



MATTHEW XXVIII

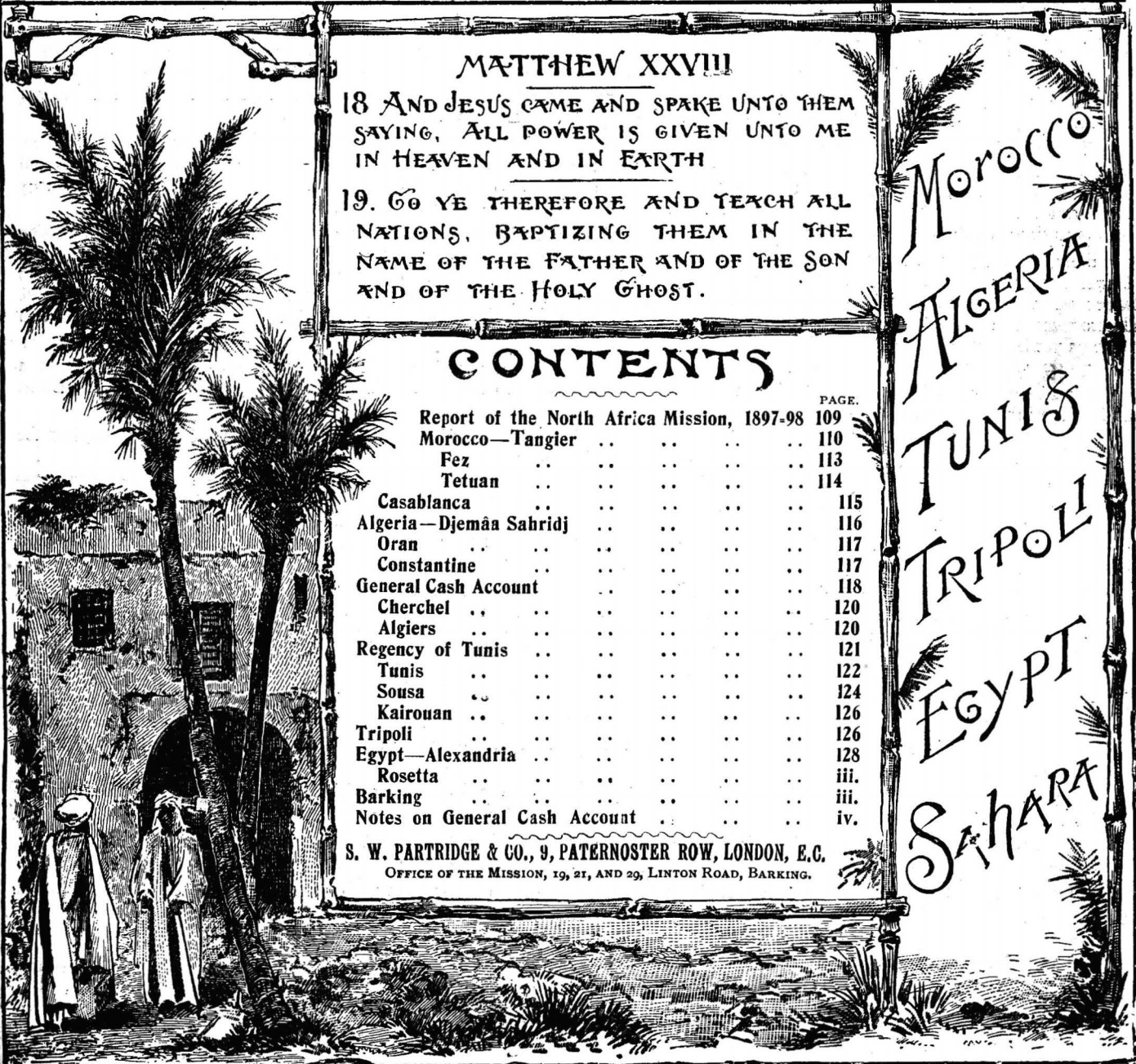
18 AND JESUS CAME AND SPAKE UNTO THEM SAYING, ALL POWER IS GIVEN UNTO ME IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH

19. GO YE THEREFORE AND TEACH ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY GHOST.

CONTENTS

	PAGE.
Report of the North Africa Mission, 1897-98	109
Morocco—Tangier	110
Fez	113
Tetuan	114
Casablanca	115
Algeria—Djemâa Sahridj	116
Oran	117
Constantine	117
General Cash Account	118
Cherchel	120
Algiers	120
Regency of Tunis	121
Tunis	122
Sousa	124
Kairouan	126
Tripoli	126
Egypt—Alexandria	128
Rosetta	iii.
Barking	iii.
Notes on General Cash Account	iv.

S. W. PARTRIDGE & CO., 9, PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON, E.C.
OFFICE OF THE MISSION, 19, 21, AND 29, LINTON ROAD, BARKING.



THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION.

North Africa consists of—

Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Tripoli, Egypt, and the Sahara, and has a Mohammedan population of 20,000,000.

MOROCCO can be reached from London by steamboat in four or five days; it has an area of about 260,000 square miles (equal to five times the size of England), and a population estimated at from 4,000,000 to 8,000,000. It is governed by a Sultan, whose name is Abdul Aziz, a youth of about nineteen years of age. The country is divided into thirty-three districts, each of which is under the superintendence of a Kaid. The semi-independent hill tribes are ruled by their own chiefs, and scarcely acknowledge the authority of the Sultan.

The North Africa Mission began work in Morocco in a small way in 1884; at the close of 1897 it had substantial mission premises, with hospitals, in Tangier, and stations in Tetuan, Fez, and Casa Blanca. It has thirty-seven missionaries in the country, besides helpers, labouring amongst Moslems, Jews, and Europeans. As the bulk of the population are in villages, many more workers are needed that this great country may be evangelised.

ALGERIA, within fifty-five hours' journey from London, is the most advanced in civilisation of all the countries of North Africa, having been held by the French since 1830. After great expenditure of life and money, it is now thoroughly subject to their rule. Its extent is about three times that of England, and its population 4,500,000, principally Moslems, but with some hundreds of thousands of French, Spaniards, Italians, Jews, etc. The country has a good climate, and much beautiful scenery; there are many excellent roads, and two thousand miles of railway.

The North Africa Mission has five mission stations, with fifteen brethren and sisters working in them. The bulk of the people live in villages scattered over the country, and only a very few have, as yet, been reached by the Gospel.

TUNIS is under French protection, and practically under French rule. It is hardly so extensive as England, but has a population of about 2,000,000, nearly all of whom are Mohammedans. There are, however, some thousands of Italians, Maltese, French, Jews, etc., on the coast. Seven workers of this Mission are stationed in the capital. Nine others are carrying on Medical Mission work in Sousa and surrounding villages. Four have just settled in Kairouan, and two in Bizerta. The remainder of the Regency, with its cities and villages, is still to a great extent unevangelised.

TRIPOLI is a province of the Turkish Empire, several times larger than England. It has a population of about 1,350,000, who, with the exception of a few thousands, are followers of the False Prophet. The Moslems here are more intelligent and better educated than further west, but much opposed to the Gospel. In 1889, two brethren began to labour for Christ among them, and there are now six engaged in the work. A Medical Mission has been conducted here with cheering results.

EGYPT is still tributary to Turkey, but under the guidance and supervision of the British Government. The Mission commenced work in Lower Egypt in April, 1892, and has ten Missionaries there, including wives. The population of Lower Egypt is seven millions, the great majority being Mohammedans. The American Presbyterians have an excellent and successful work, mainly, but not exclusively, amongst the Copts. The Church Missionary Society also has work in Cairo. There remains a widespread need for more labourers amongst the Moslems, who are difficult to reach, and very few of whom have as yet been converted.

THE VAST SAHARA, with its scattered population of Berber and Arab Mohammedans, remains still without a solitary missionary. We pray God that soon some brethren full of faith and of the Holy Ghost may be sent to preach Christ amidst the inhabitants of its palmy oases.

NORTHERN ARABIA is peopled by the Bedouin descendants of Ishmael; they are not bigoted Moslems, like the Syrians, but willing to be enlightened. This portion of the field is sadly in need of labourers.

This Mission was formed in 1881 from a deep sense of the pressing spiritual needs of the Kabyles of Algeria, who with the rest of the Moslems of North Africa, were quite unevangelised, and was then called the Kabyle Mission. In 1883 it was reorganised, and widened its sphere to the other Berber races. Since then, under the name of the North Africa Mission, it has step by step extended its work, establishing stations in various towns of Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Tripoli, and Egypt.

Its Character is, like the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, evangelical, embracing those of all denominations who love the Lord Jesus in sincerity and truth, and who are sound in their views on foundation truths.

Its Methods of Working are by itinerant and localised work to sell or distribute the Scriptures far and wide, and by public preaching, conversations in the houses, streets, shops, and markets in town and country, to make known those fundamental truths of the Gospel, a knowledge of which is essential to salvation. When souls are saved they are encouraged to confess their faith by baptism, and then, according to the Lord's instructions, taught to observe all things whatsoever He commanded. Educational work is not a prominent feature in this Mission, but a subordinate handmaid to evangelistic work. Medical aid, given where possible, has been found most useful in removing prejudice, and disposing people to listen to the Gospel message.

Mohammedanism has nothing in its teaching that can save the soul. It teaches some truth, but carefully denies the fundamental doctrines of Christ's divinity, death, resurrection, etc.

No effort has, until recently, been made to evangelise this part of the Moslem World: It was considered impossible to gain an entrance, much less a hearing, amongst these followers of the False Prophet.

No salary being guaranteed by the Mission to the Missionaries, their trust must be directly in God for the supply of all their needs.

Collecting Boxes can be had on application to the Hon. Secretary, by giving full names and addresses.

Gifts in Money or in kind should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, EDWARD H. GLENNY, 21, Linton Road, Barking, London, and will be acknowledged by numbered receipts. The names of donors are not published.

NORTH AFRICA

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Report of North Africa Mission.

FROM MAY 1ST, 1897, TO APRIL 30TH, 1898.

"What hath God wrought!"—NUM. xxiii. 23.



WHEN Balaam went forth at the instigation of Balak to "curse Jacob" and to "defy Israel," he was shown but the uttermost part of the vast encampment, and it seems to have been "the people" that mostly filled his vision (Num. xxiii. 8-10). But when, on the next occasion, he was taken to the field of Zophim, to the top of the hill (14 v. Marg.), he appears to have seen what before had been hidden, viz., the tabernacle dwelling of the God of Jeshurun "in the midst of the camp;" for the central clause of this second message contains this most important announcement, "*Jehovah his Elohim is with him, and the shout of a King is among them.*" Surely this is enough to account for all that has gone before, and for all that will follow after. The exodus from Egypt was not, then, the result of their own cleverness, wisdom, or forethought, but "God bringeth them forth" (22 R.V.). In their daily preservation, and their successive conquests, we have not a record of what *they* had done but what *God* had wrought; and it was therefore useless for Baalam or Balak to seek for enchantments, or wait for divinations, for there were none—could be none, since God was in the midst of His chosen and redeemed people.

In taking up our pen to record the labours of another year, we are conscious of this one thing; that whatever of progress there has been in any department, whatever impressions have been produced upon mind or heart, whatever good has been accomplished in any shape or form, it is alone due to the wonder-working hand of our God. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy Name give glory, for Thy mercy and for Thy truth's sake." In reading through the various reports just received from the field, concerning the work of the past year, the united testimony is that God has been working, directly and indirectly, through the preached word, through the operations of His providence, and that the praise for everything that has been done belongs only to Him.

Morocco.

Four Stations, thirty-eight Missionaries, three Helpers.

TANGIER—Occupied 1884.

MEN'S HOSPITAL, ETC.	GENERAL WORK.	WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.	MOORISH SCHOOL.	SPANISH WORK.
Dr. C. L. Terry, M.B., C.M.Ed.	Mr. and Mrs. C. Mensink.	Dr. G. Breeze, L.S.A.	Miss J. Jay.	Mr. and Mrs. Patrick (Since resigned).
Mrs. Terry.	„ W. Bolton.	Mrs. Boulton.	Syrian Teacher.	Miss F. R. Brown.
Dr. J. H. D. Roberts, M.B., C.M.Ed.	Miss S. Jennings.	Miss F. Marston.	Mrs. Ferah.	Spanish Evangelist.
Miss K. Aldridge.	„ B. Vining.	—	—	Mr. A. F. Blanco.
„ F. G. Tregillus	„ M. C. Lambden.	BOYS' INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.	—	Miss Vecchio (Teacher).
	„ E. A. Craggs.	Mr. and Mrs. Edwards.		

FEZ—Occupied 1888.

Miss E. Herdman.	Miss M. Mellett.
„ M. Copping.	„ S. M. Denison.
„ L. Reed (athome).	„ L. Greathead.

TETUAN—Occupied 1889.

Miss F. M. Banks.	Mr. H. Nott.
„ A. Bolton.	„ H. Jones.
„ A. G. Hubbard.	Mrs. Jones.
„ I. de la Camp.	

CASABLANCA—Occupied 1890.

Dr. Grieve, L.R.C.P. & S Ed.
Mrs. Grieve.
Miss L. Sexton.
„ A. Watson.

In Morocco during the past year the work has been carried on with energy and devotedness, and, moreover, in "the patience of hope." The labourers have not been without their disappointments and trials, and probably will not be; every Mission field has its own peculiar difficulties, and the Mohammedan field more especially. We feel assured however that no God-sent labourer would wish it otherwise, for it is in such circumstances that the Lord Himself is nigh at hand to succour and cheer His servants.

