



TRIBAL BAPTISM IN EARLY DAYS.

tury, now about to close, great controversy had gone on throughout Christendom regarding the use of pictures and images in the churches, and much ill-will was stirred up and injury done, but it did not penetrate to any serious extent into either Britain or Gaul. In this controversy Charlemagne, the great king of the Franks, took a leading part, and he looked to England, the Athens of the west, for libraries and scholars. A distinguished scholar he found there in Alcuin, and when the great king summoned a synod at Frankfort (in 794) the learned Anglican was invited to a seat in it. At this synod the worship of images was condemned.

Though Archbishop Ethelhard had not any troubles in the Church of this nature, he still had home difficulties to contend with which, for a time, obliged him to fly from his diocese. He returned, however, in better times, and secured for Canterbury a more permanent recognition as the metropolitan see of all England than it had before. In his episcopate we read of an archdeacon for the first time. Ethelhard died in 805, and was succeeded by Wulfred, of whom it was said that, although he held the archbishopric for twenty-eight years, he did nothing worthy of record; still his episcopate is marked for all time by the formation of a

united England under Egbert king of Wessex. Egbert had served under Charlemagne, who had risen to be Emperor of the Romans, and, imbued with the spirit of consolidation, he managed to subordinate the six petty kingdoms of the Anglo-Saxons, and to secure for himself and his successors the proud title of King of England.

On the death of Wulfred in 832, Fleogild, an abbot, probably of Christ Church, was appointed archbishop, but died in the following year, when Ceolnoth, the first Dean of Canterbury that we read of, was raised to that position. The cathedral clergy were called by St. Augustine "canons" because they were under certain canons or rules, and the head of these canons came to be called the dean. Ceolnoth was the first who bore this title. During his episcopate a charter was granted by King Ethelwulf, the successor of Egbert, which granted tithes of the land to the Church of England. It was in Ceolnoth's time that the Danes greatly harassed England. From the extraordinary amount of coins that have been found with the stamp of Archbishop Ceolnoth upon them, it is thought he must have used much of the valuable plate, and other silver and gold that he could lay his hands on, for the purpose of bribing the Danes