

Continuing "NORTH AFRICA"

The N.A.M. News Letter

OFFICE OF THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION: 34, BISHAM GARDENS, HIGHGATE, LONDON, N. 6
ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: GENERAL SECRETARY, ERNEST J. LONG
AMERICAN AUXILIARY: HON. SECRETARY, DR. HARVEY FARMER, P. O. Box 5057, DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA, U.S.A.

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EDITED BY E. J. LONG, F.R.S.G.S.

JULY-AUG., 1948



IN THE JEWISH QUARTER, TRIPOLI

"First Impressions"

IN one important respect the new missionary recruit has an advantage, even though it be a fleeting one, over the "senior worker." She steps ashore at Tangier, or Algiers, or Tunis, into a wholly new environment with a mind that is very sensitive to new impressions. At once she is assailed by sights, sounds and smells that are quite different—perhaps disconcertingly

different!—from those that formed the commonplace background of everyday life in Britain.

In the following paragraphs ("Tripoli," "Tangier," "Paris") three of our newest recruits have recorded some of their "first impressions." We are sure that friends will read them with special interest, and value the contribution they make towards a clearer understanding of the setting and "local colour" of missionary life:—

(1) *Tripoli*

As the French mailboat "G. G. Chanzy" pitched and rolled through a heavy Mediterranean Sea we gazed expectantly to the far horizon for the first sight of land. At last the shadowy outline of the Atlas Mountains appeared in the distance, and everyone thronged the deck for their first glimpse of Africa. As we drew nearer, the mountain barrier loomed large and formidable—ominously reminding us of that other barrier which confronts us daily in North Africa, "the sway of Islam." Yet the Lord has said, "I will make all My mountains a way."

Eventually we steamed into Tunis Bay, with high mountains on each side, giving place to lower and more fertile hills, and at length to the plain on which Tunis is built. How welcome was the sight of Mr. Miles and Miss Gotelee, who promptly took the burden of luggage, Customs, etc. from our shoulders and piloted us safely to the Mission House, "Bethesda", and then to receive a further welcome from Mrs. Miles. Although only three days were spent in Tunis, we met many friends, both of the N.A.M. and the C.M.J., and saw many interesting things, thanks to their kindness—the ruins of the old Roman City of Carthage, the native bazaars or Souks, and the Bey's Palace.

Early on Monday morning Mr. Fife and I continued on the last stage of our journey to Tripoli by motor-coach. We said Goodbye to all in Tunis, knowing that we had now many friends there, "labourers together with Him."

The fertile plain around Tunis gradually gave place to more barren country. Instead of the olive and orange trees there were large stretches of dry scrub and sand; and eventually sand-dunes, camels, wandering Bedouin and typical desert scenes met our gaze. The coach stopped for a few minutes at Sousse, a large seaside town of which we could only see a little, and later at Sfax, where we could see the ancient walls of the old Arab city with more modern architecture outside. At Gabes we stayed overnight, and had an opportunity of exploring the Oasis. (In all these three towns there is no Protestant witness so far as we know, and yet there are Roman Catholic Churches there.)

The next day we rose early, and were on our journey again by 7 a.m. On through more barren and desert country we sped, and here and there we would pass the framework of an Army lorry, tank or machine-gun, telling their own tale of the price paid by so many young lives for our freedom. In silent gratitude we remembered them and commended their loved ones to

God in prayer. Every inch of the road we travelled had been fought for by the 8th Army.

After going through Customs at Ben Ghardane and again at Zuara we entered the British Zone and saw the Union Jack flying—a welcome sight to us in this distant land. As we drew near Tripoli the country became more fertile, on account of the great number of wells and the ancient system of watering the land by furrows. Once more olive, orange and eucalyptus trees gladdened our eyes, and then the well-built and substantial buildings of Tripoli came into view, white and dazzling, graceful and spacious in architecture.

