

we must move. God said to Moses, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward."

In the year 1890 there were 1,296 missionaries in China. Since that time the number has been somewhat enlarged. In 1889 the number of communicants were 37,287, out of a population of about 350,000,000. Now, compare these figures, and while you are making the comparison add to the numbers Thibet without one Christian missionary. The work, however, is steadily going forward, but in many stations is hampered by lack of funds or an insufficient number of workers.

The darkest cloud of heathenism rests upon the minds and hearts of the women of China, and it is of the first importance that they be instructed and enlightened. There is an immense field and great need for women physicians, a need as great or greater than that of India. Dr. Macleish, of Amoy, states that "the conditions of Chinese social life are such as to render it necessary that a separate institution should be provided for women, where they may receive advice and treatment from an educated physician of their own sex." Dr. J. G. Kerr, in one of his hospital reports, tells us that "the Chinese women of the better class endure a vast amount of suffering rather than submit to what modern medical science requires for the diagnosis of disease and its treatment. The profound ignorance of the native faculty, and the seclusion and modesty of the female members of most families, open an unlimited field in China for the lady physicians."

Let us note a few points in which the evil of existing betrothal and marriage customs is apparent. The marriages are arranged by the parents or relations of the young people, and no opportunity is afforded for mutual acquaintance between those who are to become partners for life. Fortune tellers are employed, who decide whether the parties are appropriate, not from personal knowledge, but by comparing the records of each and ascertaining the relative position on the horoscope of the animals supposed to control the years in which each was born. It is also customary to pay large sums of betrothal money, often far exceeding the circumstances of the husband's family, and perhaps leaving them in debt for years. Again, the betrothal is often arranged in