

English Notes.

BY REV. JAMES DOUGLAS.

A Stundist's Faith Honored.—The following incident, received from an authentic source, has just appeared in *The Christian*: "Quite lately a large number of Russian criminals were standing in the courtyard of their prison chained together, and about starting for their long, sad journey into Siberian wilds. Among them was one Christian Stundist, sharing their banishment and punishment simply because he had spoken to his fellow-workmen about the faith which made him count all things as dross for Christ's sake. His fellow-prisoners were jeering him about it, saying, 'But you are no better off than we are. You are wearing the bracelets' (handcuffs) 'as we do; if your God is of any use to you, why doesn't He knock off your chains and set you free?' The man reverently replied, 'If the Lord will, He *can* set me free even now; and though my hands are chained, *my heart is free!*' At that very moment a voice was heard calling him by name and telling him that a paper had just been received granting him a full pardon. He was then told to stand aside, and his chains were struck off. At the same time the prison gates were thrown open and all the rest of the convicts filed out, the Stundist alone remaining behind with permission to return to his family and friends. It is said that the prisoners were perfectly awe-stricken and solemnized with the impression of what they had witnessed." Unknown to himself, a Christian lady had asked and obtained his pardon, and the Great Time-keeper had ordered its arrival at the critical moment. "They that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee, for Thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek Thee" (Ps. 9: 10).

North Africa.—The Spanish work so long carried on by Mr. Patrick and his helpers in Tangier is undergoing a time of persecution. God has been blessing

the work greatly of late, and the powers of evil are much stirred. A few weeks since Mr. Barnard, with a Spanish colporteur and Miss Brown, who were distributing tracts in the Spanish quarter, were stoned by the priests; but God protected them from harm. Many of the Spaniards, both men and women, have been converted." Mr. Patrick says, "No words can tell how fierce is the persecution we are enduring. Men are being turned out of their houses and have the greatest difficulty in getting others, as the friars speak against our people to all the landlords in Tangier. One man has been turned out of four houses in less than a year. Some twelve or fourteen people have been summoned to the Consulate and grossly insulted and abused by the consul within the last month. The vilest of charges have been made against Mr. Barnard, Miss Brown, and myself, by a friar, through the Spanish consulate to the English consul. Truly we are beset on every side!"

—Mr. J. J. Edwards, in connection with his journey into the interior of Morocco, has met with a variety of incidents. A shereef, Manlai El Hadj, hospitably entertained him; and on that occasion he had an interesting conversation with the Kadie—i.e., Civil Judge—about the divinity of Christ. The Kadie, or Governor, was also present. The Shereef went so far as to say that Christ was equal to Mohammed, and, if need be, he and a hundred thousand whom he could influence were ready to become Messiaheen—i.e., followers of Christ.

—Mr. Lamb has been continuing the translation of St. Matthew's gospel into Kabyle, and correcting the proof of St. Mark's gospel. Quite a number of talaks (disciples of Mohammed) have come specially to ask for books.

—Mr. Bröling, who is laboring in Algiers in connection with Miss Trotter's work, reports some interesting facts in a circular letter just issued.