

A SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL.

THE LATE COLONEL TOM PRICE.

The memorial tablet placed in St. Paul's Cathedral by the members of the Victorian Mounted Rifles in memory of their founder and former commander, the late Colonel Tom Price, C.B., was unveiled and dedicated in the presence of a large congregation on Tuesday. Major-General G. M. Kirkpatrick, C.B., Inspector-General of the Commonwealth military forces, performed the ceremony. The congregation included Colonel Price's widow and her daughter (Mrs. Arnold Mills), Major Robertson, Lieutenant-Colonel Braithwaite, Lieutenant Smith, and numerous military officers and men, some of whom came from distant parts of the State.

Details of the chief military events of Colonel Price's career are inscribed on the tablet, which is placed in the south-west corner of the cathedral. The closing words of the inscription are as follow:—

Erected by the members of the Victorian Mounted Rifles to perpetuate the memory of a brave soldier and faithful servant of his country.

Major-General Kirkpatrick, in performing the ceremony, said he appreciated doubly the honor of unveiling the beautiful memorial—firstly on account of its testimony to the distinguished career of Colonel Tom Price, and secondly because of the position which it had in the cathedral of the capital city of the State Colonel Tom Price had served so well. For over forty years Colonel Tom Price served the British Empire and his Sovereigns in various climates and in many capacities. Throughout that lengthy service he was animated solely with the idea of doing his duty to the best of his ability. In Victoria Colonel Price was remembered as the officer who organised the Victorian Mounted Rifles and the Victorian Rangers, and who subsequently, when the call came, commanded the V.M.R. on active service. During the latter work he gained the affection and respect of those who served under him. The memorial testified to that regard and respect, and also to the high value placed upon his service. To win such respect a man needed to be possessed of a humane personality, to be endowed with a strong sense of sympathy and justice, imbued firmly with the value of the work at hand, and gifted with indomitable courage and forceful energy. Colonel Tom Price was just that class of man. It could be said of him, "He has done his duty."

After the church service a gathering was held in the Chapter House, and further tributes were paid to the memory of the late Colonel Price. Lieutenant-Colonel Braithwaite said Colonel Price lost fewer men than any other commander in the South African war. The late colonel was a great soldier, who had inherited a fine character from his soldier-father. A memorial to a man who served his country so faithfully and well was a fitting picture

memorial to a man who served his country so faithfully and well was a fitting picture for the walls of God's Holy Church.