoveden, and other. The executours of Sir Johan Cheke hath Malmesbury *de regibus ac pontificibus*, with other antiquytees more. A prebendar¹ of Westmynstre, called Pekyns, had Simeon, with Johan and Richarde of Hexham, and a yonge man in Colman strete at London, called Wyllyam Carye, hath Hoveden. The newe ecclesiastycall hystorye, collected by Matthias² Illyricus, Joannes Wigandus and others, from whome I have receyved diverse and manye epistles, for helpe in the same: I can not thynke but your grace hath seane, for iiii centuryes therof are already printed. The ecclesiastycall hystorye also of Albertus Crantz, is easeley to be had, otherwyse called *Metropolis*.

Omnes vitæ pontificum, nondum impressæ³.

Damasus the Spanyarde and byshopp of Rome, wrote *de Gestis Romanorum pontificum*. I have seane at Basyll an olde

¹ [Probably Humphrey Perkyns.]

² [Matthias Flacius (Francowitz).]

³ Robertus Pluto, a monk of Canterbury, wrote also *Ecclesiasticam historiam Anglorum, circa annum Domini 1180*.

coppye therof in the studye of Johan Bérólde, a learned man there. But lete wyse men take hede of the deceyt of that boke and suche lyke concernynge the actes and constytutyons of Romane byshoppes afore Sylvesters tyme, for therby have all the hystorycall writers receyved deadly poyson by most notoryouse lyes. Who can thynke that S. Peter made Lente and Eastre, that Linus provyded coverynge for womens heades whan they shulde come to church, whan they had no church to come to almost thre hundred yeares after, that Cletus commaunded pylgrimage to dead sanctes, that Clemens ordayned an hygh seate for the byshopp, Anacletus that a preste shulde weare no bearde, Alexander that holy water shulde be powdered with salte, Sixtus that the corporasse shulde be made of lymen clothe and no sylke, Thelesphorus that iii masses shulde be songe on Christmasse daye in the mornynge, Higinus for gossyppe, Sother that nonnes shulde not sence in the church, and other for chalices, altreclothes, with halloyng of beanes and suche lyke Babyloynsh trashe. Loke *Fasciculus temporum*, and see how Gods people have be abused of these spirytuall Mahometes. Damasus thought by the murthynesse of antiquyte and these holy fathers to brynge those beggerly and ydle ceremonyes in auctoryte and credyte, though they were most pernycyouse lyes. Come we now agayne *ad vitas pontificum*. Johan Rufus, a black fryre in Englande, wrote a lyttle boke *de vitis Romanorum pontificum*. I have seane an olde coppye therof at Norwich, full of newly devysed lyes and fables, so did Sicardus Cremonensis, whose coppye I sawe in Johan Laylandes studye, and as I remembre, maistre Johan Cheke had it at the lattie. And as touchynge Godfridus Viterbiensis and Martinus Polonus, otherwyse surnamed Carsulanus, they were both printed but now of late, besydes doctour Barnes boke of the same tyttle. Sebastianus Franck wrote notably also of the same in Duché, loke the thirde part of hys chronycles and the first boke.

Omnia concilia manuscripta, et non edita.

Of thys sort I had ones Radulphus de Diceto, whych was sumtyme deane of Paules, *de Synodis ecclesie*, whych begynneth thus: *Synodorum ecclesie, alia universalis, alia particularis*. Thys boke, I suppose, if I had it, coulde do your grace lyttle pleasure, beyng so briefe as it is: for it declareth not fully the actes of those counsels. Isidorus Hispalensis, hath written *de Conciliis*: so hath Burckardus Wormaciensis, otherwyse called Lobienis¹, and Ivo Carnotensis, whose wurke is called *Panormia*, divyded into x bokes; lykewyse Sebastianus Franck, in the thirde part of hys chronycles and seconde boke.

Omnès paparum, magnorum episcoporum, celebrium doctorum, principum, regum et Cæsarum literæ, præsertim antiquiores.

