

After completing the course of the Women's School, if a woman shows capabilities fitting her for Bible Women's work, she may be allowed to take a third year of study, and then be appointed as a Bible-woman.

CHAPTER VI. MEDICAL WORK

MEDICAL Missions is an answer to this question. Our Medical work in Honan is not only making life happier from the physical side, but is removing obstacles to the spread of the Gospel, and paving the way for the healing of the soul.

The Need.—There is no question as to the need. "In China the so-called native doctors are the merest empirics, and, having no fear of medical colleges or examination tests before their eyes, prey on the folly and ignorance of the people without let or hindrance. With no knowledge of physiology or anatomy, pathological diagnosis is the merest guess work. Such a remedy as amputation is never, under any circumstances, thought of since it is regarded as indicating disrespect to ancestors to mutilate the body. A Chinese doctor, entirely ignorant of the distinction between arteries and veins, will feel the pulses of both wrists with the idea that the beating of the pulse of the left arm indicates the state of the heart, while that of the right represents the health of the lungs and liver. If these signs fail, the tongue will surely yield some mystic augury concerning the nature of the disease. As to remedies, they are composed of many vegetable, mineral and animal substances, some of them of the most absurd irrelevance. A remedy of noted efficacy is the carcase of a tiger. It can be used in a variety of ways, and is supposed to possess marvellous tonic qualities. There is a potent remedial power in dried scorpions, and as a remedy for Asiatic cholera nothing excels a needle thrust into the abdomen."—Christian Missions and Social Progress.

The Field.—For the crying medical needs of China the body of qualified practitioners is exceedingly small. There are about four hundred and fifty foreign doctors giving their whole time to the needs of the Chinese, and besides,