

Algiers Mission Band.

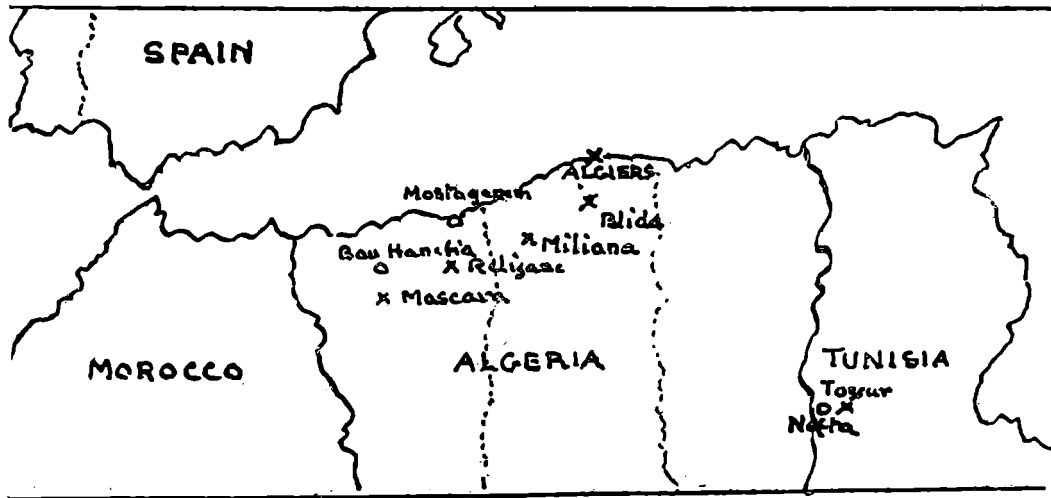


Story of 1913.

ALGIERS MISSION BAND
STORY OF 1913

MARSHALL BROTHERS, LTD.
LONDON EDINBURGH NEW YORK

Sketch Map shewing relative positions of
A. M. B. Stations



Stations marked by a Cross... X
Outlying points of advance ... O

A.M.B. STATIONS IN 1913.

<i>Date of Opening.</i>	<i>Algiers.</i>		<i>Inland.</i>
1888	Head-quarters.	1901	Blida.
1906	Dar Naama.	1909	Relizane.
1909	Beit Naama.	1909	Miliana.
1911	Dar el Fedjr.	1912	Mascara.
	*****	1913	Tozeur.

Sec. for Prayer Helpers, Mr. J. H. SMEETON, 2, Rue du Croissant, Algiers.

COUNCIL OF REFERENCE, LONDON.

Mr. and Mrs. STUART TROTTER, Broomfield Lodge, Chelmsford.
Sir H. and Lady PROCTOR, 16, Queen's Gardens, Lancaster Gate, W.
Rev. S. and Mrs. HOWE, St. Luke's Vicarage, Finchley, N.

WOMAN'S ALGERIAN MISSION BAND, AMERICA.

Mrs. J. A. WALKER, **Sec., Treasurer, S.S. Assoc.,** 312, 17th Street, Denver, Col., U.S.A.

ALGIERS' MISSION BAND.

Members on the Field, January 1, 1914.

Date of Arrival.

1888	I. Lilius Trotter.	1909	Mary Watling.
..	B. G. L. Haworth.	..	Alice McIlroy.
1890	F. Helen Freeman.	1911	Clare Mennell.
1906	Sascha Perkin.	..	Ida Nash.
..	Alexandrine Gayral.	1912	J. H. Smeeton.
1907	Mabel Grautoff.	..	Nellie Smeeton.
..	May Ridley.	..	Esther Regojo.
1909	F. K. Currie.	..	Laura Carr.
..	Millicent Roche.	..	Mary Freeman.
..	Alma Krebs.	..	S. Soler.

Short Service Hostel, Season 1913-14.

Elsie Thorpe (1911) in charge—Pleasant Hurst, Grace Russell, Frances Friend, Violet Barrow, Guendolin Grimwood, Daisy Crossthaite, Beatrice Blaikie, Grace Pegg.

A.M.B. STORY OF 1913.

ANOTHER report to add to those that flood the land! We have refrained for twenty-five years : now, at last, we see that the demand for it calls for the supply, to supplement the news given from time to time in our unconventional journals.

How can we condense the year's battling of our long thin fighting-line into half a dozen pages, and yet keep any living touch in the record? We can only give the outline, and the warm pulsing local colour must go. The one eye-picture we send is the woman on the cover, telling of the other southern women like her, shut by the thousand into their prison homes.

