

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL.

AT BUNBURY WESLEY CHURCH.

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY

PERFORMED BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Some eighteen months ago the Rev. R. Hocking enunciated the idea of erecting a handsome memorial window in the Wesley Church, Bunbury, in honor of the members of the congregation who had heard the call of duty in connection with the Great War, and especially those who made the supreme sacrifice and gave their lives that the people of this sunny land might continue to enjoy the fruits of liberty and develop their national character according as their inclination led them.

Yesterday an impressive ceremony, performed by his Excellency the Governor, marked the conclusion of Mr. Hocking's efforts, when, in the presence of a crowded congregation embracing representatives from all shades of political, social, municipal and religious opinion, the handsome memorial window inscribed with the names of those in whose honor it was erected, was unveiled for all time. It certainly is the most striking and most impressive memorial of its type known of in the South-West to date.

On the arrival of his Excellency he was met with a guard of honor under Sergt.-Major Stanfield, and on entering the church the National Anthem was sung. Several hymns and anthems were then rendered, and a short dedicatory prayer offered by the Rev. R. Hocking.

In calling upon his Excellency to unveil the window, the Rev. R. Hocking said they were assembled there that day to do honor to courageous men who valiantly served our King and Empire in the struggle for righte-

and Empire in the struggle for righteousness and liberty and the maintenance of our national ideals, which were shamefully challenged by unscrupulous foes during the years of the great war. The Methodist Church had always been characterised by a spirit of loyalty to King and country. The earliest troubles of the Wesleys were those caused by the hands of disloyalists. John Wesley was "plucked as a brand from the burning" when his father's rectory was destroyed with fire by disloyalists who scorned the Wesleys for their allegiance to the throne. No less a spirit of devoted loyalty beat in the hearts of the younger sons of Methodism when the clarion call to arms was sounded in 1914. The Bunbury Methodist Church opened up of her treasures and offered the golden youth of her members and adherents. The names on the honor window included those who were nurtured as little children in their Sabbath school. Several were members of the church choir, others were teachers in the Sunday school, whilst many were taken from the pew. With those who made the supreme sacrifice were the secretary of the Sunday school and the conductor of the choir, who were also joined in that ransomed host above with others who were co-workers in Christian service at the Bunbury Wesley Church. The list revealed the adaptability of the Australian youth to unusual climes and conditions. Their lads had served in almost every field of action with gallantry and distinction, and a few had sailed the sea with his Majesty's Navy. It was with pride they recorded the honor gained at the training station in New South Wales by Master Claude Brooks, who after serving in Australian waters, gained the King's Medal by a popular vote of his co-trainees. His brother Leslie also won distinction in gunnery. Both had now been transferred to England, Claude to be a midshipman. They were pleased to record that of those who had returned, some had

those who had returned, some had renewed their fellowship with them; others, unfortunately for them, had taken up avocations in other spheres. The window had been subscribed for by members of the congregation and friends of the soldiers. The two side-windows were a special donation by "A Friend." They were very grateful to his Excellency for his kindness in acceding to their invitation to unveil the window. Their debt of gratitude was not to be measured by words: it was heartfelt. They assured him that the spirit of loyalty beat strongly in their hearts still, and should the day come when his Majesty the King would require Australian sons, Methodism would gladly form her quota. He then asked his Excellency to unveil the window.

His Excellency the Governor said he was very grateful to them for asking him to take part in their beautiful service and for him to have the honor of unveiling the window as the representative of his Majesty the King. On behalf of his Majesty he desired to tell them how much those who lived so many thousands of miles away appreciated the great services which were performed by our men during the recent war. Might he also, on behalf of his Majesty, tender heartfelt sympathy to those who had lost their sons in the fighting line and also to say how much it was realised the great part which the women took in the great war. In many cases it was the women who insisted that the men should do their duty. He had looked through the list of those who had gone from their church and he had been struck by so many names of the same families. In two cases two members of the same family had lost their lives. A nobler tribute could not have been given than was

given by the Methodist Church in Bunbury to help what they believed to be the right cause. The Rev. Mr.

