

BARON VON MUELLER'S GRAVE.

A large gathering of scientific men and other personal friends of the late Baron von Mueller assembled round his grave in the St. Kilda Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon to witness the unveiling by His Excellency the Governor-General of a monument in memory of the deceased scientist.

The Rev. W. Potter, one of the executors, and the principal mover in connection with the monument, said that the late Baron von Mueller had expressly desired that only wild flowers and grasses should grow upon his grave until such time as a worthy monument could be erected. The cemetery trustees had presented him with the piece of ground, and the Baron came and saw it some time before his last illness.

Professor Kernot, as the senior teacher of the University of Melbourne, for many years president of the Royal Society, and an old friend of the Baron, spoke a few words expressive of respect for the deceased, who was a typical man of science, devoted to the pursuit of truth, without any thought of his own immediate gain.

Mr. Gurr, M.L.A., representing the Government of Victoria; Mr. J. H. Maiden, Government botanist of New South Wales; and Mr. Brahe, the German consul, also spoke.

Sir John Forrest, representing the Commonwealth Government, said he had often pressed the Baron to take a holiday and go to Europe, where he would be received with honour by all men of science, but the Baron always replied, "Ah, but what would become of my work?" Baron von Mueller had a unique opportunity, and he was just the man to grasp it. He continued the work begun by Sir Joseph Banks, who came to Australia with Captain Cook, and of Robert Brown, who came with Flinders in the Investigator. So thoroughly had the Baron done his work that there were now practically no plants in Australia which were unclassified.

Sir Langdon Bonython, representing the Government of South Australia, remarked that Baron von Mueller began his Australian career in that state. He was there just long enough to win the genuine admiration of those around him. They saw that he was a true lover of nature, and they instinctively felt that he would make his mark in the world of science.

Short speeches were made by Mr. Edwards, M.H.R., representing the state of Queensland, and Dr. Jamieson, representing the Royal Society of Victoria.

His Excellency the Governor-General then unveiled the monument, and expressed his pleasure in taking part in the ceremony. The late Baron had honoured him with his friendship, and he rejoiced to join in doing

friendship, and he rejoiced to join in doing honour to the memory of one who was known throughout the civilised world for his scientific attainments.

The monument is in the form of a tall column of polished stone, surmounted by an urn, and resting on a broad pedestal. A medallion in copper of the profile of the late Baron is let into the stone, and the pedestal bears the following inscription:—

Dedicated by Co-workers in the Field of Science,
and Admirers Throughout the World,

To the Memory of
BARON SIR FERDINAND VON MUELLER,
K.C.M.G., M.D., F.R.S., &c.

Born in Rostock, Germany, June 30, 1825; Government Botanist of Victoria from 1852 until his death, October 10, 1896; Director of Melbourne Botanical gardens, 1857-73; whose erudite works on the Flora of Australia have secured him immortal fame amongst the renowned systematic Phytologists of the 19th Century.

Despair not! There are still noble hearts that glow for the august and sublime.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."—Matt. v., 8.

Sir Philip Fysh moved a vote of thanks to the Governor-General for his presence, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Henry Gyles Turner, and carried.

His Excellency briefly replied.

During the ceremony a hymn, specially written by Mr. J. F. Daniell, was sung by a liedertafel choir, under the direction of Mr. A. Siede.

Members of the original committee which was formed to undertake the establishment of a national memorial in honour of the late Baron von Mueller point out that the monument which was unveiled on Tuesday is not the national memorial which the committee was formed to inaugurate. For that purpose they say they have about £500 in hand, and are only waiting until the return of Professor Baldwin Spencer from Central Australia before taking steps to establish it.