

874. Vita S. Gudwali, Episcopi.

A.D. 700.

MS. Harl. 2345. ff. 56-56 b. vell. 4to. xiv. cent.

Incip.—"Sanctus Gudwallus natus fuit in Anglia."

Expl.—"nos eam concedat sequi, qui vivit et regnat Deus
per omnia sæcula sæculorum. Amen."

A short Lection, of no value.

875. Vita Gudwali.

MS. Bibl. du Roi. 5606. olim Bigot. vell. 4to. xiii. cent.

The MS. employed by the Editors of the "Acta Sanctorum."
See No. 871.

876. Vita S. Botulphi, Abbatis Ikanhoensis, scripta ab
auctore subpari, ut videtur.

* MS. Harl. 3097, ff. 61 b-64 b. vell. small folio. xi. cent.

* MS. Cott. Tiber. D. iii. ff. 223 b-225 b. vell. folio. xiii. cent.

MS. C.C.C. Cant. 161. vell. small folio. xii. cent.

MS. Gray's Inn, 3. ff. 136-137. vell. folio. dble cols. xii. cent.

MS. Coll. S. Joh. Cant.

Incip. Prol.†—"Desiderantissimo Patri et Domino."

* These two MSS. contain the Prologue.

† As this Prologue does not occur in any of the printed editions, it is inserted here; it is found in MS. Cott. Tiber. D. iii. and MS. Harl. 3097, mentioned above:—

"Desiderantissimo Patri et Domino suo, et æque reverentissimo Præsuli,
Unalcelino, monachorum minimus, frater Fulcardus, obsequia totius
devotionis. Nullo præcedente vitæ merito, sed e contra, proh dolor! peccatis
meis agentibus, sub specie pastoralis curæ in cœnobium Thornense incidi,
ibique venustate illustrissimæ habitationis captus, ipsa eadem loci delectatione
inhæsi. Res diversæ occurrebant quæ nolentem iniquitatis animum
ad affectum sui inclinabant; in primis, quia titulus ejusdem loci Beatæ Dei
Genitrici Mariæ potissimum ascribitur, cui quia Mater misericordiæ
dinoscitur lapsis resurgere volentibus, sub optentu veniæ prior et principalis
respectus habetur. Deinde solitudo illa, sanctæ religionis amica, nulli
incuriæ pervia, silvisque amœnissimis et continuis paludibus atque interfluentibus
aquis irrigua; præterea desiderio et affectu devotissimi Deo Præsulis
Adeluuoldi illustrata, et tot Sanctorum pignoribus pio ipsius studio ditata;
in qua, ut aiunt, et satis credi potest, cursum præsentis vitæ

A.D. 700. *Incip. Vita.*—"Omnipotentis Dei benignitas."

Expl. Vita.—"Multa gloriosa fiunt miracula, ad laudem et gloriam omnipotentis Dei, qui vivit et regnat per omnia sæcula sæculorum. Amen."

Printed in Mabillon's "Acta Sanct. Ord. Bened.," iii. 1 (Ed. Venet.), "Ex MS. Uticensi," and in the "Acta Sanctorum," iii. 402 (17 June), from Mabillon's text, collated with two MSS.

Botulf and Adulf, born of noble Saxon parents, were sent into Saxony (Gaul) to be more fully instructed in religion, where they became monks. The elder, Adulf, was made Bishop of Utrecht and led an exemplary life. Botulf was reserved to benefit his native country; where Ethelmund, King of the Southern Angles, at the request of his sisters, together with Adelere and Adewold, his kinsmen, granted him permission to found a monastery. After a time, he chose a spot at Ikanhoe, a desert place infested by demons; on his approach the devils raised a fetid vapor, and then, with loud wailings, quitted the place. Botulf afterwards built a monastery, on the plan of those in which he had resided in France, and there he spent the remainder of his days in great sanctity.

This Life contains nothing very remarkable, unless it be that it makes us acquainted with certain princes, of whom, it would seem, we have no notice in Beda or the Chronicles.

The author, who states that the Lives of Saints were intended for the good example of posterity, was Folcard, a monk of St. Bertin, in Flanders, who came into England during the reign

"finire delegerit in conversatione theorica. His enim infirmarum rerum causis alligatus sum, ut asinus vel bos ad præsepe Domini; apud quem, ut jumentum factus, semper adhærere, donec transeat iniquitas ex ejus gratia, proposui. Videns autem Sanctos in eadem basilica pausantes, nulla scriptorum memoria commendatos, indignatus antiquitati, quæ de eis addiscere potui, tuis auribus primum offerre volui, ne rusticior sermo, nullo suffultus defensore, derisioni expositus, æmulorum cachinum potius optineret quam auditum. Reperta sunt tamen quædam in veteribus libris vitiose descripta, quædam ab ipso præcipuo præsule in privilegiis ejusdem cænobii sunt breviter annotata, cætera ex relatione veterum, ut ab antiquioribus sunt, eis exhibita. Omnia tamen ex devotione cordis tibi, eximie pater, tuoque examini discutienda, exhibeo, ut si quis æmulus caninas erexerit cristas labori nostro, humilitatis nostræ opusculum tuæ auctoritatis paterna contegat defensio."

of Edward the Confessor, and entered the monastery of the Holy Trinity, Canterbury. After the Norman Conquest, he was advanced to the Abbacy of Thorney, which he resigned, after holding the office sixteen years. In addition to this piece, he wrote the Life and Miracles of St. John of Beverley, and Biographies of St. Bertin, St. Adulf, and Bishop Oswald.

Folcard seems to have written this Biography during the time that he was Abbot of Thorney, induced thereto by the circumstance of that monastery having become possessed of a portion of the relics of the Saint.

The author has apparently fallen into error respecting the name of the See, which he assigns to Adulf, in calling it "Trajectensis Ecclesia;" no such name occurs in either the succession of the Bishops of Maestrecht or Utrecht: the matter, too, is rendered still more obscure by the statement that the two brothers were buried together at Ikanhoe.

877. De S. Botulpho, Abbate et Confessore.

MS. Cott. Tiber. E. 1. ff. 187 b-188.

MS. Bodl. Tanner. 15. vell. folio. xv. cent.

MS. Bodl. 240. p. 843.

Incip.—"Antequam in Britannia Christiana."

Expl.—"Deus sibi delegit."

For an account of the first two MSS. see Nos. 35 and 38.

The same text as that printed in Capgrave's "Nova Legenda;" being an abridgment of the Life mentioned in No. 876, omitting the Prologue, and adding an account of St. Botulf's Translation. The Editors of the "Acta Sanctorum," iii. 405 (June 17), have reprinted the account of the Translation with a collation of MS. "Rubeæ Vallis."

878. Vita S. Disibodi, Confessoris in Germannia.

Incip.—"In mystica visione, ut Deus voluit."

Expl.—"a lecto erigere, si sibi placuerit. Amen."

Printed in Surius, "Vitæ Sanctorum," 8 July, and in the "Acta Sanctorum," ii. 588 (8 July), "Ex MS. S. Maximini Trevirensis," being followed by the Miracles, "Ex Passionali membraneo Cœnobii Bodecensis, Ordinis Canonicorum