

have fancied that it was on account of his unbelief. Into this we will look again. Why should Philip, and Andrew, and Bartholomew go unmentioned because Thomas doubted?

A careful investigation will show us that although their Apostolic acts are not recorded in the "Acts of the Apostles," they were, notwithstanding, as zealously employed in the work of "preaching the Gospel to every creature" as those whose deeds are handed down to us.

In an epitome of the laws of the Syrian Church, Thomas is called the Apostle of the Hindoos and *Chinese*. Amru, who is said to be the best of the Syrian historians, has succeeded in tracing *Thomas* and Bartholomew through Arabia and Persia into India and *China*.

According to another writer, "Thomas, the Apostle, having done much for the establishment of the Christian faith in India, passed over to a country on the East called *China*, where he preached the Gospel and founded a church in the city of Cambalu (Pekin.) So little success attended the preaching of Thomas in China, or so quickly did the influence of his preaching die out, that it seems impossible to trace it.

Mosheim, who doubts that any of the Apostles ever visited China, or that the Gospel was even preached there by any one in Apostolic times, says that the Nestorians penetrated into that country in the latter part of the seventh century and established several churches.

The Mongul princes, who got possession of the *dragon throne* in A. D. 1280, tolerated all religions. The Nestorians, taking advantage of this toleration, extended their missions more widely, founding several flourishing societies in the northern parts of the Empire. About the middle of the fifteenth century Nestorianism seems to have dwindled away; from what cause is not fully explained.

The first effort made by the Romish Church to Christianize the Chinese was in the early part of the fourteenth century. The attempt was not successful, and nothing more was done towards giving China the Gospel for over 200 years.

In 1552 Francis Xavier, who thought he had done nothing for his Master, while China was yet unattempted, landed at the mouth of the Canton River, but was immediately murdered, not so much, it seems, because the Chinese objected to his religion, but because