

CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

FOUNDATION-STONE AT WOODVILLE.

For some time past the parishioners of St. Margaret's, Woodville, have been engaged in a movement for enlarging the church. The present edifice has provided accommodation for the worshippers, but with the growth of population in the district the limitations of space have been more and more felt. On Saturday afternoon the Bishop of Adelaide (Right Rev. Dr. Thomas) laid the foundation-stone of a new chancel and other additions to the building. There was a large attendance, and the clergy were represented by the Bishop of Adelaide, Bishop Wilson, Dean Young, Archdeacon Bussell (who acted as bishop's chaplain), Canon Andrews, Canon Hornabrook, the Revs. S. J. Houston, W. B. King, and W. F. Wehrstedt, and the rector of the church (Rev. S. C. Loan). A preliminary service was held in the church, and the Bishop of Adelaide delivered an address, in which he mentioned that before proceeding to lay the foundation-stone they had engaged in a confession of their faith. The stone would be laid in the faith of Jesus Christ and the Holy Trinity. The stone was symbolical of what the faith they professed should be to them. The faith was enduring, could not be moved, become stronger with age, bound them together, and supported others, and should help all. The events of the times were throwing them back more and more on first principles. They were brought face to face with great questions. Did they believe? What did they believe? What was their faith worth? Was it true that Christianity had failed? Was it true that God did not really care? Was Jesus Christ discredited? Their reply to those questions were a simple and earnest affirmation, "I believe in God." They believed in His love. They believed, although His ways were inscrutable, He was working out His great purpose in the world. They believed in Jesus Christ and the great sacrifice He had made. It was not Christianity that had failed; it was only the civilisation that was not Christian that had failed. They were beginning to see how in wonderful ways God was working through the war. They could see the new spirit of sacrifice, a spirit of discipline and love. Religion was becoming more real to them, and in the face of everything they could look up and say, "I believe in God."

The congregation then proceeded to the new portion of the building, and after Mr. G. A. Connor, one of the oldest members of the church, had presented him with a trowel, the Bishop laid the stone, saying—"In the faith of Jesus Christ we place this foundation-stone in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost."

The stone bore the inscription—"In honor of St. Margaret of Scotland, and in memory of the faithful departed this stone was laid by Arthur Nutter, Bishop of Adelaide, June 5, 1915." Afternoon the

stone was laid by Arthur Nutter, Bishop of Adelaide, June 5, 1915." Afternoon the was provided in the local institute, where Mr. John Donaldson, on behalf of the congregation, welcomed the bishops and the clergy. He said St. Margaret's Church had emerged from the cloud that had overhung it for some time. Never before had the congregation looked forward to the visit of a bishop with such great pleasure. The church had reached its diamond jubilee, and it was fitting that the occasion should be marked by the completion of the building. During the sixty years of its existence they had had a faithful succession of priests. The present rector, like his predecessor, had worked enthusiastically to secure the extension of the building, and that day they had witnessed the first movement towards the consummation of the scheme. It was gratifying that nearly all the funds had been raised within the parish. One and all had contributed towards the cost. (Applause.)

In responding, the Bishop of Adelaide congratulated the people of the parish on being able to complete and beautify the church. With the new chancel and other extensions the building would not only be larger and more convenient for public worship, but it would be more beautiful. (Applause.)

Bishop Wilson also congratulated the people of Woodville and the rector on having been able to carry out such a work at a time when there were so many other demands on them. Nearly every other piece of church extension in the diocese was stuck in the mud, but the people of that parish had been able to go forward and he sincerely congratulated them.

The new additions will include a chancel 26 ft. long and 28 ft. wide, which will form a transept to the existing building, and there will be an organ chamber, a side porch, and two vestries. The work will be carried out in limestone, with cement-brick dressings in keeping with the existing church, which is 50 ft. long and 28 ft. wide. The architects are Messrs. Woods, Bagot, & Jory, associated with Mr. Laybourne Smith. Messrs. Howard & Humphrey are the contractors. The cost of the work will be about £1,150, towards which £700 has already been raised, including £210 to bid on the stone on Saturday.

The Naval Reserve Band, under the direction of Warrant-Officer Ronchetti, played patriotic selections.