

St. Matthew's Church Quorn.

St. Matthew's Day, September 21st, 1897, will be a day long remembered by the churchpeople of Quorn as marking the opening of their new church, which has been so long talked of but which now is an accomplished fact. The opening services have been largely attended and highly successful, and the large number of clergy which have attended these services and the holding of the Ruridecanal Chapter and Conference in the local church also makes the past few days an epoch worthy of note in the annals of the Quorn Church. The building which was opened on Tuesday is one eminently worthy of the use to which it is dedicated, and the churchpeople of Quorn are to be congratulated on its completion.

Credit is due to all who have had a share in this work: to the contractors (Messrs Smerdon and Co.), who have well carried out the plans of the Architect (W. R. Mallyon, Esq); to Mr G Shephard, who has superintended the building operations; to the Rev. F. E. Perrin, who has spent so much time and trouble beautifying the interior of the building, evidences of whose ability are to be seen on every hand; to the Building Committee—Messrs Craig, Halbert, Fielding, R. Hotchin, C. E. Dench, Dr Pooler and Rev. F. E. Perrin (Sec.)—for their labours in this matter; and last, but not least, to the generous donors, both here and elsewhere, by whose help the work has been accomplished.

LAST SERVICES IN OLD CHURCH.

On Sunday, September 19th, services were held in the old church for the last time. The Rector (Rev. F. E. Perrin) officiated, and at Evensong preached from Exodus xiv, 15, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward," and spoke of the growth and progress of the Christian, referring

also to the sadness of the partings and changes of this mortal life. After the hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers" had been sung the service was brought to a close by the singing of the "Nunc dimittis."

The old building will now be used as a schoolroom and for meetings.

START AND GROWTH OF BUILDING FUND

The idea of building a new church was first entertained during the Rev. A. E. Corner's ministry. The bazaar, referred to elsewhere, which was arranged in December, 1892, proved successful, and there was a surplus of about £18, which was set aside as a nucleus for a building fund. About £200 was raised in the Rev. A. E. Corner's time, and a further sum of £372 has been raised altogether during the present Rector's time, all of which (£572) has been spent on the new building, which probably, taking gifts and all into consideration, represents an expenditure of some £700.

At a meeting of the Building Committee, held on March 15th last, it was decided to call tenders for the new church, the plans for which had been prepared and presented by W. R. Mallyon, Esq, of Port Pirie. After the tenders came in, however, it was found that the funds in hand were not sufficient to justify the commencement of operations, and it seemed for a short time as if the scheme would have to be indefinitely postponed. Early in May, however, the Rev. F. E. Perrin attended the annual Synod meeting in Adelaide, and while in town spoke at the annual meeting of the Bishop's Home Mission Society; on this occasion he made such an earnest and forcible appeal on behalf of the Quorn church that within a week he was successful in raising £150 for the Building Fund besides many valuable presents for the new church. The cheering news that the funds in hand amounted to more than the price of the

amounted to more than the price of the contract was received by wire from the Rector by the Building Committee at their meeting on May 13th, and the tender of Messrs Smerdon & Co., of Hawker, was accordingly accepted at that meeting and work commenced on May 20th. On Saturday, June 26th, the foundation stone of the new building was laid by The Very Rev. Dean Marryat (Vicar General), and a Jubilee memorial stone, in honour of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, was set by J. G. Craig, Esq.

THE NEW CHURCH.

The new church, which has a length of about 46 feet and a breadth of 25 feet, at present consists of the nave only, but preparations have been left for two porches, a spacious chancel, and a vestry at the west end, which will be added as opportunity offers. The building, which is of a Gothic style of architecture, is a substantial structure of local freestone picked out with red bricks, matching the roof which has been painted red. The roof is a lofty one, the height to the apex being no less than 40 feet, and this fact should

be a guarantee that the building will be a cool place in summer, which will be appreciated by those who have attended the old church in hot and sultry weather. The iron pinacles at the gable ends are the gift of the Hawker church people. The church has on either side five stained glass cathedral lead lights and at the west end a rose window, all of which have been made from designs by the Rector. The most prominent feature of the interior of the building is the handsome reredos and altar, constructed of cedar and stained pine, which forms one complete and handsome piece of furniture and which is replete with richly carved tracery of decorated Gothic character

