

## THE MURRAY MEMORIAL, WIRRABARA.

### CEREMONY OF UNVEILING.

Not long after the death of Mr. Alexander Scott Murray steps were taken which will be in the remembrance of our readers, for erecting a monument to his memory. After some considerable delay the monument, which has been confided to Mr. R. Laycock, of the Waymouth Street Works, Adelaide, and placed in position on an elevation adjoining the Post Office. The base is 3 ft. 6 in. in diameter up to the plinth, above that the diameter is lessened to 2ft. 9 in. This is built of freestone, from Stirling East, Mount Lofty. Above the base a marble octagon pillar rises 6 ft., having on its base the inscription, "This monument was erected by the friends of the late Alexander Scott Murray, who died at Wirrabara August 23, 1880, aged 34 years." The pillar is surmounted by a bold cap, each face finished in a gothic-trefoil, upon this rests a Funeral Urn, decorated with foliated carvings. The structure is protected by a neat railing, and though it would be rather more imposing had the base been heavier and carried to a greater height, it is a very successful effort on Mr. Laycock's part, and reflects great credit on the taste of the Committee.

On Wednesday afternoon a large company of the general public assembled to witness the ceremony of unveiling the monument. This was performed by

Mr. James Milne, J.P., who said they were met to perform a ceremony which, to the best of his belief, was unprecedented in the colony. Many monuments had been erected to the memory of great men, who had raised themselves in the estimation of their fellows, through having entered into and successfully carried out some great public deed; but in their case the monument was erected as a mark of the purest affection for the memory of one who had by his genial disposition gained the love of all who knew him. The speaker, whose feelings were evidently touched, declared the monument unveiled. He was pleased to see such a large number of people attend the ceremony, and asked the parents present, whose children might not fully understand the meaning of the monument, to remind them of the many good and benevolent actions of the deceased.

Mr. A. E. Gliddon read the following resolution: "That we testify to Mrs.

resolution: "That we testify to Mrs. Murray our strong affection and regard for the memory of her late husband, and sincerely hope that she and her family may be spared from encountering the rude blasts which are often experienced by the widow and fatherless, and that their lives may be one unbroken chain of peace, prosperity and happiness." He said it was with mixed feelings that he proposed the resolution. Although the occasion was to be regretted, he did not think a greater honor could have been shown the dead than that performed to-day. He was sure Mrs. Murray would feel very happy when she received a report of the proceedings.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. H. Robinson, sen., and carried unanimously.

The Secretary, Mr. J. Rintoul, read the balance sheet and report of the Committee: "It is with much satisfaction that we present a report of the Committee's proceedings. It devolves upon me to say that the undertaking was prompted by affectionate respect for the memory and admiration of the amiable qualities of the deceased gentleman. A number of the residents met on Sept. 18 1880, and it was decided to issue circulars asking the funds of deceased to allow their names to be placed on the Committee for the purpose of erecting a monument. Sixty-five gentlemen replied expressing their sympathy with the movement, and their willingness to further the object. On October 16 a general working Committee for Wirrabara and neighbourhood was appointed, and a sub-Committee for Melrose. At a subsequent meeting it was decided that the Monument should be placed on the grave, but finding that the relatives of deceased had erected a fitting Monument in the Cemetery it was decided that the Memorial should take another form, hence its erection on the present site, as agreed to at a general meeting of the subscribers held on April 2, 1881. The erection of the work was entrusted to Mr. R. Laycock. We are now glad that after some unavoidable delay the undertaking has been brought to a successful issue. We sincerely hope that the labors of the Committee and the response of their supporters will be accepted by the relatives of deceased not on account of their intrinsic value but as a slight manifestation of general admiration of those traits in Mr. Murray's character which raised him in the estimation of all who knew him. His memory is richly embalmed in the remembrance of many benevolent actions and noble deeds.

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A list of the subscribers was then read, with the following items of expenditure.

Cost of Memorial	189	0	0
Purchase of land	15	0	0
Transfer of ditto	3	3	0
Iron Raising	25	0	0
Printing and Advertising	4	0	0
Incidental Expenses	4	0	0

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£240 3 0

By Subscriptions

240 3 0

Mr. J. Cook, J.P., spoke in eulogistic terms of the deceased. He returned thanks on behalf of the widow, and congratulated the Committee on having so successfully completed the monument, which was due to the energetic manner in which they had worked.

Mr. J. Victorsen responded on behalf of the Committee, and at his instance a vote of thanks was accorded to the Secretary.

Mr. Rintoul having acknowledged the compliment, the company dispersed.