

## "NED" WILLIAMS MEMORIAL.

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### THE UNVEILING CEREMONY.

At the conclusion of the race for the sculling championship of Ballarat and the Novice Fours the drinking fountain, which has been erected to the memory of the veteran oarsman, "Ned" Williams, was formally unveiled. There was a very large attendance both of the old folks who were associated with the late Mr Williams in the early history of Lake Wendouree, and of the younger generation, who knew him by repute. Amongst those present were the Mayor of the City (Cr Brokenshire), Crs J. Heinz, J. P. Murray, J. M. Barker, and F. Williams, and many other prominent citizens. The fountain, which stands on View Point, is a worthy memorial of a worthy citizen. The design is unique. The memorial stands on three tiers of axed bluestone. The whole of the superstructure consists of white Carara marble, commencing with the base, which is nicely moulded. On this stands the marble basin, through the centre of which pass brass standards, containing four push taps with chains and drinking cups attached. On each corner are marble columns, enclosing perforated dia with elliptic arched openings. On top of this is a massive moulded cap, with ears and scroll carved on faces, surmounted with a vase entwined with a wreath of flowers. On the top of the base is a flame. The monument was designed and constructed in Ballarat by Mr W. Morris, of the Creswick road.

The president of the memorial committee, Mr R. S. Foley, in a few well chosen remarks handed over the memorial to the mayor in trust for the citizens. Mr Foley referred in feeling terms to the work of the late Mr Williams, who had done such a lot of work towards the promotion of rowing and of bringing the lake and its surroundings to the present state of perfection. The late Mr Williams, continued the speaker, was always ready to give his advice to young oarsmen, while in the cause of charity his work was well known, and no man who asked assistance of "Ned" Williams ever met with a refusal. In conclusion, Mr Foley stated that he had much pleasure in handing the memorial to the mayor on behalf of the committee, as a fitting monument to the memory of an old citizen. (Applause.)

The Mayor then unveiled the fountain, while the greater number of the spectators stood uncovered. He said it gave him very great pleasure to receive the memorial in trust for the citizens. The committee had exercised wisdom in erecting the fountain in preference to a monument at the cemetery in memory of their old friend "Ned" Williams. The fountain was a very appropriate memorial, and would serve to keep alive within the minds of the younger generation recollections of one who had done so much towards forwarding the interests of the sport of rowing. (Applause.) Kindly references to the work of the late Cr F. M. Claxton and Mr Williams in connection with the lake and gardens were made by the mayor, who impressed on the minds of the younger portion of the gathering the necessity of appreciating the work of the old pioneers. "They," remarked the mayor, "had done their part towards beautifying the city, and were the young people prepared to do theirs?" He concluded by again expressing the pleasure it gave him to receive the memorial, and called for three cheers for the committee, coupled with the names of Mr R. S. Foley (president) and Mr Geo. Tonner (secretary).

The cheers were heartily given, subsequent to which the mayor, followed by Mr Foley, partook of a glass of water from the fountain. The large gathering then dispersed with complimentary references to the appearance of the memorial.