

*The Medical Work* has been somewhat more interesting than in former years. The house in which I was living has a number of rooms, and when some patients came that needed more careful treatment, we put them in there. As it was situated just beside the dispensary and school it was very convenient for the work. And though we did not dignify it with the name—hospital—still it has filled to some extent the lack of a hospital. We had in it to end of February six patients. Some of these cases were very interesting. A young Brahmin, who has been more or less with us for the last two years, while engaged in his duty of night watch at our tents, took suddenly ill with cholera. Many a talk I had had with him about Jesus the only Saviour, and he had told me in conversation that he did not any more worship idols, and said that he would be a Christian. His request was that we, his Christian ministers for Christ's sake, should pray for him. As we prayed his voice joined with ours, and he asked pardon, mercy and blessing of Him who said to the dying thief upon the cross, "To-day shalt thou be with me in paradise." The same evening he died.

While I have asked the Council for the permission from them to collect money in India for a hospital, I should be very glad, and consider that valuable time would be saved, if a little help were given in this way from home. I do not ask a grand building to attract the eye, but simply long narrow buildings that will give suitable protection and plenty of air. Fifteen hundred dollars would be ample for the needs of years.

9,062 treatments were given to 4,861 patients, of whom 411 were females. 167 minor and 3 major operations were performed.

#### WOMAN'S WORK.

During the stay in tents last cold season Mrs. Buchanan gave as much time as she could to the work in Ujjain, and when in March she went to live at Mhow she took up the medical work that had been carried on in a simple way for years by Miss Minnie Stockbridge. The first two or three weeks the people did not come in large numbers; first, because they did not know the place; and second, because they did not know the doctor. But after that she had more patients than she could well attend to. Miss Minnie Stockbridge's medical work had been chiefly among the people of the villages; and Mrs. Buchanan found among these simple folk an interesting and encouraging work. One part of our bungalow became so well known as the "*Mem sahib's daru khana*" that the people persisted in coming for some time after all our medicines had been handed over to Miss Dr. Fraser by order of Council in December. On one of my trips to Mhow I did an operation for cataract on a woman, which, as it was perhaps the first operation of any moment in connection with woman's work in Mhow, we were especially glad was a complete success.

The medical work in Ujjain has been carried on chiefly by Rachelbai. The register shows the number of patients treated to be 2,124, and the number of treatments given 4,619. When the room set apart for dispensary in the new house is ready we hope it may be a centre of bodily and spiritual blessing to the villagers around Ujjain.

The work in the girls school has been fairly successful. Hattibai has been teaching last half-year, and the attendance is about the same as formerly. A few of the girls still attend, and several read in the third book. Mrs. Buchanan has not been able to look after it, and I have not visited it as often as I could wish. By the blessing of God I hope we may be able to report greater progress in the coming year.

#### MEDICAL WORK IN INDORE.

BY MISS OLIVER, M.D.

LAST year, at the time of writing our annual report, we were watching the walls of the new hospital building growing daily higher; now we have been eight months at work in it. There was no formal opening, chiefly because Miss Beatty, through ill health, was compelled to go on furlough just as the hospital, for which she had so long waited and prayed, was nearing completion. Miss McKellar took her place and has been my faithful yoke-fellow throughout the year.

We celebrated Dominion Day by beginning work in the new building. Very soon we had three of our five wards full, and as one patient goes out there is another poor sufferer ready to take her place. During the past eight months we have had in all 116 patients.

What gain is the hospital to us? The physician in India, whose efforts are often rendered useless by even the most intelligent patients treated in their own homes, is at no loss for an answer to this question. The faithful servant of Christ can even more readily make reply, "Great gain." How could we have a better opportunity to tell the old story than by the sick bed of those who have put themselves under our care? Our prayer needs not to be for opportunities to preach Christ, but for guidance and faithfulness in using the many which the hospital is the means of bringing to us. My heart was made glad a few days ago by hearing an old patient, who was nearly three months in the hospital, bravely confessing her trust in Christ, and in Him alone, before her whole household.

Every evening we have a short service, or rather Bible class, for the in-patients and servants. On Sunday afternoons we review what has been taught during the week. We have also lately begun a Sunday morning class.

The dispensary in Ranipuri—a division of Indore city—in connection with the native house used by us as a hospital has had rather an interrupted career since September last. We moved the in-patients up to the new building, and encouraged all the out-patients who live on the south side of the city to attend the hospital dispensary. During my absence in October Miss McKellar fell ill and it had to be closed, so we have given up the building.

Of visiting of patients in their own homes we have been able to do little more than pay the necessary visits to those who were too ill to come to us. The outlying villages, in which we were able to do a good deal of visiting last year, have been sadly neglected this year. We have, however, made a fresh start lately, and hope to be able to continue regular visits. We regret much having to let work once begun drop, but believe that the opportunities given us in the hospital are those which should receive our first attention.

Our staff of helpers is small, but we are fortunate in those we have. We began the year with a class of two Christian girls to be trained in compounding, nursing, and the treatment of ordinary diseases. One of the two yielded to a stronger attraction, and in August became the wife of one of our Christian young men. The other, Janebai, is with us and is making very satisfactory progress.

We have no hospital matron, but Susanbai, the wife of a native Christian, who holds a good position under one of our Central India princes, has for the past five months undertaken the matron's duties.

We are pleased to be able to report that all the money for the cots, bedding and other furnish-