

Michelago.

OPENING OF A CHURCH.

(From our Correspondent.)

On Tuesday, 14 inst., His Lordship Bishop Barlow, opened and dedicated St. Thomas' Church of England at Michelago. His Lordship, his Chaplain, and the Revd. H. Gedney, arrived at Michelago by stock train from Cooma at 12.30 a.m. and were driven at once to the Hon. A. Ryrie's, Michelago station for lunch, returning to the township at 3 o'clock for the opening ceremony. Already a considerable crowd had collected in the vicinity of the church, a neat little building standing on the south side of the Court House, upon an allotment of ground presented by the Hon. A. Ryrie; a word of praise is due to the contractors, Messrs Mawson and Hain for the very creditable manner in which the work was carried out. At 3.30 the building was filled to overflowing by one of the largest gatherings seen in Michelago for a considerable time. His Lordship having robed in the vestry, was met by the wardens and the petition presented and read; the deeds also were delivered and the opening service which was most impressive was proceeded with, at the conclusion of which His Lordship delivered a simple and yet a most eloquent address and the opening ceremony was over. The people streamed out into the open, but they were not to go away, the Hon. A. Ryrie took the occasion to say a few words; he expressed himself as delighted at seeing such a representative gathering irrespective of creed. It pleased him very much to see a number of his old neighbours and friends who, although staunch Roman Catholics, had in a spirit of liberal mindedness and friendliness attended there that day, and he trusted that it would ever be thus on Michelago, he regretted the absence of his daughter, who was in a great measure responsible for the successful erection of the Church.

The people now made their way towards a neat picturesque looking structure—a booth where afternoon tea could be obtained for the modest sum of one shilling, and so energetic were the ladies who had charge of it, that the very substantial sum of £5 12s was netted in aid of the building fund. Too ladies, prominent amongst them being much praise cannot be accorded to those Miss DeSalis and Mrs Granville Ryrie and who were most ably assisted by Miss McDonald, Mrs Reeves and Mrs Byrne.

A subscription was taken up during the afternoon and the handsome sum of £8 12s realised making the satisfactory amount of over £14 10s, thanks in a great measure to

our Roman Catholic friends.

His Lordship, who has the most taking manner, was soon on friendly terms with every one, and the people went away highly pleased with the event of the afternoon.

His Lordship, and his chaplain, the Revd. H. Ward, left by train for Goulburn.

News of the death of Mr W. A. Chisholm, aged 70 years, is announced. Deceased was a very old resident of Goulburn, and second son of the late Hon. James Chisholm of Kippilaw.