

## **Preparation for the Conflict**

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tion, he did not falter, but persevered in his resolution. Even as in the case of Henry Martyn with his munshi, Sabat, who made life a burden to him, so Lull's experience with his Saracen slave was a school of faith and patience.

Besides his Arabic studies, Lull spent these nine years in spiritual meditation, in what he calls contemplating God.

“ The awakened gaze  
Turned wholly from the earth, on things of heaven  
He dwelt both day and night. The thought of God  
Filled him with infinite joy ; his craving soul  
Dwelt on Him as a feast ; as did the soul  
Of rapt Francesco in his holy cell  
In blest Assisi ; and he knew the pain,  
The deep despondence of the saint, the doubt,  
The consciousness of dark offense, the joy  
Of full assurance last, when heaven itself  
Stands open to the ecstasy of faith.”

While thus employed the idea occurred to him of composing a work which should contain a strict and formal demonstration of all the Christian doctrines, of such co-