Of thys kynde I have had a great nombre, but they are disparsed by the Sellengers. God pardon their frowarde hartes. Notwithstandynge I sende you here suche as I have, even the very ryff raff and wurst of them, which I lately recovered of them by chaunce. I sende yow also another boke *de imperatoribus Romanis, de origine gentis Francorum, arborem genealogie regum ejusdem gentis, de temporibus et annis generalium atque particularium conciliorum, de ordinatione missarum per pontifices Romanos, de casibus quæ contingere possint in eadem, de apostolis ac discipulis Domini*, with other thynges more in the ende of that boke. I besyche your grace that at convenient tyme, I maye have them restored agayne. The epistles of Ethelwolde, Dunstane, and Oswalde, I have red of. I had the 534 epistles of Thomas Becket. I had the 127 epistles of Robert Grossetest byshopp of Lincolne, of whome I sende you here a ragged remnaunt. I had *Epistolas Elmeri Cantuariensis monachi*, a great volume. I had *Epistolas Gilberti Folioth, episcopi Londinensis*. I had *Epistolas Joannis Carnotensis* our countreyman, and of *Petrus Blesensis*. I had sumwhat also of good

¹ [i.e. of Lobbes, dioc. of Liège.]

bysshop Sewell of Yorke, and of many other more, whych myghte wele now have served your turne in thys behalfe. There were sumtyme *synodalia statuta Oswaldi Cantuariensis*, and *constitutiones Roberti Lincolniensis* I had, so had I the constytucyons of Johan Thursby archebyshopp of Yorke, and of other byshoppes more. I had also *Benedictionarium archiepiscopale Dunstani*, the oldest boke that ever I sawe yet and most straungely written, but yet legyble to hym that was acquaynted with that kynde of writyng: but now all are disparsed—a very pytiefull case, that our contraymen are so uncircumspecte, and, as it were, unnaturall to the olde monumentes of their nacyon. The learned Germanes are farre otherwyse. Beda *de Gestis Anglorum* and *nova legenda Angliæ*, collected by Johan Capgrave, though hys name therin be suppressed, have some of the epistles and letters both of Popes, princes, and others. Maistre Peter Osburne, at London, hath the chronycle of Johan Bometon¹ abbot of Jourvall, wherin are manye epistles and synodall actes of kynges afore the conquest, as of kyng Inas, Egbert, Alphrede, Edwardus senior, Adelstane, Eadmonde Ironsyde, Ethelredus, Canutus, and other more.

Omnes vetustiores regulæ, seu canones seu decreta, quæ ante Gratianum scripta sunt, sive singularum aliquarum provincialiarum propria essent, sive totius Christianitatis communia, non extantia.

Canones apostolorum Græce scriptos, I see ones at Basyll, and as I remembre *canones et concilia Joannis Zonoræ cum ecclesiasticis constitutionibus Nicephori*. Hilarius Sardus a byshopp of Rome, wrote *decretum synodale* about the yeare of our Lorde 464, whych begynneth thus: *Quoniam religiosus*. So did Gelasius Apher also about the yeare of our Lorde 496, whose wurke begynneth thus: *necessariarum rerum* etc. Hormisda folowed after hym, with dyverse other more. Than came Isi-

¹ [i.e. John Brompton.]

dorus Hispalensis, about the yeare of oure Lorde 630. Than Burckardus Lobienſis, about the yeare 1020. Than Ivo Carnotensis about the yeare 1090. Than Hugo de S. Victore, about the yeare 1130. And all their wurkes were, *ante Gratianum scripta*.

Omnes legendæ et missalia vetustissima, præsertim quæ ante Gregorium in usu fuerunt.

Fyve great legendes have I borowed of maistre Mylles for your graces occupyenge, the sixt I have taken out of our lybrarye. If ye covete the lyves of our Englysh sanctes, seke *nova legenda Angliæ*, whych maye be otherwyse called *Catalogus Capgravi*. It was printed in Flete strete by Winkyne de Worde, Anno Domini 1516. And as concernynge *missalia vetustissima*, ye maye have abundauncè of them, in a boke set fourth by Georgius Cassander, called *Liturgica, de ritu et ordine Dominicæ cænæ*, printed at Coleyne, *per heredes Arnoldi Brickmanni, Anno Domini 1558*. Therin is, *ordo liturgiæ a S. Dionysio conscriptæ, Tertulliani, Chrysostomi, Basilii, Græcorum, Romanorum, Syriorum, Æthiopum, Armenorum, Muscovitarum, Joannis presbyteri et aliorum*. And all these, *ante Gregorium in usu fuerunt*.

