

determined to devote his life to the conversion of the Moslems. His distinction lies in the fact that he realised that for this great work careful preparation was needed. He bought an Arab slave that he might learn Arabic, and gave seven years to his studies. He visited the Pope and other European princes, and tried to win them to his ideas. At last he was enabled to found a monastery where Franciscan friars might study Arabic preparatory to being missionaries. Through his persuasions professorships of Arabic were founded in the universities of Paris, Salamanca and Oxford. He wrote books to convince the Moslems of the truth of Christianity, and when at last he failed to get any companions in his enterprise, he went alone at the age of fifty-six to Tunis. There he engaged in discussions with learned Moslem teachers, until he was first imprisoned and then banished from the country. But he escaped from the ship which was to bear him away, and continued his teaching whilst living in hiding. He succeeded in making several missionary journeys about the shores of the Mediterranean, preaching to Jews and Moslems. Here and