No. 25.—New Series.

March, 1907.

NORTH AFRICA

PAGE

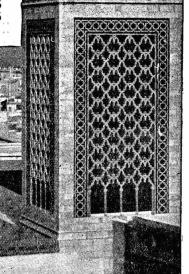
The Monthly Record of the North Africa Mission.

"Then said Jesus, as my Father hath sent Me, even so send I you."—John xx. 21.

CONTENTS.

A Retrospect, 1881-1896 ... 33 Notes and Extracts 36 Removal of Offices ... 37 A Day in Gassa with the Holy Scriptures. By Dr. T. G. Churcher 38 News from the Mission Field-From Dr. Wilson (Tangier) 40 From Miss Bolton (Tetuan)... ... From Miss E. Smith (Algiers) From Miss J. Cox (Djemaa Sahridj) ... 41 42 42 A Perilous Journey ... Here and There. By Mr. J. J. Cooksey ... Native Helpers in Kabylia. By Miss K. Smith 46 Itinerating Work in Tunisia Ladies' Committee Notes Notices of Books ...





Office of the Horth Africa Mission, 34, PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON, E.C.

S. W. PARTRIDGE & CO., 9. PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON, E.C.

THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION.

It was Founded in 1881 by the late Mr. George Pearse assisted by Dr. Grattan Guinness and Mr. Edward H. Glenny. It was at first called The Mission to the Kabyles, but gradually extended its sphere of operations to all parts and in some measure to all classes in North Africa, work amongst Mohammedans being its main business.

Its Object was and is to make known the Gospel of God's grace to those amongst whom it labours, and then to instruct them in the way of God more perfectly, that they

may be intelligent and devoted witnesses to others.

Its Character is Scriptural and Evangelical, embracing Christians of various denominations who seek to be loyal to Christ and to God's inspired Word. It seeks to encourage simple dependence upon God in all things.

LIST OF DONATIONS from JANUARY 1st to 31st, 1907. GENERAL AND DESIGNATED FUNDS.

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Arab Boys Playing Cards.

[From a Postcard.

Gambling is forbidden to Moslems, but, like "drinking," is very common. If the missionary does not sow the good seed, Satan will not fail to sow the tares.

A Retrospect.

IGHTY-SIX missionaries are now working in North Africa in connection with the North Africa Mission. Amongst these, three brothers and one sister are qualified doctors, and eight have had nurses' training.

The field is three thousand miles from east to west, and contains at least twenty million inhabitants. Whilst the inadequacy of the supply of missionaries is at once obvious, it should be remembered that until twenty-five years ago there were absolutely no workers at all taking the Gospel to the Mohammedans in any of the lands between Egypt and the Atlantic.

The various races of North Africa were practically without a single missionary to witness for Christ and preach the Gospel, from the time of the Moslem invasion in *circa* 700 A.D. until this Mission was started in 1881. It is appalling to think of the millions of souls in North Africa who never heard the truth as to the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, such a Mission was not a work of supererogation, but an imperative necessity.

To contrast 1906 with 1881, there are now eighty-six N.A.M. workers at seventeen different stations, and about a similar number of missionaries of other societies, who are preaching the Gospel to some fifty thousand of Moslems annually. They are also scattering thousands of copies of the Gospels printed in Arabic, journeying each year to fresh villages and the surrounding country, and by holy lives lived before all, as well as by ministering to the sick

and poor, are demonstrating the Gospel. The Medical Missions last year, at the three hospitals and eight dispensaries, gave some thirty-two thousand consultations. In classes and schools, children to the number of one thousand five hundred heard the Gospel many times over, and hundreds of women were visited in their homes, which are practically their prison-houses.

THERE HAS BEEN GREATER BLESSING IN 1906, AND THERE ARE NOW MORE GENERAL SIGNS OF DEFINITE PROGRESS THAN IN ANY PREVIOUS YEAR.

At almost all the stations in North Africa there have in past years been some converts. At Fez there is a band of Christians, nine or ten of whom are employed as colporteurs; at Djemaa Sahridj there is another band, and these meet in two stone halls, one built for men and one for women. At Tangier, Alexandria, Shebin el Kom, and Tunis, there are also some who regularly meet with the missionaries to partake of the Lord's Supper.

During 1906 some thirty Moslems were converted at Fez, and two men and one woman were baptised. At Algiers a Kabyle young man was baptised and another converted. At Bizerta a man was baptised. At Alexandria, also, a well educated man, long under instruction since his conversion, was baptised. Several young men were converted at Djemaa Sahridj. At Tripoli a convert of many years' standing died, after long proof of trusting Christ for salvation, and after preaching quietly to many others. At Shebin el Kom, on New Year's Eve, ten out of a meeting of eighteen met round the Lord's Table at midnight, and dedicated themselves afresh to God; seven years ago there was not a single convert there.

In addition to these pronounced cases, most of whom have had to bear persecution, there are many secret disciples. The missionaries have no hesitation in stating this, for every now and then they get unmistakable proofs that there are men and women who have read the Gospels and have believed in Christ, but have not had the courage to confess Him before men for fear of consequences.

Details might be given of encouraging cases of thoughtful men interested at lantern services, at meetings for discussion, and at conversations held in the bookshops. Of these shops there are seven at present, opened practically every day, all of them doing most useful work, providing to any enquirers an opportunity for meeting and conversing with the *Nazarene*.

It can be easily understood that prejudice is one of the greatest obstacles in the way of Moslems listening to the Nazarene missionaries. This is being very thoroughly removed in the case of many hundreds of children attending the schools and weekly classes. Not a few of the children have professed conversion, and no doubt time will show in how many cases the change of heart has been real. The school work has had so much influence at Shebin el Kom that Copts and Moslems in alarm have brought pressure to bear on the native landlords, who are now afraid to let rooms for the school work. This has necessitated building premises for both boys' and girls' schools. Through the kindness of several friends, the money for this has been given and the foundations are already laid.

Thus it will be seen that scattered over these long neglected countries there are, besides work being done by other societies and independent workers, seventeen centres provided by the North Africa Mission, where the sick have the Gospel preached to them and medical help given; where women shut up in Moslem harems are visited and taught; where children are educated and taught to sew, and at the same time hear of Him who said, "Suffer little children to

come unto Me"; where town-dwelling men or country visitors can buy books which contain the Gospel, can attend meetings where the Gospel is preached, and can enquire as to Christian truth.

Two considerations of grave importance naturally arise in connection with the work, viz., as to the means of maintaining what is already being done, and as

to extending the work.

