

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DEDICATION OF ROLL OF HONOUR.

IMPRESSIVE SERVICE.

At the service in the Presbyterian Church, West Maitland, on Sunday morning, a special feature was the unveiling and dedication of the beautiful memorial roll of honour, which has just been placed in the church.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather, there was a full church, and the large congregation entered into the impressive service with wrapt attention and responsive sympathy. A printed order of service was provided, with the appropriately chosen hymns, which were sung heartily by choir and congregation. The choir also rendered the anthem "King of Kings," with good effect, and Mr. Harold Browne, organist, played several well-chosen voluntaries.

The Rev. A. S. McCook, B.A., conducted the service, and gave a short address to the children on "The Stone as a Witness," basing his remarks on the incident recorded in Joshua 24-27. The sermon subject was "The Glory of the Cross," from the text, Gal. 6-14. After the lofty conception of the apostle had been explained, and how it stood in contrast to the accepted ideas of the Jews, Romans, and Greeks of that day, the preacher went on to show how the idea has gradually gripped the best minds in all ages since, and to-day, notwithstanding appearances to the contrary, men gloried in what the cross stood for—duty and honour and sacrifice—and were ashamed of the reverse of these. The memorial to be unveiled that day was another token of the tribute men wished to pay to the spirit manifested by the cross. The names of the men on the roll were of those who deserved and who had won their esteem, by unselfish service, and some of them by sacrifice even of life itself.

After the address the minister invited Mrs. Robert Scobie, jun., widow of the late Lieut.-Colonel Scobie, who was present with her two sons, Roden and Kenneth, to draw aside the Union Jack which veiled the tablet. As she did so, the congregation rose and remained standing while the minister pronounced the impressive words of dedication. A hymn of thanksgiving, the benediction, and National Anthem brought the memorable service to a close. Afterwards many lingered to take a closer view of the tablet, which is as beautiful in workmanship

which is as beautiful in workmanship as the spirit which prompted its production. Among those present were his Worship the Mayor (Alderman H. Fry) and Miss Fry).

The memorial which was prepared at the works of Thomas Browne and Sons, of West Maitland, is of simple, but chaste design. The background, which measures some 7ft. x 3ft. 6in., is of black Carrara marble. On this is placed a moulded base of white marble with entablature containing the Burning Bush, the emblem of the church. At the top is an expansive moulded cap, topped by the A.I.F. badge—the Rising Sun—supported by two pilasters. The main central portion is in the form of a scroll, bearing in separate columns the names and rank of fifteen men who fell, and of fifty-three others who served in the great war, and were spared to return. Under the names of the fallen runs the line—"To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die."

The tablet is placed prominently at the eastern end of the church facing the congregation. Its cost was £105, and is one of the best among the many placed in the churches throughout the Commonwealth.