

UNVEILING MEMORIALS.

THE LATE LIEUT. GRIEVE.

SCOTTISH RIFLES KILLED IN ACTION.

Yesterday afternoon the ceremony of unveiling the memorials erected at the old Scots Church to the memory of the late Lieut. G. J. Grieve and the officers and men of the New South Wales Scottish Rifles who were killed in South Africa was performed by his Excellency Sir F. Darley, Lieutenant-Governor.

About 4 o'clock the Australian Rifles, under Colonel Wright, and the Irish Rifles, took up positions in York-street, opposite the church. The Sydney Scottish Rifles, under Colonel Campbell, headed by their brass and pipe band, then marched up, and a hollow square was formed, into the centre of which a composite detachment of the Imperial Scotch troops, under Captain Beres-Dickins, Highland Light Infantry, subsequently were marched.

The Right Rev. J. C. McDonald, M.A., Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly; Professor Hartford, of Melbourne; the Rev. A. A. Aspinall, B.A., Principal of the Scots College; the Rev. W. M. Dill Macky, who wore the uniform of a lieutenant, chaplain of the Presbyterian troops, ascended the dais erected by the side of the memorials. General and Miss Frouch shortly after arrived, and were soon followed by Sir F. Darley and Lady Darley, the troops saluting, and a few bars of the National Anthem being played by the band.

After the 100th Psalm had been sung by those present, a portion of Scripture read, and prayer offered by Professor Hartford, Rev. Dill Macky addressed the troops present.

It was a fitting tribute, he said, they were present to fulfil that of unveiling an obelisk and tablet to the memory of those who had died for their country and for our sakes. He was glad the ideal of war was not the ideal of the British nation, nor did that nation draw the sword except of necessity, and then with a reluctance. This latter was sometimes attributed, by those who wished them ill, to cowardice, but it meant England knew and felt the responsibility. Although they could look back to Victoria, which he detailed, with pride, it was not with vaunting pride, but ascribing all the glory to God, who was the God of battles. Never was the loyalty called upon to arbitrate in such a way as to the justice of a cause as in the South African war. Their foes called upon God feeling they had a just cause, and we too felt our cause was just, and God upheld the right. Brave men had laid down their lives in the cause of their Queen and country, and it was fitting we should erect monuments to their memories. He alluded particularly to its suitability, at a time when Australians were inaugurating the Commonwealth. The one thing young Australians were lacking in was veneration. He did not wonder at it, as they had no memorials of the heroic past, as the young of the old countries had. The rev. gentleman pointed out how appropriate the memorials were, owing to their proximity to the old Scots Church, with its historical associations of the late Dr. Lang. Those who knew Lieutenant Grieve and the other men who fell, knew of their bravery, valor, and heroic deeds. They hoped they had entered a better land, where the great Captain of our salvation had become the great Shepherd, leading his flock into fresh pastures green. They had gone from the Church militant to join the Church triumphant.

The Right Rev. the Moderator then called upon Sir F. Darley to unveil the memorials.

His Excellency said he felt he had been honored indeed to be asked to unveil these memorials in memory of noble and courageous men, who at the call of duty sacrificed their lives. What more fitting place than that could have been chosen—the first Presbyterian Church in New South

Wales, under whose auspices most probably they had first learnt obedience to God and loyalty to their Queen. This was a fitting place to make a record of their services.

His Excellency then recapitulated in detail the military career of the late Lieutenant Grieve, and quoted from letters, received from officers under whom Lieutenant Grieve had served, as to their high opinion of him as an officer, and their regret at his death. The late Lieutenant Keith Kinnaird MacKellar was a victim to Boer treachery, who, after fighting bravely, was killed. The other names were well known to them. Sir Frederick Darley concluded by mentioning that once, when travelling in the Hartz Mountains, he had come across a huge boulder in the middle of the road. One side of it was polished, and engraved in gold letters were the names of local men who had fallen in the Franco-Prussian war. The inscription beneath was, "The fatherland required these men; they rest in God." Of our men we could say, "The motherland required them; they rest in God."

The proceedings concluded with the "Dead March in Saul," played by the band, a hymn, prayer by the Rev. Dill Macky, "God Save the Queen," by the brass band, and "Land o' the Leal," by the pipers of the Sydney Scottish Rifles.

The monument to Lieutenant Grieve is all polished granite, has a lower base of brown stone, on which is a red granite one, the cap of this latter moulded, and the pediment strapped (when completed, an electroplated badge of the Black Watch will surmount the cap); the spire of the obelisk rises from this to a height of about 15ft. The work was executed by Messrs. Andrews Bros., of 140 Elizabeth-street.

The inscription, on the front of the spire, is as follows:—"In memory of Lieut. Gideon James Grieve, New South Wales Permanent Staff, formerly 1st Lieutenant, 5th Regiment Scottish Rifles, and Staff-Adjutant 5th Regiment Australian Rifles. Sailed in October, 1899, for South Africa, as a special service officer; here attached to 2nd Black Watch, and with it took part in the battle of Koedoesberg, with conspicuous gallantry and skill as a leader, the operations for the relief of Kimberley, and the attack on Cronje's laager, at Paardeberg, Feb. 18, 1900, where, after showing—as described by a brother officer—"most magnificent bravery," he fell in the forefront of battle."

On the base is inscribed:—"By his untimely death New South Wales has lost a most able and gallant officer, and his widow and children a devoted husband and father."

The tablet, on the west wall of the church, is of polished red (Gabo Island) granite, and bears the names of Lieut. Grieve, Lieut. K. K. MacKellar, Corporal S. M'Leenan, and Private S. C. Atchison, with the names of the places at which they were killed, and the dates. Messrs. Packhill and Son, of Waverley, were the firm who supplied the tablet.

A memorial service, in conjunction with a church parade, was held at the Town-hall in March last, the collection, which amounted to £65 8s 2d, being for the purpose of providing a memorial to Lieut. Grieve. A few additional contributions have since been received. A small marble cross, with an inscription, was obtained some months ago, and forwarded to South Africa to be placed on the grave at Paardeberg. The balance of the fund was applied for the purchase of a red granite obelisk. The latter, however, will absorb more than the money available, and it is hoped that the friends of the dead soldier who have not so far contributed will make up the deficiency.