

ERECTION OF A MEMORIAL STONE AT MORNINGTON.

A handsome marble memorial monument has been erected at Mornington, in memory of the fifteen poor fellows who lost their lives in the lamentable boating disaster, in the Bay, off Mornington, on the night of the 21st May, 1892, whilst returning from a football match at Mordialloc, and on Sunday last (the anniversary of that terrible event), the stone was unveiled, and consecrated in the presence of the Rev. J. Caldwell, Rev. N. White, and Bishop Meyer, and friends and sympathisers from all parts of the district, numbering 400 or 500. The proceedings, which were of a most solemn and impressive nature, were opened by the Rev. J. Caldwell, who said, "The occasion on which we are met here this day, is of a most solemn nature. It is the first anniversary of an event, awful in character and disastrous in effect. By it, a wide-spread community was brought to mourn, and not a few families to irreparable and lifelong privation and loss. But we are not here to-day to revive sad feelings, or to enlist the sympathy of those around us towards the chief sufferers; that has already been done in an extensive and generous manner. From all parts of this and neighbouring colonies, expressions of heartfelt sympathy have been largely rendered; neither has that fellow feeling been confined to words and letters, it has come in the shape of substantial and liberal donations; out of those generous contributions, some who have lost not only dear relations, but their sole breadwinners, have been helped, and only a small portion of the relief fund has been reserved to erect this memorial, and is it not a becoming act, and one that is due to departed worth and loveliness to have a memorial column and an abiding record of the names of those who perished by that sad event? Who can have a grudge, when some of us chiefly interested, and on whose behalf national sympathy was shown, have cheerfully relinquished other claims on behalf of this memorial stone now raised; believing there are none such, I, as representing the bereaved mourners, beg to accord heartfelt thanks first to the generous and sympathetic public for the means placed at our disposal, in this connection. A special notice is due to the various football clubs, with whom the lost ones were associated. Next to these, the committee that took charge of the funds, and allotted them, deserve grateful mention. We would be wanting in due acknowledgment, if we passed over our Shire Council, who voted us this appropriate site, and its aid efficiently rendered under the skilful supervision of Mr. H. F. Moors, the shire secretary and engineer. With this short detail of the history of the sad event, we are here to-day to commemorate, and now in the name of all concerned, consecrate and dedicate this monument as an abiding tribute of respect to the worth and memory of the cherished loved ones whose name it bears."

The Rev. N. White then addressed the assemblage, followed by Bishop Meyers and Mr. Olley. Several appropriate hymns were rendered by the church choirs, accompanied by the Frankston Town Band, under the direction of Bandmaster D. Hannah. The ceremony was brought to a close with prayers by the

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This memorial, which is much admired, is a massive obelisk of white marble, on a dressed bluestone base, set upon a solid concrete foundation. The height is nearly 15 feet. There are 3 tablets with five of the victim's names inscribed on each tablet. The stone is surrounded with an iron railing. Several handsome wreaths were deposited on the stone during the afternoon.