

brought order into the frontier districts of North-eastern Europe, and subdued the wild peoples that lived on the shores of the Baltic, converting them to Christianity in the early thirteenth century and sending mission clergy to minister to them.

Roughly speaking, it took ten centuries for Europe to become nominally Christian, though even then the greater part of Russia and much of Scandinavia and the shores of the Baltic were still untouched, whilst the south of Spain remained under the rule of the Moors. It is well to remember this in the consideration of the history of the further progress of the Christian Church during the next ten centuries, and also to notice how the work of the missionaries suffered from alliance with the world power and from the use of methods utterly opposed to the spirit of the religion which they were seeking to spread. Yet in spite of countless mistakes, Christianity showed itself everywhere as the great civilising and educating influence amongst the peoples of Europe.

The spread of Christianity had made the organisation of the Church necessary. That