Southern Morocco Mission

Founded 1888

A Review of the Work 1919

Pickering & Inglis, Printers, Glasgow.
"Bring the children to His feet."

THE HILL OF INTERCESSION.

In the olden days God's people
In the plains with Amalek fought;
But in silence on the hilltop
Was the wondrous victory wrought.

From the hill of intercession
Is the battle ruled to-day;
In the lands of night they conquer
When in faith and love we pray

Bring His sent ones to the Master,
For the fight is hard and long;
Bring the converts in their weakness—
By His grace they may be strong.

Bring the Moslems in their blindness,
And the children to His feet;
And out there amidst the darkness
God will give an answer meet.

Mogador, Morocco.

Mary Ritchie.
"They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before Him."

Southern Morocco Mission.

In sending out this brief Report of the work of the Mission we take the opportunity of thanking our many friends who, by their willing help, have made it possible for us to continue this gracious ministry for the evangelisation of Morocco. The past year has witnessed many changes in that old world land. A new era is dawning. European ideas are rapidly gaining ground among the natives, and our western civilisation is penetrating the country to its remotest bounds. The towns are being connected by telephone, the rivers are being spanned by bridges, the newly-made roads are being traversed by motor cars, and very soon the main centres will be linked up by railways.

Europe is sending her gifts to this new market, and they are being eagerly appropriated by the Moors. Surely we who possess the best gift of all, the Gospel of redeeming love, must not withhold it at such a time as this. It is certain that the door of opportunity stands open as never before; the people, if not yet prepared to accept our message, are at least willing to listen and to reason concerning it. The Word is entering many hearts, and there is the sure promise that it will give light.
This is a great advance from the time, not so far distant, when aloofness and suspicion were the outstanding characteristics of the native. This widespread change has been hastened, to some extent, by the return of the Moorish soldiers from the battlefields of France. What they saw and heard and experienced during those bitter years is now being recounted by them to interested audiences in the bazaars of Morocco. Not only do they tell of the heroism of the battlefield, but of the kindness shown them by doctors and nurses in camp and hospital.

In order to take advantage of these enlarging opportunities it is of the utmost importance that reinforcements should be sent at once. The handful of missionaries are utterly unable to overtake the work that requires their attention; not to speak of the great fields all around them waiting for reapers.

The Work.

Preaching the Gospel! Paul came to Thessalonica strong in the Lord, "confident that his message would subdue those who listened to it," despite their indifference and pride and self-satisfaction and all their cherished wisdom. So will it be in Morocco. The missionaries are preaching the Gospel "in much assurance," and there will be signs following, according to the promise.

The good news is being declared in:

(1) THE DISPENSARIES. From all parts of the country they gather—the sick, the blind, the maimed, every one in search of healing. There are Moors from the cities in their flowing robes; Arabs from the tents in rough homespun garments; Berbers from the mountains; Jews and Europeans. All are found in the dispensary, and all listen to the Gospel appeal. What an opportunity for lifting up the Saviour of the world! Paul was ambitious to go,
in order that he might save some, to those places where there had been no mention of Christ's Name. At the mission dispensaries many are present to whom Christ's Name means nothing; they have never heard the gladdening story of redeeming love. How do they receive the Word as it is faithfully proclaimed by the servants of Christ? Many with indifference; some with hatred; others with tolerance; a few with faith. These are gathered as opportunity offers and instructed further in the way of life. Doubtless many who go their way have been impressed by the Word, and as they come again and again these impressions are deepened, until realisation of the great love of God in
Christ will come to them. It is a great privilege to minister to these crowds day by day. The extent of this service may be judged when it is mentioned that over 50,000 people pass through the mission dispensaries annually.

(2) In the Open Air. While formal open-air meetings are not held, there are many opportunities in shops and streets and gardens for speaking to groups of people. In such gatherings the missionary often meets with fervid followers of the prophet, who exalt their own religion and seek to disparage Christianity. The opportunity thus given of comparing the holy precepts of the Gospel with the worldly maxims of the Koran is taken advantage of, often with encouraging results.

(3) To the Jews. A specialised knowledge of the Jewish question is necessary on the part of those who seek to influence the Jew for Christ. Mr David Muir, our missionary to the Jews, has by patient study made himself familiar with their difficulties and doubts. In widely scattered places where the Jews reside he has declared that there is none other Name given under heaven, but the Name of Jesus, whereby salvation may be found, and proves this from their own Scriptures. He can tell of many interesting conversations with inquiring Jews who doubtless have been stirred to ponder these things as a result of our brother's earnest declaration of the truth.

(4) Among the Children. To reach and rescue the child life of Morocco for Christ has ever been the earnest desire of our workers. The possibilities that lie in service of this kind are being increasingly realised by all who have the evangelisation of Moslem lands at heart. In influencing the children for Christ the missionaries are greatly hastening the coming of the kingdom, for the future is with them. In many homes in Morocco to-day there are
wives who, as girls, were trained in our schools, and who know what Christianity stands for having seen it exemplified in the lives of their teachers. They can never think of Christians, as their parents did in their ignorance. The light has come to them, and in measure many of them are changed—some of them sawingly. A new atmosphere of sympathy and good-will is abroad, and very largely it has been created by the patient service our sisters have rendered in the schools.

