

CHURCH AT FAILFORD, IN THE TAREE CIRCUIT.

The climax of a movement extending over a year was reached on Saturday, December 27, with the opening of a new church at Failford. Services have been held regularly for many years in the local public hall, but for some time past there has existed an increasing desire to possess our own building. After many struggles and efforts, the movement was set on its feet by several liberal donations from Methodist stalwarts of the locality. The desire was also present in the movement that the building should be erected as a memorial to the men of Failford who gave their lives in the great war. It will be known as the Failford Methodist Memorial Church.

The site is a good one, centrally situated, and in area half an acre, fronting the main road of the village. A numerous company assembled, hailing from several parts of the district. The Rev. V. A. S. Little, M.A., B.Litt., presided, opening the proceedings by a short address, in which the self-sacrifice, faith, and Christian enthusiasm of a number of our local people were referred to. Welcome was offered to visiting ministers, viz., the Rev. S. P. Stewart (Free Presbyterian), and Rev. H. Skuse (Cooperook), and other friends. The doxology having been sung, the chairman then called upon Mrs. Robert Croker to unveil a memorial window to the memory of the late Harry and Wiley Croker, sons of Mr. and Mrs. R. Croker, of Failford. Another memorial window was then unveiled by Mrs. Basham, in memory of the late Charles Basham, formerly a prominent worker in the church. The third memorial window was unveiled by the Rev. S. P. Stewart, in memory of the men of the district who gave their lives in defence of Australia during the war. The windows are situated in the

ience of Australia during the war. The windows are situated in the front of the building, on either side of the porch, the third window being in the front of the porch, and are all of the same design, simple and dignified. The chairman then introduced the Rev. H. Skuse, and requested him, on behalf of the committee, to formally open the building. The Rev. Mr. Skuse then gave an address. Headed by the ministers, a procession formed of the company present, marched around the building to the strains of "Onward Christian Soldiers." The key was then turned, and the building soon filled. The dedicatory service was conducted by the Rev. V. A. S. Little, the prayer being offered by the Rev. S. P. Stewart, the address was delivered by the Rev. H. Skuse. Toward the close of the service, Mr. W. T. Howard, circuit assistant in the Wollamba section, presented the financial statement, which showed that gifts in money and material had about equalled expenditure. The Rev. H. Skuse was presented with a volume of Thomas Moore's poems, on behalf of the building committee, by Rev. V. A. S. Little, as a memento of the occasion. After the service a tea meeting was held in a booth specially erected. In the evening a sacred concert was largely patronised, the seating being absolutely full. Large attendances marked the Sunday services in the afternoon and evening, which were conducted by the Rev. H. Skuse.

As a result of the proceeds of the concert, more than sufficient to cover the remaining debt on the building was received.

Building enterprise in Taree circuit has been rather active of late. In September a new church was opened at Burrill Creek, and a spacious school hall in Taree in November. The finances in each case are satisfactory, the school hall being nearly half paid for, while both

nearly half paid for, while both churches are free of debt.