

## ROLL OF HONOR.

### ODDFELLOWS AT THE FRONT.

A public meeting was held at the Richmond Hall last night for the purpose of unveiling a handsome cedar board bearing in gilt letters the names of all the members, nineteen in number, of the Richmond River Lodge, M.U.I.O.O.F., who have gone to the front. The wood employed had been presented by Bro. C. W. Mitchell, it was fashioned by Bro. W. Leben, and the names were placed upon it by Bro. W. Riley, who also polished it. The Mayor (Ald. C. McKenzie) presided, and there were also on the platform D.D.G.M. Bro. Lockett, Bro. A. W. Gibson (Dist. Sec.), P.G.M. Bro. White, P.D.M. F. J. Folbigg, P.D.M. Bro. Klein, and Bro. S. McLean.

The Mayor said the Manchester Unity Order of Oddfellows had always had for its object the defence of the weak, and those who had gone to the front showed that they were imbued with the principles of the order. The honor that they had earned at the front redounded upon the Manchester Unity.

P.G.M. Bro. White said that when they bore in mind that 270,000 had enrolled in Australia to defend the Empire—fifty per cent. more than the British standing army at the outbreak of war—they felt that there was something to be proud of. They did not that night only honor those of their own order who had gone to the front, but every man who had gone. The war had shown that British blood had not deteriorated by being transplanted overseas. It did not matter whether the Gallipoli campaign was a blunder or not—if it was it was one of the grandest blunders ever made. It had proved the grit and fighting quality of Australia. Some of those whose names were on the board that was to be unveiled were members of families of which three and four had gone. He hoped that after the war the Gallipoli Peninsula would be in the hands of the British nation, and that there would be a monument erected on it to the memory of those who had fallen there.

D.G.M. Bro. Lockett, who was then called upon to unveil the roll of honor, said the emotion that went through him in looking down the list of those who had gone out to fight for the nation left him scarcely able to speak. The board was only a small thing, but it was a token of the deep honor and appreciation in which they held those whose names were inscribed thereon. The speaker then drew aside the Union Jack and the Australian flag which veiled the roll of honor.

trian flag which veiled the roll of honor, and all present gave three cheers for the boys at the front.

Bro. S. McLean said that if there was one family in the lodge which was entitled to be especially proud it was the Harrison family. (Applause.) It was delightful to see the way that Australians had acquitted themselves. The liberty of the world was challenged by Germany, and when England saw what was threatened she rose to protect Belgium. Did not a thrill of pride go through them as they thought of what the fleet had done? There were numberless gallant deeds that the navy had performed which would never be known till after the war. It was with pride that they saw how the British Empire came together on the outbreak of war, and it was with pride that they did their part as a portion of the Empire. He congratulated all those families which were so conspicuously honored as to have representatives mentioned on the board. While they were proud of their boys they were proud also of their girls, who could not go to the front, but who were playing a worthy part at home. They were proud of the mothers and wives who had consented to their sons and husbands going to the front. The women of this district had worked splendidly, giving of their time, money and all the energy that they possessed to assist those who had gone to the front. The question was were all those men who were not able to go to the front doing their duty too? Every man should act in such a way that at the conclusion of the war he would be able to conscientiously feel that he had done all that was possible for him in the Empire's time of trial.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and speakers was accorded by acclamation and the meeting was closed with the National Anthem.