As regards the condition of the country, we regret to say that, far from improving, it appears to grow steadily worse year by year. Not only are the majority of Government officials most corrupt, but injustice and wrong-doing are permitted in every part of the Empire almost without protest. A recent letter from the Howard Association to the British Foreign Office brings before the public, what was in a great measure already known to ourselves, the abominable and fiendish cruelties practised upon helpless prisoners, not only in far-off towns of the Empire, but in the Sultan's Camp, and thus almost under his eyes. We trust the day is not far distant when liberty in some form will be brought to this down-trodden people.

TANGIER.

The Medical work in Tangier has during the past year been carried on somewhat under difficulties, in consequence of the enforced absence of Dr. and Mrs. Terry from their post. The Lord has however in His goodness provided for the work in His own way. Dr. Roberts, who had purposed devoting his life to Mission work, went out to Tangier at the close of the year 1896, intending only to stay a few months to see the work and people before returning to England for further studies. Dr. and Mrs. Terry however, having to come home the following summer, the Medical work was virtually left in the hands of Dr. Roberts. He was thus led to forego his intention of returning, and has since had charge of the "TULLOCH MEMORIAL" HOSPITAL and Dispensary.

Mr. W. T. Bolton has been mainly occupied with the language during the year. He went into Camp amongst the mountains of Tetuan in June, 1897, and later on visited Fez and Mequinez, which was a valuable experience.

Miss Jennings was itinerating in the villages during June, 1897, and in company with Miss Brown visited Larache and Arzila in the following October and November, some particulars of which are given in Miss Brown's report.

Miss Lambden was not able to find a suitable room for the Men's Refuge till toward the close of 1897, since which time she has carried on the work there night by night, beside helping in the Dispensary work as needed.

The Spanish work has suffered a great loss through the resignation of Mr. N. H. Patrick, who has retired from the field in consequence of the continual illness of his children. We are looking to God to raise up some brother to carry on this work, and to care for the Spaniards who have been gathered into Church fellowship.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, in consequence of illness and other causes, have removed their Boys' Industrial Institute from Casablanca to the outskirts of Tangier, where ground and premises have been secured through the kindness of a friend.

Dr. Roberts writes:—"During the past year the hospital has been open for about nine months. It was re-commenced about six weeks after Dr. Terry left for England, *i.e.*, in August, 1897. Since then it has been in working order, except during the month of Ramadan, when, according to custom, it was closed.

"The staff has consisted of Miss Aldridge, Miss Tregillus, Miss Lambden, and Mr. Bolton. During Miss Lambden's absence on furlough, Mr. Mensink came up twice a week to give a Gospel address to the out-patients, before they were attended to medically.

"The out-patient department shows an attendance of 1,200, not counting patients seen at odd times and in their homes—not by any means a great number; but as these almost all heard the Gospel and came under the influence of kindly acts done in the name of Christ, we hope and pray that the Holy Spirit may be even now working in some of their hearts. How much we long to report cases of conversion, but meanwhile we continue sowing the seed and doing deeds of kindness.

"The patients taken into the hospital and treated since August numbered 120. Thus the twenty beds so kindly provided for by friends at home have had each just six different sufferers. It would please all to see the change in the faces and manners of some of the patients after they have been in for some time. To take one example, a man, formerly a soldier, who came in about March, 1897. He had a very diseased ankle joint, and when Dr. Terry proposed amputation he would not hear of it. He went out, and, we thought, possibly, to die, but in a few months' time he came again and begged for re-admission. We took him in on the understanding he would allow the operation to be done, but the morning, when all was ready, a friend of his came, assuring him he could be cured in fifteen days by certain treatment he knew of. So he went out again, only to return in a very bad state of health, when an operation was out of the question. With treatment he got on well, but as Ramadan, 1898, had come round, we had to close.

"When we re-opened, he came in for the fourth time, still with the diseased ankle in a bad state, but his general health allowed of the operation being done. And, praise be to God, he did very well indeed and became in appearance and manner a changed man; whether he was in heart, the great day will only declare. The last thing he said on leaving was, that he hoped to come back again and have a wooden leg applied; this could not be promised him, as there is not a special fund to supply such things! There have been some other chloroform cases, which met with varying success, and we are very thankful that no accidents occurred whilst the anæsthetic was being given. The Moors often enough beg for it to be given them, although some are nervous when it is administered.

"During the absence of Miss Aldridge on an itinerating journey, Miss Tregillus took up the nursing, housekeeping, etc., in addition to the dispensing. Miss Lambden took the responsibility of the spiritual work, whilst others of us helped as far as our knowledge of the language would allow. Miss Craggs also kindly gave some much needed help at two or three operations that had then to be performed.

"This year has been abnormally wet and stormy, which may partly account for the smallness in the numbers; and, secondly, and not least, some of our staff are new to the work, the language, and the people. Possibly next year, when we hope to welcome Dr. Terry once more into our midst, we shall be able to undertake a greater amount of work. But as we cast our bread on the waters, shall we not gather it, even after many days? Pray that we may."

Miss E. K. Aldridge:—"In reviewing the work in the Hospital for the year one feels it difficult to know what to touch upon; as much of it, going on from year to year, must necessarily become routine work.

"But this does not apply to the spiritual part of the work in any sense I trust, though services for both out-patients and in-patients have gone on regularly. Speaking personally, I have found an increasing joy in telling out the 'glad tidings,' as I have watched the faces of the men gathered around me night after night. Some of them listen eagerly, especially to the account of the death and resurrection of Christ, though one among them would frequently interrupt with the usual exclamation 'No, no, He did not die.' At such services I have felt, by the grave solemn attention, as though the Spirit must be taking hold of the Word and applying it to some of their hearts. Often when reading to an intelligent old man, others would creep in and ranging themselves round the wall on the floor would be listening quietly till the reading was over. After a few days, or a few weeks, these patients would all be scattered to their homes, others taking their places; the results we cannot tell, but we know the seed has been sown. As we closed the Hospital this year for the Fast of Ramadan, I took the opportunity for a journey inland. I spent a week at Mequinez with the American Missionaries, who most kindly received me. I then went on to Fez where I took up my quarters with our Mission Sisters, and spent a most profitable time, visiting with them in numbers of houses. I was struck in every case with the very warm reception our sisters received. Beside this there was much work going on, people being taught, enquirers coming to hear, etc., etc. I felt the time spent there was most helpful and encouraging, and it was with regret that I came away from this large city."

Mr. Mensink:—"Whenever the Hospital has been open I have preached the Gospel there to both out and in-patients, and I am pleased to state that from year to year there is an increase of interest in what we preach. I have visited the villages in the neighbourhood of Tangier fairly regularly. All the year through I have had a class for adults who come to me every Sunday morning; I read with them and explain the Scriptures. Some of them have been coming for the last three years. The number of attendances has been from three to eleven; but there are mostly six or seven.

"During the winter season I gathered the poor of Tangier in a building which a friend kindly lets me use. Every Sunday we have from fifty to a hundred poor people to whom we first preach the Gospel, and then give some bread. We also give garments to the most needy when able to do so. Some English and Dutch friends have kindly helped us in this work by sending us ready-made garments, material, or money to buy material. The garments have been made by my wife and Miss Harris. One man who met with us at these gatherings of the poor was converted a few months ago. I saw him shortly before leaving Tangier, and he seemed bright and firm.

"During the past year I have visited some seven towns of Morocco. In some we stayed a fortnight, in others only a few days. On the whole, we consider the work in Morocco increases in interest."

MISSION SCHOOL, TANGIER.

Miss J. Jay:—"We had hoped to begin work on October 1st, but Aiweesha, the little Moorish girl who lives with me, was then so seriously ill with fever that I had to give almost my whole time to nursing her. Since we reopened, in November, the work has gone on steadily. We continued the school through Ramadan, although all but the very young children were fasting. With the exception of a few days at Christmas and at the two Moorish feasts, we have given no holidays; nor will there be any until we close at the end of June. It is necessary then to make a long break, partly on account of the heat, but also because of the harvest.

"The children delight in coming to school, and attend much more regularly than at first. Twelve of the girls have never

been absent since November 1st, except from illness. We have forty-two pupils, but they are seldom all here together. Often they are kept at home to work, and, if their mothers are ill, it is impossible for them to come. They are improving in orderliness and obedience, and I may say, to their credit, that, although the school is held in the house, and they have, to a large extent, the run of the place, yet I have not had a single thing stolen throughout the year.

"We begin school at 9.30 by repeating together the Lord's Prayer, followed by a short Bible lesson. They then repeat their texts and Scripture portions. These Moorish girls have good memories, and have lately learned Psalm cxxi., Luke ii. 8 to 18, and the beatitudes from Matt. v., besides keeping up all they had previously learned. They are fond of hymns, and we have singing (and arithmetic of the most elementary kind) twice a week. The girls are very proud of being able to read even a little, and bravely struggle with the difficulties of the Arabic reading. They have made marked progress, and, had we simple books in the Arabic of Morocco, the girls in the most advanced class would be able to read them. The last hour, 11.30 to 12.30, is devoted to sewing. The children have made a large number of garments for themselves. They are mostly very poor, and have been truly grateful for the warm clothing given them from time to time, without which they could not have come out in the cold, wet weather of last winter. Special thanks are due to an English lady in the town, who has given material to the elder girls to make up for her into clothing for the poor. She pays them for their work, and they are most thankful to earn a little money. It has also encouraged them to continue coming to school.

"We feel very thankful to God that the health of the children has been good all the year. There has been no serious outbreak of sickness amongst them, and we have lost none of our little pupils by death. I still have Mrs. Ferah's valued help in the School. Her own health is far from good, but she has been devoted in her efforts to teach and train the children, in whom she takes the deepest interest.

"Aiweesha has, I am thankful to say, now grown stout and strong, and is a happy, useful child, getting on well in school and often my companion when I go visiting.

"We praise God for giving sufficient health and strength to carry on the work; for all the joy He has given in it; for daily opportunities of telling the children of the Saviour; and for the funds so continually sent in (often from the most unexpected quarters) to supply all our need. 'When I sent you . . . lacked ye anything?' 'And they said, Nothing.'"

WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Dr. G. R. S. Breeze:—"Another year has quickly passed away. It has been mainly a time of patient work broken by three weeks in the autumn for much-needed rest.

"The Gospel has been preached daily to in-patients, and three times a week to those attending the dispensary; and while we did not see any manifest results, yet there seems an increased interest and less intolerance over the plain Gospel message. We water the seed sown with prayer, and look to the One who loves these poor benighted sisters of ours far more than we can, to pour forth His Holy Spirit so that the seed may spring up.

"*Dispensary Work.*—The attendances at this branch of work have been less than the previous year, being 3,500; but the number of new patients (those who had never been to the Mission before) was quite equal to the previous year, being over 600. This is a cause for great gratitude.

"During the year there were large numbers of Riffs who came in, the long drought of the previous year having left them without food (except a bread made from the pounded roots of lilies). These poor creatures, speaking a very different

language and very destitute, were pitiable objects; and the thought that it was impossible to enlighten their dark souls gave the heart many pangs. They need a missionary who can speak their own language. Most of them have now returned to their mountain homes.

"*The In-patient Work.*—We have had forty-five patients in our hospital, and the daily teaching given must have a greater chance of reaching the heart when the people are separated from their surroundings, which so hinder the reception of the Word.

"Nearly all our patients are village people, the townswomen being more bigoted, and really afraid of living in a house with 'Nazarenes.'

"*Refuge Work.*—For the past three months we have made a venture in faith, and opened a room on the Sök for the night previous to the market days, which are Thursday and Sunday, and here the countrywomen spend the night. Some come to purchase, but the majority come a long day's journey with a load of charcoal on their back for sale.

"The attendance has been very good, the room being sometimes over full with sixty people; they are only given water, light, and matting on which to lie. They have to be addressed in different groups, as they are very dense and very noisy. The contrast between them and the men's refuge next door, conducted by the American missionaries, is great, the men being accustomed to concentrate their attention and behave quietly. By means of this refuge we hope to reach the inhabitants of the surrounding country when we visit their villages. They have the Gospel preached, and on Thursday mornings have medicine; thus we try to follow the steps of our Divine Master.

"There has been a very small amount of medical work amongst Spaniards or Gibraltareans, who regularly attend the Spanish meetings; it is a great joy to minister to some of these who are truly converted.

"I have been most assiduously and lovingly helped in all this by my colleague, Miss Marston, who also follows up our townswomen where possible, by visiting them in their homes and teaching them of the Lord Jesus. Also Mrs. Boulton has greatly helped in dispensing, and in giving addresses on dispensary mornings.

"Thus, without any great show or numbers, we work on, trusting that the Lord of the Harvest will find a few ears we have gleaned for Him when He comes."

SPANISH WORK.

Miss F. R. Brown:—"I had planned to spend a short time at the commencement of our Mission year in itinerating in some of the villages, but as Mr. and Mrs. Patrick had to leave Tangier on the 2nd of June, my plans had to be laid aside. During the months of June and July I continued the regular meetings as well as I could, also visited a good number of sick cases. At the end of July Don Angelo Blanco came to help us in the Spanish work, and I was relieved of some of the meetings. During August I visited many sick people, and in consequence several families were induced to attend the services.

"In September I left Tangier, with Miss Jennings, for Larache, El Kasa, and Arzila. In Larache I found one or two Spanish families who had attended our services in Tangier. We had happy little meetings together in their homes. I had also several real personal dealings with Jews and Spaniards about their souls, and with one Frenchman. I took a young Spanish woman with me, visiting from house to house, and she was much impressed seeing our work for Jesus, and fully decided to give herself to the Lord.

"The second Sunday we were in Larache I was able to arrange a small meeting for the Spaniards. Eight came and listened with earnest attention.

"We were sorry when we had to leave Larache and its people without a teacher. Our Lord's words came home forcibly to our hearts 'Look on the fields, for they are white already unto harvest.' I am afraid the Lord's people do not sufficiently make His business their care, or these stations would all be occupied.

