

ish churches at Canterbury, two at Caerleon, one at Bangor Iscoed, near Chester, one at Glastonbury, one at Withern, one at Evesham; and he also notes actual existing remains of others at Dover Castle, Richborough, Reculver, Lyminge, and Brixworth.

It would be a pleasant thing to know that, notwithstanding the misfortunes which befel the ancient British Church, it was, nevertheless, remarkable for its piety and devotion; but, unfortunately, the only picture we have is one that is anything but admirable. Gildas, the earliest native historian, who wrote about 560, said it had become a proverb that the Britons were neither brave in war nor faithful in peace; that, adverse to peace and truth, they were bold in crimes and falsehood; that evil was preferred to good, and impiety to religion. That those who were most cruel were (though not rightfully) anointed kings, and were soon justly destroyed by others fiercer than themselves. If anyone discovered gentler manners or superior virtues he became the more unpopular. Actions pleasing and displeasing to the Deity were held in equal estimation. And, (he says), it was not the laity only who were of this character, but that the clergy, who should have been an example to all, were addicted to intoxication, animosities and quarrels. He