

part monks, men who had renounced the world and given up their lives to the service of God. Though many of them were but ignorant and simple men, it was through them, taken as a whole, that knowledge, education and the peaceful arts were spread amongst the peoples. The history and methods of the gradual advance of the Christian faith during the early centuries is to a large extent unknown, but some great teachers and some great events stand out amidst the general obscurity. Amongst the Goths around the Danube, Ulfilas (A.D. 313-383) not only taught and ministered, but showed himself their friend by obtaining for them a grant of rich pasture land within the Roman border, where they could settle and feed their flocks in peace, so earning for himself the name of a new Moses. He also, as so many missionaries since his day have done, reduced their language to writing, and made an alphabet for it. He translated the Bible for the use of his people, but he would not include the Books of the Kings in his translation, lest he should encourage the Goths in their warlike tendencies.