"From Larache we journeyed on to Arzila, where we found poor Moorish women hungering and thirsting. Having tasted something of the sweetness of the Gospel message from the lips of the late Miss Caley ten years ago, they had been longing ever since for someone to tell them more. One woman could repeat several texts of Scripture, and sang a verse of a hymn through that Miss Caley had taught her. She said she tried especially to remember our Sabbath day, and repeated over to herself and her friends what she could remember of Miss Caley's words. She had not forgotten that the precious blood of Jesus Christ could wash away her sins. How she begged of us not to leave her. It made us feel sad that we had such a short time to stay. We also visited a good many Jews in this small Moorish town, and distributed Gospels in Hebrew and Spanish.

"During the months of October and November we held special meetings in Tangier for the Spaniards. A good many came under the sound of the Gospel for the first time, and the

meetings were well attended throughout. Then afterwards I visited every house and left a Gospel in each one, and had talks with the families.

"About this time Mr. Patrick fell ill with typhoid fever, and, in consequence, some of our plans for the winter's work were upset. Then followed the serious illness and death of one of our converts, whom I visited daily till the end came. In December Miss Vining fell ill at my house, and some time was taken up in nursing.

"Early this year, Antonia, my servant girl, and another young woman, both of whom I have prayed for much, confessed their faith in the Lord by baptism. Many of Antonia's friends have been much impressed by her faith and earnestness, but from others she has suffered much petty persecution.

"Our school continues prospering in the hands of Miss Vecchio.

"An average of seven Gospel meetings have been held per week, and two women's sewing classes.

"We have lost two of our church members during the year; one has died, and the other has gone to live in Spain.

"I desire to give thanks to God for continued health and strength, and for the joy of having another year's work to record for our beloved Master, though conscious of many failures."

FEZ.

There are no changes to record here, except that after many difficulties a more suitable house has been offered to our sisters in the village of Sifroo, which has been visited as an out-station for some years. We are thankful for this, as, being on much higher ground, it is cooler and more healthy. Miss Mellett and Miss Greathead have gone up there, and the place has now, we trust, been definitely occupied for Christ. Miss Reed is still detained in England through the illness of a relative. The following letters will give some idea of the work that is being attempted.

Miss Herdman writes:—"During this year the Word of God has been steadily distributed throughout this whole country, as well as in some of the tribes of the Sahara. This distribution has been carried on, in the first place, by our colporteurs, then by a Sahara native doctor, and now there are numerous persons evangelising at their own expense, besides those we send to regulate and organise the work, and to teach the would-be teachers. Gifts of two swift camels have been just lately promised by two natives. These are very necessary and will enable us to push eastward.

"There have been groups of Bible students for years here and there. At first they kept the good tidings to themselves, but of late they have begun to sow from what they themselves had reaped. Letters requesting parcels of Scriptures come from many places. In one tribe even the boys are learning portions of the New Testament by heart. This is a very promising work, and the Word is bearing fruit. There is this year a great increase of desire among the natives to evangelise. This I am trying to foster by writing letters with the books, giving instruction with chapter and verse. Of course this correspondence is in Arabic.

"There are numerous Berber tribes lying near us and due south that speak another language, also a very large and important province in the south of the Empire, speaking a language so similar to these Berber tribes as to be mutually understood. The readers, who are however few, speak and read it well. Strange to say, Berber-speaking tribes know Arabic better than the Arabs themselves and are more literary in their tastes. There is no language taught in the Moorish schools but Arabic. Some of the warmest lovers of the Gospel are descended from the Prophet's family. These being influential people are destined to lead the hearts and minds of many to the truth, and are likely to have a large following. There is a kind of freemasonry between place and place springing up, and soon there will be union among scattered groups.

"When once the Moslem receives salvation through the precious Blood so long rejected he is very sound. Heaven, hell, God's Omnipresence, rewards, punishments, angels, spirits, devil, have been always believed in; the Moslem has no doubts, he accepts promises and commands as facts. The very Atonement, once ignored, is understood as no European understands it, for all quarrels are settled here by shedding of blood, tribe with tribe, man with man. 'The lamb slain' is a household word.

"Here, as in Uganda, and, we may hope, all over the world, the time of blessing to Ishmael has come, and 'he shall live.'"

Miss Copping:—"I should like to thank the kind friends who supplied me with surgical instruments. They are indeed a blessing, and in constant use, as we seldom have less than 200, and sometimes as many as 300 patients in a week, including the richest and poorest in Fez. I perform a good many minor operations. There are a number of boys among the patients, but they remember, and frequently repeat, what they hear. Some days ago I was sent for to the house of a rich lady, and was about to extract a tooth, when a boy said, 'Now in the name of Sidi B., the dead man,' and immediately told the ladies that *we* said it was of no use to work in the name of any dead saint except Sidna Aisa, because He rose from the dead.

"The visiting in the Moorish homes is also very interesting and encouraging. The work among the Jewesses has gone on steadily, and as yet I have had no opposition. The women are quiet and kind to me, but while they know many wonderful stories from the Talmud, they are sadly ignorant of the Bible, and although I find in many families they have copies of the Old Testament, yet it is not read.

"I should like to thank the kind friends at Gospel Oak, London, who made and sent some pretty garments for the children. If they could see their delight, they would, I am sure, feel well repaid."

TETUAN.

The four lady Missionaries located here have worked on bravely throughout the year, notwithstanding many hindrances, with a brief occasional break. The Medical branch in the hands of Miss Banks has been the means of attracting large numbers of Moors, Jews, and Spaniards, to all of whom the gospel was faithfully preached. During the winter and spring the town was invaded by hundreds of families of Riffs, a race occupying the mountainous country behind Tetuan, who came into the town in great numbers for work, as food was very scarce in their villages. We append the reports received from this station.

Miss F. M. Banks :—"The last year has brought much visible blessing to the few Spaniards with whom we come in contact. Regular preaching of the Word, and distribution of the Gospels amongst many hundreds of Moors, have gone on continuously.

"Since last autumn, Tetuan has been crowded with wanderers from the Riff country, homeless, starving, and many ill. All through the past winter, which was cold and wet, they have been coming to us, and seemed very grateful for any assistance. At first they knew so little Arabic, that to teach them was a difficult matter, but before they returned to their country last month, they seemed to have learned a great deal more about the Lord and His way of salvation.

"A large class of Riff lads came to me for about three months; they were quick and wild, enjoyed everything, the hymns, learning texts, Bible lessons, sewing, occasional meals, and also much quarelling! We hope to see them again, and feel sure that they can never forget what they learned last winter. Although several were big lads from fifteen to seventeen none could read. I commenced teaching them, but found they all meant to return to their own country after the great feast; also that we could not get them for regular lessons, as when any work could be found they were absent, so we had to give it up.

"The dispensary is always very well attended except on wet days; the numbers for some time past have been from fifty to seventy. They have seemed more attentive to the reading lately. Miss Hubbard has had some interesting fokees (readers) amongst the men.

"Visiting from house to house, we generally find the people are friendly enough with us, but do not want to hear of Christ. Yesterday, after a long chat with an old lady about her wounded leg, I drew out a Gospel and began to read and explain a little. Soon the old dame was stretched out on her mattress at full length, rolled up in her haik, apparently grimly asleep. When I finished what I wanted to say, and rose to leave, up sat the patient, all smiles and chatter again. 'They will not come unto Me that they might have life,' yet we all think there are many hopeful cases amongst our women.

"The Jews are coming regularly on Saturdays, from twenty to thirty each week. We are glad to have the opportunity of doing even a little for God's ancient people."

Miss A. Bolton :—"My work amongst Moslems is confined to taking services with the women who come up to our dispensary three times a week, and to a sewing class for Soudanese women, originally, but now having one or two white members.

"At the dispensary we have had very good numbers all through the year, an increase, we believe, on the past, although we do not tabulate attendances. More better class townswomen have come to us; indeed, lately, it has seemed as though our house were their rendezvous. We adopt the same measures with them as with the villagers, and expect them to sit quietly and hear the Word of God; and in spite of this, many of them obviously make excuses to come. We believe the Holy Spirit is working through us, and that soon we shall have enquirers after the Truth.

"We all have increasing joy in preaching at our morning services, and are thankful for the numbers who seem in earnest and glad to hear the Word. As for the women in the evening class, I am sure some of them believe in the Lord Jesus. They tell me they love the Bible, and find the week so long in passing ere they come again. Some say they pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. They have learned many texts by heart, and speak in a much more spiritual way than they used.

"My Spanish children's school goes on as usual; none of them have this year come out as Christians, but I trust some are very seriously inclined. Four have left after being some years with us, but others have come. A big lad is very glad to help me as a pupil teacher, so I have been able to let the younger children come. From Buenos Ayres, where our first Spanish family have gone to live, comes bright news. Those who confessed Christ here are, we believe, serving and following Him there and finding Him all they need.

"We have during the past year had much encouragement in our Sunday night Spanish meeting. In answer to prayer a house opened to us, and most of a very large family come to our meetings. Two at least from it have become reconciled to God through the Lord Jesus, as they express it, and are trying very eagerly to bring others. Three women altogether have confessed Christ this year, and two men are earnestly reading the Bible and very near the Kingdom, if not already within. One has asked for 'the doctrine' in Arabic, that he may take the Word to the mountain district where he trades, and convert some of the Moslems.

"All through the year our needs have been abundantly supplied; again and again we have given thanks for being allowed to live and work in this land, and for the 'signs following,' and for the encouragement we have in commencing another year."

Miss G. Hubbard :—"Looking back through my diary for the past year, it just seems to have been made up of 365 days of work, very seldom one standing out above another, and seemingly very little to write about now that it is past. Last summer two of us were for some time camping up at Beni M'Sallah, and very friendly we found the people there, and they seem to remember us well, too, for we are constantly being asked to go again this year. The winter work might be spelt almost entirely R-I-F-F-S, for we had Riffs in the morning for food, Riffs crowded out the Dispensary, Riffs came into the classes wherever they were allowed, Riffs occupied a good part of the visiting, and from morning to night it was Riffs. A poor, miserable lot of people they were, sickness and hunger bringing down the strongest of them. During the past six weeks numbers have returned to their own land, from whence they were driven out by famine last autumn, and now we hear the Sultan's army has come down on them to keep peace (?) among them, and also to eat up the new harvest just ready which the poor things have gone from here to help gather. Desolation goes with the army everywhere, for the soldiers have to eat, and as they do not find their pay enough, they just help themselves to whatever they can find.

"The dispensary work we often feel to be the most difficult of all, for we get so many strangers who want medicine but very often do not want the Gospel, and will make any excuse to get off, if possible, before the service. But in this work we were encouraged the other day—a man came from the Ghamara tribe, to hear the teaching. Some other man from there had been here, and among his own people had repeated what he had heard, with the result that this man came to hear also. It is very good to hear of the living seed being carried about in this way.

"Classes have increased too; the class I had for little girls we divided about three months ago, Miss de la Camp taking half, and already the two halves are good classes. The class I think I am most fond of and hopeful about, is the Sunday Class of Moorish girls. Girls from the Sewing Classes and from Miss de la Camp's Reading Classes all unite, and we have together a very un-English Sunday School. The children are quick at

learning hymns and texts, and surely minds that are being stored with Scripture truths now, can never become hard and bigoted like their fathers and mothers. A while ago during the lesson, a girl lately come to the class asked, "But who is that Jesus Christ you talk about?" Before I had time to answer, another child who has been a long time with us said, "Why, don't you know, He is the Son of God, the Saviour!" That was the answer of a Mohammedan girl. May the truth she has in her head find its way into her heart!

"Our Lord has met all our financial need, and has Himself been with us. Though, while looking back, one feels how much more might have been done and how much more faithfully the work accomplished might have been done, yet it has been a year of blessing. We often thank God for the high honour put upon us of being allowed to preach Christ to those who have never heard, and of bringing Gospel light to those sitting in darkness and the shadow of death."

CASABLANCA.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have removed from this station to Tangier during the past year. Some of the workers have suffered from severe feverish attacks, but we are thankful there has been nothing more serious.

The hospital alluded to in Dr. Grieve's report is one that is being built by the kindness of Mr. Oliver, of Edinburgh (Dr. Grieve's father-in-law), and which is afterwards to be rented by the N.A.M. We trust this fresh departure may be productive of great temporal and spiritual benefit to the natives of that locality, and bring much glory to God.

Dr. Grieve :—"Owing to the advent of new workers we have had more help in the work than in any previous year. It has been a real pleasure and a joy, during the latter half of the year, to have concentration of effort in one place, and each one gladly and regularly attending to his own work. I felt this a considerable relief, because it was just during the latter half of the year that there was an increased demand upon my time and attention in making preparations for hospital building. Every afternoon it was necessary that I should be in the garden assisting Mr. Oliver by explaining matters to the workmen and attending to orders for building material, etc. Either Mr. Nott or Mr. Jones was with Mr. Oliver in the forenoons. The actual building of the hospital commenced on the 1st December, 1897, and was pretty well on by the time Mr. Oliver left for home in March, 1898; since that time I have had to superintend matters alone. It was therefore a relief to me to observe that our forenoon dispensary work was always done so harmoniously and with such good spirit. Some forenoons we were very busy, our numbers varying from fifty to above seventy.

"Hitherto the dispensary door had been open all the morning, and we noticed that nearly two-thirds of the people came after the preaching was over, and thus I felt we were missing the mark; our object being not merely to doctor the people, but mainly to get them under the sound of the Gospel. In order to remedy this we had the door shut at a certain hour, no one being admitted after then. At first the attendance fell, but in a short time we had just as many; and the work was more satisfactory, as most of the people heard the Gospel. During the month in which we introduced the new order of things we recorded practically 1,000 patients—old and new. Of course we did not have so many attending all the year round, but I find we had an average daily attendance of exactly twenty-three people.