Of the eighty-six workers, forty-three are either self-supporting or are specially supported by individual friends or bands of Christians. In some cases rent and travelling expenses are thus provided also. The remaining forty-three workers are dependent on the General Fund of the Mission, from which have also to be met the expenses of the work on the field, rents for dwelling-houses, bookshops, halls, etc., and at home, the rent of the Mission House, salaries, meetings, printing, etc.

During 1906 the designated funds amounted to £5,169 4s. 5d.; for the General Fund £4,447 8s. 8d. was received. The Council are thankful to say that this was an advance of about £1,100 on the previous year. But further supplies are needed to maintain the work. Every month the sum of at least four hundred

pounds is needed for the general working of the Mission.

Some friends may feel that the vast needs of the Moslems of North Africa appeal to them. If so, the Council would be very thankful if some of them would undertake the support of the forty-three missionaries as yet unprovided for, and thus adopt their own substitutes. Particulars will gladly be given by the Secretary as to the amount needed.

To some, perhaps, special forms of work appeal more than the work

in general.

There is great need of special support for the Fez colporteurs; about twenty pounds a year would suffice for one of these. Also the support is needed for an itinerating and pioneering evangelist from Shebin; and for another evangelist at Alexandria. The school maintenance fund for Shebin is also a pressing need.

The Medical Missions are practically supported from special funds, but there is a great necessity for more beds being taken up in the Men's Hospital at Tangier, and also in the Women's Hospital. About fifteen to twenty pounds per bed is the sum required. Money is needed for drugs to be used at several stations, and also for the support of another nurse in the Tulloch Memorial Hospital at Tangier.

The Council thank God for several friends of the Mission who have for many years given large sums. They would be very glad to increase their fellow-

labourers by a large number of subscribers of smaller sums.

During 1906 a Ladies' Committee was formed, who will very gratefully receive communications (addressed to their Secretary) from any ladies willing to co-operate with them by making NORTH AFRICA known amongst friends, by inaugurating branches of the Prayer and Workers' Union, or in any other way that their circumstances or locality or surroundings may suggest.

The Organising Deputation Secretary will also be pleased to hear from any who would give a drawing-room meeting, or a school-room or Church meeting, at which the Mission might be made known.

The Council would ask all friends to join in thanking God for what has been accomplished, and for His manifest blessing on the Mission, and to join them in prayer that the work may be much extended, that many more amongst the untouched millions of North Africa may hear the Gospel during the course of the year 1907.

Notes and Extracts.

HOME NOTES.

It is a great pleasure to be able to announce the addition of two new members to the Council of Direction—Arthur Dence, Esq., of Guildford, and Ernest E. Shaw, Esq., of Wimbledon, who have just recently kindly consented to join.



"Tuckaway Tables."—Will friends kindly make known that these small handy folding-tables can be had, hand-painted with flowers, wood-stained, either mahogany or walnut-wood, from C. M. G., Bankside, Silverdale Road, Eastbourne, price 12s., postage and packing case included. The proceeds will go to the funds of the N.A.M.



Picture Post-cards.—A series of six Egyptian post-cards from photos by Geo. Goodman, Esq., not used in North Africa, may be ordered of the Secretary price 4d per packet post free 4d

the Secretary, price 4d. per packet, post free $4\frac{1}{2}d$.

A second series of six Egyptian post-cards from photos used in recent numbers of NORTH AFRICA is now ready also, price 3d. per packet, post free $3\frac{1}{2}d$.



Cherchell Carpet School.—One rug and two carpets made at the carpet school at Cherchell, Algeria, are still unsold, and may be inspected at the offices of the Mission. To friends at a distance full particulars will be supplied by the Secretary on application, or goods will be sent on approval, if carriage is paid both ways in the event of their being returned. The prices vary from £1 15s. 11d. to £6 16s. 3d.



DEPARTURE.—Mrs. J. H. D. Roberts, and her children and helper, left London for Gibraltar on February 1st, by P. and O. ss. *Moldavia*, en route to Tangier.



Lantern Lectures.—A lecture on "The North Africa Mission in Algeria," for adu'ts, and one on "A Visit to North Africa," for children, are available for use at the present time. They include about sixty slides in each, and a type-written lecture. These lectures will be gladly lent to friends of the Mission wishing to make use of them. Application should be made to the Secretary.

We have been asked to state that **Mr.** E. H. Glenny's private address is now St. David's, Aldersbrook Road, Manor Park, London, E.



Mr. W. Dickins, who has been in poor health for some time, has been obliged to seek change, and has come to England for a short visit. He hopes, however, if sufficiently recovered, to return almost immediately.



FOREIGN NOTES.

Могоссо.

Mrs. Wilson writes from Tangier: "We were glad to be able to begin the out-patient department. Many of the soldiers have come, and so heard the Gospel message, which Mr. Jones knows how to give earnestly and in an interesting way. The poor man we took as in-patient had been lying some days at the gate. He got much better, and went away very grateful for shelter and food as well as treatment. Another man used to sit here a good part of the day. A third had his finger crushed by a stone falling when at work, and he begged to come in. He fainted the first day, and lay on the ground in the garden, so we allowed him to stay in the whole of two days, and then to come every day. He also is much better; it appeared as if the thumb would have to be amputated, but now it is coming gradually all right."



Day 2.- Miss Brown writes from Tangier on January 15th, 1907, of the New Year's treat for the Spanish children: "To-day, the 15th, through the kindness of Miss Winslow and other friends at home, I have had the joy of giving a New Year's treat to the children who attend the Sunday School, numbering between forty and fifty. of them received special rewards for learning After the feast of many Scripture texts. good things, Mr. Jones kindly entertained them with a lantern exhibition, which they all very much enjoyed. The meeting-room was simply packed from end to end. Many young people and the parents of the children came in as well to see the lantern views.

"Please continue to pray for the work, especially among the young people and children. Many of them know a good deal of the Word of God from memory, but the Holy Spirit is needed to open their hearts to receive it by faith"

Mr. Nott writing from Laraish on February 6th, says that the refuge is again beginning to fill well, since his return from Tangier, where he had to stay for a time owing to his poisoned finger. Mrs. Nott, in addition to other work, has started classes for beggar boys.



Miss Jennings is at present kept at work in Laraish, as the British Consul cannot consent to the risk which would be involved in her return to Arzila whilst the rebel Raisuli remains at large. Will friends pray that she may soon be able to get back to this needy place?

