BROCARD (XIII cent.) Saint

This name is a later solution of the abbreviation B. relating to the prior of a group of hermits on Carmel, who, about 1210, received from St. Albert, patriarch of Jerusalem, the rule and the canonical institution of their Order. At his death, Brocard was buried on Mount Carmel. Other elements of his life (to be found only in T. Bradley, J. Paleonidorus and A. Bostius, Carmelite writers of the second half of the XV cent.), such as his coming from Jerusalem, his legation to the sultan of Damascus, the healing from leprosy and the baptism of the vice-sultan of Egypt in the river Jordan, are legendary. About the year 1400 Berthold «of Malefaida» (q. v.) was introduced into Carmelite literature and was said to have been a general of the Order even before Brocard.

Brocard's cult was ordered by the general chapter of 1564. It was removed from the reformed breviary of 1585, but taken up again in 1609; and the proper lessons were approved by the S. Congregation of Rites in 1672. His feast has been again suppressed. Brocard is represented in the Carmelite habit, sometimes with his cloak of black and white stripes, with the rule in hand.

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