"During the first half of the year, Misses Sexton and Watson most frequently spoke with the people in the waiting-room; but during the latter half of the year this work was taken up by Messrs Jones and Nott for men and Miss Dunbar for women, while the Misses Sexton and Watson attended to the dispensary. The uniformity of our Gospel message from the lips of varied speakers must be a grand testimony in its favour. Such uniformity is not found among Moslems, even learned ones, regarding their religion. They have scarcely one tenet regarding which there is unanimous agreement; for instance,

some will claim that Mohammed will intercede for them, while others again will deny it at once.

"The acquisition of the hospital, through the generosity of Mr. Oliver, puts an end to a long-felt need, and although it will be some time yet before it is ready, we feel that the prospect of it is in itself sufficient to give an impetus to our work and fresh encouragement to our hopes."

Mr. H. Nott :—"It is with thankfulness to God, who has safely brought me to the end of my first year's stay in this country, I am able to record that, although frequently hindered by attacks of fever, He has helped and blessed in everything I have set my hand to do.

"The greater portion of my time has been taken up with the study of the language, and gradually the people and work have become more interesting and encouraging. For seven months or more I have been able in a simple manner to preach Christ, and Him crucified, to Moors and Jews who come to the dispensary morning by morning. Some of these are from town; others from the surrounding country or districts of three or four days' journey off. Among the Jews here in Casablanca, we have some who know the truth and confess that we are right, and that the Lord Jesus must be the Messiah, and yet are kept back by the fear of man or love of gain. But on the other hand there are Jews who question and deny everything that we present to them; these give us great trouble at times.

"We rejoice to see the spacious building of our new hospital now nearing completion after much toil and difficulty; our dear friend Mr. Oliver, of Edinburgh, has not only given the hospital, but also his time and talent, and till within a month ago, from early morning till after sunset, he was busily engaged directing the work through an interpreter. In the mornings, when Dr. Grieve was not able to come out, I was glad to be there, after my work at the dispensary, and help as much as I could with my Arabic. This gave me a splendid opportunity to make friends with the workmen, and often in their leisure-time I was able to tell them of the Lord Jesus. To some who were readers I gave gospels and tracts, which were greatly appreciated.

"We praise God for the work He has called us to, we thank Him for the joy He gives in His service, we rejoice together in His keeping power, and we bless God that He gives grace to keep 'the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.'"

Algeria.

Five Stations, fifteen Missionaries, and three Helpers.

DJEMAA SAHRIDJ.	ORAN.	CONSTANTINE.	CHERCHEL.	ALGIERS.
<i>Occupied 1881.</i>	<i>Occupied 1885 for a time; re-occupied 1896.</i>	<i>Occupied 1886.</i>	<i>Occupied 1890.</i>	<i>Occupied 1891.</i>
Miss J. Cox.	Miss A. Gill.	Mr. & Mrs. J. Lochhead.	Miss L. Read.	Mr. E. Cuendet.
„ K. Smith.	„ O. Hodges.	Miss Lochhead.	„ D. Day.	Mrs. E. Cuendet.
<i>Missionary Helpers.</i>		„ Colville.	—	Miss E. Smith.
M., Mme., & Mlle. Rolland.	—	„ Granger.	—	„ A. We'ch.

The number of labourers in Algeria remains precisely the same as in the previous year, and the same stations are occupied. We did not think it advisable to increase our number in the face of the fact that there was still considerable jealousy manifested against English Missionaries by certain sections of the French Press, who are wont to style us either “The Salvation Army” or “The English Methodists.”

Notwithstanding these occasional somewhat fierce attacks, we are thankful to record that there has been distinct progress all along the line.

DJEMAA SAHRIDJ.

The hearts of the workers at this station have been much cheered during the past year by signs of the Spirit's working in their midst. A new Mission Hall has also been erected, principally through the efforts of Miss K. Smith, which meets a long-felt want. The following report by Miss J. Cox gives details of this work which is full of interest.

Miss J. Cox :—“ Having been asked to give something of a ‘*résumé*’ of the work at this station, our first thought is one of praise to our Heavenly Father for all His wonderful dealings with us His children, also with ‘those other sheep’ of His that He has this year brought into the true fold. Our dear French helpers have been very useful to us in a variety of ways, and not the least so by their consistent Christ-like lives before the natives; while Mme. Rolland has given good help among the sick, also in the classes held for the women and girls. We find also in Mons. Rolland a very substantial aid in all kinds of repairs which this house is continually requiring, also in building the new ‘Salle.’

“We had plenty of work during the early part of the year, meetings, etc., going forward as usual, but nothing very especial after the movement among some of the lads the previous autumn, when our friends will remember that several of these lads professed their faith in Christ. We had some very happy times evangelising, Miss Smith taking Mme. Rolland, and going off for several days in the direction of Dellys, and visiting many places where the Gospel was absolutely unknown; while Mons. Rolland and I visited the surrounding villages and continued the work of the station. The attention is wonderful wherever we go, and we doubt not that God has a people for Himself among these villages far and near.

“Many friends have heard about the new Mission Hall that Miss Smith commenced after her return, with a view of employing the new converts, and also of having a suitable place for meetings, as the numbers had so greatly increased. This ‘Salle,’ or as we call it, ‘Akham U'tezallith’ (House of Prayer), was opened a few weeks ago, shortly after the three days of very blessed helpful meetings held by Dr. Elder Cumming, Rev. F. Paynter, and Rev. J. J. Luce, which we were privileged

to attend in Algiers. When there, we spoke of our desire to open the Hall, and several friends promised to be with us for the occasion. Dr. Guinness was in Algiers at this time, and to our great joy came also, and presided at the meetings. Everyone seemed pleased with the Hall; it certainly did look nice with the French texts (white letters upon a red ground), the dear Keswick motto, ‘Tous un en Christ,’ over the little platform, while lovely moss and wild-flowers filled the window-ledge, etc.

“The inauguration meeting was delightful, God was among us. We were rejoiced to have Miss Trotter with us, she spoke at the women's meeting by translation, about fifty Kabyle women and girls being present. In the evening, at the men's meeting, our little Hall was full; Mons. Cuendet had written a special Kabyle hymn for the occasion. We had several addresses, from Dr. Guinness, Mons. Cuendet, also the French Pastor of Tizi-Ouzou. It was beautiful to see the attention of the natives, and to hear Dr. Guinness propose the possibility of an even larger place in the future. But the crowning joy of all was on the Friday morning, when we all went down to a lovely old mill stream, and three more of our dear lads professed their faith in the Lord by baptism. We should have liked you, dear friends, to have seen them step forward in turn and very simply but clearly confess their faith in Christ, and their reason for taking the present step. In the evening these three lads joined us around the Lord's table; it was a blessed moment for all.

“I forgot to mention that only one family appeared at the French meeting, but all of them, father, mother, and two little daughters, professed to give themselves to the Lord.

“And so the work goes forward, and the Lord is calling out slowly but surely a people for Himself among these Kabyle mountains.”

ORAN.

Miss Gill and Miss Hodges began work in this large city in January, 1897, upon their removal from Tlemcen by request of the French Government. During their first year's residence here they were not able to inaugurate much work, but of late the way has opened up in many directions, and their hands are now full. There is a large and important field of labour among Arabs, Spaniards, and French, who number altogether about a hundred thousand.

Miss Gill:—"Last year can only be reckoned as one of very small beginnings. It took time to get entrances into homes and to find children willing to come for classes. During the first few months we only had two small classes of Arab girls in different parts of the town, and a third for Jewish children. This year, in answer to prayer, the Lord has given us more openings. Since March we have been able to rent a small shop with room adjoining in St. Antoine, quite close to the Arab town. It is connected with the old Gendarmerie, which is now rented out in single apartments. Over eight families—Spanish, Arab, and Jewish—live there. This makes the shop a good centre. We are praying that the way may be opened for evening meetings to be held there. It is very sad to think that there is no open proclamation of the Gospel to these people who are in such darkness.

"Miss Hodges has recently started a class for Arab boys; the numbers are slowly increasing. The first Friday only two came; now there are eight names given in. The boys have just asked that they might come on Tuesday afternoons as well, Tuesday and Friday being half-holidays in the French

school for Arab boys. They can *read* and speak French, which makes it easier to teach them.

"Sundays and Thursdays we have classes for Spanish and French girls. These are not the easiest classes to manage, as there are difficulties without and within. Stones are thrown at the doors and boys scream outside; inside, some of the girls are protesting because we do not speak of the Virgin Mary every time. Mme. Servien conducts the Thursday class. With the class for Jewish children on Wednesday afternoons we have now seven classes a week. The attendances are not very large. Now and again there are good numbers, but with children so undisciplined and ignorant we would rather have more classes and fewer children attending. These classes have opened up homes for visiting among Jews and Arabs. The people here are mostly very ignorant, poor, and wicked.

"One of our greatest cheers and encouragements lately have been our meetings together for prayer. On Monday afternoons we meet at Mme. Monod's for Bible study and prayer; then on Wednesday morning at eight o'clock either at the *salle* or in our house. The latter is specially for those engaged in work, to pray for a revival and for further openings for the work of God here."

CONSTANTINE.

This is the name of the Eastern province of Algeria, of which the city of Constantine is the capital. Its ancient name was Cirta. It has had a long and chequered history. The city contains a large Arab population, and amongst these, as also amongst the French, Mr. and Mrs. Lochhead, Miss Lochhead, and the Misses Colville and Granger have been telling of man's lost condition, and "God's remedy for sin." Children's classes and various gatherings for adults have afforded many precious opportunities of witnessing for Christ.

Mr. Lochhead, whose report we publish, has only been in Constantine four years, and these are generally the most trying years; doubtless our friend's varied efforts will be much better appreciated as time goes on.

Mr. J. Lochhead:—"It is with feelings of true thankfulness to God that we look back upon the past year. We have been more conscious of the Master's presence with us in the work during the year, and we have seen more response to the truth on the part of the people.

"The visiting has been carried on all the year, with the exception of a short time in the summer, and we have received an increasing number of visits from the people at our house.

"The classes for children, Arabs, Jews, and French, have been conducted as usual, with an attendance of from ninety to a hundred weekly.

"A meeting for Europeans was held for some months during the winter at our house on Sunday evenings. There was an average attendance of nine or ten, and the Gospel address in French was listened to with the greatest attention. We hope to carry on this meeting during the coming winter and attempt the same thing another evening for the Arabs. Some of the French people who attended the meetings manifested real concern about their salvation, and our servant (a young French-

woman who has been with us over four years) professed conversion.

"Hassoua, the Arab whose case has been mentioned several times, is apparently in much the same condition as ever.

"In October last we had the great pleasure of a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Michell of Tunis. I invited some of the better educated Arab men to meet Mr. Michell and we trust the seed sown may yet bear fruit.

"I may refer to the spiritual quickening which a number of our missionaries profess to have experienced during the past year, and we should like to add our united testimony to the same experience. We have been led to devote more time to prayer, both for ourselves and for the people, and we feel more the necessity of honouring the Holy Spirit in all things. We believe these are the forerunners of a work of grace among the unconverted around.

"We had a helpful visit from Mr. E. L. Hamilton, of Bath, who stayed with us for four days. Mr. Luce, of Gloucester, also spent a Sunday in Constantine this spring, and we had a helpful time with him. Mr. Glenn's cheering visit was also much enjoyed."

Dr.

TO BALANCES in Hand, May 1st, 1897.

AT HOME.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
General Purposes		17	12	3							
Designated Purposes	346	13	10								
					364	6	1				

ABROAD.

At Various Stations					332	8	1				
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696 14 2

TO RECEIPTS.

FOR GENERAL PURPOSES—

Donations	3,592	9	3								
Publications	66	9	0								
Sundry Receipts	253	16	9								
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES					3,912	15	0				

FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES—

Specially Supported Missionaries											
Donations	1,487	4	7								
Hospitals at Tangier											
Donations, etc.	344	6	3								
Profit on Exchange	85	1	6								
Morocco Industrial Institute and Orphanage											
Special Gifts towards purchasing Premises	1,650	0	0								
Profit on Exchange on Money spent to date	539	14	5								
Various Designated Objects and Persons											
Donations, etc.	2,023	18	2								
Profit on Exchange	119	13	5								
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES					6,249	18	4				

TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR ALL PURPOSES **10,162 13 4**

MEMORANDUM—£500, bequeathed for the maintenance of a bed in Tangier Hospital,
is invested in mortgages.

£10,859 7 6

We have examined the above Account with the Books and Vouchers at the

W. SOLTAU ECCLES, *Hon. Treasurer*,
EDWARD H. GLENNY, *Hon. Secretary*

Mission.

MAY, 1897, TO 30TH APRIL, 1898.

Cr.

DIRECT EXPENDITURE FOR MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Missionaries' Personal Allowances, General and Special	3,660	15	6						
Outfits for New Missionaries	37	10	0						
Missionaries' Personal, Rent, Repairs and Furniture	812	13	7						
Helpers engaged in direct Missionary Work	307	16	7						
							4,818	15	8

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

By Rents, etc., of Premises for Mission Work	509	17	9						
" Furniture for Mission Purposes	65	9	7						
" Teachers of Languages and Books	190	8	4						
" Travelling and Freight	408	8	8						
" Relief of Poor and Food	136	18	8						
" Wages of Native Servants for Mission Work	87	16	5						
" Sundries, including Postages and Stationery	100	3	2						
							1,489	2	7
" Purchase of Premises for Morocco Industrial Institute and Orphanage, { including £539 14s. 5d. Profit on Exchange on Amount already spent }							1,629	16	7

WORKING EXPENSES OF MEDICAL MISSIONS.

By Rent, Repairs and Furniture	191	9	9						
" Wages of Native Servants	97	13	11						
" Drugs and Instruments	233	12	7						
" Food, Firing, and Relief	161	14	4						
" Sundries, including Travelling, Freight, Postages, etc.	24	5	3						
							708	15	10

TOTAL DIRECT EXPENDITURE FOR MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK

8,656 10 8

OTHER EXPENDITURE.