which is replete with richly carved tracery of decorated Gothic character to match the style of the building. The whole of this valuable and artistic piece of work has been designed and carved by the Rector (Rev. F. E. Perrin). The reredos has several panels each one of which is filled with carved tracery the centre one being especially rich in design, while at the top the canopy, which overhangs the altar, is carved in a floreated style with handsome pinacles at either end. On the altar, supporting the brass cross, is a carved representation of St. Matthew; the reredos has two steps, the upper gradine is finished with carving in a conventional design, the lower one being carved with the text "Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts," interspersed with representations of the passion flower, grape and vine. The altar itself has five open panels filled with carved tracery to match the panels of the reredos. The brass ornaments on the altar have been rebrunished, and consist of a cross (given by the scholars two years ago), two candlesticks (presented by the Rector), and two flower vases (presented by Mr F. Smith). The superfrontal, like many other rich gifts, has not yet arrived, and its place is taken for the time by some crimson plush; behind the tracery is a hanging curtain of white in place of the usual altar frontal. The fair linen cloth for the altar is the gift of Miss Harmer, the Bishop's sister, the needle work on which has been executed by Miss Craig, of Quorn. The coloured silk veils for the altar have been made and given by one of the Rector's friends in England, and the remainder of the altar linen is the work and gift of an anonymous lady in Adelaide. The book desk for the altar is of carved American honeysuckle, the altar book being the gift of Mr Prettyjohn. The altar carpet, of rich Brussels, is the gift of Mr and Mrs A. M. Jaffrey. The wing curtains for the altar, the gift of the Rector's friends in England, are on board

Rector's friends in England, are on board and expected to arrive in a few days ; a carved screen cornice at each side of the altar supports brass rods on which are hung the curtains, the rods being finished off with brass cross finials of a neat design made by one of the congregation. The credence table is of polished cedar, the gift of Mr H. M. Burge, of Port Adelaide ; the cruets with silver stoppers are the gifts of Archdeacon Morse, of Yaukalilla. The almsbags for the choir have been made and presented by Miss Lines, and an almsdish of American honeysuckle, which bears upon it the inscription "Do all to the glory of God" has been carved by the Rector. The hymn board, of polished cedar, has been made from the reading desk of the old church. The choir stalls are of kauri pine with carving at end. The prayer desk is of polished cedar, carved to match the choir stalls, but of a richer design ; the carving is the work of the Rector but the desk has been presented by Mr A. J. Watts. The sanctuary chair, which is a correct copy of the Glastonbury chair, is of cedar and has been made and carved by the Rector, but at the expense of the school-children, and has a brass plate inscribed "Presented by the Scholars." The litany stool, which is also of cedar, has been made of odds and ends from the old church and has carved tracery to match the altar. The organ stool is of blackwood, and has been presented by the church people of Cradock. The font is from the old church but has been mounted on a base of Kapunda marble, the gift of the children of the church ; a cover for the font has been made by Mr Baker and carved by the Rector. The chancel rails, which enclose the choir, are of cedar and are the communion rails from the old church. The whole of the staining, polishing and varnishing—no slight task—has been done by Mr Johnson in his spare time. The bible and prayer book,

time. The bible and prayer book, which are beautiful copies, have been presented by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge. The whole of the surplices and cassocks have been made by the ladies of the congregation, the cutting out of which, however, has been the gift of Mr J. Nettle. All the curtains and hangings have been made by Mrs Robertson. The processional cross has been presented by Mrs Edwards, of Adelaide.

THE OPENING SERVICES.

The opening services commenced on Tuesday last (St. Matthew's Day) with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m., at which the following clergy were present :—The Very Rev. Dean Marryat (Vicar General), Rev. Canon Andrews, Rev. F. Wilkinson and Rev. F. E. Perrin. There was a large congregation and twenty-eight received the communion, which was celebrated by the Rector. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Dean.

A good congregation also assembled at the church at the afternoon service which had been set apart for the solemnization of the rite of Holy Baptism, which was administered by the Dean. Six baptisms took place, and after the ceremonial the parents, Godfathers and Godmothers were addressed by the Rev. Canon Andrews.

