

CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. DAVID MURRAY.

These late Mr. David Murray, the head of the firm of D. & W. Murray, warehousemen, whose death occurred in London early in 1907, was a prominent member of the Flinders-street Presbyterian Church. Some time ago the committee of management of the church decided to perpetuate his memory by placing a tablet on the walls of the building. This was done, and on Sunday morning after the celebration of Holy Communion the memorial was unveiled by Mr. John Gordon in the name of the congregation. The tablet is of grey marble and rests on a base of black marble, let into the western wall. Upon it is the following inscription, cut in Roman lettering:—"Erected to the memory of Mr. David Murray by this congregation, of which he was a member for 53 years, and who, in discharging the many offices at various times held by him, won the esteem and respect of his fellow-members; and by his wise counsel and generous benefactions not only helped to build up the congregation, but the Presbyterian Church in this State, and in all that pertained to the common good of the community bore a worthy part. Born, 27th December, 1829. Died, 6th January, 1907." The memorial is a simple but effective one.

The Rev. George Davidson, M.A., the minister of the church, after the unveiling ceremony, said the late Mr. Murray was rightly regarded as the father of the Flinders-street Church and of Presbyterianism in South Australia. He was an exceptional man in many ways, and in some respects a great man; and he believed that, had he not made the mark he did in commercial life he would have made it in some other calling. He was one who, in his prime, had been possessed of great intellectual energy; and he had remained throughout his long life loyal to the Church of his fathers. He had never refused to partake of those gifts of spiritual bread and wine which the Church had to offer to all her children, and had never lost the impress of the Christian principles imparted to him as a youth. The choir, under the direction of the church organist (Mr. W. R. Pybus) sang Tennyson's beautiful hymn "Crossing the bar."

ADELAIDE STREETS ON SUNDAY NIGHT.

The above was a subject upon which the Rev. Henry Gainford had something to say in his sermon at the Hindmarsh-square Congregational Church on Sunday evening. He said he desired to be as fair and as just as he could, and had no wish to impute wrong motives to every young man and woman walking the streets, but he feared it was not the beautiful climate alone that was responsible for so many young people parading the streets at night time. It was more a question in which public morality

was concerned. Man was a creature of contradictions—at one time master of his actions and impulses, and at other times not—and it was necessary to keep him to the right path, that he should be surrounded by a helpful and inspiring environment. This was not to be obtained by parading the streets on a Sunday night. He regarded Sunday night as the worst evening of the week for young people to be in the streets. It was not only because they were desecrating a day that should be set apart for religious observances, but they were out at a time when the chains of commercial and business life had been loosened, and when liberty was allowed to run to license. Much harm thus resulted from these Sunday night walks. The law demanded of people that they should send their children regularly to school that they might be mentally and physically equipped, and in his opinion it was only right that they should be morally and religiously equipped also. It had been demonstrated that the morally weak were a menace to the community, and he asked how the State could expect to develop a high and manly type of citizenship when hundreds of its youth continually paraded the streets, learned the use of disgusting language, and became steeped in mental and moral obliquity.