PUBLICATIONS.

By Printing and Binding "NORTH AFRICA'S," and Electros	294	15	10						
" Postage and Carriage	75	8	2						
" Share of Office Salaries	79	0	0						
" Printing other Missionary Publications	28	3	6						
" Stationery and Sundries	13	9	9						
							490	17	3

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES.

By Travelling	47	5	2						
" Printing, Postage, and Stationery	37	18	2						
" Share of Office Salaries, etc.	65	10	0						
" Hire of Halls and Sundries	5	2	10						
							155	18	2

OFFICE.

By Rent, Taxes, and House Expenses	30	15	5						
" Salaries and Wages	356	16	6						
" Stationery, etc.	22	9	2						
" Postages and Telegrams	42	9	5						
" Sundries, including Travelling, Carriage, etc.	4	7	6						
							456	18	0

TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURE

1,103 11 5

TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR

9,760 2 1

BALANCES IN HAND, APRIL 30th, 1898.

At HOME, for General Purposes	2	18	2						
" " " Designated Purposes	346	19	10						
							349	18	0
Abroad at Various Stations							749	7	5

1,099 5 5

£10,859 7 6

See, and with the Statements received from the Missionaries, and find it correct.

ARTHUR J. HILL, VELLACOTT & CO.,

Chartered Accountants, 1, Finsbury Circus, E.C.
August 16th, 1898.

[For Notes on General Cash Account, see last page.]

CHERCHEL.

The *Jol* of the Carthaginians, and the *Julia Cæsarea* of the Romans, who made it the capital of Mauritania, is now a town of about four or five thousand, of whom the greater part are Arabs. Miss Read and Miss Day have large classes of children, and have been greatly cheered in their work during the past year. We are not allowed to do school work in French colonies, but this evangelising of the children by means of hymns, texts, and Bible lessons is a work the importance of which cannot be over-estimated.

Miss L. Read :—"As one's thoughts go back upon the past year, the first is of praise and a cry of Ebenezer! He has been our help in sunshine and shadow, in light and darkness. In looking back one cannot see great things done, only a routine of classes, visiting, seeing to sick people, etc., but this is work that causes much serious thought and many heartaches.

"There is a tendency at times to feel it is no use giving the message to those who hear again and again of the Lord Jesus, the Saviour of sinners, and will not accept Him; but we, as ambassadors for Christ, should be filled with hope and courage. As we look on Yamina and see her bright, fearless witness for Christ, God's glowworm, shining in the darkness, and very noticeable because of her solitary position, we would, like Paul, thank God and take courage.

"When we commenced last winter's work it was with a great longing for some definite results. We had heard of the blessing in Kabylia and we did want to see our people, too, confessing Christ. In direct answer to prayer, the Lord arranged some meetings in Algiers, where we could unitedly plead with Him for a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit, and He was present in the meetings in great power. With renewed courage and

faith we returned to Chercell, and found the visiting, which had had so many thorns for us, was more hopeful now; we have a few women not only anxious to listen, but enquiring from their hearts after the Way of Life. Before, they all seemed so callous about their wicked lives; but now there is a difference—the Lord is showing them their sinfulness.

"The only new departure in the work during the year is the class for elder girls on Tuesday afternoons. We regretted so much the girls who, having veiled, had to leave us at Christmas, some of them had come regularly for six years. We went to their mothers and asked that they might come on Tuesdays, promising that the gate should be open that they might slip in unobserved, and that there should be no younger ones present to talk of, and thus compromise them. They came for a few times with their fathers' consent, and then ceased, until we offered to teach them crochet as an inducement; now we have twelve who seem to be coming regularly. It is so contrary to their customs when once veiled, and they all have work to do at home. Some of them are only eleven years old, and find it hard to be confined to one room and a small courtyard.

ALGIERS.

Mr. E. Cuendet, who much misses the help and stimulus of a fellow-worker, has nevertheless laboured on with painstaking diligence during the year. The Kabyles resident in Algiers are his special field; these have been continuously visited, and the efforts made to bring them under the sound of the Gospel have met with decided encouragement.

Our brother has also steadily laboured at his translation work. We rejoice that the greater part of the New Testament has been completed, and through the kindness of the British and Foreign Bible Society several books have already passed through the press.

The native women of Algiers are cared for by our two sisters, Miss E. Smith and Miss Welch. Their efforts are much appreciated by those amongst whom they labour, and we rejoice to know that God has been working here as elsewhere, and considerable blessing in many ways has rested on their efforts. We append reports from these workers.

Mons. E. Cuendet :—"The work of this last year has been, I believe, an advance on the previous years. After having received a blessing myself, a blessing came also upon the work, and for some weeks it was a real joy to see how the Holy Spirit was working, specially among the boys of my classes. Twelve boys, from thirteen to eighteen years old, professed to receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour. I immediately began a special Bible-class for them on Sunday afternoons to teach them as Christians, and for many weeks I had good reasons to believe that several of these boys were really true in their confession. But, alas! the Devil was not slow to begin his work of destruction. These poor boys are most of them working in the streets from morning till evening, either as shoeblacks or porters. Some of them had already formed the bad habit of gambling—but I did not know it—and it seems that after their confession of Christ they were tempted more than ever in that way, and were not strong enough to resist. Then came the advice of people who persuaded them not to come to my meetings. One of

them who I think was really converted was forbidden by his father to come again. The day after he gave himself to the Lord he came to my house and told me, 'Now I am very happy, very happy!' Amongst all those boys who professed to believe in Christ as their Saviour, only one young man, of eighteen years old, continues steadfast. I believe he is saved, but he is still very weak.

"One thing which has also greatly injured the work, and specially the classes of boys, is the 'Anti-Jewish troubles,' which began openly in Algiers last January. The natives do not like the Jews, and gladly join the French to fight against them. The 'Anti-Jewish' paper, which is published nearly every day, employs hundreds of native boys to sell it in the streets. So they prefer to do that rather than to come to the Bible-classes. Notwithstanding all the difficulties and deceptions we had with those boys, I firmly believe God has begun a good work in their hearts, and that the day will come when it will be openly shown.

"The meetings for men have been well attended this winter. Several students came pretty regularly, and have shown interest in the preaching of the Gospel. Many times my small hall has been quite full.

"In the Kabyle cafés, which I visit, as usual, I have generally been well received. I have many good opportunities to announce the Gospel in those cafés, and I often meet with interesting cases. But the work in those native establishments is increasingly difficult on account of gambling, which is becoming more frequent. It is very sad to see that most young men who come from Kabylia to this town soon become passionate gamblers.

"As to my translation work this winter, I have translated into Kabyle the two Epistles to the Thessalonians, the two to Timothy, Titus, Philemon, and the Epistle to the Hebrews. I have been helped by a young Kabyle who was for one year and a half at the Normal School."

Miss E. Smith and Miss A. Welch :—"Another Mission year has passed, and looking back we have very much to thank God for, both in our own souls and in our work. The difficulties of starting work are over, and we have now more houses open to us than we can visit. The women look for our coming, and reproach us when we do not return to see them within a reasonable time. Our excuse that others need to hear about Jesus only meets the true reply, 'And do we not need to hear also?' We are known now as the 'disciples of Jesus,' and are constantly greeted in the narrow native streets by some white-veiled woman, often a stranger to us, by the two words, 'Sidna Aisa,' *i.e.*, Lord Jesus. Everywhere we go the people listen to our message of pardon and deliverance, and nearly everywhere they own that the false prophet, even if he can take them to Paradise, has no power to set them free from the power and dominion of sin. 'Satan has bound us,'

they say, and they often look at us curiously and wonderingly when we preach Him Who came to set Satan's captives free.

"We have a class of native girls, numbering over twenty, who sing very brightly and seem to understand the teaching we give them.

"Both of the lads who were our servants when we were in Djemâa are now following Christ—an answer to prayer for which we give thanks. One of the girls of our class here professes to trust in Jesus, and although very ignorant, we think she is true. Another of the girls, who said she believes, has gone to live elsewhere, and we have lost sight of her for the present. Our class of French children is encouraging; we pray that they may truly believe that salvation is by faith in Christ Jesus, and that the *true* may overcome the *false* in their hearts. The poverty is very real this year, the anti-Jewish disturbances having unsettled trade. We have had to help both natives and colonists to get food.

"As we glance backward over the past year, it seems that we may mark it as a new era in the work in Algeria. The clouds are breaking. The breach made in the dead wall of Mohammedanism has been enlarged, and the workers here are expectantly looking for 'greater things.' Great and unlooked-for difficulties meet us at every turn, but ever since last autumn a new spirit has been amongst the workers—a spirit of believing hope for this people *now*. Only those who work among Mohammedans can fully understand how deep is our need of an unwavering faith in the fact that God is able *to-day* to raise the dead. We have just made a tour of the different mission stations in Kabylia. The impression left by what we heard and saw is, that in many parts there is a 'shaking,' a spirit of dissatisfaction with their own state among the people, and an earnest longing among the missionaries for the coming of that 'breath' of the Spirit that shall transform these 'dry bones' into an army of living men."

Regency of Tunis.

Three Stations, twenty-six Missionaries.

TUNIS.—Occupied 1887.

Mr. & Mrs. Michell.	Mr. Liley.	Miss Grissell.
Miss Case.	Mrs. Liley.	„ Lambert.
„ E Turner.	Miss A. Hammon.	„ M. Ericsson.
„ K. Johnston	„ M. Scott.	„ R. J. Marcusson.

SOUSA.—Occupied 1895.

Dr. & Mrs. Churcher.	Mr. W. Pope.
Mr. H. Webb.	Mrs. Pope.
Mrs. Webb.	„ N. Bagster.
Miss L. Gray.	„ A. Cox.

KAIROUAN,
Occupied 1897.

Mr. & Mrs. Cooksey.
Miss North.
„ Addinsell.

During the past year, some few alterations have been made as regards the work in this Regency. Miss Scott upon her return from England took up her residence in Tunis, instead of returning to Sousa. Two associate workers from Sweden, Miss Ericsson and Miss Marcusson, supported by the Foreign Mission Department of the Swedish Y.W.C.A., joined our band in Tunis the middle of April last. After visiting Sousa and other places in the locality, they have been led to settle at Bizerta, a town on the sea coast to the north of Tunis, with which it is connected by rail.

Miss Grissell is still detained in England in consequence of her mother's illness. She made a brief visit in October last to the scenes of her former labours, which she found helpful in many ways.

During the year a new station has been opened in the sacred city of Kairouan, lying inland from Sousa. The journey of about thirty-five miles was until recently made either by carriage or by a rough tramroad belonging to the Government. Now a new line of railway has been opened which will prove a great saving of both time and expense. Mr. and Mrs. Cooksey took charge of this station in October, 1897, and were joined by Miss North and Miss Addinsell, formerly of Tripoli.

TUNIS.

Many nationalities are found in this large city, and efforts are made to reach as many as possible. The Bible and book depôt in the town, with its hall and rooms, is a convenient centre for gospel work. Meetings are held here regularly for Jews, Arabs, Italians, and French, and occasionally for English sailors and others. Mr. Michell, who has been assisting at all these meetings, is now in England. The following reports will tell of what has been attempted in the various departments of Christian service.

Mr. Geo. B. Michell :—“ My work for this year was marked by the presence and help of Mr. A. V. Liley, who arrived in May, 1897, and who, with his wife and sister-in-law, Miss Hammon, made a most welcome and helpful addition to our party.

“ Shortly after his arrival, Mr. Liley hired a coach-house, which he had cleaned and whitewashed and furnished with chairs, and there showed the lantern to the natives who came on one, two, or three evenings a week, according to the season of the year. I helped in this work, generally explaining the pictures while Mr. Liley worked the lantern. We usually had fair audiences, who listened attentively, though we were also interrupted by captious objections.

“ The Bible Depôt, and the Italian, Arabic, and English meetings held there, were also kept up all the year. Miss Case's Italian work, though not without its shadows, including the death of two or three of the converts, has been blessed with steady progress. I have helped in this work too during the latter part of the period under review. I have not been able to do much more, though, than to give a short address on Sunday evenings, after which I went to the Arabic gathering in the room behind the hall. The attendance at the Italian meetings was very good, the hall being generally well filled, and sometimes closely so. The attendance in the Arabic room was very fluctuating. Brother Liley stood at the end of the lane leading from the main road to the door, and invited the passers-by to come in, generally handing them a tract or leaflet at the same time. In spite of the prohibition of tract distribution, this was never interfered with, and our brother was thus able to disseminate a considerable quantity of Gospel literature.

“ I have been deeply thankful for the development of my literary work this year. I have, by our Father's help, been enabled to bring out new editions of my two twelve-paged lithographed tracts, and of my leaflet, ‘ A Question and Answer ’; also of Mr. Harris' eight-paged tract, ‘ You Need a Saviour. ’ I have also brought out a new four-paged leaflet, ‘ What is “ The Word ” of God ? ’ All these needed re-writing for the lithographer, and the money for their publication has been graciously provided, so I have been able to send packets to a number of workers in different stations and to some other mission fields also.

“ This year saw the publication of the Arabic translation of Anselm's ‘ Cur Deus Homo ? ’ at Beyrout, the cost having been kindly borne by the ‘ Religious Tract Society. ’ I have heard that this work has been adopted in some of the theological seminaries, both of Protestants, Romanists, and Greeks. I pray earnestly that it may be much used of God, as I believe it to be most valuable and true, being based on a true appreciation of the character of *sin*.

“ To pass to a general view of the work in Tunis, we have had trials, hindrances, sorrows, and disappointments, but we have also had encouragements and great joys.

