

expense. Some have missed only one or two meetings. They delight in the work of the church; they are helping to build up the Kingdom of Christ in this country, and identifying themselves with a cause that shall go on and prosper while the world stands. We hope that ere long some provision will be made for paying the travelling expenses of members, thus enabling many to take part in the work of the Assembly who, at present, are precluded from attending.

Missionary Cabinet.

HANNAH CATHERINE MULLENS.

MRS. MULLENS was the daughter of a distinguished Swiss Missionary, the Rev. Alphonse Lacroix, who went to India under the auspices of the Netherlands Missionary Society in 1820. In 1827 he connected himself with the London Missionary Society, and after a career of forty years of great usefulness died at Calcutta in 1859. Mrs. Mullens was born at Calcutta on the 1st of July, 1826, and received her education for the most from her parents, as Calcutta had at that time no good schools. The missionary spirit seems to have been early developed in her, for at twelve years of age she taught a class in a school for native girls. She could even then speak Bengali as fluently as the natives, and this gave her wonderful influence with the girls. It is interesting to learn that a pious native convert became the instrument of Hannah's conversion. When about fourteen years of age, she attended a New Year's prayer meeting in one of the Baptist chapels in Calcutta, when a native preacher offered up a most earnest prayer for the children of missionaries. This produced a deep impression on the young girl's mind and resulted in increased consecration to the Lord's work. At fifteen she accompanied her parents to England for the first time and went to a school near the training institute of the Home and Colonial School Society, which she attended regularly in order to fit herself for teaching. After this she spent a year in Switzerland, and in 1844 returned with her parents to Calcutta. On the 19th of June, 1845, she was married to the Rev. Joseph Mullens, of the London Missionary Society, and, during sixteen years, shared in the abundant labours and

vicissitudes of that eminent missionary. Soon after her marriage, the entire management of the *Native Girls' School* passed into the hands of Mrs. Mullens and became very popular. The number of boarders increased from fourteen to sixty. The girls were taught in their own language, and along with a knowledge of the Bible and other branches of learning, Mrs. Mullens inculcated upon them the refinement and purity of Christian life. Besides her school, she took charge of a Bible-class among the native women, many of whom became in after years useful and respected members in the community. In the midst of these labours she wrote a charming book, illustrative of native life, especially that of the women and children, which had a large circulation and created a great deal of interest. It was translated into no less than twelve of the Indian dialects. Ill-health compelled Mrs. Mullens at the close of 1852 to go to England with her three young children. She returned to India in 1854 and resumed her efforts to promote female education in her school as well as by her pen. It was then that she wrote "The Missionary of the Ganges," and translated Miss Tucker's popular book "Daybreak in Britain," into Bengali. Her letters, too, about that time, shewed how richly her mind was stored, and how earnest was her desire to elevate and evangelize the women of India. Again, in 1858, the whole family went to England, where, during two years, she and Mr. Mullens did much to further the cause of missions by their addresses to Bible-classes, schools, drawing-room and public meetings. In 1861 Mrs. Mullens once more entered on the missionary activities in which she had previously engaged in Calcutta, and, in addition, began *Zenana teaching*—the instruction of Hindoo ladies in their own homes. In this she was also very successful. Her call to higher service came suddenly in the midst of all these labours. She died after a short illness on the 21st of November, 1861, lamented by the whole Christian community of Calcutta and by none more than by the native converts to whom she had been more than a mother and friend, and who wept that they should see her face no more. One of the sermons preached in her memory was delivered at the little mission chapel by a native preacher who was, at the time she commenced her labours, sunk in