As the coach drew up in the central square of Tripoli (from which all the streets lead off like spokes in a wheel) Dr. Liley waved us a welcome, and soon in a horse-drawn carriage we were on our way to Suk el Harrara—past the old Spanish Castle, along the sea-front, until at length we turned in to this narrow little street, lined with Arab and Jewish shops. At the doorway of No. 65 Mrs. Liley was there to greet us. How lovely and cool it was to step inside the house, and how welcome the typical English tea which she had prepared for us!

The Mission House is built in the old Turkish style, with a central courtyard from which the patients' treatment and waiting-rooms open. Two flights of stone stairs lead to an upstairs balcony, and our living-rooms open on to this. Higher still there is the flat roof from which can be seen the principal buildings of the town—mosques, Government offices, and the Roman Catholic Cathedral. Here one can go far above the noises in the street below, and see the glories of an Eastern sunset, feel the gentle sea-breeze, and worship and hold communion with Him Who is "far above all" and in Whose Name we claim the souls of North Africa.

(Miss J. Wilberforce.)

(2) *Tangier*

Here are a few first impressions of North Africa:—

On first seeing Tangier—or as much as could be glimpsed in going from the Dock to Hope House via the Market Place—nothing appeared strange or new, for I felt just as though I had been here before, so life-like were the films Mr. Fife had taken and shown us. It seemed quite natural that I should be here (the impression still continues); yet I felt as one in a dream, waiting to wake up at any minute and find myself in England. (I'm glad I did *not* wake up!)

A DISCIPLE, A DEPENDENT, A DEVOTEE*

Notes of an Address by EDWARD H. GLENNY
(Founder of the North Africa Mission and Hon. Secretary until his Homecall in 1926)

"Mary . . . SAT AT THE LORD'S FEET, and heard His word."—Luke x. 39 (R.V.)

"When Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw Him, SHE FELL DOWN AT HIS FEET."—John xi. 32.

"Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and ANOINTED THE FEET OF JESUS, AND WIPED HIS FEET WITH HER HAIR."—John xii. 3.

IN these three passages, there are given to us three progressive pictures of a pardoned worshipper whom we shall do well to imitate.

I. THE DISCIPLE WORSHIPPER.

Our first sight of Mary reveals her sitting as a hearer and learner at the feet of her Lord. This is the place which we should all take, and which we should do well to retain. Our Lord has said: "*He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life*" (John v. 24). Isaiah also by the Holy Spirit declares, "*Incline your ear, and come unto Me: hear, and your soul shall live*" (Isa. lv. 3). The work that the Lord committed to the eleven ere He ascended to the right hand of the Father was to "*make disciples of all nations*" (Matt. xxviii. 19). Paul also reminds us that "*Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*" (Rom. x. 17).

To sit at the feet of our Lord and hear His word is then the place of receiving eternal life, and it is the perpetual place of discipleship and of adoring worship. To

listen attentively to the word of God is to show our appreciation of the wisdom and worthiness of the One to whose words we listen, and to confess our ignorance and need of instruction. There are some who seem to think that in worship, God should only listen to us, but though speaking to Him has its place, surely for us to listen to Him is true worship. We teach our children that they show respect to their seniors by listening rather than by talking. Sitting at the feet of the Lord comes before service and sanctification, for how can we know how and when to serve, if we do not get our instructions, and how can we do the will of God if we have not sat at the feet of our Lord to learn what that will is?

We shall find also, that to hear what the Lord has to say comes, in order, before prayer; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought, and God's Word suggests matter for prayer.

II. THE DEPENDENT WORSHIPPER.

The second scene in Mary's history reveals her in deep distress. Her greatly loved and only brother is seriously ill, and she and her sister Martha send at once for the Lord. They depend on His love and power, and know no other helper. But to their surprise and disappointment, He appears to disregard their prayer for help. This was a mystery and a sore and terrible trial of their faith, which has its counterpart probably in the case of all those who have had much experience of the ways of God. But the trial grows deeper, and the mystery of the Lord's apparent indifference

*These Notes are being reprinted in booklet form, and copies may be obtained from N.A.M. Headquarters at One Penny per copy. Twelve or more copies, post free.

