

THE SUPREME SACRIFICE.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL M. L.
WILLIAMS.

DIED FROM WOUNDS.

A POPULAR OFFICER.

That her husband, Lieutenant-Colonel (Dr.) Malwyn L. Williams, had been seriously wounded in France, was the intelligence conveyed to Mrs. Williams, of Bendigo, by the Defence department on Monday. On Tuesday afternoon a cable message came to hand stating that the Lieut.-Colonel had succumbed to his wounds. The news was conveyed to Mrs. Williams, widow of the deceased officer, by the Ven. Archdeacon Percival, the cablegram stating that the doctor had been shot through the lung with a rifle bullet—evidently the act of an indiscriminate sniper. Bendigonians have good reason to mourn the loss of one of their most promising professional men, and that they do mourn his loss was unmistakably evident on Tuesday evening, when sympathetic references to the sad event could be heard almost wherever a number of citizens was assembled. For his skill as a physician and surgeon, for his kindness to all those who had dealings with him, and for his genial disposition the late Dr. Williams won the admiration, esteem and respect of civilians, members of the medical profession, and those associated with military work. He leaves a widow and two young children to mourn the loss of a heroic husband and father. One of the children was born shortly after Lieut.-Colonel Williams embarked for the front. Lieut.-Colonel Williams enlisted in Bendigo in July, 1915, and entered camp on the 24th August of the same year. After doing service with the Field Ambulance in Egypt for some time, Lieut.-Colonel Williams was transferred to France, where he held a command up to the time he was wounded.

During his military career in Australia, which extended over a period of six years, Lieut.-Colonel Williams proved himself a very capable and exceedingly popular officer. He had a thorough military know-

very capable and exceedingly popular officer. He had a thorough military knowledge, and had closely studied the work of field ambulances in active service. Always ready to give the men under his command the benefit of his knowledge as a medical man, he proved of great service in the efficient training of the local Army Medical Corps. The lectures delivered periodically by him to members of the corps were always highly interesting and much appreciated by the men. His capabilities as an officer and doctor inspired confidence in his men, and as soon as it became known that he had volunteered, a number of members of the local Army Medical Corps decided to follow his example.

Lieutenant-Colonel Williams commenced his military career in 1909, when he joined the old No. 2 Field Ambulance, the present scheme of organisation not being then in force. Joining with the rank of captain, Lieut.-Colonel Williams served for 12 months under the command of Colonel Horne, who is at present attached to an Australian field hospital in France. After coming to Bendigo in 1910 his first military duties were at the Kitchener camp. He also attended a camp at Kilmore, after which he was attached to the 67th (Bendigo) Infantry as supernumerary medical officer. On the introduction of the new universal military training scheme he was given command of B section of the 17th Australian Army Medical Corps. As a result of the increase of the strength of the corps in 1915, Lieut.-Colonel Williams assumed command of the whole corps. It was in 1914 that he was promoted to the rank of major, whilst he was recently promoted to lieutenant-colonel, and given command of the First Field Ambulance.

Lieut.-Colonel Williams was a well known medical practitioner, and was regarded as a skilful surgeon. He commenced his medical studies in 1905, and after a brilliant career at the Melbourne University completed his course in 1908. In the succeeding twelve months he acted as resident surgeon at the Melbourne Hospital. He then secured an appointment on the staff of the Bendigo Hospital with Dr. Fowler, and it was during his three years' connection with this institution that his ability as a surgeon became widely known. Many patients at the hospital have publicly thanked Dr. Williams for his skilful treatment and his

Williams for his skilful treatment and his courtesy and unremitting attention, characteristics of the doctor, which made him a favorite with patients and members of the nursing staff alike. In 1912 he severed his connection with the hospital in order to enter into private practice in conjunction with Dr. Long. This gave Dr. Williams increased opportunities to practise in surgical work, and, needless to say, he established an extensive practice, which he willingly sacrificed in order to render a much-needed service to his country.

In the sporting field Lieut.-Colonel Williams also gained distinction, and was well known as a brilliant footballer. During the seasons 1910 and 1911 he played with the South Bendigo club, and proved a dashing half-back.

The Rev. J. C. MacCullagh, formerly Dean of Bendigo, has gone to Healesville to recuperate after his recent severe illness.