“ The French authorities have been drawing the chain tighter round us, and adding restriction after restriction, so that the outlook is not bright from that quarter. But our Heavenly Father has not allowed our complete repression yet. But we need constant prayer for wisdom and keeping, that we do not overstep the law, nor, on the other hand, miss possible open-

ings and opportunities ; and that the door which God has so graciously opened, and kept open so long in Tunis, may not be altogether closed to Gospel work of all kinds.

“ We have had disappointments in some apparently sincere enquirers, and two or three women and girls that gave every hope of true conversion have been removed by death. But the women's classes and girls' school have been kept up and have given much cause for hope of blessing to come.

“ The brightest feature of the year, I think, has been the growth of grace and brotherly love among the various workers, a decided increase in spirituality, and a deeper desire to be conformed more and more to Christ in all things. We have had two or three conferences—more or less informal. But one we had with Mr. Hamilton, of Bath, was a memorable time for many of us, and the following occasion of this meeting sealed the work in all. I refer to the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Paynter, Dr. Elder Cumming, and Mr. Luce to Tunis. We then had four days' conference in Mrs. Flad's house. A large number of brethren and sisters coming from other stations to join us, and we had much joyful fellowship—not without deep heart-searchings, too—and all felt distinctly drawn nearer to the Lord and to one another. I feel sure that *this* is the most important, and also the most hopeful feature of the whole year's work and service for Christ in Tunis.”

Mr. Liley :—“ While thinking over details of the past year's work, in order to send you a brief report, my mind seems specially to revert to the text given us by Dr. Guinness before taking farewell, only last week. ‘ Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in *hope* through the power of the Holy Ghost. ’ It seems to me that these words contain much of the secret which enables us to preach the Gospel to Mohammedans year after year, without the joy of seeing a great turning to the Lord and acceptance of the *only* Mediator between God and man.

“ During the past year in spite of increased restrictions in distributing the Word, we have yet causes for encouragement and thankfulness. Lantern meetings have attracted Arabs to the Hall week by week, and the pictures have prepared the way for the Gospel. In addition to Biblical views, texts and hymns in Arabic have been thrown on the screen, which most of the men were sufficiently well-educated to read for themselves. If anyone appeared likely to interrupt or argue he was asked to wait until the conclusion, and was then invited to bring any questions to the Bible Depôt. This plan answered admirably.

“ I have received daily visits from Arabs who were led by various reasons to come to my house. One of the most constant is a young Arab who has received a fair education ; he reads well and is able to quote many passages of Scripture by heart. I have often read and prayed with him, and seen evidence that he believed all the truths of Christianity, but was afraid to make confession. He came in one evening recently and said he could resist no longer, and wished to write and sign a paper stating he was a Christian. (This paper is in my possession). His convictions appear very real and he has since assisted me at the Bible Depôt when speaking to Arabs, not being ashamed to own Christ as his Saviour.

"Whit-Monday was a memorable day. I baptised four men and two women, Italians, and received them into the visible Church of Christ."

Miss E. Turner :—"At first, when asked to write a Report, it seemed that there was nothing to say in addition to one's occasional diaries, except that things had been going on as usual. Yet after reflection and prayer it seems incumbent on me to say that there has been, I firmly believe, *progress*. To us it might be less apparent than to one who had visited the field some years ago and now re-visits it—for as we plod on day by day, it is almost imperceptible. Indeed, the contrary currents run so strongly sometimes, that one almost loses belief in the great fact that the tide is surely, however slowly, *rising*. The factors which go to help on the progress of the Gospel are many, though often passed by in our calculations.

"Though Tunisia is behind Algeria in this respect, civilization and education have already done much in preparing the way of the Lord.

"We are, unfortunately, hindered from making large efforts for the Christian and secular education of boys and girls as we would fain do. But the feeble attempts already made justify our going to the end of our tether in this matter. There are some girls of the better-class houses who wish to learn French, but are never allowed out, so I have undertaken two or three such, explaining to them that the only condition of my teaching them is that they will let me read God's Word to them. Thus we trust by God's blessing to influence them mentally and spiritually. May He give the increase. Our time is fairly well filled every day, as in addition to outside work, we have the care and teaching of a little Arab girl, about whom I hope to write later on.

"Our porter-boys' class has also been a cause for hope and continued effort. We are hoping to do something in the way of giving them a little general education, as well as the Bible teaching, hymns, etc. The chief difficulty is in the boys themselves, they have so little application or enterprise. We should be glad of prayer for them; they are mostly Berbers. One or two have a very clear perception of the truths we have so long been trying to teach them. It really seems that now, instead of repeating *words* they have grasped the fact that it concerns them personally and really does make a difference in the lives of those who follow the Light.

"The visiting continues, and is, with a few exceptions, the *most difficult* part of the work. We are rejoiced in meeting the few who like to hear and who want to be taught more, but our hearts are often torn with the resistance, blasphemy, and superstition of others. It is just here that education can do so much, and which urges us on to do all we can to save the rising generation from accepting such garbage as religious truth! How we do need your prayers that God will strengthen our hearts and fill us with His Spirit as we go in and out of these Arab harems. These people never can, never will, see the Truth until their minds are enlightened and their souls convicted of sin."

Miss K. Johnston :—"This year has been much like other years of late in Tunis, my chief work being visiting, classes, and helping in the little school for Arab girls begun by Mrs. Michell and Miss Hammon. I have been in the habit for some time of going to help in that work three mornings a week. We do thank God for this privilege and means of getting hold of the children. How hard the soil is, and how dense their minds!"

Miss A. M. Case :—"This past year has been one of exceptional trial and exceptional blessing. The sadness has, however, been swallowed up in gladness, for throughout the twelve months the Lord has manifestly been in our midst, and has worked, with signs following.

"One very encouraging sign in several dear converts, has been their readiness to give up alcohol and tobacco, when shown that these things were injurious to themselves or a bad example to others. None have been *constrained* to forego these indulgences, of course, except by the love and self-sacrifice of Christ; but their voluntary self-denial has been a proof to us of their reality, and has been made a blessing to sceptics who could appreciate just that evidence of the power of Christ.

"The Sunday school, very difficult to form, because of the prejudice against Protestants, was begun last autumn with the five children of one convert, and has wonderfully grown and prospered under Miss Githam's devoted care. There are now fifty names on the books, and of these about twenty, who can read and write, compose the senior classes.

"Recently, owing to other workers leaving Tunis, we have undertaken the care of two little girls, to be trained for our Master, instead of their being handed over to the Romanist sisters, and have also consented to receive daily a dozen or so of those children whose parents will not allow them to go to any Roman Catholic school.

"We are very thankful to have some 'unpaid helpers' in the work. Signor Anfuso, baptized last October, has given us for nine or ten months invaluable assistance, devoting afternoons and evenings to the Lord's work or study for it. The time has now come for him to leave Tunis, as it is impossible for him to maintain himself while helping in this way, and he feels called to give himself altogether to Gospel effort among his people. May the Lord provide for him a sphere chosen by Himself!

"We can also always count upon the voluntary aid of our dear motherly servant and her husband. She goes visiting with us, whenever we have a difficult case to see, and she is sure to win her way, disarming prejudice and receiving a warm invitation to come again. This she is not slow to do, nor to find opportunities for herself in other households, so that we hope to see her much used in this service. Her husband, our depôt-keeper, is very thankful indeed for the privilege of working in any way for the Saviour, and for a long time has been a most faithful helper, with only half-a-crown a week as a salary (?). He is now to receive a little more, as long as the Lord sends it to us.

"Fifteen meetings and classes in various languages have been held in the depôt weekly during the winter, not to mention the informal gatherings of English sailors who from time to time have made all of us glad by their attendance.

"Besides the depôt, we now have another shop for the sale of Scriptures in the Arab quarter. This is not a fixture. From time to time we occupy fresh shops in other parts of the town, and thus, while keeping our central premises always open, we seek to reach the thousands who never, perhaps, pass down the street in which they are situated. As we are forbidden to give the Word of God to the people, we regard this and Signor Anfuso's efforts in two other towns to sell the Scriptures as very important parts of the work, and we pray for God's blessing to rest upon these attempts to reach the various nationalities, some of them, oh! so thirsty for the Water of Life."

Miss M. Scott :—"Thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee.' Truly this year it has been by a way not passed heretofore, though all along were the proofs that the Father was caring. Sickness, long weakness, and a time of waiting till the Lord sent me forth again with renewed strength, filled up nine months of the year, and then in His great goodness the privilege to be His witness in dark North Africa was again granted. Very gladly and gratefully did I settle down in Tunis at the beginning of February. After the sixteen months spent in Sousse it was almost like making a new beginning; but gradually one and another of the old friends were found out. Though it was a pleasure to receive a

kindly welcome, how much rather would one have found them anxious to hear again the words of life and truth! A few new houses were also opened, and one morning in the week was spent in the girls' school.

"Spring being one of the two seasons when itinerating is possible, Miss Cox and I had it laid on our hearts to reach out to some of the many still in this province who have never heard God's message of love and pardon. This we were permitted to do, and we have just returned, full of thankfulness for all His care and guidance."

Miss A. Hammon :—"In looking back on the past year, I have to praise God for the brightest and happiest I have yet spent in North Africa. Perhaps one of the chief reasons for this may be that the language, though by no means entirely conquered, no longer presents the great difficulties it did during the first year or two, so that in classes, visiting, etc., I trust that my work has been much more efficient.

"The branch of work which has engrossed most of my time and attention during this year has been our school for Arab girls. This has been under Mrs. Michell's direction, and it is through the kindness of her friends that the money has been

provided for rent, school materials, etc., but she has kindly allowed me a large share in the teaching and management. We rented a room in an Arab house, and began with quite a small number (five girls who used to come to Mrs. Michell's class last year), and this slowly increased till we had an attendance of nineteen, and were glad of the help of some of our fellow-missionaries. During the early months of the winter a severe epidemic of smallpox raged, which prevented the regular attendance of the children, and carried off two of our little ones; and we at one time feared that the school would have to be closed. Happily, this was not the case. These Arab girls are taught French, reading, writing, needlework, etc.; but this is always made subservient to the teaching of Bible truths, as it is our great aim to lead the children while young to give their hearts to the Lord and walk in His ways. We do not know of any direct conversions; but who can tell what the seed sown in their young hearts will yet bring forth? Some of the parents, though anxious for their girls to learn sewing, etc., do not wish them to be taught the truths of Christianity, and more than once we have been saddened by seeing the children forbidden any longer to come for fear that we should make them 'unbelievers in the prophet.'"

Sousa.

The work at this station has been carried on with unremitting ardour during the year, and through the Medical Mission large numbers of natives have heard of "a more excellent way" of obtaining salvation than by trusting in a dead prophet.

Some of the sisters, during their itinerating journeys in the south of the Regency have met with considerable opposition to their labours from the French officials; two of them have lately been (according to French law) condemned in their absence to fine and imprisonment, against which they have appealed. Something of this has been felt in Sousa itself. Christian work therefore, under these circumstances, is carried on with increased difficulty.

Dr. T. G. Churcher :—"The year has been one of steady work; not a single medical mission day, I believe, has been missed. For such good health I am deeply grateful to God.

"We have received 4,058 visits, thus showing a slight increase upon the previous twelve months; 2,082 of these were entered as new patients. The people came from all parts; with rare exceptions they are all Mohammedans, and frequently when forty or fifty are present there are not more than four or five from Sousa itself. The majority of our patients are suffering from syphilis, an illustration which we do not fail to press upon their notice, that sin inevitably brings judgment; many who come a second or third time assent to the truth preached, that Jesus is the Son of God and the sacrifice for sin. Some even silence their countrymen who oppose, thus proving that the Lord's word stands, that the seed sown before has not died but is springing up even now.

"Arabs often say, 'The Gospel came to you as the Koran to us; let each follow his own.' 'Not so,' we reply; 'the Gospel came not to us but to the Jews. Our fathers only received it when it was preached to them by missionaries, as we now preach it to you. Our fathers were converted to Christianity, and many of your fathers also were Christians, till the Arabs came, and, seizing them by the throat, cried, 'Sillem or die.' Not by choice, but by the sword and from fear of death your fathers became Mohammedans. Now, God has provided better things for you, and liberty is given to believe the Gospel and be reconciled to God by the blood of Jesus.'

"The Baraka has continued to give shelter to people from a distance, and 3,227 nights' lodging have been given; to a few urgent and needy cases we have been able to give food.

"Miss Gray has lovingly nursed many, and practical kindness has visibly softened many hearts. Miss Bagster and Miss

Gray have shared dispensing, and dressing of out-patients—no sinecure on a hot day, with a crowd of very dull and dirty souls.

"Messrs. Pope and Webb and Miss Cox have taken part in speaking to the people in the waiting-room, and Mrs. Churcher has helped everywhere, beside taking charge of a women's and a boys' class.

"My visits to Kairouan during the winter have been happy times, and a reaching out to the regions beyond, which I believe the Lord has blessed."

Mr. W. G. Pope :—"My principal work during the last twelve months is briefly as follows :—

"I. Helping Dr. Churcher at the Medical Mission. By this means we become acquainted with individuals, and it gives an excellent introduction to the various villages that we afterwards visit on our bicycles. We get hold of the names of some old patients and start our visits by calling on them. We thus consider the medical mission one of the most important keys to the evangelisation of Tunisia.

"II. Our next really valuable link with the people is our book-shop. Centred as it is, not absolutely in the busiest spot but in the thoroughfare leading thereto, hundreds pass it daily. Our sales are unimportant, but the shop is most useful for the distribution of Scriptures and tracts, and best of all as a *locale* for private talks. Some days we sit for hours without a person, and then for days running we have not five minutes quiet all the time we are there. Here, as at the medical mission Miss Cox, Bro. Webb, and myself take charge in order. Next Thursday we have our anniversary of one year at the shop, and the Lord has so graciously provided for its needs that we have decided to go on another year.