The formal opening of the new church took place at Evensong, which commenced at 8 p.m. Admission to this service, which was fully choral, was by ticket, and long before the time appointed every available seat had been taken up, the large congregation evidently being much impressed with the handsome fittings and tasteful decorations of the new building. After the voluntary by the organist (Miss Shephard) the service commenced with the hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers," which was sung as a processional, and

during which the clergy and choir entered the church. The procession was preceded by the processional cross, which was borne before the Rector who was followed by the chorister boys and the adult members of the choir, attired in their surplices and cassocks, while the visiting clergy, twelve in number, brought up the rear of the procession. The latter were The Very Rev. Dean Marryat (Vicar General), The Ven. Archdeacon French (Rural Dean), Rev. Canon Andrews, Rev. L. P. Crawford (Chaplain to the Bishop), and the Revs. Wilkinson, (Northern Mission), Thompson (Port Augusta), Doudney (Orroroo), Moore (Melrose), Dendy (Port Germein), Durno (Port Pirie), Beaumont (Jamestown), and King (Burra). After the clergy and choristers had taken up their positions within the chancel rails, J. G. Craig, Esq., (Chairman of the Building Committee) came forward, and having read the petition praying that the building might be licensed he handed the document to the Dean who, on behalf of the Bishop, formally declared the building licensed for public worship, and, at the Dean's request, Archdeacon French read the form of license. After a prayer of thanksgiving for the consummation of the building of the church had been offered up by the Dean the service, which was intoned by the Rector, commenced. The lessons were read by Canon Andrews and Archdeacon French. When giving out the notices the Rector, in announcing that the collection that evening would go towards the Building Fund, referred to the fact that the church had been erected at a cost of nearly £600, of which all but about £5 had been actually paid off. The preacher was the Rev. L. P. Crawford (Bishop's Chaplain) who took his text from the 1st Epistle General of St. Peter, ii, 5, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a

also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." From these words the Rev. gentleman preached an earnest and appropriate sermon, referring to the crisis in the history of the Quorn church which those opening services of their new building marked, the necessity of all helping to build up the spiritual church by being lively stones in the arch of which Christ was the keystone, and the need of all realising that the priesthood was not confined to the clergy but that all were appointed priests unto Him, and as such had their responsibilities in helping to reclaim the masses that know not God. An interesting and instructive discourse was brought to a close with a few words of timely advice and well-wishing to the members of the church, the preacher exhorting them to make fresh efforts, to sink self and work harmoniously together for the common good and so form one harmonious whole. During the service hymns 242, 420 and 437 (Ancient and Modern) were sung, and the creditable performance of the choir in these, as in the rest of the service, is good proof of the excellent training they have received at the hands of the choirmaster (Mr Blondel). The benediction having been pronounced by the Dean, hymn 179 ("To the name of our Salvation") was sung as a recessional, during which the procession of clergy and choristers left the church, thus bringing to a close what was probably the most successful and effective service ever held in connection with the Quorn Anglican Church.

On Wednesday there was a celebration of Holy Communion at 8 a.m., at which the celebrant was the Ven. Archdeacon French (Rural Dean). There was a short service at 10 a.m., which was followed by a Ruridecanal Chapter Meeting, while a Ruridecanal Conference took place in the afternoon

Conference took place in the afternoon at 3 o'clock. At Evensong, which was held at 8 p.m., the Rev. C. E. Doudney (of Orroroo) preached an eloquent and forcible sermon to a large congregation. On Thursday a special Children's service was held in the church at 3 p.m. There was a large congregation, and an interesting and suitable address for the little ones was delivered by the Rev. W. H. Thompson (of Port Augusta).

SOCIAL AND PRESENTATION TO REV. F. E. PERRIN.

A largely attended and very successful social took place in the Town Hall last evening. Some tableaux, which were capitally arranged, were heartily applauded, and the songs and addresses were also much appreciated by the audience. The following is the programme:—Overture, Rev. F. Wilkinson; tableau, "The three fishers," (arranged by Mrs Craig, music by Mr Blondel; addresses by the Revs. L. P. Crawford, M.A., and W. Thompson; tableaux, "thy face is ever near to me" (arranged by Mrs Dench); song, "The Holy City," Miss Walters; tableau, "Home Rule" (arranged by Mrs Dench); addresses by Revs. F. Wilkinson and C. E. Doudney; song, "Life on the Roving Sea," Mr Blondel. A lollie stall was presided over by Miss Fielding. Refreshments and a dance followed.

During the interval Mr W. Halbert (people's warden) in a felicitous and appropriate speech expressed the regret that was felt at the impending departure of the Rev. F. E. Perrin who had done such good work during the three and a half years he had been amongst them, and on behalf of the churchpeople he presented that gentleman with an omelette dish and shaving glass. A feeling reply was made by the Rector who returned hearty thanks for the unexpected gift. He pleaded that the same good fellowship shown to him might be extended towards his successor.

successor.

The Rev. F. E. Perrin will officiate as Rector of Quorn for the last time on Sunday next.