GLADSTONE

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL.

GOVERNOR PERFORMS OPENING CEREMONY.

GLADSTONE, Thursday.—This is the day Gladstone has been working earnestly for for the last four years. The soldiers' memorial hall was opened after a long series of difficulties and controversies. The weather was perfect and the celebration a great success. The mayor (Mr. E. A. Gale) opened a fair in the town hall at midday.

The Governor (Sir Tom Bridges), the Premier (Sir Henry Barwell), and Mr. R. D. Nicholls, M.H.A., were met at the railway station with a guard of honor of returned soldiers in charge of Lieut. Jarvis. The vice regal party were taken to the memorial hall where the Excelsior Band played the National Anthem.

The town clerk (Mr. C. Budge) read an address of welcome.

His Excellency in opening the new hall, said he had years ago had the pleasure of knowing the grand old man after whom the town was named. The memorial was a fitting one, and he hoped the residents would always be grateful for what their soldiers had done. The district was one of the best in the State, and the farmers had a great stake in the country, and no-body knew how they would have fared if the soldiers they honor had not fought for their protection.

Sir Henry Barwell and Mr. R. D. Nicholls also spoke.

The Governor then entered the memorial half followed by the mothers of deceased heroes and the returned soldiers, and the roll of honor was unveiled.

The next procedure was the inspection of the Gladstone troup of boy scouts, with whom His Excellency chatted for a few moments. A banquet was served in the supper room, after which the Governor went into the fair and became a good customer at the bran pie and the stalls.

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The party afterwards motored to Wirrabara Forest.