Tunisia,

Miss Benzakine writes from Sfax on January 15th, 1907: "Mr. and Mrs. Cooksey kindly invited me to spend Christmas with them in Susa. Miss Cox also invited me to spend a few days with them, and so I was able to see a little of their encouraging work. I was very much struck to see how much the Arab women know of the Scriptures. doubt some of these dear women will soon come to the light of eternal salvation, as it is in Jesus. There was a woman whom Miss Cox took me to see, and as I was left with her for a while for a chat, this dear woman prayed heartily for the salvation of her soul, and also asked God to take away from her all fear of men. All that encouraged me very much regarding the work among the Arabs.5

Removal of Offices.

For some year or two the want of further room for office work has been greatly felt, and this more than ever during the last few months. It was found to be impossible to go on any longer in the present rooms if work was to be attended to properly. The Council, always anxious to keep down to a minimum the home-end expenses, decided that the rent of another room in the present building, or in fact the rent of any adequate-sized offices in the City proper, was prohibitive. They therefore, reluctantly and after long deliberation, decided to move to offices out of the City, to some place where for less rent ample accommodation might be found.

A suitable house, after much searching, has been taken at Highbury. Since the opening of the two lines of "Tubes," and the starting of motor 'buses and electric trams, Highbury—whilst not actually central—has become, perhaps, the most accessible sub-centre of the metropolis.

The new Mission House is situated quite near to the corner, so well known, where the North London Railway Station stands. It is next door but two to the Highbury Tube Station, and yet, though so near, is sufficiently away from the bustle and noise. It faces Highbury Fields.

Will friends kindly note that after March 15th, the Mission's address will be

No. 4, HIGHBURY CRESCENT, LONDON, N.;

but letters sent to 34, Paternoster Row, will be forwarded by Post Office redirection.

Whilst the rental paid will be less than at present, during the first year there will be little saved. The expenses for fitting up the rooms for lighting, heating, etc., and buying a few absolutely necessary pieces of furniture, will probably cost about £50. Towards this amount some small sums have already been promised, and some furniture has also been given. The Council are most anxious that the General Fund shall not be drawn on at all for this expense, and if friends feel led to help by contributing they will be grateful. One of the rooms is well suited for holding the monthly prayer-meeting, and for the Ladies' Committee meetings, conferences, etc. It is hoped that one room will be fitted up as a bedroom, for the convenience of missionaries passing through London, or for candidates or friends coming up to London at any time.

Owing to the upset of removal, it will not be possible to hold the usual prayer meeting on Thursday, March 7th, at Paternoster Row.

A Day in Gassa with the Holy Scriptures.

By Dr. T. G. CHURCHER.



The Street where Dr. Churcher Hired his Shop.

[From a Postcard.

Gafsa is an inland Tunisian town about 100 miles from the sea, dating back to classic times, and having no resident missionary. It probably owes its existence to the presence of many warm springs which, by their constant flow, have converted this piece of the desert into a fruitful land. The gardens are delightful; one wishes one could say the same of the inhabitants and their mode of living.

But yet they need the Bread of Life, and so I thought friends might like to hear how we spent a day there lately helping a colporteur of the Bible Society to sow the seed of the Kingdom.

In order to try to keep the law (no easy thing here) I started to hire a shop for the day. The way to do this is, first find an empty shop, next find the owner, then strike the bargain, and finally secure the key. This last step proved much the longest, as the key was in another shop and that shop was closed, and the owner was not to be found!

In a small place a stranger makes a sensation; half a dozen small boys

clamour to clean your boots, the Mohammedan men about stare and wonder, a Jew comes up very close to listen in the hope that your speech will betray you, while a native policeman stands chatting over the way, but is all the while watching you intently.

I thought it best to step over and tell him all about myself and my doings, ending by handing him my card that he might get the name quite correctly. A couple of minutes more, and then, excusing himself, he stepped off briskly in the direction of the police-station—no doubt "to score" by presenting such a full and interesting report of this suspicious character!

The little shop was at last secured, and then we had a journey to find a couple of newspapers to save the books and ourselves from some of the abounding dust and dirt.

A group of boys soon filled the doorway, and one of them bought a Gospel, with the not unusual result (in the case of Arab boys), that having handled it and

soiled it considerably, as he still stood in the doorway, he returned it and demanded his money back.

Another boy was not so bad; he bought three Gospels, and wrapping them carefully in his pocket handkerchief, went off, and we were glad that we saw his face no more.

It was otherwise with a wild country Arab who, on learning what we had, quickly bought three different portions and went off rejoicing, only to come back in the afternoon, asking with politeness but firmness for all his money back, as his friend did not understand the

language.

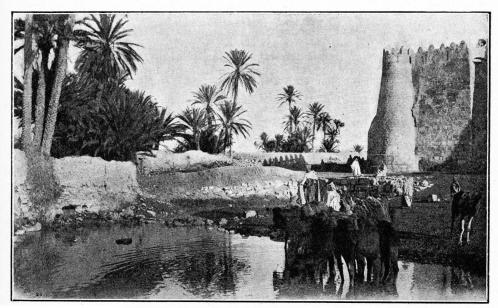
It was not long before some of the learned and critical among the Arabs began to arrive; these wanted to argue, and probably to spy and to accuse, but to-day we were bent on book-selling, so reading with them the parable of the prodigal son, and commending the books warmly, we declined to be drawn into silly discussion. One well-dressed man, foiled the first time, came back again and started with the innocent question, "How many days would it take to reach England?" but I was not to be tempted.

The Jews were among our customers, though they only wanted Psalms and the

Pentateuch, and these, though offered them cheaply, they wanted cheaper still.

But to me the most interesting was an Arab young man desiring to learn French, who was glad to find that he could have a book in Arabic and an exact translation in French, the two for a few sous. I explained to him how useful I had found such a method in studying the Koran, and suggested that if he had a student friend he should tell him also of the books, as we were leaving the town next day. Accordingly, soon after another student came, and he took an Arabic and also a French Gospel, and a little later a third came and did likewise. May we not well pray that as they read to learn French, they may learn of HIM who still says, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

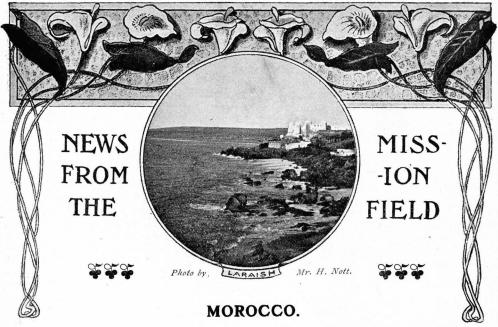
Now a Frenchman stopped and smilingly inspected and bought a New Testament. We were very pleased at this sale, and spoke warmly to him of what we had found ourselves in the precious book, but our pleasure was soon changed into bitterness, for he shortly returned, said he was the *Commissaire de Police*, that we were doing what was forbidden, we must call at the police-station, etc., etc. We explained our position, and argued the point



The Animals' Watering-place, Gafsa.

