

UNVEILING MEMORIAL WINDOWS
 AT THE
Cooma Presbyterian Church
 THE LATE MR. AND MRS. W. JARDINE.

The ceremony of unveiling memorial windows recently placed in the Presbyterian Church at Cooma was performed on Saturday afternoon in the presence of a large gathering of residents. There were three in all, in the eastern gable wall of the edifice at the rear of the vestry. The subject of each window on the left represented St. John, and bore the inscription "IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM JARDINE, DIED 1904." Erected by his friends." The subject of the window to the right was "Faith," the inscription being "IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DEAR MOTHER CATHERINE JARDINE, DIED 1898. Erected by her sons and daughters." The centre window was symbolic of the Presbyterian Church, bearing the emblem, inscribed "NEO TAMEM CONSUMERATUR" (Burning but not consumed). Those whose memory has thus been preserved were old residents of the district, Mr. William Jardine being a native of Hyndale, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, who was born on 22nd October, 1819, and landed in Sydney in 1841. He was of the hardy pioneer type, and by dint of perseverance, and a determination which characterises those who go out into the wilds and overcome all obstacles in the path of civilisation, became the possessor of a fine station property, Curry Flat, near Nimitybelle. Mrs. Jardine was born in the Highlands of Scotland in 1824, and was the daughter of Mr. Angus Cochran; her decease taking place nine years ago. Of this lady it has been truly said that she was "a true wife, a loving and beloved mother," and with her husband enjoyed the esteem and respect of the Manaro district.

Arrangements were made for a memorial service, which took place last Saturday, and was conducted by the Rev. T. E. Clouston, B.A., D.D., the ex-Moderator General of the Church in Australia. The members of the family were represented by Miss Agnes Carlisle Jardine, sister of the late Mr. W. Jardine; Messrs. Robert John, Angus and James Jardine (sons) with their wives and families. The service was opened by a voluntary "O rest in the Lord" and the singing of the hymn "O God of Bethel by whose hand," Mr. H. A. Evans presiding at the organ. This was followed by prayer.

The Rev. Dr. Clouston in his opening address said he had come at the invitation of the Rev. P. Hope, an old friend; and although the latter was so young he was at the same time one of his oldest friends. He had watched his career almost from the cradle to his induction to the charge of Manaro, and when the invitation came he felt glad. They desired to remember two who had passed away and put up something as a memorial for what they had done for Christ. And he felt they were doing the right thing. King Solomon's temple at Jerusalem was a small building, and its wealth was enormous, the silver and gold, precious stones, and wood representing millions of pounds sterling. When the Western

son struck on Mt. Moriah the temple glistered, it was a thing of beauty. Solomon who wished to worship God sought to make the temple as comely and beautiful as he could make it. They could worship God anywhere, and He would with the true of heart be one of them either in the stately Cathedral or the wooden structure. They had really been brought more to God in a building of simple surroundings than in the most costly; the plainest house was as beautiful to God, but it did not relieve them of responsibility of making their sanctuary, their house of prayer as beautiful as they could. Their living houses were made as pleasant to the eye and comfortable as possible. Did they not think that the house in which they worshipped God should be made as beautiful as possible? They had put up in the church windows which would convey the light and convey an idea of the past, and they were doing something to the glory of God. King Solomon's temple was captured by King Nebuchadnezzar - he carried its treasures to Babylon, the temple was destroyed, and although two other temples were erected they were inferior to King Solomon's. On the site was another place of worship in which the same aims to the Holy scriptures were uttered. Today there was a

temple far more costly than that erected at Mt. Moriah. He had built up a spiritual house composed of men and women who had given their hearts to Him. The foundation was the Rock of ages and never could be shaken and that was Jesus Christ, the same yesterday to-day and for ever. The first course of masonry was composed of the apostles, the martyrs and confessors, who actually saw the Lord, who had passed away, the living souls of Christ Jesus. Course after course had been laid, that the building had advanced to a high state of completion; those who sought to follow Jesus were the living stones of the temple of God. A true heart, a clear conscience, a beautiful character was more than gold or silver or jewels. They were the living stones whose characters were elevated by the gospel of Christ. It was an honour that they should have any part in the temple, and they should honour them that God had honoured. They did not worship those who had passed away, but they delighted to remember the men of the past, who had fought for their religious liberty. Should they not remember those who worked, not so much for the church as a whole, but the local church? Should they in Cooma not recollect those who had done the pioneer work, and to-day they thought of two whose memories they desired to commemorate with grateful thanksgivings to God, and that they might hand down the blessings of Divine truth. In the adornment of the sanctuary, and in commemoration of those passed away, they were doing well. Apologies had been received from the Rev. H. Skuse, Mr. G. Kaufline, mayor of Cooma, Hon. Alex. Rylie, M.L.C. They were to bear addresses and he had to call upon Mr. G. T. C. Miller M.L.A. to say a few words.