The work among them is being carried on to the utmost limit of the time and strength of the workers. In this depart-
ment specially there is urgent need for extension, and we trust to hear of some who will go forth to teach these waiting and long neglected little ones words whereby they may be saved.

Three native Christian women have been set apart to help the missionaries in the work among the children, and their labours are being greatly blessed. Shall we not respond in larger measure to the call of these little ones who so greatly need our help?

Visitation Work.

In this service there is ample opportunity of helping the down-trodden Moslem women whose dishonoured lot is so sorrowful and saddening. Not only is the Gospel read and preached in the homes of the people, but help and advice are given in times of sickness and sorrow. The pitiable ignorance concerning the treatment of the most ordinary ailments is appalling, and as a result there is much needless suffering, specially among the children. The missionaries as they visit show them how to do things, with gratifying results. Vaccination has been introduced with incalculable benefits. Thus by word and deed the kingdom comes in hearts and homes.

Distribution of the Scriptures.

Claudius Buchanan, the Indian missionary, said: "Give a man a Bible, you give him more than an earthly kingdom; for you put into his hands the key to the heavenly kingdom." The study of the Scriptures is proving in Morocco, as has been the case in other lands, a great instrument of evangelisation, and we expect great things from the perusal, by the educated natives, of these wonderful words of life. It is an unspeakable privilege to put this Book with all its
priceless promises into the hands of those who have grown weary seeking for help in the lifeless pages of the Koran. One of these said: "All my life I have been seeking for the door; now I read of One who says to me, 'I am the Door.'"

Those who know from their own experience the inspiration which comes to them from the study of the Bible will rejoice that others are beginning to share its great joy.

Along those various lines of work, which we have very briefly indicated, our workers are striving to bring the light of the Gospel to the people of Morocco who have so long dwelt in darkness. They are looking to us for help. What can those who have a willing mind do to strengthen their hands?

Pray. One call comes to us with frequency and urgency from all our workers. They call for more prayer—intense, believing, continuous prayer. They feel that their testimony can only be effective in the measure by which they are sustained by the intercessions of the children of God. This puts upon us who are their partners a great responsibility. "He wondered that there was no intercessor." Will you join the company of those who in the secret place, and in company with others like-minded, are intercessors on behalf of the work in Morocco?

Give. Our Lord is longing to see of the travail of His soul in Moslem lands, and if this is to be realised we must be sharers with Him through sacrifice. He fed the thousands, but He took the human gift of five small loaves. His wonder-working hands gave the mighty increase. We put our poor, unworthy gifts of prayer, of time, of money or whatever it may be, into His hands, and He multiplies them beyond all our thoughts. Not apart from His servants does He save the lost, but through them as His chosen instruments. Shall we offer Him our gifts
for the evangelising of Morocco in larger measure than heretofore?

A doctor is urgently needed. We shall be glad to hear from any medical man or woman who is desirous of serving the Master in the ministry of healing. There is a wide opportunity for such service in Morocco to any one who may hear this call.

In all departments of the work the need for extension is pressing. We are looking to the Lord to send us largely increased gifts so that these open doors may be speedily entered and held for the King. To the Lord’s remembrancers we state these needs which are as a burden upon the hearts of the missionaries. They see on every hand the yellowing fields, and they are looking for the reapers. Let there be a speedy and generous response to the appeal which this hour of opportunity is making to all who, in the providence of God, have become aware of the needs and claims of Morocco.

We trust that every one who reads this review of the work will seek to have fellowship with us by prayer and gift, so that the cause of Christ may be forwarded in that dark land.

"Give thy love freely, do not count the cost;
So beautiful a thing was never lost
In the long run!"
OFFICE-BEARERS.
Honorary President—JOHN ANDERSON.
Chairman of Council—D. J. KNOX.

General Council.
Right Hon. Sir JOSEPH P. MACLAY, Bart., LL.D., Glasgow.
D. J. FINDLAY, J.P., Glasgow.
D. J. KNOX, J.P., Glasgow.
DAVID KEITH-MURRAY, Crieff.
R. G. MUNSIE, Glasgow.

Superintendent in Morocco—CUTHBERT NAIRN.
Secretary—JOHN GEDDES, 209 Buchanan Street, Glasgow.
Hon. Treasurer—JAMES FULTON, 209 Buchanan St., Glasgow.

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<th>Missionary Staff, 1919.</th>
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SOUTHERN MOROCCO MISSION.

Origin.—Founded in 1888 under circumstances which conveyed a clear and imperative call to take up work in a needy and unoccupied part of the Mission Field.

Object.—To carry the Gospel to the Moors, Jews, Arabs, and Berber tribes of South Morocco, and the regions beyond,

Methods.—Preaching the Gospel; Medical Work in Hospitals, Dispensaries, and in the People's Homes; Female Missions to the Women; Children's Homes and Classes; Itineration; and Scripture Distribution.

Support.—The Mission is supported entirely by the free-will offerings of the Lord's people. Its needs are laid before God in prayer, and information regarding the work is given in the Organ of the Mission, or otherwise.