[From a Postcard.

as to our action being perfectly legal, but without much success; still, as we returned the key of the little shop, which was one of those on the right-hand side of the street in the picture, we rejoiced that twenty-three books had been sold, and another witness for Jesus given in this dark place.



From Dr. Wilson (Tangier).

January 3rd, 1907.—On Monday I went down the town to visit the prisons with Mr. Elson; it was an interesting experience. We first went to the State convict prison. After a little chat with the guards, one of whom, a very old man, wanted some medical advice, a big door was opened, exposing a grating, and behind this a hole a little larger than a man's head. This hole was immediately blocked by the faces of two of the prisoners, who greeted Mr. Elson effusively, and stretched out their hands to grasp his. Their faces did not bear the stamp of crime, though one of them was being imprisoned for murder. He protested that he was innocent, and his statement was quite possibly true. prisoners seemed quite happy and laughing, others indifferent. Though the sanitation in a Moorish prison leaves much to be desired, the inmates can sit about and gossip to their hearts' content.

I daresay they would find it a far greater punishment to be sentenced to solitary confinement in a clean cell with plenty of food.

Since Raisuli became practically the Governor of Tangier and the country round, Mr. Elson has not been allowed to enter the prison to talk with the prisoners. We had to stand outside and hand past the grating the food and shirts that had been brought on donkey back. Now that Raisuli has been deposed, permission will again be granted to go in and talk to the prisoners, and tell them of the Saviour who came to loose them from the chains of sin and set the prisoners free.

Leaving the State prison, we went to the local prison. Part of this is set apart for Jewish prisoners, and the main portion for Moslems undergoing short sentences, and there are a few chronic lunatics. Here the stench was pretty bad, though not nearly so bad as it is sometimes, I am told. The most noticeable

prisoner was a tall, fine looking man in a white robe, a Shareef, that is one in whose veins runs the blood of the prophet, and therefore a spiritual autocrat from a Moorish point of view. The guards did not know what he was in for. He was probably a political prisoner, and will in a few days either be released or transferred to the State prison. Another man I noticed was quite young and heavily ironed.

January 15th, 1907.—A few nights ago I went down with Mr. Elson to the " shelter " in the town. It was an interesting sight-two rooms run into one, filled with men, between sixty and seventy of them squatting round the walls and in the centre, mostly strangers from different parts who were passing through Tangier. Mr. Elson gave them a cheery greeting, which was responded to equally cheerily. After a few minutes' chat a big semovar of tea was brought in. The tea was handed round in small glasses and drunk with noisy gusto. Then Mr. Elson read a few passages and gave a short address, which was listened to most attentively.

From Miss Bolton (Tetuan).

January 22nd, 1907.—On Sunday evening Shaib not being well enough to stay to read with me, Rakia very delightedly took his place. She with great glee told me she had found a good candle in the street, and was going to burn it. quired if it was one to burn at a shrine, and if she still did that sort of thing; for she once told me we ought to burn a candle to the "saint" who adjoins our poultry-yard, for it was only he who watched over the fowls. She told me she did not call to saints at all now, but only to God in the name of the Lord Jesus. "If ever I say 'Muley Absalom,' or any one else, it is only because the name escapes from my lips, as I have done it always."

"Do you believe in Mohammed now?" "No, I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and I pray to Him." "What do you say when you pray?" "I praise God for my health, for the sight of my eyes, for the food He gives me, for the washing of my clothes; I ask Him to bless my children, and to bless all of you and those who belong to you."

I have a second women's class weekly now. The members are poor things who are going under. I have thought that by befriending them a little and encouraging them generally they may regain a footing. After bread and coffee, which they much appreciate, I teach them. Rakia sits with me, and repeats texts to them, or sings hymns - occasionally asking they understand what is being taught.

One woman has been abandoned by her husband on account of her failing health. At first he visited her room occasionally to share his food with his little daughter. When poor F—, lying in the corner, begged for a morsel for herself, he with a curse told her to lie and die. Another woman is a Soudanese. Her late master left her her freedom, and she married, but husband and children have all died. As she told me of her lonely condition, her thin, black face worked with emotion, but not a tear was allowed to fall, lest it should be thought God's will was hard to her. "He is to be praised," she repeated again and again. "And now I wait until He shall show me His mercy by letting me die."

This visit to my class was the first time she had crossed our threshold, though she has known us for years. As I taught them, she sat in the open doorway, and wouldn't draw near with the others, but, although I did not look directly at her, I found her listening intently.

None of the women are beggars, but they are workers who are making a great struggle for life. I have a cheery little street-sweeper, too, getting thinner and The story of the love of thinner. the Lord made a great impression upon her, I believe. Please let these women be remembered in your prayer meetings.

Two village talebs have told Miss Hubbard in the dispensary lately that the books given to them are read in their villages. One, yesterday, came for another, saying all wanted to read the one they had, and it did not suffice. One said it was kept in the mosque.

ALGERIA.

From Miss E. Smith (Algiers).

January 26th, 1907.—All the fêtes are over, and all our people are returning well to the classes.

Had it not been for the kindness of Mons. and Mme. Cuendet and Mr. Shorey, the French fête must have been given up this year, for Miss Welch, Mrs. Shorey and I all were down with influenza three days before the day announced. All the preparatory work was done for us, and the children in spite of wind and rain came in good numbers, and enjoyed as only children can the bright tree with its wonderful burning "stars"—a novelty they saw for the first time, thanks to the kindness of Mme. Rocheblave, who gave us her beautiful tree trimmed as it stood for their Sunday School treat held the day before ours. Mons. Cuendet spoke, and the prizes were given according to merit.

The French mothers' fête was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Mme. Cuendet read them a very sweet story, easy to be understood of all, even without the short explanation.

Our Kabyle fêtes gave us great pleasure. Our children came with beaming faces, excited beyond words at the sight of bright coloured garments and little penny dolls. Each child took home a packet of semolina to her mother. We think the parents more likely to allow the children to attend regularly if they benefit at the fête time.

Mr. Hunter spoke to them by interpre-

tation, and they listened well.