NORTH AFRICA MISSION

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

					RECEIPTS.								
					GENERAL FUND.			DESIGNATED FUND.			TOTAL.		
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.													
Donations	...	...	...	...	12,286	0	11						
Legacies	...	...	...	...	768	17	0						
Publications	...	...	...	...	66	13	4						
Dividends and Tax refunded	...	...	...	...	7	2	0						
											13,128	13	3
FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES.													
SPECIALLY SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES—													
Donations	...	...	...	...				2,196	4	6			
MEDICAL MISSIONS—													
Donations	...	...	...	...				92	11	6			
Legacies	...	...	...	...				811	8	8			
Patients' Contributions	...	...	...	...				1,163	9	1			
Dividend on Investment and Tax refunded for Bed in the Tulloch Memorial Hospital	...	...	...	...				27	1	2			
Dividend on Investment and Tax refunded for Women's Hospital	...	...	...	...				117	17	10			
VARIOUS DESIGNATED OBJECTS—													
Donations	...	...	...	...				538	6	3			
Interest	...	...	...	...				25	0	0			
LITERATURE FUND—													
Donation	...	...	...	...				25	0	0			
FOR GENERAL FUND (for subsequent use)—													
Donation	...	...	...	...				2,000	0	0			
FROM GENERAL FUND—													
Re Sale of Agribbes Property (final payment)	...	...	...	...				150	0	0			
GLENNY MEMORIAL FUND—													
Dividend on Investments and Tax refunded	...	...	...	...				121	2	2			
											7,268	1	2
REALIZATION OF INVESTMENTS													
Withdrawal from Post Office Savings Bank	...	...	...	...				89	17	8			
											89	17	8
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	...	...	...	...	13,128	13	3	7,357	18	10	20,486	12	1
BALANCES at Bankers, etc., as at 31st December, 1946													
For Designated Purposes	...	...	...	...				2,356	4	8			
For General Purposes	...	...	...	...	254	17	10				2,611	2	6
											£13,383	11	1
											£9,714	3	6
											£23,097	14	7

We have examined the above Statement of Receipts and Payments of the North Africa Mission for the Missionaries as are available, and certify that, in our opinion, it correctly summarises the Cash Transactions.

Law Courts Chambers,
33/34, Chancery Lane,
London, W.C. 2.

14th June, 1948.

ALA MISSION.

Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK.	GENERAL FUND.		DESIGNATED FUND.		TOTAL.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
MAINTENANCE, RENT, ETC.—						
Missionaries' Maintenance	7,794	6 4	2,335	3 7		
Missionaries' Rent and House Expenses ...	610	1 10				
Rent and Station Expenses (Meeting Rooms, etc.)	305	0 11				
Travelling, Furloughs and Freight	1,135	12 1				
Rent and Furnishings for accommodation for Field Superintendent	600	0 0				
European Helpers engaged in direct Missionary Work	15	1 4				
					12,795	6 1
COLLATERAL EXPENSES—						
Work, General and Sundry Expenses	205	13 1	319	10 11		
Orphan Work Relief	27	0 0				
Colportage, Bible Depot	20	4 0				
Travelling, Passports, etc.			31	19 3		
Students' Training Fees	15	0 0	18	0 0		
Rent, Rates and Repairs			274	5 3		
Car Expenses and Itinerary			125	0 6		
					1,036	13 0
MEDICAL MISSIONS—						
Rent, Taxes, Repairs, Fuel and Lighting			113	19 6		
Drugs, Instruments, and Food Relief			823	12 10		
Wages, Freight, Customs, Travelling, etc.			1,109	0 11		
Printing and Stationery			30	8 4		
					2,077	1 7
TOTAL DIRECT PAYMENTS FOR MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK	10,727	19 7	5,181	1 1	15,909	0 8
HOME PAYMENTS.						
PUBLICATIONS—						
Printing, Postage and Carriage "NEWS LETTER"	437	11 9				
Other Printing, Postage and Publication Expenses	127	17 4			565	9 1
MEETINGS—						
Salaries, Travelling, Postage and Printing	74	3 11			74	3 11
OFFICE—						
Rates, Repairs, Fuel, Lighting, Cleaning and Insurance	144	8 10				
Salaries, Wages and State Insurance	1,020	14 2				
Postages, Printing, Telephone, etc.	272	18 0				
Travelling, Legal and Sundries	40	9 3			1,478	10 3
OTHER PAYMENTS—						
To General Fund (included in Donations)			2,000	0 0		
Interest on Private Loan	10	0 0			2,010	0 0
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	12,856	2 10	7,181	1 1	20,037	3 11
BALANCES at Bankers and In Hand on the Field, 31st December, 1947						
For Designated Purposes	527	8 3	2,533	2 5	3,060	10 8
For General Purposes						
	£13,383	11 1	£9,714	3 6	£23,097	14 7

