

ALBERTO ZELMAN MEMORIAL

CEREMONY AT ST. PAUL'S.

Tablet Unveiled.

A memorial tablet to the late Mr. Alberto Zelman, founder and conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, was unveiled by Archbishop Head at St. Paul's Cathedral yesterday afternoon. The congregation filled the Cathedral. The service was choral, and its striking simplicity was enriched by the beautiful tribute which the Symphony Orchestra paid to its founder. The orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Fritz Hart, opened the service with Wagner's "Vorspiel," from "Lohengrin," and brought it to a deeply impressive ending with the majestic "Unfinished Symphony" of Schubert.

The tablet is of bronze, and is inscribed simply:—"Alberto Zelman, Musician (1874-1927). Founder of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, 1906." After the unveiling an address was given by Dean Aikin, in which he paid a high tribute to the late Mr. Zelman, and appealed for the preservation of good music.

"I have no fear for the future of good music among us," Dean Aikin said. "Really good music is as sure of love and lovers as the beauty of a rose, the freshness of a child's face, the loveliness of women, and the valour of man. I am not afraid of the ultimate issue between the immediate personal interpretation of great music and of the mechanical reproduction of what at the outset may have been unquestionably musical. We must conserve all gifted makers of music who are with us, and we must foster every manifestation of musical gifts if we are to give a national music to the world."

The whole world, Dean Aikin added, was a debtor to everyone of supreme gifts. Such gifts Mr. Zelman had possessed. A great musician and a great leader, few had done more than he to introduce the people of Melbourne to the treasures of fine music.