One small ragged child quite forgot to say "thank you" as she carried off her gifts. "What have you to say?" asked Miss Welch in a stern voice. Looking up with eyes full of joy, she replied, "I say that Jesus is very good."

Then came the women's fête, when Mons. Cuendet spoke. He referred to the fact that we are only passing through this world, and one woman remarked, "That is true, we are only God's guests here; we shall not stay long." Thank

God some of these women are "passing through" this world to their home on high, having been made citizens of that better country through faith in the Lord Jesus. We believe that many hearts are turning to Him who is the Light of the world. Will my readers pray that those who believe may confess Christ openly by life and lips?

From Miss J. Cox (Djemaa Sahridj).

Some months ago Mr. Morgan sent us the text, Jer. xxxiii. 3, and this promise God has begun to fulfil in our midst. The story is so interesting that I will tell it briefly. Some years ago the little son of one of the highest marabouts in our village attended our Sunday School in spite of his father's injunctions to the contrary. He also by his own desire went to the French school instead of the Mohammedan seminary like his cousins.

At about the age of sixteen the lad obtained a situation in Algiers, and eventually accompanied his master to England. where the impression he had received in our classes was deepened; and when Said was staying at Mr. Morgan's and went to see Si M., the latter took a step upward and onward, consecrating himself to God's service. He is now twenty-one years of age, and has returned to Diemaa with an earnest desire to work for Jesus.

In all our meetings and classes he testifies boldly to his faith in the crucified Son of God. His days are spent in studying God's word, so as to be fitted to teach. For the present he is earning nothing, having saved a little money in England; but if it were possible, later on, we should like to join him to our little band of workers, for he is most valuable, being very intelligent, fairly educated, and full of zeal. Said and Ali are delighted with him; it is good to see the three together, all so desirous to advance the Kingdom of God.

A Perilous Journey.

"In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers."—2 COR. xi. 26.

As mentioned last month, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson arrived at Fez after a very eventful time of travelling from Tangier to The country was quite safe and peaceful, but the weather conditions and other circumstances turned what is ordinarily a not unpleasant five or six days' tent travelling into a time of very real trial. They recognise God's good hand on them throughout, and are full of praise deliverances and answered prayers. More than one have suggested that it seemed as if the great enemy were enraged, and in fear of coming blessing, and thus sought to oppose and hamper. But we can at any rate be sure that the trials were among the "all things" working together for good.

On December 4th they landed at Tangier with their two little ones, one being a baby in arms. They had with them also as helper Miss Ettie Reed. Arrangements were made as speedily as possible to get away before the rains, but delay was occasioned by Miss Reed developing an attack of pleurisy and bronchitis. On December 19th a start was made.

Slow travelling was necessitated by Miss Reed's weakness, and only about twenty miles were covered the first day. They were able, however, next day to get along better, and on the road they passed through the Sultan's army on its way to Tangier, a cursing, disorderly rabble — not a single follower of the Crucified Son of God amongst all the thousands.

Later on that day their little cavalcade reached a tidal river. The tide was low, and nearly all had passed over safely, but when Mrs. Simpson's muleteer was leading her mule through, he got off the ford somewhat into quicksands, and was sinking fast. Mrs. Simpson immediately

jumped off her mule and went to his rescue. Some of the goods in the panniers were thoroughly soaked, but a warm sun dried all as they went on, and no bad results followed.

It took four days to reach the town of Al Kasar, usually reached in two days. Here they spent the Sunday, and had Bible readings with the American lady missionaries stationed there. The day was wet, and much prayer went up that fine weather might be granted for next day. It dawned showery, and the road was very slippery, but all were preserved without falls, except the riderless pack mule, which fell several times. The bedding was soaked by a shower in the afternoon, but the sun dried it ere night.

On Christmas Eve they camped in an Arab village, among people who had heard little, if anything, of Jesus, and knew not of Him as the Saviour born at Bethlehem. The evening was unusually cold, and a storm with snow and hail came on just after tents were pitched.

Christmas Day was, perhaps, the most trying of all. They crossed safely, with



The Ferry-boat is not always available, and fording is then the only way of crossing.

great care and no little anxiety, a river boulder-strewn bottom swirling currents, and just before sunset reached a second river, the River Seboo, the largest and deepest of Northern Morocco. It was necessary to cross this that evening that they might camp on the further bank. The first mule, led by two Moors, carried Miss Reed and the two children. The second carried, in addition to its well-loaded panniers, a native woman, and was led by a boy, and Mr. Simpson followed, Mrs. Simpson remaining on the bank till someone could return to lead her mule over. She may well say that the minutes she waited there stand out as so many hours of suspense. For she was called on to watch what might, indeed, have been a fatal accident.

When those in front reached the middle of the stream, the second mule stumbled and fell. The woman clung in terror to the panniers in great alarm, for the water was swirling round, and the mule in danger of going under entirely, being only just able to keep its head above water, and was plunging desperately. The men from the front mule ran to the rescue, and Mr. Simpson jumped off his and ran to help. No amount of tugging could get the animal on its feet, until another mule was led up and the panniers were unloaded. The native woman was put on Mr. Simpson's mule, whilst he led Miss Reed and the children safely to the bank. Without any change of clothing, as one box at the last moment had been left behind at Tangier, there was danger of rheumatism and chill. bread had to be dried in the sunshine, as the sun was setting, but the bedding did not get properly dried again until Fez was reached. In God's goodness, however, all seemed preserved from ill effects.

By next afternoon a village was reached on high ground, which was only one long day's journey from Fez. The strong wind on that night, however, broke the tent-pole, and in the pelting

difficult matter to splice the pole, and many times there was great danger of the tent collapsing. The next day proved too stormy to move, and snow covered all the surrounding hills. On the following day an attempt to move was made, but it had to be given up. Meanwhile it was very difficult to get any food from the villages, the baby's food had run out, and as cheques could not be cashed, they found themselves without money. Their need of money earlier in their journey had been met from a muleteer, passing a load of copper for a Tanwith gier merchant, from whom enough was obtained to procure food, or all would have been starving; and a letter sent on ahead to Fez brought out some Mellins' food. The last night was spent at a place two hours from Fez, and there another tent-pole had to be spliced during the night.

Next morning, in rain and mud, the last piece of the road was traversed, and several falls were experienced. mid-day Fez was entered.