for the year ended 31st December, 1947, with the Books and Vouchers at Head Office and the Statements received from the Mission for the year.

HILL, VELLACOTT & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.

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becomes more profound. Lazarus dies, and it seems that even if the Lord does come now, it will be of no use.

Still He delays, and Lazarus is buried. At last the Lord arrives when Lazarus has been dead four days, and when corruption has set in. Mary had depended on her Lord. Had she depended in vain? It looked as though she had. She was confident that if He had come before Lazarus had died, He could have prevented his decease. But the Lord wanted to increase her faith in Him, and ours also, and to reveal Himself as one to be depended on as able to give life to the dead—to the physically dead, and to the spiritually and morally dead. Mary falls at His feet in the attitude of profoundest dependence.

She has no hope of deliverance except Himself. This was worship in another form. By sitting at His feet and hearing His word she had learned to know Him. Now she worships Him as the one whom she cannot do without, as the one who *alone* doeth great wonders. We honour our Lord when we treat Him as the one who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think, and when we depend *alone* on Him.

Mary's faith may not have fully risen to the occasion. Still there was real faith, and it was honoured, and the Lord went beyond her faith and raised Lazarus to life. It was no vain thing to depend on Him, and it is no vain thing now. It honours God and blesses men. If we study the history of God's people in all ages, we shall see that His dealings with them have ever in view the bringing of them to depend simply and solely on Him.

Independence of God is what Satan has aimed at obtaining. Dependence on God is what our Lord delighted in, and it is the blessed experience into which He desires to bring us now, and it is that which we shall fully enjoy in the life to come.

III. THE DEVOTEE WORSHIPPER.

There seems to be a Divine order in this progress. We must be disciples to be dependents, we must be satisfied and delighted dependents to be devotees. The order cannot be rightly reversed. If we

would be devotees we must begin by being disciples.

Mary's heart was overflowing. She had had such a revelation of the grace, love and power of her Lord, that her heart was captivated by Him. It was no difficulty to her to love Him. Her difficulty was to give adequate expression to her bursting heart. She had some very costly ointment, estimated by Judas as worth 300 pence, equal to a labourer's earnings for about a year or to a woman's earnings for two years. She determines to break this box of ointment on His head and feet. Nothing is too good for Him. Nothing is good enough for Him. Then she will take her hair, a woman's glory, and use it as a towel for His blessed feet. She will do it publicly, before all. What does it matter what people may think or say? His worthiness is unutterably great. Her best is not good enough for Him. She forgets herself, forgets those around her, He alone fills her heart and mind. She, in measure, anticipates the time when the redeemed shall cast their crowns at His feet, and declare that He alone is worthy, for He has redeemed them by His blood.