Algiers, our earliest station, comes first : it is now a cluster of three or four sub-stations. The old fortress-like house of Head-quarters buried

in the network of native streets, is the oldest : this year it has been set aside mainly for the claims of the men who come to read, and the boys of all sorts and sizes. And how glad we have been to cease at last from "shooing" away the little red-capped brothers who cluster round the door, as we had to do when the girls' work was carried on there ; and how they have responded ! The latter is now transferred to the Short Service Hostel : but of that more anon.

For next in order of opening in Algiers comes **Dar Naama**, a great rambling native house outside the town. This serves now as our "office" for the business part of affairs, as well as for the centre, for Conferences, Rallies, and rest-days in general. One bit of this year's fresh output thence, has been the first little embryo prayer-book, precious for the Sunday morning handful of converts and inquirers.

Dar Naama's daughter, down in the town, is **Beit Naama** by name,

and the two are classed as one sub-station, for the latter is "run" from the former. It is like all the rest a native house, only on a tiny scale, in the thick of the slums. Two workers sleep there the greater part of the week and thence carry on visiting, classes and meetings, thus making another centre. Here, too, it is the advent of boys that has chiefly marked last year. We are full of hope for all that this influx—docile and eager for the most part—means for years to come.

Away again, just past Rue du Croissant, on the outskirts, lies Dar el Fedjr, the Short Service house. Here God has set His seal by bringing a succession of young lives to our help for the months in the year that they can be spared from home. One of the developments that has been markedly a blessing is the tiny Guest-house adjoining the Hostel. It has been the special means of nurturing the newly-won souls of these last years, for we can receive thus, for a few days at a time, fathers, mothers and children

together, and many have been the seasons when " a dew from the Lord " has fallen there. Besides this and the daily classes for girls, and the following up in their homes of these too old to be allowed out, countless hands-turn of all kinds are given by these short-time helpers, and they make possible in one direction after another things and thoughts that otherwise must have lain fallow indefinitely.

The little Sunday morning meeting already alluded to is held now in the reading-room below the Hostel. It represents our " Storm-centre " as far as Algiers goes : for it is around those who are " illuminated " that the strife circles. Two of the men were baptized in March in the crypt-like " mosque " at Head-quarters, and backwards and forwards, all the year through, the battle has raged ; for they and the others who are stepping into the light have many grave-clothes around them still, and the enemy tries in every way to keep them bound. The prayer-fight on their behalf has

at last this year become an integral part of the work, and is carried on half round the world through the fellow-worker here who has taken this as his special vocation. Each soul on whom God's touch falls, in Algiers or the out-stations, has its prayer-helper far away : and who can tell what forces are thus set free, and kept free.

Next in distance from Algiers, and next in its date of opening, is the out-station of **Blida**. A native house stands there, Dar el Ain by name, in a field that slopes downwards to the mass of Arab homes below, and up towards the cedar-crowned ridge of the mountains above. Those mountains hold hundreds of villages hidden in their folds. How to balance the claims of the dark hamlets, and the calls of the children from close at hand, is the problem here. The children win the cause as yet, and only one day a week can be given to the villages. We hope to supplement this, this year, by a special village missioning, reinforced from Algiers, during the best

weeks of spring and autumn. Meanwhile the children's work has been growing apace : reading classes and knitting classes have been new features, and a " Babies' Class " has also been added, consisting of the sized creatures of both sexes scheduled as " its " by the Children's Special Service Mission Hints from the American delegates who visited us in the summer, and those brought back from the Sunday School Convention at Zurich, are being vigorously carried out. A Cradle Roll for the literal babies was one of the outcomes of that bit of American fellowship, and all those belonging to it are counted as bound to come to us in the future.

On again, two hours away by the railway line that trends off to the west, lies **Miliana**, perched on the shoulder of the last of the mountain ramparts that face the great plains beyond. Here, another pair of out-posters has finished the third year's fight in an atmosphere charged with Moslem superstition and fanaticism—and their " patient continuance " has been

rewarded by having fully as much work as two pair of hands can undertake, all the more since they moved into new quarters in the town last autumn. Boys and girls by the score are under teaching, and this year's special advance has been in getting Prayer-comrades for the boys and Prayer-mothers for the girls—and a great softening of the tough little Moslem hearts has been the sequel.