When at last they reached their house, with thankful hearts for all the dangers passed, they found that a heavy blow awaited them. The Moorish convert, a most faithful servant, who was in charge of the house, they found had had poison given to him in a fig, and would have died had he not been treated by the English doctor attached to the Sultan's court. Whilst he was away from the house under treatment, the poisoners stole all the bed and table linen, quilts, carpets, trays, china, and some corn and sugar which had been stored there. The loss, valued at some £15 or £20, seemed naturally all the greater to those worn out with the travelling and exposure and anxiety of the twelve days' journeying.

The account Mr. and Mrs. Simpson send of their experiences closes with notes of praise and thankfulness, and tells of some enquirers who at once came to see them again, several of whom seem "very near the Kingdom." They ask prayer rain and hurricane-like gusts it was a very for three of these especially.

Here and There. By Mr. J. J. Cooksey.

On the night of January 15th, I left Susa on board the s.s. Tennyson, of London, for Tripoli, as the guest of Captain Eagan. I was out itinerating, and this first stage of two hundred and thirty miles, with a fair wind, was quickly covered, and I parted from my kind friend with sincere thanks.

A few profitable days were spent in Tripoli—profitable in seeing a lot of work done in a smooth, quiet way, and encouraging to me in noticing the radical difference in the attitude of the people of that most bigoted city from what I knew it to be ten years ago.

I crossed over to the South Tunisian coast to Gabes, and opened a shop wherein to sell Scriptures at a nominal charge, and to distribute them. My trade was brisk; fifty copies of the Gospels were sold, and a number distributed; then came the usual growl of the defenders of the faith that the books were bad, and sales ceased. I was able to speak of the way of Christ to many visitors and purchasers.

While there I witnessed one of the most revolting "séances" of the Aisaweea Brotherhood possible to imagine; details of these are well known to readers of this journal; to read about the swallowing of nails, crushed glass, scorpions, etc., is, however, quite a different matter to seeing it; to read in cold print of men temporarily assuming under religiohypnotic influence the character of lions, monkeys, camels, and other animals, and displaying bestial characteristics conformable to them, is either amusing or revolting, as it may strike you; but to witness it is to gaze for a moment down into the deep, dark abyss of the Infernal. The ægis of Islam is very broad; it may cover a movement like Soofism, with an exponent like El Ghazali, a man of outstanding intellect, and in part a spiritual seeker, or it may cloak, as in the Aisaweea Brotherhood, something very akin to Satan himself.

Eight hours in a jolting diligence brought me to Graiba, to await the train to Gafsa. I arrived at two a.m., and had

to wait till ten a.m. for the train—eight hours to improve on a wooden bench, a wash under a pump, and a tramp around the country to the Bedouin tents!

In the train I met a remarkably wellbred and intelligent man and his sixteenyear-old son; we spent a couple of hours in quiet talk about the Great Master, and I left him a complete copy of His book, and something for the readers of his village.

Gafsa was reached at five p.m., and the weather was bright and sharp. I went around the market, and mentally fixed upon a place for a book shop. I awoke in the morning, however, to find the weather had been fickle. Gafsa was under a mantle of snow, and the storm raged with but slight pause until evening, with a sky banked up with threatening clouds, and a biting wind to herald a further snowfall.

Messengers arrived announcing that it was general over a wide area, southward to Metloui, northward to Tebessa and Kef. The Arabs crouched in their cafés and shops; the market was deserted to the snow and slush; book selling was out of the question, so I went out to find an audience.

In this I was successful, and spent one of the most profitable of mornings with the teachers and leaders attached to the chief mosque whom I met at the adjoining school; our discussion was very fair and tolerant, and I left them thoughtful.

I decided to return to Susa till the weather warmed, so started on the night of the 28th, and after a few hours' stop at Sfax, reached Susa on the morning of the 30th, after a fortnight's absence.

We visited Moknine the next morning, Mrs. Cooksey and Miss Cox being of the party, and hiring a café, we spent a profitable day. We sold forty-eight Arabic gospels, numbers of tracts, and eight Jewish Scriptures. We had an audience of men throughout the day who read the tracts, and discussed with us points of difficulty and disagreement.

Itinerating is worth doing. In a few weeks the weather will be warm enough to do it according to plan; it is profitable work—the question of ways and means we commend to the consideration of God's stewards who are interested in this method of evangelising the Moslems of North Africa.

Native Helpers in Kabylia.

By Miss K. Smith.

During the twenty years we have toiled in the Master's service at Djemaa Sahridj, it has been our rule never to refuse work placed before us even though without funds to carry it on; the Lord having given the opportunity for further service has always eventually supplied the means, but in nearly every case it has been through making the need known.

The latest and most important feature of the work at the present time is the training and teaching of native helpers of both sexes. Never before has there been such an earnest desire on the part of the converts to help carry the Gospel to their countrymen and women. Love, courage and zeal are strikingly manifest, and we rejoice greatly in this new development.

Our native evangelist has been witnessing for Christ for eight years; another native Christian who has been employed more or less during twenty years is now in our service, and is indispensable at the station. One of the women is teaching her sisters in Christ to read, write, sew and knit; another young woman, though unable to read and nearly blind, is so full of Scripture and hymns that we employ

her to teach in the classes and sick work, also as a Bible-woman in native houses. The young wife of one of the Christians is most valuable in our girls' classes; a young man of noble birth has refused two lucrative posts in order to work for the Master, accepting a sum one-third of what he could gain elsewhere; several others, both young men and maidens, are desirous of helping; the former, if not employed, obtain positions in rich English or American families, and having become accustomed to luxurious living are no longer willing to work when opposition, persecution and comparative poverty are their lot.

Your prayers that the Lord of the Harvest would thrust forth labourers are being answered; but the labourer is worthy of his hire, and these young people must earn in order to live honest lives.

Will our brethren and sisters in Christ assist us in carrying on this good work?

We shall be pleased to offer hospitality to friends who would like to visit our little station, and could obtain mules and Christian guides who would show the beauties of the Kabylian mountains and their deep need of Christ.

Itinerating Work in Tunisia.

We are desirous of evangelising the villages between Kairouan and Kef, and from thence propose visiting the phosphate mines at Kelaat es Senam, to speak by invitation to the Arab workmen there.

If the Lord prospered our way, and funds permitted, we might reach a little farther

The journey would have to be done on animals with an Arab guide and assistant, who would look after animals, cook and help carry luggage. Two brethren are sufficient for such a trip, and would not be likely to court undue attention, as would, may be, a larger number. The cost is somewhat conjectural, but judging from past experience, we ought to have at least £25 or £30 in order to meet the most necessary expenses.

