

St. Andrew.



ST. ANDREW was born at Bethsaida, a city of Galilee, on the shores of the lake of Gennesareth. He was the son of Jonas, a fisherman of that town, and brother of Simon Peter.

He is generally called by the early writers "the first called disciple," though in a strict sense he was not so, for though he was the first of the disciples that came to Jesus, and brought his brother Peter to Him, yet he did not then stay with Him, but returned to his home and calling. Somewhat more than a year after, our Lord, passing through Galilee, found the brothers fishing on the Sea of Tiberias, and satisfied them of His divine power by the miraculous draught of fishes; and when He then called them to become fishers of men, they left all and followed Him, and became His disciples.

Little else is recorded of St. Andrew in the sacred story, as his doings are comprehended in the general account of the rest of the apostles.

Ancient tradition asserts that the apostles agreed among themselves (by lot, some say), and we may believe not without seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, what parts of the world they should severally take, and that Scythia and the neighbouring countries were at first assigned to St. Andrew. Tradition further relates that the apostle travelled through Cappadocia, Galatia, and Bithynia, instructing the people in the faith of Christ, passing along the Euxine Sea, and so into the solitudes of Scythia.

In his further missionary journeys he is said to have traversed Thrace, Macedonia, Thessaly, and at last passed into Achaia, where he suffered martyrdom at Patræ, a city of that province.

He is generally believed to have been crucified on two pieces of timber crossing each other in the shape of the letter X, a form of cross which has become known by his name.

St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, and also of Russia, the ecclesiastical historians of the latter country affirming that this apostle preached the gospel to their Muscovite ancestors in Scythia. The order of St. Andrew is the principal Russian order of knighthood.

In England, *six hundred* churches are dedicated to this apostle's honour. In ecclesiastical and devotional pictures St. Andrew is commonly depicted leaning on his cross, and holding the book of the gospel in his hand.

Grey's Old Court.

CHAPTER III.

THE OLD, OLD STORY.

"DIDN'T I say he'd maybe take a fancy to the lass?" said Mrs. Tozer, with a discontented ring in her voice. "A good thing for her if she can creep up his sleeve. I'm not like old Mother Flam: there's no jealousy in me. But then she drinks, poor body, and her husband beats her."