Out again, on that great plain, four hours more railway journey over untouched ground as far as Moslem work goes, lies **Relizane**. It was opened just before Miliana, by one of our seniors, with French helpers. Its second year saw the first souls brought in : one of them is with us now in Dar el Fedjr for training as a Bible-woman, and three have finished their earthly training for ever, and gone in to the heavenly life. This last year has seen the starting of a new out-post (worked from Relizane) at Mascara, three hours further still by rail. Spanish work had been begun

there the year before, but the Evangelist had still the up-hill plod of Arabic to get through before he could do much with native men. The Spanish "firstfruits unto Christ" are beginning to be gathered, and now there are a couple of rooms ready for work among the native women and children whenever the workers can be spared from Relizane. Down in the valley below, the Industrial Farm of Bou Hanifia is getting prepared—the God of the fountains has sent into the reservoir, on which all depends for prosperity, a lovely water supply in the autumn, just in time to save the hundreds of baby orange trees which had been planted, from dying of thirst.

This Mascara is the limit of our westward wing, and it is a far run from Algiers. But twice or thrice as far to the east we must go for our eastward boundary now, for this autumn has seen at last the opening of Touzer, the desert town on the edge of Tunisia, that we have longed over and prayed over for eighteen years, and which all that time has had nothing

more than a stray fortnight now and then to break the silence that has reigned there, as far as God's message goes, since the world began. The native fendouck which we took two years ago as the only available dwelling-house, had to stand empty till things in Tripoli and Turkey had quieted down, as it was too far out of reach to send women-workers alone in troublous times. Now they are installed and quietly feeling their way; the reading men who through these years have been eager for books and talks, came to them from the first days when all was packing-cases and workmen busy over broken windows and doors, and lads, from student lads to street urchins, began to gather. And already the call is ringing from the next oasis of nine clustered towns called Nefta, at three or four hours' distance. Backwards and forwards the battle has swayed since then, and heavy will be the fighting when the first souls come out: their fore-runner is there already, one who seems a true inquirer, and he needs a

close prayer-sheltering. The whole place must be garrisoned by prayer, standing as it does on the outmost limit of the posts that are held for Christ in the land. Beyond, through all the oasis groups of towns and villages, through the wandering desert tribes and the Soudan beyond, there is no ray of heavenly light till the Congo is reached. Nothing, as yet, can go down into those unreached lands but literature, and for that a better starting point than Touzer could not be found.

Literature has been another of the focus-points of 1913—specially the matter of literature for native boys, which is almost an untouched need. It took two of us to Egypt for a month in November, and growing shoots have begun to show. If only the Lord of the Harvest would send out a couple of boy-loving men, with writing powers to lay at His feet, they could reach a parish of hundreds of thousands of lads who will be the leaders of these natives a few years hence.

“ White already to Harvest ” are the fields around : may we “ look ” on them with the Lord who has waited so long for His Harvest joy, till His love and His longing fills our hearts with its constraining, and we throw ourselves into the glorious possibility of being among those to bring Him His first sheaves from Moslem soil.

I. LILIAS TROTTER.

2, Rue du Croissant, Algiers.

May, 1914.



ALGIERS' MISSION BAND.

Statement of Accounts for the year ending December 31, 1913.

RECEIPTS.	PAYMENTS.
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>January 1, 1913.</i></p> <p>To Balances in Bank . . . 11,004.05</p> <p>„ Cash in Hand . . . 160.90</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>11,164.95</u></p> <p>„ General Fund :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Donations . . . 9,491.90</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Product of Native Work 689.25</p> <p>„ W.A.M.B., America :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Donations . . . 2,273.30</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Appropriated Gifts . 1,098.55</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>13,553.00</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>24,717.95</u></p>	<p>By Missionaries' Allowances 4,062.20</p> <p>„ Two Representatives of the W.A.M.B., America 3,784.25</p> <p>„ Rents, Taxes, Repairs . 1,397.15</p> <p>„ Payments & Materials for Native Work . 384.35</p> <p>„ Travelling 1,036.75</p> <p>„ Itineration 75.30</p> <p>„ Station Expenses, Medical, Printing, etc. . 1,150.00</p> <p>„ Appropriated Gifts . 1,356.65</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>13,246.65</u></p> <p>„ Balances Carried Forward :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">In Bank 11,352.45</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">„ Hand 118.85</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>11,471.30</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>24,717.95</u></p>
Fracs 24,717.95	Fracs 24,717.95

25 Fracs = £1.

Examined and found correct, Algiers, May 26, 1914.

JOSEPH TURNER.

This Balance Sheet represents about one quarter of the expenditure of the Mission, the Honorary Members of the Staff being responsible for the remainder.

I. L. T.