

EARLY HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

THE CHURCH BEFORE AUGUSTINE.



HERE are not a few persons who, from superficial knowledge of the matter, are inclined to attribute the foundation of the Church of England to Augustine, A.D. 597; some, indeed, even venture to assert that it was founded at the Reformation. This, however, is a mistake. The establishment of the Christian Church in England took place long prior to the arrival of Augustine

It must be admitted, I think, that we have very little ground for stating, with any degree of certainty, by whom the Christian Church was first planted in the British Isles. Gildas, the oldest native historian, who wrote about 560, tells us that the "Sun of Righteousness "