This is worship in its highest form—worship of heart and soul. There is no formality. How different from the heartless forms of mere ritual and custom! Yet if we would rise to this highest devotion we must begin by discipleship, and go on to utter dependence before we arrive at being devotees. If we had a few devotees like Mary, how little trouble there would be about either labourers or funds! Money would pour in, until as of old we should have too much, and be compelled to ask people to stay their hands. What missionaries, evangelists, pastors, and teachers we should have! There would be no hirelings! There would be no dry, uninteresting speakers! What progress there would be at home and abroad! Yes, it is devotees who are wanted—men and women who have been captivated by the Lord Jesus Christ, and who love Him so intensely that they yield themselves absolutely to Him for life or death.

Education has its place, but devotedness to the Lord is what He values, and what tells.

I was struck by the extreme contrast of ancient and modern—people, shops, conveyances; by the thin and poor-looking animals and their owners; by the over-burdened women-folk; by the under-nourished babies and infants slung across their mothers' backs—smothered by the *haik* (the native woman's voluminous veil: Ed.) and deprived of the glorious sun and the fresh air; and by the incessant noise and chatter, and the hooting of car-horns.

Upon arriving at Hope House I was touched by the warmth of the welcome, and the kindness shown by the native workers, M—— especially. I was impressed, too, by the brightness and homeliness of my "own room."

The Hospital was as I expected it to be (due again to the films), and the patients seemed pleased to welcome me.

The work is, in a way, quite different from that in the Homeland—chiefly due to the very different type of people one cares for, and the shortage of bandages, rags, cotton-wool and disinfectants. (But we *are* in Africa, after all—and much better off than some.)

The washing of soiled linen—awful! Yet so necessary

to cope with requirements. Uncomplainingly done by M——, and just lately by F——, a young girl patient who has been in a long while with corneal ulcers, and who now helps in many ways very cheerfully. Truly worthy of the name "Tabeeba (Doctor) F——". Whilst going about her varied tasks she sings away merrily the many choruses and hymns learnt. We believe that the Lord *has* drawn her unto Himself. Please pray for her, that this may really be so, and that she may be a witness for Him among the others.

Impressions of the patients themselves: Their confidence is soon gained. Most show marked interest during the giving of Gospel messages, and singing. They love music—or, should I say, musical instruments? For they have no "ear" for music as we know it.

They love to help us as we seek to pronounce new words—although they all seem to have different ways of pronouncing those very words!

They laugh at our mistakes, and rejoice at our successes—every new word learnt, or remembered.

One's lack of Arabic is a great handicap. "Signs and wonders" are *not* always understood—or correct!

... The babies are lovely—very much like our English babies. The mothers are nice too. ...

It is sad, though, to know of mothers selling their babies. Two have done so only this week—one yesterday and one today, and both because of illegitimacy. How they need our prayers!

(Miss C. Roberts).

(3) Paris

Paris! In the two months spent here, I have been much impressed with the beauty and splendour of Paris, with its many great statues and monuments, its artistic buildings in the City and its lovely wide boulevards and avenues. Trees along the sides or in the middle of roads, greatly enhance the beauty and, just at this Season, make one realise that Spring is with us.

There are many notable places of interest to visit, such as the Eiffel

Tower, from which a wonderful view of Paris can be obtained, The Arc de Triomphe, where the lamp is kept burning continually over the grave of the Unknown Warrior, The Concorde, Trocadero, Invalides and many others. There are also many woods. The missionary students here in Paris, comprising Norwegians, Swedes, Americans and English, enjoyed a picnic in the Bois de Vincennes on Easter Monday. We were all fascinated with the beauty and vastness of the woods. We forgot the serious side of life and took recreation in many games; the result during the next few days was somewhat painful!

The shops in Paris are simply fascinating and seem full of all the things we have not seen for years in England. Almost all clothing is coupon-free now, which in itself is a tremendous incentive to buy, but the majority of things are somewhat expensive.

