

## THE LATE REV. W. WHALE,

### UNVEILING THE MEMORIAL.

Just twelve months ago the sudden death occurred of the Rev. W. Whale, of the Baptist Tabernacle, a pastor occupying one of the leading places in the respect and veneration of the citizens; and appropriately enough the anniversary of his death was chosen for the unveiling of a memorial to his memory. A large number of members of the Baptist congregations and other denominations gathered round a handsome monument at the Toowong Cemetery on Saturday afternoon, and with all the solemnity that an earnest religious ceremony can impart the Rev. W. Poole, of Vulture-street Church, South Brisbane, unveiled the stone.

The service was initiated with a hymn and prayer by the Rev. W. Higlett (Albion), and following the actual removal of the drape the Rev. F. J. Wilkin, of Victoria, who is temporarily acting as pastor of the Tabernacle, led in prayer, in which he said it was hoped all would be inspired as they remembered Mr. Whale's life and career. For all he was in the home, in the church, in the city, and in the State they blessed God's holy name. "May this memorial," he said, "stimulate and inspire many to walk in the steps of our brother, and to serve Christ as far as he served Him."

The Rev. W. Poole said the words "veiling" and "unveiling" represented the process taking place with respect to those whom we have loved and lost. No one was perfect, but as the days rolled by memory veiled up these defects, and the character shone out with a brightness and a beauty that had not even face to face on earth. On the other side, there was the unveiling of the virtues that did not strike us when our loved one was with us; and there now shone out in a clearer, brighter light, excellencies that had been passed by unheeded, or little acts of kindness that had been unnoticed. They felt that their friend, William Whale, was dearer to them that day through the very lapse of time than he was twelve months ago. To his loved ones in the home there must be a greater, brighter shining, and altogether his memory must be sweeter than it had ever been; and it would grow sweeter still as the time went on. This process was always going on; death robbed us of our dear ones, but time veiled the defects, and unveiled the excellencies. The thought he wished to impress on their memories was that this veiling and unveiling we were doing day after day, to the living as well as to the dead. We did not want to see the defects, but to see the excellencies—and not merely in a spirit of charity, but in a spirit of admiration. This monument was not needed to remind them of the one who was taken away twelve months ago; but it would set a grand purpose, since it would tell them of his life, and hold him out as an example that it would be well to follow. He had gone, but his memory was brighter and brighter; and some day they would stand with him in the presence of the Eternal, when the veil would be drawn over all that marked them as defective, and the virtues would be unveiled. At this moment they could not but remember in tender sympathy one who was not with them; it would have been too painful for her to be present.

who was not with them; it would have been too painful for her to be present. But in the secrecy and quietude of home her tears were falling and her heart was sad. God be with her. To the family also they tendered sincere sympathy. Some day they would see each other face to face, in the presence of Him who had brought them to the realm of eternal glory.

After the hymn "Rock of Ages" was sung, the Rev. W. Richer pronounced the benediction.

In addition to those mentioned, the gathering included the Rev. I. Bugg (Nundah), J. C. Warren (Sandgate), A. J. Griffith (representing the Council of the Churches), H. E. Elliott (Hendra), W. Higlett (Albion), W. Page (Taringa), W. Richer (secretary to the Baptist Association), Messrs. J. J. Verney (treasurer of the Baptist Association), W. R. Smith (superintendent of the Tabernacle Sunday School), W. D. Grimes (president of the Baptist Association), James Grimes, W. H. Whale (son of the deceased), A. J. Goldsmith, E. J. T. Barton (editor of the "Courier"), Miss Whale and Mrs. Goldsmith (daughters of the deceased), Messrs. G. F. Scott and S. Carey Carter (Charity Organisation Society), E. Gregory, R. Hicks, E. Rees, W. Fryar, C. S. Fryar, Charles Dennis, A. Pridoux, W. P. Cookley, John Mackenzie, Tuck, R. Trout, J. Storey, jun., Mr. and Mrs. E. Lechem, Mr. B. Wilson, Mrs. Dax, Mr. H. Hill, Mrs. John Smith, Mrs. B. G. Wilson, Mrs. England, Messrs. J. E. Jones, W. H. Bush, T. Biggs, Mrs. S. Martin, and others. Apologies were received for the absence of the Revs. W. Moore and A. G. Weller, Mr. F. G. Martin, and the Rev. John Kingford (the oldest minister in the Baptist Association), who wrote in particularly kindly terms of the deceased clergyman.

The monument occupies a commanding position on the rifle range side, and stands 18ft. 6in. high. The base is of Heidon stone, brown for one course, and white for three other courses. The die is of Italian marble, supported by four brown carved columns. This is surmounted with a cap, with a shaft, round which ivy is climbing. This in turn is surmounted with a curved crystal W urn. The grave is enclosed with brown Heidon stone, filled in with white marble chips. The inscription states that Mr. Whale was born on 10th September, 1842, and that he died on 4th September, 1903. It carries a reminder that he was pastor of the Wharf-street and Tabernacle Churches from 1885 to 1903. There is the Scriptural quotation, "And so He giveth His beloved sleep," and the following extract from the hymnal:—

Rest from thy labour, rest,  
Soul of the just, set free;  
Bless be thy memory, and  
Bless thy bright example be.

A wreath and other flowers were placed on the grave by the Tabernacle Christian Endeavourers and the children of the Sunday school.