Omnes inquisitiones, excepto Nicolao Emerico, et processus contra quoscunque hæreticos factæ, ante hæc tempora.

De arte inquisitorum et ordine inquirendi, hath Cornelius Agrippa written in hys bokes, *de incertitudine scientiarum et contra magistros Lovanienses*. I have redde also that Nicolaus Rosellus, Jacobus Hochstratus and other dyverse of that secte of fryres, hath written of inqysycyons, but I have not their bokes. Jacobus Sprenger wrote *Malleum maleficarum*, for inqysycyon of wytyches, and Joannes Spangher *Practica procedendi contra hæreticos*. Joannes Consobrinus, *contra Lusitanos quosdam*

hæreticos, Hubertus Leonardus *contra Nivellenses*, and Gabriel de Spoleto, were not behynde for their partes. Guido Perpini-
anus, an inquysitor also, wrote a great volume *contra omnes
hæreticorum errores*, it was printed at Parys, and I had it sum-
tyme, but now it is gone. *Modus ad inquirendum Sylvestri
Prieratis* is a boke declarynge the wycked folye of the inquy-
sytorys; so is *Processus adversus Pasquillum, Eusebius Captivus*
and *Pasquillus captivus*.

*Omnia scripta ab his qui a Romana ecclesia vel in toto vel in
parte dissenserunt, conscripta.*

Thys wolde axe muche tyme to be answered at large, for
they are excedynge manye, whych have dissented from the
Romysh church. Wherfor I leave yow in thys poynt, to the
appendices of my xiiii Centuryes *de Scriptoribus Britannia*, for
therin have I laboured in that kynde of studye, to my utter-
most power. Ye shall fynde therof muche also in ii other bokes
lately set fourth by me and Illyricus, the one is called *Catalogus
testium veritatis*, the other beareth thys tyttle: *Varia doctorum
piorumque virorum. Antilogia Papæ*, wyll also corresponde
to the same. All that I had of thys nombre, as in dede I had
manye, are now disparsed, and I feare it, lyke utterly to be
destroyed, the more is the pytie.

*Libri contra hæreticos seu dissentientes a Romana ecclesia,
olim scripti.*

Augustinus Anglorum Apostolus, was impugned of Dionotus
the chiefe doctour of the Britaynes, but what answere he
made, I reade not, except it were by the horryble slaughter of
a thousande and two hundred of their Christen mynysters.
Thys was at the first enteraunce of the Popes religyon into Eng-
lande undre kynge Ethelbert and Bertha hys quene. Conferre
it, I besyche your grace, with that whych was done anon after

the departure of the same false religyon undre quene Marye and Kynge Phylipp, our seconde Dionotus, blessed Thomas Cranmer with a great nombre els, beyng murthered by fyer, swearde, haltre and famyne. I couldé prove that commynge in and thys goynge out muche to agree, both in tymes and in nombre of martyrs that were slayne: but I nowe lete it passe. Agaynst the Britaynes after the dayes of Augustyne, as agaynst heretykes wrote Aldhelmus, for that they allowed not shavynges, unctyons, the newe founde Eastre, holy dayes, the wyvelesse state of prestes, and suche other lyke in the Romysh ordre. Loke hys boke, *de circulo paschali* and *de laude virginitatis*, they are yet extant: lyke wyse Hedda of Winchestre and Wilfride of Yorke: agaynst whome on the contrary part, wrote Hilda, Colmannus and Cedda. Bonifacius Wenefridus, the great apostle of Germany, wrote *contra hæreticos*, and had dyverse whych did strongly resyst hym to the very face: as were Adelbertus Gallus, Clemens Scotus, Samson Scotus, Sydonius Bavarorum archiepiscopus, and Virgilius Hybernus, for usynge exorcismes in the ceremonyall rytes of the churche, for compelled chastyte, and for lyvyng lousely and wantonly other wayes, as wyll folowe. Lanfrancus wrote a dialoge agaynst Berengarius. Baldwinus of Canterbury wrote *de sectis hæreticorum*, I have seane the boke. Johan Peckam also archebyshopp of Canterbury, wrote a boke, *de hæresibus a se damnatis*. Thomas Walden wrote iii great volumes *contra Hussitas et Wiclevistas*, whych were printed at Parys: he wrote also *Fasciculum zizaniorum Wiclevi*. Thomas of Aquyne wrote, *contra Guilhelmum de S. Amore*. Bonaventura wrote, *contra Girardum Sagarellum*. Joannes Hildeshem, *de monstis in ecclesia, et contra propositiones Armachani*. Utredus Bolton *de dotatione ecclesie*, Nicolaus Radclif *viaticum animæ super Eucharistico Pane*. Ricardus Lavynham, Petrus Stokes, et Gualterius Dysse, *contra hæreticos*, and an infynyté nombre els, of thys kynde of writers, whose writynges and wurkes for the more part, I have both seane and had.

