

**LIFE OF FRANCIS
XAVIER: APOSTLE
OF THE INDIES**

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Life of Francis Xavier: apostle of the Indies by M. H. McClean

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M. H. MCCLEAN

**LIFE OF FRANCIS
XAVIER: APOSTLE
OF THE INDIES**

Silla Canton
FRANCIS XAVIER *1900*

THE APOSTLE OF THE INDIES

BY

M. H. McCLEAN - *F*

(Born 1835, Died 1894)

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PATERNOSTER HOUSE, CHARING CROSS ROAD

1895

*"I would the light of reason, Lord,
Up to the last might shine,
That my own hands might hold my soul
Until it passed to Thine.*

*"Long life dismays me, by the sense
Of my own weakness scared ;
And by Thy grace a sudden death
Need not be unprepared."*

F. W. FABER.

THE Story of St. Francis Xavier's life and work has been told in these pages, as far as possible, in his own words. The following are the authorities chiefly used :

"Epistolae S. Francisci Xaverii" (Rome, 1677; and later edition, with additional letters, published Cologne, 1692).

"Epistolae Judicae" (1563).

"Rerum a Societate Jesu in Oriente Gestarum Volumen" (Cologne, 1574).

"De Vita Francisci Xaverii" (Antwerp, 1596).

"Vida, Y Milagros de San Francisco Xavier, de la Compania de Jesus, Apostol de Las Indias," Por El Padre Francisco Garcia (Barcelona, 1683).

"Lettres de Saint François Xavier," by M. Léon Pagès (Paris, 1855). has also been consulted.

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FRANCIS XAVIER

CHAPTER I

NAVARRÉ

"Glad sight wherever new with old
Is joined through some dear home-born tie,
The life of all that we behold,
Depends upon that mystery."

WORDSWORTH.

WE first catch a glimpse of Francis Xavier as a studious lad, gentle and comely, well-born and well-beloved. An old castle, old even in the beginning of the sixteenth century, was the home of his childhood, not by any means a luxurious or even a cheerful one. His father, Don John Giasco, who had acquired it by marriage with the heiress of the Xaviers, was much absent at the Court of Navarre, and his elder sons and daughters following him, left the place desolate and impoverished. Only in the remains of feudal grandeur did the Castle