



# Braille Library.

**A NEW INSTITUTION FOR PRAHRAN.  
SPLENDID BUILDING ERECTED IN COMMERCIAL  
ROAD.**

On Saturday afternoon, in Commercial road, Prahran (on the South Yarra side), and within a stone's throw of Chapel street, was opened a new building known as the Free Lending Braille Library. The opening ceremony was performed by Senator George Fairbairn, and, at the invitation of the President (Cr. A. J. Weller, of Malvern) and committee of the Victorian Association of Braille Writers, there was a large and representative attendance. The building, which is of brick, is the gift of the Edward Wilson Trust, and is a substantial addition to the architectural beautification of the city of Prahran.

The library can be aptly described as a handsome and lofty structure. The main portion is octagonal in shape, and quite majestic in appearance. Visitors who have seen the interior are charmed with it, and invariably describe it as lovely. It is lighted from a cupola at the summit, which has circular windows. Around the hall is a gallery with shelves for the library books. There are offices for the officials and a reading room for the blind. Every modern convenience has been applied in the erection of the building, and up to date heating and ventilating appliances have likewise been affixed. In fact, nothing has been left undone that would in the slightest degree tend to the comfort of those for whom the building has been specially erected.

Surmounting the stage has been placed a marble tablet containing the following inscription:—

"She was eyes to the Blind.

In loving memory

of

MAY D. HARRISON.

Fell asleep on 2nd October, 1912.

Was the principal founder of this library, and as hon. secretary and librarian devoted over 18 years of her life to the work of the Victorian Association of Braille Writers.

Erected by her co-workers and blind friends."

Included amongst those present at the opening ceremony were the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Alderman Cabena), who occupied the chair, the Lady Mayoress, Senator Fairbairn (representing the Edward Wilson Trust), Mr. W. H. Edgar, M.L.C., Mr. Geo. A. Maxwell, M.H.R., Mr. Snowball, M.L.A., Mr. A. Danks, and Cr. A. J. Weller (President of the Braille Writers' Association).

Writers' Association).

The Lord Mayor eulogised the many charitable works that had been assisted by the Edward Wilson Trust. Monuments to the memory of Edward Wilson were to be seen everywhere. The new Braille Library was one of the largest of its kind in the world. It would contain 9000 standard works, and would supply reading matter for 1200 blind citizens in various parts of the State, as well as for returned soldiers who had lost their sight in the war.