

KANMANTOO SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL.

On Sunday, October 26, a magnificent statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, dedicated by the parishioners of Kanmantoo to the fallen Catholic soldiers of that parish, was unveiled in the Catholic Church after the 11 o'clock Mass. The ceremony had been eagerly awaited by the members of the parish, as for some time an energetic committee had been working and collecting to procure the memorial. The plate on the statue contains the following nine names:— Cpl. H. P. Critchley, Ptes. W. P. O'Neill, M.M., J. C. Earls, J. J. Earls, F. P. Earls, F. B. Earls, M. F. Critchley, H. P. O'Neill, and H. P. O'Leary.

An organ which had also been installed in the church was first used at this ceremony, when the newly-formed choir rendered "Hail, Queen of Heaven" and "Faith of our Fathers."

There was a record attendance at the church, as many relatives and friends of the fallen heroes from other parishes journeyed to Kanmantoo to witness the ceremony. The statue was unveiled by Mrs. Michael Earls, who is related to the nine gallant heroes, including two sons and four nephews. It was blessed by the Rev. Father McEvoy immediately after being unveiled.

The Rev. Father McEvoy, in a few well-chosen words, heartily congratulated the parishioners on having erected such a beautiful memorial to their late co-parishioners. He asked the relatives not to mourn their loss, as they had died the noblest death a man can die, and the memorial dedicated to them ranked second to none yet erected in Australia. Such a memorial, he said, would last for hundreds of years. It would be cherished by their descendants for generations to come, and serve not only as a reminder of those nine gallant heroes who had died fighting for the liberty and freedom of mankind, but also considerably assist in beautifying the church. He also congratulated the parishioners on having installed the organ, which would also serve as a marked addition to the church furnishings.

The president of the committee (Mr. Cook), in supporting the remarks of the Rev. Father McEvoy, said that a more suitable memorial to their dead heroes could not be erected, as such a statue would last for all time, and the men for whom it was erected would therefore never be forgotten.

The secretary (Mr. P. J. Burns) also spoke, and said that he was pleased to see that their heart's desire had been accomplished, and the memorial for which they had longed was at last erected. He thanked the members of the parish for having assisted the committee in their endeavor to obtain such a beautiful addition to the church.

Mr. H. D. Young, M.P., congratulated them on being the first in the district to erect such a memorial to their fallen comrades a statue which could be handed down for generations to come, and serve as a memorial for those brave men who had died fighting for freedom and liberty for all time.

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