Omnes historice, chronica, et annales, etiam si singulorum locorum essent, nondum editi.

Of these I have had an excedynge great nombre, as your grace shall wele perceyve in the ii printed quayers whych I have here sent unto yow. I was fully mynded and Joannes Oporinus also, to have printed them, in fayre volumes at Basyll, if I myghte have gote them thydre. But good fortune fayled, to the excedynge great losse and blemysh of thys whole realme. And sens I came home agayne into thys realme, my state hath bene so myserable and my povertie so great, that nothyng coulede I do to the recover of them: as a journey into Irelande by the vycar of Yaldynge in Kent, myght yet recover a great nombre of them. And he wolde gladly do it, if he had hys charges, though they were but meanelly provyded. But now to tell your grace where ye maye be spedde of the lyke historyes and chronycles for the tyme, tyll they maye be obtayned. The executours of maistre Johan Cheke, have Willyam of Malmesbury *de regibus et pontificibus cum historia novella ejusdem*. They have Henry Huntyngton, a very notable historyane. They have Johan Bever, otherwyse called Fiberius, intytled *Chronicorum editio*, a very noble monument of thys realme, and I thynke, that there be no more coppys therof, than that one. They have also of Nicolas Triveth, *historiam ab orbe condito*, a most wurthie wurke, and *historiam sex regum Anglice* with manye other more. At Lynne with the wydowe of Johan Ducket, are *flores Historiarum*, of Mathew Westmynstre, a very notable wurke. At Andwerpe in the howse of a merchaunt stranger, is *Thesaurus Westmonasterii*, one of the most fayre monumentes that ever I sawe yet, the clarke of the Englysh howse, called maistre George Gylpynge, knoweth it full wele. Wylliam Carre at London, hath Roger Hovedens chronycle, with *Topographia Britannice*, and other wurkes more of Giraldus Cambrensis a noble writer. At Cambrydge in Aula Petri is *Topographia Hybernice cum vaticiniis Merlini*. In Aula

Clarensi is Henry Huntyngton, Aelredus Rhievallensis and Radulphus de Diceto, fayre written, but marvelously corrupted by the writer. In Aula Gunwilli is *Manipulus Chronicorum*, a very fayr volume, but wantynge the first leafe, so is there *Polychronicon Ranulphi Cestriensis*. In Paules lybrary at London are *Imagines historiarum Radulphi de Diceto* and other more. The executours of Robert Talbot, whych dyed at Norwyche, and of Nicholas Brigam whych dyed at Westmynstre, have many noble antiquytees. But I in my tyme have had more than they all, if they myght be agayne recovered. Marke my ii printed quayers, and so I leave here for thys part, for the greatnesse of their nombre, whych I knowe of thys kynde of writers.

Omnia Waldensium, aut de Waldensibus, seu pauperibus de Lugduno, scripta.

The confessyon of the Waldeanes, and the answeere of their faythe to Vladislaus the kynge of Hungarye and also their excuse agaynst the ii lettres delyvered to the seyde kynge, by Doctour Augustyne: they were all printed in Germany, with the boke of Aeneas Sylvius, *de Synodo Basiliensi*. Other thynges I ones sawe in the great monastery of Norwyche, and other where els, concernynge them, whose tytles I have now forgottén. But thys I knowe, that Bernardus Lutzenburgus in *Catalogo hæreticorum*, layeth xxv heresyces (as he doth take them) to their charges, and sayth that he had them of Aeneas Sylvius. Guido Perpinianus in hys boke, *de hæresibus*, nombreth them xxvii, but he nameth them errorrs only.