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Mr. F. H. Galbraith expressed pleasure at publicly testifying his sincere affection for the late Mr. Jardine, whom he knew very intimately, though not for very long. When the sad news came to Manaro he sympathised with all who went out to the family who had lost such a kind and generous father. He was pleased to see a memorial was put up to that splendid old man. Kindness of heart for all people and simplicity of life were splendid traits of his character, and he was ever ready to help others. He would again tender his thanks for the opportunity of being able to speak of Mr. Jardine. (Applause).

Mr. H. A. Evans, as a member of the Jardine Memorial Fund Committee, and a personal friend of the family, said it gave him pleasure to do honour to their good pioneer. His whole life might be summed up as one of unselfishness and love. It was the same with Mrs. Jardine, who was ever ready to help others. Some eighteen months ago it was suggested that a suitable memorial should be made,

and an inscription was suggested. It was understood that the family was also desirous of doing something similar. A great proportion of the subscriptions came from the members of other Churches, showing how he was liked. They proposed to have a cot in the hospital, but the subscriptions were not large enough, and they decided to put up the memorial windows. Mr. Jardine had paid £100 alone as interest on the Church's debt in two years. One window represented the Church, in the centre. Mr. Henry Wallace, one of the old friends of the family, very much regretted he could not be present. The Hon. Alex. Rylie also wrote regretting his absence, and paid a high tribute to the memory of Mr. Jardine. Mr. O. C. Litchfield was also unable to be present.

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The Rev. P. Hope said he would like to refer to the inscription on the window erected to the memory of the late Mr. Jardine. Most of them had not seen it, but it read "Erected by his friends." A man's friends came to him unsought. The man who went about trying to make friends would end in having few, if any. Men became friends of a man who they were drawn to him by admiration, respect and love. So that window was a quiet testimony to the worth of one whom many in the district of all classes and parties could call friend. They were not all there that day; if they could be gathered together from this wide district the Church would not only know, its work would be overflowing. And they could witness in truth his kindness, charity, uprightness and loyalty. He helped those who asked for help, and sought out those who were needy and would not ask. And this immortal window taught them to trust human nature. Men did not judge unjustly. The evil that men do lives after them, but the good is not always interred with the bones. Let that window witness that the man of Christ likeness, of simple goodness, kindness, honesty and friendlyness, was the man above all

others to win the esteem and love of his fellow men in lasting memories. In regard to Mrs. Jardine, he would say but this:—A mother's influence was a telling factor on the characters of her children; and a better witness to her worth than the window her children had erected to her memory was their own character. Let that window speak of their reverence for her; their lives should speak more emphatically still. They would honour her as they honoured the ideals she set before them. On behalf of the Cooma Presbyterian Church and the Church of Australia he had to thank the subscribers for the one window, and the Jardine family for the other, and assure them that the Church was glad to give these beautiful memorials a place, in honour of pioneers of her faith and teaching in the district. (Applause.)

Mr. E. P. Margonchi spoke of the great hospitality he had received at Mr. Jardine's hands, and who was one of nature's true gentlemen. Mr. Jardine took great interest in every good work in the district, and had done much for its advancement. (How, here)

Mr. J. C. Rylie, of Maffra, then unveiled the window to the memory of Mr. W. Jardine on behalf of the subscribers. He had known the deceased 24 or 27 years and had never heard one word spoken against him.

Mrs. Agnes Caroline Jardine then unveiled the window erected by the family to the memory of their mother.

The Rev. Clouston then expressed

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the hope that they might all follow in the footsteps of the faithful who had gone before.

Mr. John Jardine thanked all who had taken part in the proceedings. He knew the thanks were not required by the generous donors who had subscribed to the memorials, but on behalf of the members of the family he returned sincere thanks to Mr. J. C. Rylie, one of his father's oldest and sincerest friends, and Mr. Evans, a younger friend, for the work of love they had taken in front of being about that most successful ceremony. He extended to the ex-Moderator, the Rev. Clouston, sincere thanks for his presence that day, also to the Rev. P. Hope for his unfailing kindness, and to Mr. G. D. Cochran, architect, for supervising the work. He would also thank those present for attending the services, and which was thoroughly appreciated by the family. The kind words uttered by the speakers that day would live in their memory and they would pardon him when he said that knowing how good his dear old father was he deserved that tribute of kindly feeling. In the speaker's younger days he could not fully appreciate the character of his father, but during the past twenty years he learned to value his kindly advice and assistance and worked shoulder to shoulder with him, and knew how to appreciate him. He would always know and repeat his memory and was proud to know he had such a son. When the memorial service was commenced he thought they had an opportunity of doing something for their dear old mother also. Perhaps she was not so well known, and she lived for her family alone. But to the members of their family he could say they had a father and mother of which they should be, and were, justly proud. If ever they felt themselves going errand they only had to look for example to their dear old father and mother; and if they trod in their foot-prints they would never go astray. He thanked them for their presence as it showed that the memory of their beloved parents was not forgotten by the residents of the district. (Applause.)

The Rev. P. Hope said that the centre window was erected by the generosity of the Jardine family and Mr. J. C. Rylie.

The hymn "For all the Saints who from all their labours rest" was then sung by the congregation, and Mrs. Twelfth Mass being played on the organ by Mr. Evans, the ceremony came to a close.