If the Lord's stewards desire the Gospel carried to these out-of-the-way hill peoples, who will probably never hear the Gospel unless we take it to them, we invite their earnest consideration of this matter, and an early response, as the best time to set out will be the middle of April.

J. J. Cooksey.

E. E. SHORT.

Ladies' Committee Notes.

It is with especial regret that so early in its history the Committee has had to accept the resignation of one of its members. Miss Jessie Emerson has been ordered away from London for prolonged change, and has therefore been obliged to retire from the Committee.

*

WANTS.

A number of "Wants" have been sent in by the missionaries, and are enumerated below. If any friends could help to supply these needs, either by gifts of money or of the articles required, will they kindly communicate with the Secretary of the Ladies' Committee, at the Mission offices. If friends think of sending parcels, will they very kindly send a post-card, with particulars of contents of parcel, before sending it.

A magic lantern (for use with oil), for the work at Susa, Tunisia.

Materials for sewing classes at Casablanca and Sfax. These should be flannelette, calico, or coloured cotton—bright colours are much appreciated. Pieces of two yards or over would be most valued.

Strong calico shirts, native garments, and little babies' frocks (patterns and fuller information will gladly be sent to any friends willing to make these).

A small organ for use at classes is much desired by lady workers at one of the stations. They will be pleased to write fully to any friend who would be willing to supply their need.

Illustrated secular papers, such as The Illustrated London News, Graphic, British Workman; also the Christian Herald, Grace Pettman's stories, and illustrated leaflet tracts will be much valued by Mr. Liley, for use in his work among British seamen. They

should be sent direct by book post $(\frac{1}{2}d$. per 2 oz.) to Mr. A. V. Liley, 10, Rue de la Medersa es Slimania, Tunis.

Pictures for the men's hall at Djemaa Sahridj, Algeria. Those used for the International Sunday School lessons, either old or new, would be much appreciated.

French books for young men and lads, for use in the same hall, as a counter-attraction to the cafés, with their bad company and other evils.

Bandages or other accessories of surgical and medical work, including old linen and calico.

Coloured lantern slides of Scripture scenes. A friend is very kindly supplying a number of plain slides, but a few coloured ones to alternate with these would be a great additional attraction to the natives.

Furniture.—The need of larger premises for the work of the Mission in London has long been felt, and has lately become more acute, owing to the formation of the Ladies' Committee, and other reasons. As announced elsewhere, it is proposed to move very shortly, and in the new house a room will be available for the work of the Ladies' Committee. The Committee are anxious to secure, if possible, the necessary furniture for this room, without drawing on the general funds of the Mission, and will be most happy to hear from any friends who would like to contribute, either in money or in kind, for this purpose. The following articles will be needed: a large table, one or two small tables, chairs, a bookshelf, and one or two cupboards.

Enquiries regarding any of the above "Wants" will gladly be answered by

The Secretary of the Ladies' Committee, North Africa Mission,

34, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.

The New Lansdowne Hall.

Friends and members of the Mission will be glad to learn that Pastor W. Fuller-Gooch, the hon. secretary, is now much better, and though still obliged to rest almost entirely, is hoping to be able to preach on March 7th, when the New Lansdowne Hall is to be opened. The following extracts are taken from the January issue of the Mission World: "One of the most interesting movements of recent times centres round the labours

of Pastor W. Fuller-Gooch, at West Norwood. With truly prophetic eye this beloved and honoured servant of the Lord was led many years ago to see the necessity for some rallying basis of faith and practice around which the Lord's people could gather irrespective of denominational differences." Fifteen years ago, after ten years' ministry at Chatsworth Road Church, he took up the undenominational position, and in 1893 Lansdowne Hall, a large iron building, seating 1,000 persons, was opened free of

debt. The new building, a handsome brick structure, is fast approaching com-

"During the last ten years, Mr. Gooch has been in great demand in all parts of the country, and his labours on behalf of the Bible League, the Evangelical Alliance, Mildmay Mission to the Jews, the North Africa Mission, the London City Mission, Open Air Mission, Mrs. Mere-

dith's Homes, etc., etc., are but an evi-

dence of the widespread recognition that the "Hand of the Lord" is upon him for good. Mr. Gooch is welcomed by all sections of the Church of Christ, from the Church of England community to the humblest Mission Hall in the country. He serves his brethren by every means in his power. Many a weary worker has gone back to his labours refreshed and cheered by the kindly handshake and faithful utterances of this dear servant of God."

NOTICES OF BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

The "Gospel Daybreak" in Morocco is the title of a booklet recently issued by the Central Morocco Mission, and obtainable from Mr. G. Wilson, 8, Cromwell Square, Queen's Park, Glasgow. It tells a very interesting story of the life of El-Haj Mohammed-a native of the pirate city of Salee, who was brought to Christ through obtaining a second-hand copy of the New Testament when in Egypt. He afterwards visited Dr. Kerr at Rabat, and purchased a whole Bible from him. Thus he came into contact with the missionary, and learned more of the Gospel. Dr. Kerr was prevented by Mohammed's relatives from seeing him when he was dying, but it was generally known that he refused to witness to Mohammed, and that he was really a believer in Christ.



The current number of **Neglected Arabia**, the quarterly of the Arabian Mission (under the Dutch Reformed Church, U.S.A.) is a "school number," and tells of the work of that nature undertaken by the Mission at stations in Arabia. It is interesting to note how similar the difficulties are to those existing in North Africa.

The Mission World, edited by Rev. Gavin Carlyle, M.A., is now issued at one penny monthly. It is a review of mission work at home and abroad amongst all the denominations, and contains articles also on subjects intimately connected with missionary work. The paper is heartily commended by many of its readers at home and abroad, and will be found especially valuable to those whose opportunities for the study of general missionary literature are limited. About 1,000 copies will be sent gratis to missionaries abroad.

The Builders, by J. H. Synge, is an allegory, likely to prove very helpful, especially to those to whom this form of writing appeals. Under guise of a story, the teaching of 1 Cor. iii. 10-15 is fully emphasised, and that of many other texts and passages, a list of which is given. A kind friend has undertaken to send to many of the members of the Mission a copy of this book. She wishes her name to be withheld, but as a "builder at home," she desires thus to show her sympathy with "builders at the front," for whom she prays, and whose work she watches with interest. (Elliot Stock; 3s. 6d. net.)

North Africa Mission Publications.