"III. Sunday French meetings are continued regularly. The attendance, however, fluctuates considerably. We are seldom without anyone, though often with but half-a-dozen. Very few attend regularly. Yet during the last six months some hundreds must have heard the Gospel. Our congregations are sometimes very mixed, and it is difficult to know exactly how to preach to them. The meeting is French, but there have been times when we have changed it to Italian altogether, owing to the little French understood by those present. Now and then we have only a group of French soldiers, and next Sunday perhaps about half-a-dozen young French Jews; and then, again, a group of Franco-Italian young ladies from a café. So the Lord has to take entire control over the meeting to suit it to the hearts present! Outwardly we have seen but little encouragement, but we believe it will not be long before we see some definitely step over the line.

"Of the two soldiers converted here last year one has been working for six months as colporteur with the Bible Society at Algiers, but the other, unhappily, has been lost to view.

"IV. Our itinerating this year has been considerably restricted owing to our reduction in numbers, but Kairouan has been opened, thus making a good balance against the loss. With the present work in Sousa we find it difficult to be absent for more than a day. We have, nevertheless, visited several places in the surrounding country, and scattered Gospels and tracts by post and by gift all through the Regency.

"On the whole we are encouraged to go forward, driven by lack of outward results to much prayer to God, and again by that prayer urged to more earnestness and faithfulness in declaring the Word to all around."

Mr. H. E. Webb :—"During the earlier part of the year we were able to do a considerable amount of itinerating in the villages around Sousa, and in these tours distributed some hundreds of copies of God's Word. We made regular visits also to the shops and houses in the town with the object of getting into personal contact with the men, and thus met with several interesting cases, some of which we have been able to follow up since.

"Mr. Pope and I started a class in our Arab house for the young porter lads of the town; this we carried on with great encouragement for a month or two, teaching the boys texts of Scripture and hymns beside their weekly lesson. Notwithstanding that we have tried several means for getting them back we have not succeeded, but we often are greeted in the street with a Scripture text or verse of hymn. More encouraging, however, has been a sewing class for poor Arab girls, started nearly six months ago by Mrs. Pope and Mrs. Webb. For a while, twice, and latterly, once a week, some dozen or more girls gather, and whilst sewing their various garments, listen to a talk or address from one or another, and appear to take in and remember very much of what is said. The visiting of the homes of these girls has opened other doors, and so hands are found all too full to prosecute the work."

Miss A. Cox :—"The web and woof of this year's weaving have been of very unequal threads, and the tapestry colours bright in contrast to the feebleness of our little band. Weakness, sickness, loss, difficulty, opposition, outward defeat, and hindrance on the one hand; and strength, healing, gain, joy, and victory, on the other.

"The French authorities are putting us under a continually increasing pressure in their determined hindrance of our 'propaganda,' and this has of necessity intimidated the natives and Europeans, so that some have feared to frequent our houses, classes, meetings, and Bible shop.

"Yet we praise God that an ever-deepening interest is being stirred in the hearts of not a few, and opportunities for Bible-reading and long conversations are constantly occurring.

"Funds for some time came in so slowly, that several times our doctor feared the medical mission must be closed. Yet, just at the last moment, the 'God who is rich unto all who call upon Him' interposed, and honoured our weak faith by supplying the immediate need.

"The itinerating this year was full of hope (though we were more withstood by the French than ever before), Moslems, Jews, and Europeans evincing a real desire to hear the truth.

"The Lord has graciously given us one soul among the Arab women, who seems to have a living hold on Christ as her Saviour and indwelling life.

"We also praise Him for rich blessing to our own souls, accorded by means of two conferences held at different times in Algiers and Tunis. With one heart and one voice we call upon our brethren and sisters, abiding at home, to pray for us. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest may send more labourers into His vineyard. Pray that the gold and silver, which are all His, may be given less sparingly to make His name known among men, His saving health among all nations.

"Pray, above all, for a mighty manifestation of the power of the Holy Ghost, that a rich harvest, among even Moslems, may be ready to gladden the eyes of the Master when He cometh."

Miss Bagster :—"As last year, much of my time has been taken up in the medical work. More and more we feel the great importance of this work, as it brings large numbers of both men and women under the sound of the Gospel, and opens the way for itinerating in the villages around. In nearly all the villages we are known as coming from the Doctor's at Sousa, and are welcomed.

"We have had trouble with the class for the little Arabs from the tents. Just before Christmas we had twelve to sixteen children every Friday, and we are always being asked 'Is to-day Friday,' or 'When is it Friday.' Suddenly the children disappeared, we never saw them about, and none came on Fridays. Then we heard they had been frightened away by being told they would be put in prison if they came to us. After a while we found one or two, and told them not to be frightened, no one could put them in prison for coming, and at last one or two came back to us, but the class has never been so large since.

"The class for other little girls still goes on, and it is encouraging to hear them repeating their texts and singing the little hymns, one tiny one of not quite three years old joining in.

"But the thing that has perhaps given us the most encouragement is the Women's class held on Friday afternoons. This year the attention has been very marked, and the women have seemed to try to understand what is said, and to learn the texts and hymns. Altogether they have appeared more intelligent, and it has been a pleasure to teach them. Then we have been greatly cheered by some of the women appearing to realise for the first time that they were sinners in need of a Saviour. We feel this is the first step, and are praying that some of them may find a Saviour in the Lord Jesus."

Miss L. M. Gray :—"The past year, as I review it, seems to me fuller than any previous one of tokens of God's faithfulness to me personally, and in connection with His work here.

"Most of my time is given to the dispensary and the Baraka, but Miss Cox and I have also started two classes during the year; one, of intelligent Jewish boys who came seeking to be taught. This class was a great pleasure to us. About a dozen lads joined, but suddenly all left and seemed so shame-faced and afraid of meeting us that we felt sure they had been forbidden to come. The other class, for Arab lads, almost suffered the same fate, when after Miss Cox's trial the report was spread abroad that all persons visiting our shop were liable to fine and imprisonment; but we saved a remnant of them by suggesting they should come to the house until the scare was over. Last Friday week a few ventured to meet us again in the shop, so now we hope to go forward."

KAIROUAN.

This is a new station since the issue of the last Annual Report. Mr. and Mrs. Cooksey (who are supported by the Bath Auxiliary) have taken charge of the work, and have associated with them Miss North and Miss Addinsell, who were previously in Tripoli. A medical work is carried on here, Dr. Churcher going over from Sousa every fortnight for the purpose. Previous to the French occupation in 1881 a Mission Station here would not have been possible, as, next to Mecca and Medina no city was so sacred in the eyes of Western Mohammedans. A Christian could not even enter the city without a special order from the Bey.

Kairouan bids fair to become a most important centre for Mission work, as from it a large district can be reached. Up to the present the missionaries have been greatly encouraged by the number of patients who have come for medicine, and the Word of God is being distributed over a wide area.

Mr. J. Cooksey :—“Two-thirds of this year has been spent in Kairouan, about sixty kilometres west of Sousa, which for twelve centuries had been practically closed to the Gospel, but the French occupation having removed the anti-European ban, and the Master having most strongly laid it upon our hearts to occupy it, Mr. McAlpine, of the Faith Mission, and I came here in the early days of September.

“The help of the Lord always fits the need, and we found it to be true in our case, when, in a strange city, which has strong antipathies to the Gospel, with a house to find which would be suited to the work, and conducive to health, and other items incident to pioneer work, we cast our burden upon the Lord and He fully undertook and supplied every need. As soon as we were comfortably settled, we were joined by two lady-workers from Tripoli. Dr. Churcher commenced to visit us fortnightly, and to conduct a Medical Mission in the house, which has been most successful. The majority of patients have been of the rough Bedouin class from the Atlas spurs, visible from the city. The long weary journeys on foot, donkey, or camel that these make to see the Christian doctor are most touching. In this way from one hundred and fifty to two hundred per month heard, in their native tongue, the wonderful salvation of God through Jesus Christ, and we have hope that some believed.

“We also opened a Bible shop to meet the reading element, and after a little petty persecution from the authorities, who for a few days arbitrarily closed it, we re-opened, and have been encouraged by the opportunities given for reading with the people the Word of God, discussing with students religious difficulties, and distributing and selling the Scriptures.

“But many who were friendly have ceased to be so, because unpleasant truths concerning the Lord Jesus had to be insisted upon, and also on account of our views concerning the prophetic mission of Mohammed and the pretended inspiration of the Koran.”

Miss North :—“I have a girls' class on Monday afternoons, which is held at the Medical Mission House. Nearly all of them live outside the city. There are eight who attend now pretty regularly. They were very wild and unruly at first, but of late they have become more manageable. They sew for a little time, and then have a short lesson and learn texts and hymns.

“I have another class on Wednesday afternoons in our own house for city girls who live near. They come fairly well, the attendance varying from three to seven. I am glad to say they are more orderly, kindly, and listen respectfully to our message; but we long to know that the words are entering their hearts and awakening them to see their great need as sinners.”

Miss S. L. Addinsell :—“My two boys' classes have been a source of alternating pleasure and anxiety. Sometimes the attendance and conduct is fairly good, and then for some unknown reason not a single boy will come at all for a week or two. The class that was formerly so unruly has somewhat improved since Mr. Cooksey kindly came to my assistance with his lantern and in other ways helped to subdue their turbulent spirits. In each class a few verses of Scripture and one or two hymns and choruses have found an entrance into their heads, for many of them are very quick and bright, and we can only leave it with the Master Himself to drive the words deep down into their hearts, and cause them to bring forth fruit in their lives.

“In visiting we usually meet with a kind reception. Two women in whom we have been deeply interested have died, and in each case a long, lingering illness gave special opportunities for putting before them repeatedly the way of salvation.

“In one house we found a woman who had been treated a long time ago by Dr. Churcher for her eyes; so she was quite ready to be open and friendly with us, and sends all her children to our classes. We can tell of no results—the reaping time has not yet come; but in due season we *shall* reap if we faint not. May the Lord keep us strong in Himself.”

Tripoli.

One Station, six Missionaries.

CITY OF TRIPOLI.—Occupied 1888.

Mr. and Mrs. Venables.

Mr. and Mrs. Reid.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper.

Tripoli is a province of the Turkish Empire. When the first two workers landed in 1888, they were warned of the difficulties of commencing mission work under Turkish rule, and were told that a fortnight would be the probable limit of their stay. But God, who had called His servants to initiate this work, has shewn that He is well able to sustain that which He has Himself begun.

During the year the Mission staff at this station has been reduced by two, Miss North and Miss Addinsell, who have gone to help in the work at Kairouan; but one fresh worker has gone out—Miss Bill—who has since been married to Mr. Cooper, so that the station is still one short of its original number.

There is a good and numerous attended Medical Mission carried on by Mr. Venables in the absence of a professional man. Mrs. Venables and Mrs. Cooper visit the Arab houses as regularly as circumstances permit, while not the least important agency, these Christian homes present an object lesson to the natives which they may daily study.

Christian work in Tripoli is confined to the city and its immediate suburbs. No European is allowed to live in any town or village outside of the oasis of Tripoli.

Mr. W. H. Venables.—“We are glad to record another year of the Lord’s mercies in keeping us in health, and in permitting us to be His witnesses in this town.

“This witness has been borne to those who attend the Medical Mission, to those who visit the book-shop, to those in homes visited, and to the girls in the sewing class, by reading to them out of God’s Word of His wonderful love and of the works and words of our Lord Jesus. Also by our testimony of what He has done, is doing for us, and will do for us.

“God grant that our lives lived and our deeds done may in no way belie our verbal testimony.

“There has been a slight increase in the attendance at the Medical Mission, the numbers being 3,723 men and 1,185 women, besides children brought by their parents. As the dispensary was open on 136 days, this gives an average attendance of thirty-six souls per day. The attendance naturally varies according to the season and the weather. The largest number on one day was sixty-one. To these the simple facts of man’s lost condition by nature and the state of condemnation in which he is in because of sin have been put; then the message of the Gospel of the grace of God has been delivered, emphasised by the testimony to the joy we have found in the Saviour we preach.

“The parable of the sower teaches that some seed falls on hard ground (here hardened by pride and self-righteousness); but some hearts, we believe, have been softened or prepared to receive the good seed—softened in answer to the prayers of many praying ones in the old country, and also by kindness shown to them concerning their bodily ailments. So we go on, sowing in faith, expecting to see the fulfilment of the latter part of the parable in the Lord of the Harvest’s own good time.

Mr. Wm. Reid.—“As I sit here at home in England, I feel very thankful that the Lord sent me to Tripoli. And as I look at the work to be done there, I earnestly desire to be back amongst the people for whom I have spent the last five years. We have had little encouragement as yet outside the promises, but I firmly believe that Tripoli has been blessed, and that great blessing is yet in store. God helping us, we will labour on in the patience and testimony of Jesus, believing that God will give the increase. This year has been the quietest that I have spent in Tripoli, because my work has been almost entirely at the Medical Mission and the shop, and only a little outside amongst the people at their shops.

“In the preaching at the Medical Mission I have had more joy than in previous years, but in the personal talks I have found much difficulty. The cause of this difficulty has, I believe, been that the people are specially warned against talking with me after the address. And again, some who are hardened against the truth and who attend whenever they are ill, make it a rule to prevent those who might be disposed to talk or listen from doing so. The patients, though generally so afraid of being spoken to personally, have been very attentive to the preaching, and have given tokens of having been impressed by it. And though we do not know of any positive result in the way of conversion, yet we believe that some have

been convinced of the truth, and pray that by the Holy Ghost they may be led to put their trust in the Lord Jesus.

“The work at the shop has been fairly well kept up. We have not been able to sell many books or tracts, yet numbers have called to inquire, and many have stopped to read passages from the open Scriptures displayed in the cases at the door. In this way a quiet testimony has been borne to the Truth in one of the busiest streets of the city, through which many of the better class of both Moslems and Jews pass daily.

