

EVANDALE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

THE UNVEILING CEREMONY.

A large gathering assembled around the site where the Evandale Soldiers' Monument has been erected at Evandale on Tuesday (Anzac Day), to witness the ceremony of unveiling a handsome monument in memory of the soldiers belonging to the Evandale municipality who lost their lives in the great war. The monument, which cost over £150, is of the very best Aberdeen granite, and stands on a cement base, and has a cement cross at the top, the height from the ground being 15 feet. The Evandale Council, recognising that a suitable site was necessary to erect the memorial on, decided to purchase an allotment of land at the corner of Russell and Macquarie streets, and funds were raised by a committee appointed some considerable time ago to purchase a monument. Although the full amount was not quite raised, the committee have no fear that there will be any trouble in obtaining the balance, which is only a small sum. The committee received designs from various firms for the erection of the monument, and eventually Mr Morgan's design and estimate were accepted, the price being a little over £150. Inscribed on the memorial are the names of thirty-seven fallen soldiers.

Colonel C. St. Clair Cameron wrote expressing his very great regret at being unable to be present, but said his thoughts were with those who have felt the sorrow at parting with their dear ones. "Great was the stake at issue, and great had to be the sacrifice."

Punctually at 2 o'clock, Captain Mackinnon stood upon a platform and said that they had all attended to do honor to those who had laid down their lives for their country. Unfortunately Colonel Hawley, who was present, was not quite well enough to perform the ceremony of unveiling the memorial, but Mrs Hawley would do so. Captain Mackinnon said that although they had assembled that day to pay their tribute to the men who had died away from home, their duty does not sink there, but some of those who had returned still needed assistance, also some of the relatives required help. If the men who gave their lives for their country could speak they would say, they had done their duty and no more, and most of them, the speaker said, had succeeded. There had been a lot of money spent on repatriating returned soldiers, but when it was considered that there were many thousands needed repatriating, it would be easily understood that an enormous sum was required to give them the necessary financial assistance. From the Evandale municipality about 150 men enlisted, and about 150 came back, and he was glad to say that a very small percentage of those men who had returned to the district were

a very small percentage of those men who had returned to the district were not self-supporting. They all owed to the men who were unable to support themselves far more than they could ever repay, and he appealed to those present and absent not to forget their duty towards those who had done their duty.

Mr J. W. Cheek, M.L.C., apologised for the absence of Colonel Cameron, and called upon Mrs S. Hawley to unveil the memorial.

Mrs Hawley then pulled a cord, and the Union Jack fell from the face of the monument, whereon 37 names were inscribed.

"The Last Post" was then sounded by Sergeant Lee, of Launceston, who was in Colonel Hawley's regiment.

The State school children then sang "God Save the King," which terminated the proceedings.