Scripta Adalberti Galli, contra Bonifacium Germanorum Apostolum.

Certayne it is by dyverse writers, specyally Nauclerus, Wicelius, and Illyricus, that Adalbertus Gallus after longe disputacyon, wrote agaynst Boniface our contraye man, and great apostle of Germanye: but I suppose it at thys daye not to be extant. There were other in those dayes, whych also impugned hys doynge and saynges, as is sayde afore: as Clemens

Scotus, Samson Scotus, Sydonius Bavarus, and Virgilius Hybernus, whych had doynge with hym, as maye be seane *in secunda Centuria Scriptorum Britannicorum*, pag. 104, and *in Centuria xiiii ejusdem operis*, pag. 200 and 201. If ye covete to see yet more of that mattre *quaere Catalogum testium veritatis*, pag. 116 et *Gasparem Bruschiū de Laureaco* pag. 17. There shall ye fynde how Sydonius and, Virgilius dallyed with hym, and had the vycorye. Seke also the Chronycles of Joannes Aventinus. The questyon of thys Apostle, *de lardo comedendo*, sheweth hym supersticyously to be wele learned, and is mucche lyke to those folysh questyons, whych our great Apostle Augustyne also, asked of Gregory the first.

Joannis de Landuno et Hildeberti Cenomanensis. Item Arnoldi de nova Villa, et similia. Omnes canones sexti universalis synodi.

Joannes de Janduno (not Landuno) was a very wele learned lawer in Italye, companyon with Marsilius de Padua, and wrote agaynst Johan the xxiii as I nombre the Popes. He is nombred amonge heretykes of Lutzenburgus, Alphonsus, and other: hys opinyons were, that Christe ascendyng to Heaven, left hys churche without a vycar, and that the Pope ought to be subject to the emperour and to be judged of hym: as Johan Bassethorpe hath *in quarto sententiarum*, dist. 17, quest. 1. Hys boke agaynst the Pope I never sawe, but the wurke of Marsilius de Padua, *de potestate imperatoris et Papae* I have seane both written and printed: for thys Joannes de Janduno, loke my fort century of the Brittysh writers, pag. 377¹.

Of Arnoldus de Villa nova, I have seane more than thre score treatyses concernynge physyck: and for your purpose, *de esu carniū contra Jacobitas, Gladium jugulātem contra Thomistas, Allocutionem Christi ad evangelii professores, de versutiis*

¹ Of Hildebertus Cenomanensis I have had the epistles written. I have also had hys hymnes, and hys eloquent verses and rymes.

pseudotheologorum, de mysterio cimbalorum ecclesie, de consummatione seculi prophetiam catholicam, and suche other small treatyses, whych were never yet printed. These left I in Irelande and knowe not at thys present, what is become of them—for thys Arnoldus in judgement of thynges, loke my fort centurie, pag. 358 et pag. 359.

Of the sixt generall counsell, holden at Constantinople anno Domini 680 contra Monothelitas, I fynde nothyng, but that the Latyne masse was first approved there, and the Latyne mynysters depryved of their lawfull wyves, spyder webbes in wondreful coppye fallynge downe from above upon the heades of the people, to the marvelous astoynement of manye. And as for the Canons of that synode, in dede I never sawe them to my knowledge. I can not tell what maistre doctour Nevynson can saye in that matter, he knoweth it, if any man els doth.

Integræ actiones sextæ Cartaginensis synodi.

As concernyng the sexte counsell of Cartago, anno Domini 420, and hys integrall actyons, for want of full knowledge in the same on my part, I wyshe-yow to fynde out amonge the staycyoners of London a boke entytled *Scriptum contra primum Papæ*, set fourth by Illyricus anno Domini 1550, and prented at Magdeburg: and also another boke, called *Historia certaminum inter Romanos episcopos et sextam Cartaginensem synodum*, put fourth by the same Illyricus and printed at Basyll anno Domini 1554.

Certamina de conjugio sacerdotum ante annos 500 in Germania et Anglia habita, et qualiacunque scripta de ea re, pro, sive contra.

