

HONOUR ROLL.**UNVEILING AT MORPETH.****"THE WOMAN IN BLACK."**

A very handsome honor roll, in memory of those members of St. James' Church who served with the forces during the war was unveiled by the Ven. Arch-deacon Regg, rector of the parish during the war period, at the church Wednesday, Canon Rushforth, the former rector, assisted, and there was a large congregation, in spite of the wet weather.

Before the dedication, psalms 23 and 121 were sung, and the lessons read. During the singing of the hymn "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow", the choir, followed by the clergy, moved down the aisle to the memorial, which occupied a place in the porch. Here the Arch-deacon said:

"Forasmuch as it has pleased the members of this congregation to erect a permanent memorial of the service and sacrifice of men from this parish by the erection of this Honour Roll within the porch of this church, let us proceed to dedicate the same.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

O Lord, we beseech Thee of Thy merciful goodness to accept the offering of this memorial, which we have placed in Thy house, and grant that it may be hallowed by Thy blessing, as a record of service and sacrifice to the glory of Thy Holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the Faith of Jesus Christ we dedicate this memorial to the Glory of God and in memory of those who served their country, and who gave their lives in the Great War.

O God, who by the mouth of Saint Paul, Thine Apostle, has taught us not to sorrow as man without hope for them that sleep in Christ; grant, we beseech Thee, that at the coming of Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, both we, and all other Thy faithful people departed, may be graciously brought into the joys everlasting, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The congregation then observed a silence for a short period.

After the singing of the hymn, "O Valiant Hearts, Who to Your Glory Came," the Arch-deacon delivered the sermon. He said he was pleased to take part in the service, because it brought back those days which were intimately and sacredly associated with those days bounded by the figures 1914 and 1919, and what years they were! Should they ever forget them. Those send-offs, when their hearts were moved with pride and sorrow—pride at the way their boys were going forward to the call of duty, at the way they buckled on their armour, so to speak, and sorrow at the thought of parting with them. Then, with what eagerness they read the newspapers, with the news of battles, and their lists of dead and wounded. There

papers, with the news of battles, and their lists of dead and wounded. There was the duty that some of them would have given anything to have avoided—breaking the news. If a blow was to fall on any home in their parish, it was their duty and privilege to see that the blow fell as lightly as possible. Then there were those memorial services, when they seemed to be drawn together, not so much as a parish, but as a family. As a family they thought, as a family they prayed, and as a family they met in the House of God, to testify their sympathy with those who were bereaved.

Of those memorable years that honour roll would serve as a reminder. It would serve also as a reminder of the bravery of those names recorded thereon. "This is Hell" wrote one of them from Gallipoli. A visit to the War Museum gave some conception of what it was like. Hell it may have been, but they faced it.

There was a cross to be seen in the same museum with the inscription in English "An unknown Tommy," and with the expression in German immediately under it "In memory of a brave English soldier." That was a testimony to the fact that their enemies were sometimes capable of chivalry and were able to appreciate the bravery of our boys. A verse of the hymn they had just sung was worth repeating:—

"Proudly you gathered rank on rank,
to war
As who had heard God's message from
afar;
All you had hoped for, all you had,
you gave,
To save mankind—yourselves you
scorned to save."

The honour roll would not only serve as a reminder of who went, but of those who remained behind. In his early days a book which had a vogue was "The Woman in White," and he was particularly interested, as the opening scene was set not far from his birthplace. In this reason he was attracted to a heading in a newspaper during the war, which read, "The Woman in Black." The woman in black was to be seen during the war in large numbers, bereaved of a husband, or of the child of her bosom; reduced in circumstances. The woman in black was to be seen in large numbers in the House of God, and had it not been for the strength to be had there, many hearts would have been broken, and many more minds unchanged. Earl Haig had paid a fine tribute to the sacrifices made by mothers during the war, and it was a point which needed emphasising. Much had been heard of the men who went and rightly so, but he thought a little more might be heard of the splendid sacrifice of the parents who remained at home.

He referred also to the patient continuance in well-doing of those bands of women who met week after week, month after month, and year after year, to provide comforts and necessities for those at the front.

The honour roll should make its an-

saries for those at the front.

The honour roll should make its appeal to them to bring about a better way of settling international disputes, some better system than the stern arbitrament of war, some better system than the slaughter of the flower of young manhood.

He concluded by making a strong appeal for the League of Nations, referred to its achievements, and said if the cost of it were made an objection, the answer was that whereas the British taxpayer paid 12/ out of every £1 tax for the upkeep of the army and navy, his contribution towards the League of Nations was the tenth of a farthing.

The singing of the hymn, "How Bright Those Glorious Spirits Shine," the National Anthem, and the blessing brought the ceremony to a close.

The memorial, which is worked in brass and mounted on oak, has the inscription, "In grateful and loving memory of men who served in the Great War, 1914-1918," and contains the following names:—Lt. R. W. Cradick*, Sgt. H. Cradick, Lt. H. H. Maynard, M.M.*, Lt. R. S. Brown*, Pte. W. G. Stymán, Pte. C. G. Searles*, Pte. C. J. Regg, Pte. W. Sharp, Lt. B. C. Barwick, M.M., Spr. L. G. Hill, Pte. R. H. Clarke, Lt.

A. R. Rowe, Cpl. J. Innes*, Cpl. H. C. H. Croaker, Sgt. L. R. Newton, Pte. C. S. Blaxland, Pte. E. S. Rowe, Pte. E. L. Handshaw*, Sgt. R. J. Perry, Pte. R. T. C. Hamilton, Pte. A. B. Chasfe, Pte. E. W. Innes, Sgt. A. C. Roberts, Art. R. Sim, Art. D. R. Sim, Dri. E. L. A. Coombs, Pte. T. Fairhall*, Pte. C. H. Ling, Pte. T. O. S. Stymán, Pte. E. J. Handshaw*, Pte. W. C. Harrison, Pte. H. A. Searles, Pte. R. W. Wade, A.B.S. C. J. Andrews, Pte. J. H. Hackett, Pte. R. Millman, Pte. A. Cameron*, Pte. R. Dunning*, L.-Cpl. E. Foster-Griffiths*, Sgt. H. Pearn, Pte. H. J. Wilson, Pte. G. Smith, Pte. J. N. Hill, Pte. H. Fairhall.

* Killed.

After the ceremony the congregation were invited to the school hall, where Archdeacon Regg and Mrs. Regg were provided with an opportunity of meeting their former parishioners.

The ladies provided refreshments.