

The Late Miss Agnes Hogg

A GRAND CITIZEN PASSES.

By the passing of Miss Agnes Hogg, which occurred in Sydney recently, the Braidwood district loses one of its most outstanding citizens, a lady whose talents and personality placed her on a pedestal to be looked up to, admired and respected by every man, woman and child. She was a worthy descendant of a grand old pioneer family. Her parents were amongst the very early, if not the earliest, settlers in the Braidwood district, people who did much to make it what it is to-day.

Miss Agnes Hogg was born in 1866 in the old cottage built by her father in Park Lane at the Fire Station corner. She was educated at Braidwood Public School and became a teacher in the Education Department in the year 1884, her first appointment being Bettowyn, Araluen. Later on she taught at Newcastle and various city schools till 1914, when she was sent to take charge of the Norfolk Island School. Her sojourn there was so successful that the people asked for and were granted an extension of her time. On her return to Sydney the Department placed her in charge of a new project. Sir Matthew Harris' old home at Pyrmont had been purchased and cookery and home management were to be taught, Miss Hogg being the first teacher in charge. She remained there several years. Her next appointment was in charge of Darbalara School, where she stayed till her retirement.

These were all happy years for her, as she was a most successful teacher, kind, possessed of a great understanding and wonderful disposition, and loved children. Her pupils loved her, too, and their parents as well. Miss Hogg's many fine traits and placid nature compelled love and respect.

Teaching days over, she looked forward to settling down in her home town, willing and eager to help in any matter designed for its welfare and advancement. Her self-sacrificing work in that connection will live on for very many years. Her first work was the restoration of Dr. Wilson's grave, which in the passing years, had be-

restoration of Dr. Wilson's grave, which in the passing years, had become sadly neglected and dilapidated. Braidwood Centenary approaching she was given the task of writing the town's history. This is now housed in the Mitchell Library, and is frequently consulted by students, writers and others, as everything she wrote was authentic. It is doubtful if there was another person in the district who would have been capable of carrying out the difficult task. Only a person possessed of a marvellous memory and gifted with extraordinary literary ability could have accomplished it. Today the history is a treasured possession in many homes in and out of the district.

The late Miss Hogg became one of the first cub mistresses in the State, and 30 years ago was a familiar sight with her band of small boys in their distinctive uniforms. The youngsters simply idolised their mistress. Some of these boys served in World War II.

Advancing years, the care of her two older sisters, curtailed her activities, and finally she herself became so frail that she had to leave her home and live with her sister in Sydney. After she left, townspeople erected a Memorial Clock at the Institute in recognition of self-sacrificing work and the influence for good she had wrought in the community. Not that such a tribute was necessary, for she will be remembered with love and gratitude as long as Braidwood continues to exist.

Miss Agnes Hogg had a wonderful personality. She was gracious, generous and kind. Also she was well endowed intellectually, and her memory was outstanding till the end. She had many talents; she wrote well and often with humour. In her younger days she excelled in handicrafts and painted well in oils and watercolor.

She had a long and useful life, had

many friends and no enemies. During her whole life she had never been heard to speak disparagingly of anyone; she could truthfully be called a good one. Miss Agnes was a Christian in the fullest sense of the word. And now she has gone to her eternal reward. Vale, Agnes Hogg.