

**LIVES OF ST. AUGUSTINE OF
CANTERBURY, APOSTLE OF THE
ENGLISH WITH SOME ACCOUNT
OF THE EARLY BRITISH CHURCH**

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Lives of St. Augustine of Canterbury, Apostle of the English with some Account of the Early British Church by Various

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VARIOUS

**LIVES OF ST. AUGUSTINE OF
CANTERBURY, APOSTLE OF THE
ENGLISH WITH SOME ACCOUNT
OF THE EARLY BRITISH CHURCH**



SANCTUS AUGUSTINUS

THE LIFE

OF

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY,

APOSTLE OF THE ENGLISH.

WITH

Some Account of the Early British Church.

MANSUETI HEREDITABUNT TERRAM, ET DELECTABUNTUR IN
MULTITUDINE PACIS.

LONDON:

JAMES TOOVEY, 192, PICCADILLY.

1845.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE author is sorry that illness and other similar causes have obliged him to delay the publication of the Second Part of this Life very much indeed beyond the time at which he had hoped that it might have appeared.

He ought, perhaps, to add likewise, that it has been in part written under circumstances of a public and private nature, more or less disadvantageous towards the calm thought and continuous attention which are due to a subject so solemn as the Life of a Saint.

He takes this opportunity of expressing his thanks to a writer in the *Christian Remembrancer* of July last, as well for the kind and considerate tone of his criticisms upon the former portion of this Life, as for his observations upon one or two historical matters, which the author will not fail to reconsider and re-examine in the event of another edition of the Life being published.

While the sheets are passing through the press, the Librarian of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, has obligingly mentioned that in the Library of that Society are contained two manuscripts of the Gospels, said to have been sent by St. Gregory to St. Augustine, which the author regrets that time does not allow him to investigate. He has just heard also that there is a similar MS. in the Bodleian, which had escaped the

notice of the kind friend to whose researches in that library he is so much indebted.

The pressure under which this Part of the Life of St. Augustine has been necessarily completed, must also be urged as an apology for the omission of all minute reference to Gocelin's Narrative of his Translation. As that Treatise, however, extends to St. Augustine's immediate successors in the See of Canterbury, an opportunity of supplying the omission may, it is hoped, present itself in a future Number of the Series.

THE LIFE OF
St. Augustine,

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, APOSTLE OF THE ENGLISH.

CHAPTER I.

THE BRITISH CHURCH.—ITS FIRST TEACHERS.

A.D. 51—A.D. 182.

NEVER was the face of a country more speedily and entirely changed than was that of our own island by the inroads of its Saxon conquerors in the fifth and sixth centuries of the Christian era. Secular historians have recounted how those fierce invaders swept all before them like a torrent ; drove the ancient people of the land into its farthest recesses, or compelled them to take shelter behind its mountain fastnesses ; establishing themselves in the places which they had laid waste, and demolishing with ruthless hands the comely fabric of civilization and social order which had been gradually growing up in Britain since its subjugation to the Roman power.

They, meanwhile, who read the history of their country with a Christian and Catholic eye, will regard with an interest, such as no mere record of political changes and worldly reverses can inspire, the effect of this sudden and mighty revolution upon the religious condition