Thys were very straunge and hearde to fynde out, for Germanye and Englande, if we shoulde reckon from the nativyte of Christe, to the yeare of our Lord 500; for in those dayes was there no controversye in the church of God about suche matter: but

only that Nicolaus Advena, Montanus, Apelles, and other lyke heretykes contemptuously dissolved matrimonye. But I knowe that your meanyge is, from any tyme. 500 yeares bacwardes, or by the yeares past: begynnynge at the yeare of our Lorde 1160, and so ascendyng to thys yeare of our Lorde 1560. In dede besydes that was done before by dyverse byshoppes of Rome, Pope Hildebrande in the yeare of our Lorde 1074, condemned marryage in the prestes: and was not only for that, but for other evyls more also, withstanded by wrytynge, of Hugo Candidus Cardinalis Prænestinus, Waltramus episcopus Niemburgensis, Venericus Vercellensis episcopus, Rolandus Parmensis presbyter, Sigebertus Gemblacensis monachus, and other more. Benno *in vita Hildebrandi*, nombreth xiii Cardynals, besydes hymself whych sharply impugned hym.

Moreover *certamina Germanorum et Francorum, pro defendendo sacerdotum conjugio, in suis chronicis historici narrant*, Conradus Urspergensis, Lambertus Shafnaburgensis, Sigebertus Gemblacensis, Albertus Crantzius, Joannes Nauclerus et alii. Their wrytynge are extant. Otho byshopp of Constaunce and Rathbodus byshopp of Argentyne, myghtely than resysted the Pope for their wyves. A little afore that tyme were the prestes with their wyves put out of Friswydes college at Oxforde, and regular chanons placed in their rowmes by Pope Nicolas the seconde—for thys kynde of hystories and writers, your grace shall nede to seke no farther from tyme to tyme than to the appendices of my great boke, *de Scriptoribus Britannia*, and to the seconde part of my Englysh votaryes, for there are of them great plentye. But one thyng hath muche greved me and yet doth: that the noble epistle concernyng thys mattre, which was sent by Guldericus Trajectensis episcopus¹ unto Pope Nicolas the first

¹ [This has been nearly erased, and another hand has written over it, 'Volusianus Carthaginensis episcopus.' In the margin is the note (not in Bale's hand), 'This epistle of Volutian is to be seene at Corpus Christi College in Cambridge in a very old hand.' It is in MS. C.C.C. ci, 29. 30. It is printed in Brown's *Fasciculus rer. expet. et fug.* ii. p. 161.]

(whose cōpye we have) shulde be falsely attributed to Huldricus Augustanus, to the excedyng blemyshynge of the auctoryte of the same, for want of agrement in computacyon of years. Aeneas Sylvius, Bartholomæus Westmerus, Joannes Functius, doctor Barnes, doctor Wulfgangus Wissenburgius, and I also for my part in my chronycle, beyng fowly deceyved in the same. But now through longe and diligent searche God hath gyven us to fynde out the truthe. Thys error came first from Aeneas Sylvius.

Ordo Romanus. Gemma animæ.

Bernoldus, *ecclesiæ Constantiensis presbyter*, about fyve hundred yeares ago, wrote a boke, called *Ordo Romanus*, as Trite-mius witnesseth: but truly I never sawe it. *De ritibus Romanorum*, wrote Christophorus Marcellus, and that I have seane printed. *De officiis ecclesiæ* wrote Gelasius primus, Odo Cluniacensis, Rathbodus Trajectensis, Amalarius diaconus, Gregorius, Alcuinus, Beda, Sydonius, Paulus diaconus, Isuardus, Sicardus Cremo-nensis, Joannes Beleth, Guilhelmus Fiscanensis, Ormundus Sa-risburiensis, Thomas Eboracensis, Robertus Carnotensis, Guil-helmus Durandus, Joannes Thanetes, Sibertus de Beka, and a great sort more.

Gemma animæ de officiis divinis also, containeth sex bokes, and was made by Honorius Augustodunensis. *Gemma ecclesiæ*, made by Amalarius diaconus, I sende unto your grace here, whome I borrowed for your occupyenge of maistre Twyne, the scolemaistre of Canterbury: and it is also *de officiis divinis*. Giraldus Cambrensis wrote also *Gemmam ecclesiasticam*, whychat thys present I have not: but amonge my bokes I left it in Irelande.

