

NEW STANDARD.**SUBURBAN CHURCHES.****PATTERSON MEMORIAL AT TOOWONG.**

"The gift establishes a new standard for suburban church properties," said the Rev. W. Wilson Smith in his sermon in the Toowong Presbyterian Church yesterday morning subsequent to the unveiling of the Charles Patterson memorials. Notwithstanding insuspicious weather conditions, the accommodation of the church was overtaxed yesterday morning, when the memorial gates, the gift of the family, and mural marble tablet, erected by the congregation, were dedicated and unveiled to the memory of the late Mr. Charles Patterson. The deceased was a prominent figure in the commercial, civic, and church life of the suburb. He was first Mayor of Toowong in 1903, and occupied that distinguished position for no fewer than five years subsequently, and was associated with every movement that had for its object the advancement of the town. It was largely through his efforts that the church was established. He was its first session clerk, a post he occupied for 41 years up to his death early last year, an elder, and superintendent of the Sabbath School. The congregation included many gentlemen who had been associated with him in civic affairs and several ex-mayors of the town.

Despite a heavy shower of rain the gathering first assembled outside the memorial fence and gates, and after singing the "Old Hundredth" Psalm the inscribed bronze plaque, which was affixed to the fence by the congregation, was unveiled by the minister (the Rev. W. Wilson Smith). It was fitting, he said, that the memorial should stand between the church which Mr. Patterson loved, worshipped, and laboured in, and had ever been faithful to, and the town in which he had been a leading citizen and had devotedly served. On behalf of the congregation he accepted the gift from the family of the deceased, and commended the spirit which inspired the beautiful gift.

Mrs. Patterson then formally opened the iron gates and led her family and worshippers into the church.

MURAL TABLET UNVEILED.

The honour of unveiling the marble mural tablet was entrusted to the Rev. Richard Kerr, the first minister of the church. He said that he was inducted into the charge of Toowong in August, 1887, and that Mr. Patterson, who had signed the call, was the first session clerk (a post he occupied till his death), and one of the first elders. The designing of the church was the work of Mr. Patterson, while he and his workmen erected it. It was a joy to work with him. The deceased throughout his long and honoured life continued to serve and work for God. An outstanding feature of his life was his love for the community. He was one of the pioneers. It was his (Mr. Kerr's) 62nd anniversary of his landing at South Brisbane, and he could personally speak of the problems, difficulties, and hardships the pioneers had to endure and overcome by unremitting toil and brave hearts for the benefit of the community and the State to-day. The name of Mr. Patterson occupied no mean place on the inscribed roll of famous Scots who had served their fellows. Some men took their Christian duty lightly, but not so their departed friend, and, unless prevented by illness, his place in the sanctuary was never empty. His devotion in beautifying the church from Sabbath to Sabbath with flowers and pot plants required a tongue more eloquent than his to tell. He concluded by reference to the sweetness of his home life and the calm courage and faith with which he faced sorrows and trials, which, he said, would have crushed many men, and won through.

"A MEMORIAL AND A NAME."

"A memorial and a name" was the text chosen by the Rev. W. Wilson Smith. He said that memorials linked with a name and erected by a compelling impulse of love and sincere respect would endure after generations had passed away. The memorials they had unveiled spoke a name and were for the praise of God through that name. When he said "name" he meant more than the words "Charles Patterson"; he meant the name of the man whose character and deeds and influence they revered. Death could never blight a good name. A name was more fragrant than precious ointment and better than all embalming spices. The memorials would remind the generations to come of a man who had devotion and love for the things of the church, and one who was a true Christian and loyal citizen. The church was part of Mr. Patterson's life. He belonged to it with his whole heart and made its interests his own. On behalf of the congregation Mr. Wilson Smith thanked the family and congratulated them on the fine grace which inspired them to erect the handsome memorial, which would be a witness to the real influence and spirit of the church. Such gifts impressed on the minds of those outside that the church was still the home of fine thoughts and beautiful deeds, and that the church was not decaying at heart, but had life and stood for holy and beautiful inspirations. The gift established a new standard for suburban church properties, and was a step towards fashioning in the district a church which the suburbs should strive to build for the glory of God and the strengthening of suburban congregations. During the service solos were rendered by Mrs. R. Shaw ("Old Friend of Mine") and Mr. M. Finlayson ("Open the Gates of the Temple"), and the choir sang the anthem "For All the Saints."