"THE GOSPEL IN NORTH AFRICA." By John Rutherfurd, M.A., B.D., and Edward H. Glenny, late Hon. Sec. N.A.M. 248 pages; over 120 telling Illustrations and 8 Maps. Prices (net reduced):-On good paper, bound in paper covers 0 bound in paper boards 6 On high class paper, bound in paper covers 6 bound in cloth boards... 6 . . . Special Edition, on Art Paper, bound in cloth boards, bevelled edges, with gold letters ... 6 BOOKLETS:--" An Arab Woman's Prayer" 6 per doz. "Miriam and Ayesha" ... 0 9 . . ,, "The North Africa Mission" 6 0 A CYCLE OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AFRICA Free . . . All post free.

LIST OF DONATIONS from JANUARY 1st to 31st, 1907. GENERAL AND DESIGNATED FUNDS.

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FORM OF LEGACY OR BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath unto the Treasurer for the time being of "The North Africa Mission," for the purposes of the Mission, the sum of pounds sterling, free from duty, to be paid within six calendar months after my decease, and I direct that receipt of such Treasurer shall be a sufficient discharge for the said Legacy.

N.B. Land and money secured on land can now be bequeathed under the condition enacted by the Charitable Uses Act, 1891, 54 and 55 Vic., c. 73.

[The will or codicil giving the bequest must be signed by the Testator in the presence of two witnesses, who must be present at the same time and subscribe their names in his presence and in the presence of each other. Three witnesses are required in the United States of America.]

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Telephone-5839 CENTRAL.

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Gifts in Money or in kind should be sent to the Secretary, Dr. C. L. Terry, North Africa Mission, 34, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., to whom all cheques and money orders should be made payable.

LOCATION OF MISSIONARIES.

| MOROCCO. | ALCERIA. | Date of |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Date of | Data of | Bizerta. Arrival. |
| Tangier. Arrival. | Cherchell. Arrival. | Miss M. Ericsson Nov., 1888 |
| | Miss L. READ April, 1886 | Miss R. J. MARKUSSON Nov., 1888 |
| J. SCOTT CHALLICE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P Mar., 1906 | Miss H. D. DAY April, 1886 | , |
| | 1 1 1 | Susa. |
| Mrs. Challice Mar., 1906 | 1 mar an 60 T0 | Mr. J. J. Cooksey June, 1892 |
| GEO. WILSON, M.A., M.B Dec., 1906 | | Mrs. Cooksev Dec., 1896 |
| Mrs. Wilson Dec., 1906 | Algiers. | Miss A. Cox Oct., 1892 |
| Mrs. Roberts Dec., 1896 | Kabyle Work- | Miss N. Bagster Oct., 1894 |
| Miss J. JAY Nov., 1885 | Mons. E. CUENDET Sept., 1884 | Kairouan. |
| Miss G. R. S. Breeze, | Madame CUENDET Sept., 1835 | Mr. E. SHORT Feb., 1800 |
| M.B. (Lond.) Dec., 1894 | Miss E. Smith Feb., 1891 | Mrs. Short Oct., 1800 |
| Miss F. Marston Nov., 1895 | Miss A. WELCH Dec., 1892 | Miss E. T. NORTH Oct., 1894 |
| Mr. H. E. Jones Jan., 1897 | Mr. A. Shorey Nov., 1902 | Miss G. L. Addinsell Nov., 1805 |
| Miss H. E. Woodell Jan., 1907 | Mrs. Shorey Oct., 1904 | 1 |
| Spanish Work- | 1 | 8fax. |
| | Djemaa Sahridj. | T. G. Churcher, |
| Miss F. R. Brown Oct., 1889 | Kabyle Work- | M.B., C.M. (Ed.) Oct., 1885 |
| Miss Vecchio, School Mistress. | *Mr. D. Ross Nov., 1902 | Mrs. Churcher Oct., 1889 |
| Casablanca. | *Mrs. Ross Nov., 1902 | Mr. H. E. WEBB Dec., 1892 |
| Casananca. | Miss J. Cox May, 1887 | Mrs. WEBB Nov., 1897 |
| Mr. W. T. Bolton Feb., 1897 | Miss K. Smith May, 1887 | Associated Worker— |
| Mrs. Bolton Dec., 1897 | Constanting | Miss M. Benzakine Jan., 1906 |
| *Miss H. B. Caws Designated | Constantine. | |
| | Mr. J. L. LOCHHEAD Mar., 1892 | |
| Tetuan. | Мгз. Lochhead Маг., 1892 | DEPENDENCY OF TRIPOLI. |
| Miss A. Bolton April, 1889 | Miss E. K. LOCHHEAD Mar., 1892 | Mr. W. H. VENABLES Mar., 1801 |
| Miss A. G. Hubbard Oct., 1891 | Мг. Р. Ѕмітн Feb., 1899 | |
| Miss M. Knight Oct., 1905 | Mrs. Sмітн Sept., 19∞ | |
| Miss G. Smith Oct., 1906 | Miss F. Harnden Nov., 1900 | |
| 111100 07 1011111 | Miss F. H. Guillermet May, 1902 | Mrs. Reid Dec., 1894 |
| Laraish. | | Miss F. M. HARRALD Oct., 1899 |
| Мг. Н. Nотт Jan., 1897 | | Miss F. Dundas April, 1903 |
| Mrs. Nott Feb., 1897 | RECENCY OF TUNIS. | |
| | Tunis. | |
| | | EGYPT. |
| Miss K. Aldridge Dec., 1891 | | Alexandria. |
| Pez. | | |
| = === | Miss M. B. GRISSELL Oct., 1888 | *Mr. W. Dickins Feb., 1896 |
| Mr. O. E. SIMPSON Dec., 1896 | Miss A. HAMMON Oct., 1894 | Mrs. Dickins Feb., 1896 |
| Mrs. Simpson Mar., 1893 | Miss E. LOVELESS Nov., 1902 | Miss R. Hodges Feb., 1889 |
| Miss L. Greathead Nov., 1890 | Miss H. M. M. TAPP Oct., 1903 | Shebin-el-Kom. |
| Miss M. MELLETT Mar., 1892 | Italian Work- | |
| Miss S. M. DENISON Nov., 1893 | Miss A. M. CASE Oct., 1890 | Mr. W. T. FAIRMAN Nov., 1897 |
| Miss I. DE LA CAMP Jan., 1897 | Miss L. E. Roberts Feb., 1899 | *Mrs. Fairman Feb., 1896 |
| AN ENDLAND | IN ALCEDIA | A 30 50 1 111 |

IN ENCLAND, -Miss F. M. BANKS-For Deputation Work. IN ALGERIA. -Miss B. Vining, Invalided.