Hermeæ ecclesiastica historia. Anastasii Bibliothecarii ecclesiastica quoque historia.

Thys Hermeas with hys ecclesiastycall hystorye in Greke, remayneth styll at Rome, as I suppose in *Bibliotheca Vaticana*, and is not yet come from thens, and as I remembre, Gesnerus

testifyeth the same: except your grace meane an other, whych is called Hermeas Sozomenus, whych also wrote an ecclesyastycall hystorye in ix bokes, interpreted by Musoulus, imprinted first at Parys in Greke, by Robert Steven, and after at Basyll in Latyne, by Frobenius. Of Anastasius Bibliothecarius Romanus, I have neyther seane the Ecclesiastycall hystorye in Greke, neyther yet hys *historiam Pontificum*, nor hys *vitas Patrum*.

Landulphi de Columna de pontificibus.

Of thys authour, whych was *Canonicus Carnotensis*, have I redde and knowne hym also to be alledged of manye. But hys boke *de Romanis pontificibus*, whych he dedicated to Johan the xxii of that name, as he rekeneth, I never sawe to my knowlege. The hystorye of Joannes de Columna, called *Mare magnum historiarum ab initio mundi usque ad sua tempora*, I have seane and partly perused. He wrote after Vincentius Belvacensis, called *Speculator*, and hys boke was printed longe ago in a very olde lettre. Besydes these, wrote also *de vitis Pontificum*, Guido Ravennas, Hugo Floriacensis, Sicardus Cremonensis, Godfridus Viterbiensis and Martinus Carsulanus whych both are printed: Gervasius Riccobaldus Ferrariensis, Ptolemæus Lucensis, Platina, Stella, and other more.

Chronica Matthæi Parys.

Thys chronycle remaineth in the custodye of my lorde of Arundell¹, beyng a fayre boke, and written in an olde Latyne lettre. It belongeth to the quenes majesty's lybrary, lent by Bartylmew Trihearon, suche tyme as he had the keypyng of that lybrarye in kynge Edwardes tyme. It were mucche pytie that that noble storye shulde perish in one coppye—for no chronycle paynteth out the byshopp of Rome in more lively colours, nor

¹ [This is the MS. of the *Historia Anglorum* of Matthew Paris, now MS. Reg. 14. C. vii. The above shews that Sir F. Madden was probably mistaken in supposing that Bale took it with him into Ireland, and that the E. of Arundel only acquired after his death. Pref. to the *Hist. Anglor.* i. pp. xliii, xliv.]

more lyvely declareth hys execrable procedynges, than it doth. Marke therin hys more than Turkeysh occupyenges with kynge Henry the thirde, after he had ones brought hym undre. In the quenes lybrary are also the Chronycles of Wyllyam Rishanger, whych was also a monke of S. Albons and folowed next to thys Matthew Parys, for continuacyon of these hystories. There are moreover *Chronica Gervasii*, *Chronica Gualteri Gisburne*, *Chronica Radulphi Nigri*, *Chronica Guilhelmi Malmesburiensis*, *Chronica Henrici Huntington*, *Chronica regum Angliae*, *Chronica Radulphi de Diceto*, *Chronica Guilhelmi de Nangis monachi Dionysiani*, and other more.

My lorde Paget and Sir Johan Mason are thought to have many notable monuments....so are the executoris of Mr Doctor Recorde. This is all that I can saye in these matters at thys tyme, unlesse ye wolde gyve me more layser. I besyche your grace to take all to the best, to accept my good wyll, and to perdon my rudenesse, for that I have not written in so due fourme and ordre, as the wurthyenesse of thys thyng wolde requyre. I sende unto your grace here by thys brynger, a very fewe of the bokes whych I have collected, and they are sumwhat homely to peruse. The residue are great volumes, and of muche wayghte. If it shall please your grace to have them, I besych you to charge some servaunt of yours in the cuntry with us, to see to the carryage of them, for the Lorde wele knoweth that I am not therin very skylfull. Thus I commytt your grace with your most faythfull wyfe and famylie to the tucyon of the hyghest. Written from Canterbury the xxx daye of July 1560.

Your graces dayly oratour

JOHAN BALE.

