

Commemorating the Soldiers.

UNVEILING HONOR ROLL.

AT ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The ceremony of unveiling the Honor Roll of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Mudgee, was performed on Sunday afternoon. Prior to the service the Mudgee Town Band and Senior Cadets fell in at the drill hall, and marched down Market-street, thence up Perry-street to the church, the band playing an appropriate march. Then in front of the church the band played "Boys of the Dardanelles," while the Senior Cadets marched into the church. There was a very large congregation, and a very eloquent sermon was preached by the minister, the Rev. R. Bourne Garner.

The proceedings opened with the hymn, "Eternal Father Strong to Save," after which the congregation united in prayer, and Scripture was read by Rev. Garner. Then followed, "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" by the congregation, after which Mrs. Burgess nicely rendered the solo, "Nearer My God to Thee."

THE SERMON.

The Rev. R. Bourne Garner took for his text the 13th chapter of St. John's, 13th verse, "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." The preacher said:—"Undoubtedly the greatest study of mankind is man. Poets and philosophers, men of letters, men of no letters, thinkers of all ages have agreed that man is the crown of creation. Is a man product of God, or he is worthy to be a product of God. What is there that the human mind cannot possibly do. Think of the wonderful possibilities of love. We are told that love is divine, for God is love. We deny with all the force of our being the right of any other nation to dictate to us, because God has created man, and we feel it is his right to glorify God. We glory to-day in the flags that wave for us, and we deny any nation to interfere with our freedom and with our nation. We stand for freedom, and it is because of our love for principles that we to-day, as a nation, are standing in this present conflict. Not only is there love for principles, but there is also love for country, and we see that no nation can become great unless it possesses that quality of patriotism. Even weak nations have become great by that quality, and it is the spirit of patriotism that touches us to-day. There is love for home and for King. We all know that beautiful song, "Home, Sweet Home," was composed by a man who had no home. An Englishman boasts that his home is his castle, and he rises in defence of his home and his loved ones. We see to-day that our boys who have gone to fight for their homes in this fair Australian land are doing so just as truly as are those people who are fighting and actually witnessing the destruction of all that is dear and precious to them. Try to picture the scene. Just imagine for a moment that our villages in Australia were passing through the ordeals which have occurred in France, Belgium, and other places at the present time. When we read of the terrible things which have been perpetrated in the present war, or if any wonder that our soldiers forget themselves. This is a holy war, and

der that our soldiers forget themselves. This is a holy war, and if the foe were victorious, it would mean the crushing and putting down of all that is noble and worthy in our world to-day. Why do we make use of those words, "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends?" Why, simply because of the preciousness of life, because the giving up of life means an end to all things. But that is not the teaching of the Child of God. No, we believe that death is not the end of all things, and this is a message of comfort to those whose hearts are sore and troubled to-day, that after death they will meet their dear ones again."

The Rev. Garner then explained that it was the intention of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church to send a letter and also a press report of the proceedings that day to each one of the soldiers whose names appeared on the Honor Roll. The letter would be signed by the Minister, Session, and Board of Management, and would read as follows:—

"St. Paul's, Mudgee,

16th September, 1917.

"Dear Friend,—On the above date, and at the above place, it was decided, the congregation rising and signifying their approval, that the following letter be sent to each one whose name appears on our Honor Roll, accompanied with a press report of the unveiling ceremony:—

"We, the congregation of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Mudgee, N.S.W., desire to convey to you, the representatives of this congregation fighting for God and country, our warmest sympathy, appreciation, and love. We remember you at the family altar, and at all public services. We pray for you one by one, mentioning your name in the morning service, whilst standing in our place in God's House. We want you to remember this at all times, and we pray, if it be God's will, that you may soon return to us, but that be the conflict long or short, you will be strong to do your part for God, for home, for country."

THE UNVEILING.

The Honor Roll was then unveiled by Mrs. A. Robertson and Miss Enid Shannon. The Rev. Bourne Garner regretted that Mrs. Macdonald was unable to be present to take part in the unveiling owing to illness.

The Honor Roll is an artistic piece of work built by Messrs. Stoddart and Sons, and contains the following names:—R. A. I. Macdonald, W. F. Jamieson, E. Tubbenhouer, F. B. Robertson, J. E. L. Tarrant, E. Macdonald, R. K. Hish, E. Atkinson, E. R. Shannon, I. Riley, W. G. Riley, F. J. Riley, A. McCullum, H. W. Campbell, T. J. Riley, A. K. Rodgers, W. E. Tindale, F. L. Tindale, C. H. Robertson, J. C. McGown, F. Thompson, R. J. L. Hickson, P. W. Carthachael, J. S. Hodger, and R. K. Stoddart.

After the unveiling a Litany was sung, after which Mr. J. L. Ross contributed the solo, "Beyond the Dawn." The congregation then sang the hymn, "O God of Love, O King of Peace," followed by the National Anthem. "The Last Post," played by Mr. H. C. Knight, brought the service to a close.