

AT WARANGA.**NEW SCHOOL OPENED & ROLL OF HONOR UNVEILED.**

If the wet nature of the weather interfered with the arrangements made for the Minister's reception at Murchison and Rushworth, it certainly affected the Waranga celebrations to an even greater degree. The residents of this lake-side hamlet had prepared for a gala day—the "red letter day" of the year. It had been resolved to hold the annual picnic—always a popular function amongst district residents—on Wednesday, visitors in numbers had promised to attend from Rushworth and Murchison, and the proceedings were to have been further enlivened by inspiring music from the Rushworth Boys' Band. The incessant rain certainly "put the damper" on all these arrangements. The rain made it practically impossible to proceed with the full picnic arrangements, although a few races for the small children were run during the intervals of fine weather; the visitors (including the band) were prevented from attending, and thus the gathering was confined almost solely to local residents. The duties conferred on the parliamentary visitors consisted of the official opening of the new State School by the Hon. the Minister of Education, and the unveiling of a Roll of Honor by Mr Gordon.

The party arrived at the school from Rushworth at about 4.30 p.m., and at once proceeded to business. The children were assembled round the flag-pole by the head teacher (Mr Fenton), and the flag was saluted and the usual loyal declaration pronounced. The National Anthem was also sung.

The chairman of the local School Committee (Mr E. G. Hammond) briefly introduced Messrs Lawson and Gordon to the assemblage, which was a large one considering the state of the weather.

Mr Lawson, in his opening remarks, apologised for the lateness of their arrival. They were unfortunate in striking such bad weather for their carnival, but he was sure the rain would gladden the hearts of the farmers even if it dampened the ardor of the picnic promoters. He attended their function that day at Mr Gordon's request, and, obeying the mandate of the chairman, he had pleasure in officially declaring their new school open. The department was doing its best in the way of providing for the education of the children by erecting new schools and thus bringing the educational facilities right to their own door. He noticed with gratification that they had already started a garden and planted trees in the school grounds, and that showed that they took an interest in the school and appreciated what the department had done for them. The school was well equipped, and they

had reason to be proud of it. He understood the Waranga School Committee was composed of four ladies and two gentlemen. That was the kind of school committee he (the Minister) would like to be a member of. He envied the chairman his position, which reminded him of that good old song, "Put me amongst the girls." (Laughter.) He was sure the chairman appreciated his position, and Mr Gordon had told him quietly that he wished he was eligible for a position on the Waranga committee. (Laughter.) He had pleasure in declaring the school open, and he hoped it would prove a success and a blessing to the children of the district. (Applause.)

Mr Gordon, who was enthusiastically received, said he appreciated the honor that had been conferred on him by residents of the district in granting him the privilege of unveiling their Roll of Honor. It was a revelation to him to know that so many past pupils of the school had volunteered to serve their country in its hour of need, and the residents could look with pride on an honor list that contained so many names. He understood from the chairman that none of

those who had volunteered from Waranga had yet paid the supreme sacrifice, and for this they should be thankful. He trusted their good fortune would continue, and that they would all return safe and sound. There was no need for him to remind them that the Australians had written their names in blood and glory on the pages of British history, and that their valor would live forever. He had pleasure in unveiling the Roll of Honor, which contained the following names:—

W. H. Anderson	R. Moss
G. Anderson	W. Troughton
A. Brand	H. Wootton
J. A. Charters	S. E. Wootton
R. Charters	R. Cleary
E. Chambers	B. Cleary
D. Chambers	A. Cleary
J. Downing	H. Ingram
F. Downing	R. Ingram
S. J. Dunlop	H. W. M'Kenzie
A. Hammond	E. M. Kenzie
A. Leroy	G. W. Seamons
W. M'Namara	C. J. Seamons
F. Mortimer	A. R. Seamons
W. Mortimer	C. L. Seamons

As the Roll of Honor was unveiled by Mr Gordon the assemblage rose and sang "God Save our Splendid Men."

Mr Gunn congratulated the people of Waranga on having such a magnificent Roll of Honor. It was undoubtedly a credit to the district. During his 60 years' residence at Waranga he had known all the men whose names were attached to the roll, and he could assure their

to the roll, and he could assure their visitors they were good men. He moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Minister for opening the school, and to Mr Gordon for unveiling the Roll of Honor.

The motion was seconded by Mr J. A. Orr and carried by acclamation, Mr Lawson briefly replying.

Mr Fenton (head teacher) thanked the Minister for his attendance at the school that day, and for his complimentary remarks as to its equipment and furnishings.

Later Messrs Hammond and Orr (members of the School Committee) waited on the Minister and asked for assistance in fencing in the school grounds. If the department would supply the posts, wire and wire netting, at an estimated cost of £20, the local residents would provide the labor.

The Minister promised to give the request full consideration, and send a reply later.

The visitors were treated to afternoon tea by the ladies, after which they departed for Nagambie, en route to Melbourne.