“In the earlier part of the year a young sheikh (mentioned in my diaries) professed faith in the Lord Jesus. He has not given any very positive evidence of conversion as yet, though he insists strongly that he is a sincere believer, and I believe he knows something of the Bible. I rather think that he has been convinced of the truth; but, not daring to confess it openly, has been led to try to fit it in with the faith of Islam. We pray that he may be led on to genuine conversion and confession.

“Another young and intelligent Moslem has frequently visited me at the shop, and we have some hope that he is being influenced and will be led to decision.

“At the shop petty persecutions have not been wanting. Some have torn down texts from the walls, others have stoned me, and cursing has been a common occurrence. On one occasion one of the cases was smashed. Books and tracts have been burned in the street. Although this was in most cases the work of boys and young men, it is, in my estimation, evidence that the testimony of the open shop is making itself felt amongst the people.”

Mr. David J. Cooper.—“‘Dau’ ud, you always preach the same thing,’ said a sheikh the other day while reading the story of the deluge with me. We have read a good part of the Gospels together, and being my teacher, he gets the benefit of knowing my texts beforehand, so he has begun to notice that they always treat of sin and a Saviour. ‘Exactly,’ I replied, ‘for I want the people of Tripoli to know their sinfulness and God’s love in providing a way of escape through Sidna Aisa.’ Just a few days previously I was told something similar, and it is a matter for much thankfulness that some are beginning to realize the true object of our teaching. The old proverb, that ‘a constant dropping wears a hole in the hardest stone,’ contains an ever-stimulating lesson in perseverance, and I am confident that the only real way to wear a hole in men’s hardness and unbelief is by unwearied repetition of the truth—saying the same thing again and again until the light gets in. It must be admitted that there is a great tendency in Mohammedan work, partly owing to the nature of it, to forget one’s true commission to *preach the Gospel*, and to become fighters of men instead of fishers of men, and increasing care has to be exercised in this.

“I would like to add that there has probably never been a year when so many individual visits have been paid to our house by night as well as by day, their object being to talk, read, and pray. This is certainly one of the most hopeful features in our work, and promises much good.”

Egypt.

Two Stations, ten Missionaries.

ALEXANDRIA.—Occupied 1892.

ROSETTA.—Occupied 1897.

Mr. and Mrs. Summers.
„ „ Dickins.

Mr. C. T. Hooper.
„ W. Kumm.

Mr. W. T. Fairman.
Mrs. W. T. Fairman.

Miss A. Watson.
„ Van der Molen.

Egypt presents to the Christian missionary a unique and interesting field of labour. The British occupation is working marvellous changes both in the country and people. Misgovernment and oppression are now things of the past, and the agriculture and commerce of the country are developing with increasing speed.

Mohammedanism is met with here as nowhere else in North Africa. In Morocco we are confronted with dense ignorance. In Algeria and Tunis there is not so great ignorance, but much obstinate blindness and wilful perversion of the truth. But in Egypt there is a far larger proportion of educated men; there are Mohammedan schools and colleges, notably that of the Azhar in Cairo, the teachers of which are, for the most part, men of ability and able to hold their own in a religious controversy. Egypt therefore presents a rare field for educated men, student volunteers, and others, who would here find an outlet for their abilities in translation work, evangelizing, or grappling with the difficulties of an intelligent audience in one of the grandest languages in the world. "Who, then, is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?"

ALEXANDRIA.

There has been no medical work carried on at this station since June, 1896, when Dr. Hy. Smith was invalided home. Our brother has been several voyages seeking for restoration of health, but although somewhat stronger he has had most reluctantly to come to the conclusion that he would not again be able to face the trials and difficulties of missionary life abroad, with always the liability of a further breakdown. After consultation with the council he resigned his position at the close of the financial year.

The absence of Mr. and Mrs. Summers in England for over twelve months, while engaged in deputation work, has thrown additional burdens upon the remaining missionaries. Good work has been done both at the Mission House and in itinerating through the country, which we pray God may yield much fruit.

Mr. W. T. Fairman went out from England in November last, and Mr. W. Kumm in January, 1898; but while two have been added to the staff, the Station has also lost two through the opening of a new Station at Rosetta.

Mr. Dickins :—"The study of Arabic has been continued with the aid of occasional teachers. We have also been much helped by Ayoub, while we have sought to help him in the further understanding of the Word of God. The service in Arabic on Sunday mornings has been conducted alternately by Mr. Hooper and myself, and finding the men around us willing to attend Gospel meetings, we were led to concentrate our chief energies to the preparation and delivery of addresses in Arabic, in dependence upon the Spirit of the Lord. Some are now regular hearers of the Word, but as yet they have not confessed Jesus as Lord. Itinerating work, in which we have distributed many copies of the Word of God, has been undertaken in and around Alexandria, and among some important villages and towns of the Delta, with profit to ourselves and appreciation from many of the people. The Gospel has also been preached every Sunday morning to British sailors from the warships in port and soldiers in barracks. Several interesting cases of conversion have taken place among them.

"One thing is impressed upon my mind as I review the past year—viz., that the Lord has opened doors on every hand in Egypt, and we long for these opened doors to be entered."

Mrs. Dickins :—"On October 1st, 1897, I took over Miss Van der Molen's and Miss Watson's work amongst the girls, and, with Miss Prior's and my Bible-woman's help, opened a girls' school on the same lines as a Christian school is conducted in

England. The school has grown, and the children have made more progress than we could have hoped for in such a short time.

"The afternoons are devoted to the women. From 150 to 200 are visited and instructed in the Scriptures each month, and several are learning to read. Almost every week new homes are opened to us, and we are much encouraged in all departments of our work for the Lord."

Mr. C. T. Hooper :—"Looking back over the past year, the one thing which stands out most prominently is God's goodness to me. Although there have been discouragements, difficulties, and disappointments, yet, notwithstanding, God's faithfulness has followed in one unbroken chain.

"During the year I have had the privilege of spending seven weeks at itinerating work, travelling through the towns and villages on both branches of the Nile and the intervening country, thus crossing the Deltâ. Some 1,400 gospels were carefully distributed to those who could read, and a large number of gospel leaflets, while the message of His Word was told out as far as my knowledge of the language would allow.

"The impressions I received from these journeys were most encouraging. Moslems who not long since would have refused the gospels will now, in most cases, gladly receive and read them, and listen to the missionary. What is needed, I believe, is a number of God-chosen and God-sent evangelists, who will

go up and down this land preaching the simple gospel, avoiding controversy, and just telling the sons of Ishmael what a Saviour they may find in the Lord Jesus.

"In Alexandria from twenty to thirty men met us every evening and listened to a gospel address, showing much interest.

Cafés have been visited and gospels given, but some opposition has been shown. Ayoub is growing in grace, witnessing daily for the Lord, although at times sorely persecuted. Hassan Maghour (the old skeikh) stands fast, and is, judging from his letters, bright for the Lord."

ROSETTA.

This Station was opened on October 7th, 1897, by two of our sisters who had been labouring in Alexandria, Miss Van der Molen and Miss Watson. A class for girls has opened the way into several of the homes, and although there are difficulties here which were unknown in Alexandria, yet with the "exceeding great and precious promises" to lean upon, our sisters may well go forward with good courage, knowing that in due season they shall reap if they faint not.

Miss A. Watson:—"Being drawn to Rosetta (a town about sixty miles from Alexandria), we visited it during our holidays in August, 1897. We at once commenced house-hunting, which is always a great business here. The landlords seemed determined to keep us out of Rosetta. Every door seemed closed. After many disappointments and delays, we were led to a little house standing alone in the fields outside the town. At first we felt doubtful if it would be useful as a Mission House, but after further considering it we agreed to take it, and trust our Father to protect us in this lonely spot. Having handed over our work to Mrs. Dickins, we took possession on October 7th, praising our Master for opening up what seemed a closed door. We opened a room in the town for a daily class for girls, beginning with one. Up to the present date we have had twenty-seven names on the register, but owing to various reasons fourteen of these left, having remained a few days or a few weeks; thus we have only thirteen each day. They have made very good progress in needlework, and, considering their *very dull heads*, they have made fair progress in reading. At first, owing to their fanaticism, they would neither learn our texts nor hymns but now we find them more favourably inclined. Our

first fears about our house were quite groundless; more people come to visit us here than we expected, the fields being more of an attraction than otherwise. When visitors come they generally stay for hours at a time. We have had a great number of men also, whom our landlord delights to bring to see the house.

"On the whole we are well received by the people, and in visiting the women we have a warm welcome. I fear the message has passed unheeded owing to the great curiosity felt in the messenger; our reasons for living here seem past all conception.

"I have a daily class for English, with two pupils—viz., the native doctor's son and another young fellow. Twice a week the native doctor himself comes for English. We have good times with him in reading the Bible, and believe he is seeking the Truth. May he be one of the 'first-fruits' of Rosetta!

"We have a parish of 17,000 souls, all Moslems with a few exceptions—a hard and uncultivated soil. The people are very fanatical here. Pray for us that we may have much wisdom and tact in holding the fort and reaching them with the Gospel."

Barking.

Mr. Milton Marshall
(Arabic Tutor, etc.).

Mr. A. T. Upson.
,, H. W. Pells.

Mr. P. Smith.
,, E. Short.

Miss E. Ferry.
,, H. E. Humphries.

We have had rather more students than in the previous year and for the most part admirable progress has been made. The aim is to give each student a thorough knowledge of the principles of Arabic grammar, which it is hoped will materially help them when they get to the field. The study of Mohammedanism is also taken up on one or two afternoons of each week, and the students thus get to know the chief arguments used by Mohammedans against the Gospel, and how best to meet them.

As we close this Report it is with a praiseful heart for all the goodness and the grace that has been so abundantly manifest during the year past. God has been working and is prepared to work if we will only make room for Him. May we all learn increasingly our own weakness and insufficiency, that whatever blessing or success He may be pleased to grant us in the future, it may be abundantly evident that "the excellency of the power (is) of God and not of us."

"Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

W T. F.

Notes on General Cash Account. (See page 118.)

"And Jesus sat over against the treasury and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury."—Mark. xii. 41.

The Lord Jesus, when on earth, took an interest in the freewill offerings of pious Israelites, and without doubt He still notes with pleasure the liberality of His servants, whether rich or poor. Since the Lord thus watches our actions, how important it is to walk ever as in His presence and under his loving eye. We do not publish the names of the donors to this Mission, and they do not, as a rule, wish that we should. It is enough that the Lord Jesus sits over against the treasury and that He, beside noting what we give, notes also what we retain. He reckons who gives most or least, not according to the number of pounds contributed, but having regard to the proportion between our giving and our ability to give, so that while rewarding in grace He may also do so in equity.

We are thankful to record that the Lord's servants have been moved to help this branch of His work more abundantly than in any previous year, though perhaps we may have prayed rather less than sometimes for the supply of means. The fact is, we have been led to feel that, much as money is needed for this work, it is still more important that our spiritual life should prosper and flourish—more important that we should seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, or justification, and rest assured that all other necessary things will be added to us as required. We believe that the Mission has received increased spiritual blessing, and though our prayers for money may have been less prominent, the Lord has honoured our endeavours to put Him first, and supplied us more abundantly than in previous years.

The total receipts for the year amount to rather over £10,000, and, with balances, reach £10,859. Over £700 of this amount is profit on exchange in Morocco, caused by the depreciation of Spanish and Moorish silver. In some cases there has been a corresponding rise in the cost of labour and provisions.

A servant of the Lord, desirous of furthering his Master's work among boys, etc., has given largely to secure premises for industrial work; this is, of course, a special feature, and helps to bring up our receipts to a higher point than ordinary. But even without this large gift, and the profit on exchange, the income of the Mission is between three and four hundred pounds more than last year.

The expenditure for the year is rather less than £10,000, and the balances in hand are larger, on account of part of the gift referred to being unexpended at the close of the year.

We are specially thankful to have been able to distribute about £700 more than last year for the personal use of workers. In this annual statement we have put the personal rent of Missionaries under their allowances, also the small amount for outfits. In most places dwelling houses are used partly as mission premises; we have, therefore, endeavoured to apportion their rents accordingly. As rather fewer workers came home last year, the item for travelling is smaller. The other expenses for direct mission work do not seem to call for any special comment.

As regards charges for publications, meetings, and office, they are about the same as for several years previous, except that meetings have cost rather more and the office rather less, some help being gratuitous.

If there are any points in the accounts that readers would like further light upon, we shall be pleased to answer any enquiries, but we trust that the statement will make everything plain.

For the new year upon which we have now entered the financial needs of the mission will be again larger, but we are counting on God to incline His servants to send us what He may see will be sufficient.

ANNUAL FAREWELL MEETINGS

WILL (D.V.) BE HELD AS FOLLOWS—

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6TH.

EXETER LOWER HALL.

AFTERNOON MEETING, 3 P.M.,

MR. JOHN McVICKER will Preside.

ADDRESSES by PASTOR FRANK WHITE,
PASTOR FULLER GOOCH,
And Missionaries.

EVENING MEETING, 6.30 P.M.,

CHAIRMAN, DR. HENRY SOLTAU.

ADDRESSES by REV. J. RUTHERFORD, M.A.,
MR. G. B. MICHELL (Tunis),
Mr. J. L. LOCHHEAD (Constantine),
And other Missionaries.

TEA WILL BE PROVIDED BETWEEN THE MEETINGS.

The following Meetings have also been arranged:—

DATE.	PLACE OF MEETING.	TIME.	NEAREST STATION.
Oct. 8th ..	Conference Hall, Stratford.. .. .	8 p.m. ..	Stratford Market (G.E.R.).
Oct. 10th ..	Lansdown Hall, West Norwood	7.15 p.m.	West Norwood or Tulse Hill.
Oct. 11th ..	Avenue Road Chapel, Shepherd's Bush	7.30 p.m.	Shepherd's Bush (District). " " (L. and S. W. Railway).