Life here is very full indeed. We are in Paris with no easy task before us—to learn the



A PICNIC IN THE BOIS DE VINCENNES
Missionary Students in Paris for Language Training

language and eventually to be able to speak it like natives. This demands our whole time and energy, which we seek to give joyfully, with the hope inspired by our aim—the privilege of taking the Glorious Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the French territory of North Africa, which cannot be done successfully without some mastery of the language. I am told that Mr. Procter, at the last Annual Meeting, outlined his three proposals for the work in Paris: “1. Work; 2. Still more work; 3. The hardest work the students have ever done.” Truth, indeed!

We have some very helpful and blessed times of fellowship. It is a great privilege to have this time specially set apart for language study, and to live in such happy circumstances whilst so many students sent by other Societies have to face difficulties with regard to accommodation and catering. Please remember to pray for the students in Paris—we need your prayer-support and fellowship.

(Miss M. Huntington.)

S.O.S.

In this case the letters mean “Send Old Sheets” or “Save Old Shirts,” and stress the Tangier Hospital’s URGENT NEED of any old *white* material, however small in size or quantity, that would serve for dressing the wounds of Moors and others who come for treatment. Every scrap of old white rag is precious, and can be made to serve. Please send your odds and ends (even one old white handkerchief is of value) to N.A.M., 34, Bisham Gardens, Highgate, London, N.6.

“May he Drink Poison!”

Moslem and Jewish patients are coming (to the Medical Mission in Tripoli) four mornings a week. Among them recently was an Arab woman with two children. One was a three-year-old boy; the other a baby in arms.

The small boy broke the bottle brought for the medicine, and the mother was reprimanded for giving it into the hands of so small a child. She explained that he had asked to have it to get a drink of water: and then she exclaimed, in some heat: “And may he drink poison out of it!”

I asked her gently if she really meant this, feeling fairly sure that impatience had prompted the curse, or the cruel wish, that is ever ready to spring to their lips. To my surprise she replied in dead earnest: “Yes: I **do** mean it! What is the use of these two children continuing to live on? Their father is sitting in the house. He has no work, and I have no food to give them. Better that they should die!”

The British authorities here are doing all in their power on behalf of the poor and starved, and have two poorhouses full of adults and children.

This morning, among the patients was a little Arab girl of ten, who was able to write in Arabic the instructions as to how and when to take the medicine. She could also read my husband’s Arabic handwriting. Thus the little Arab girls of Tripoli, like their neighbours further West, are making good use of the educational opportunities now being granted even to them in these modern times!

There are two things to be wondered at and prayed over: on the one hand, the attentive listening whilst the Gospel talk is being given, and the intelligent grasp of its message; on the other hand, the apparent total absence of any definite result in heart and life!

But, surely, Seed sown to be prayed “in,” and quickened into Life by the Life-giving Spirit!

Mrs. J. A. Liley, Tripoli.

Our Oldest Supporter

We received quite recently the following letter from Brighton, where resides a dear saint of God who has faithfully remembered the N.A.M. since those far-off days (1881-1889) when it was known as “The Mission to Kabyles and other Berber Races in North Africa”:

“... Please find cheque for £— from Box 20. We so often think of you all, and are ever praying for the work and workers of the N.A.M., as it is very dear to my heart.

“I so often think of dear Mr. Glenny returning after his first visit to North Africa, and telling us all about it. I took a missionary box, and I thank God that ever since then I have had a small share in it. May God bless you all. Yours in Christ Jesus, Mrs. E. M. C—.”

How we, in turn, praise the Lord for these well-nigh 67 years of unbroken remembrance! Who shall gauge their worth?

Four New Publications

We would warmly commend to our readers’ attention a little booklet just published, and entitled: “I Will Shake All Nations.” It most helpfully relates the Lord’s message through Haggai to the present crisis in international affairs. The writer is our old friend (and sometime N.A.M. Missionary) Mr. A. T. Upson.

His second little booklet with a challenging message for the times in which we live is: “Wanted—A Man.” The third “We must be Prepared.” The fourth “Can God? . . . Will He?” (on Revival). All at 2/6d. per dozen copies, from Mr. Upson, 8, Queens Road, Rayleigh, Essex.