## BEFORE THE REFORMATION 17

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there he made a few converts. All the time he continued his studies and wrote books both to convince the Moslems and to make known his own ideas. Though it is difficult to believe the statement that he wrote 4000 books, a list of 321 books written by him is in existence. At the age of seventy-nine he returned to Bugia on the African coast to visit his converts there, and after spending nearly a year amongst them in hiding, eame out to preach openly in the market-place, where he was set upon and stoned to death. His wise eonception of the nature of the task that lay before him, and the time and study he gave to prepare himself for it, make him an example to all missionary leaders.

Whilst Lull was teaching on the African coast, another missionary pioneer, John de Monte Corvino, had made his way to the court at Pekin. China was then ruled by the Mongols. The great Mongolian Empire had not remained untouched by Christianity. When Nestorius, judged a heretie by the Councils of the Church, had been banished from the Roman Empire, his teaching spread eastwards. His ideas as to the nature of B