be the right cause. The Rev. Mr. Hocking had mentioned the loyalty of John Wesley and the loyalty of the Methodists as a body. He thought one of the earliest of John Wesley's teaching took part in a portion of England where he himself had lived—in the Midlands, near the Black Country. It could not be over-estimated what England and the Empire owed to the great spiritual revival which Whitfield, Charles Wesley and most of all, John Wesley, started in the eighteenth century. It was a time when there was very little religion in the country. These young men set to work, meeting together, holding services in the open. In the face of ridicule, and sometimes of persecution, they stuck to what they were doing and Charles Wesley, before his death at the end of the eighteenth century, knew that he had something like 100,000 followers who believed in what he taught. At the present moment the number of Methodists throughout the world was somewhere in the region of 32,000,000. The Methodist religion was initiated on the principle of doing good to others. They were greatly responsible for alleviating the lot of the prisoners who had a very poor time in prison before that body took up the work. They also had a great deal to do with the doing away of slave trade. All through they had undoubtedly done what they considered to be their duty not only to their fellow men, but to God. He thought it must have been the same spirit which induced their church to-day to send so wholeheartedly of its men from every part of the Empire and from the United States to fight in the last war. There were times in the history of the nations when it was necessary to fight or go under. It was a terrible period for the world when those times arrived. The British Empire had almost forgotten the last time that it had its back to the wall in 1815, when the battle of Waterloo was fought. Their race, however, still retained its fighting spirit, and when the call of

fighting spirit, and when the call of duty came the race made a noble response. In this country of Australia in which he was so proud to live for a time, so that he might get to know them, they had proved that the fighters of this part of the world were second to none. He hoped everyone would study the newspapers very carefully at the present time. Their chairman had referred to their readiness to respond to the call to arms should such a call come again. He hoped that nothing of the sort would occur, but it would require the greatest statesmanship to carry the world on peacefully during the years that were to come. Every man and woman should study the passing events, and do all in their power to contribute to a spirit of peace and good government. They wanted good-will and friendliness all round. The world today was in a state of seething chaos. What they were constantly hearing gave them no comfort after the years of war. But with the help of Providence he hoped and believed that things would turn out better before long. It, however, wanted their energies and help to increase the good will and friendliness of their fellow beings. He again expressed his sympathy to those who had lost their sons and to those who had come back wounded from the front. They would never forget what their soldiers had done for them. He only hoped that the affection and good will which was shown their soldiers in all parts of the world would be an incentive to others in times to come of war to go and do their duty.

His Excellency then unveiled the window.

At the request of the Rev. Mr. Hocking, the congregation rose reverently while Trooper Wallis sounded "The Last Post."

The names recorded on the window are as follow:—R. L. Anderson, H. Appleton, E. J. Badham, A. H. Baldock, G. J. Baldock, L. G. Baldock, G. T. Birchall, J. T. Blair, H. Blythe, A. C. Brodie, D. Brodie, C. H. Brooks,

C. Brodie, D. Brodie, C. H. Brooks, L. R. Brooks, E. A. Campbell, H. A. M. Campbell, C. S. Coalstad, G. S. Cox, F. Cridland, T. G. Downes, J. M. Elliott, J. Garrity, H. D. Holtzman, N. G. Holtzman, J. Hoopman, R. Hornsby, J. V. Lowe, R. Maidment, G. Miller, H. Miller, R. Miller, J. Mill, H. J. McCombe, A. R. Nelson, A. F. Parham, A. S. V. Pavy, L. A. Poad, H. Prior, V. Prior, G. Rosevear, C. Scott, H. Scott, L. A. S. Semmens, J. Sturrock, W. Stevens, F. S. Temple, L. McV. Temple, C. Tomkinson, A. T. Tweedie, D. Tweedie, J. M. Twedie, R. Tweedie, T. K. Tweedie, C. E. Wailes, A. E. Wallis, D. N. Wallis, D. M. Wallis, C. R. Wenn, D. J. Wenn. "Crowned with glory and honor"—T. Bone, W. W. Brittain, I. Burgess, L. C. Cooke, W. J. Cooke, D. M. Doig, C. G. Gibbons, W. T. Holywell, B. James, F. Kemp, E. Moor, F. Moor, J. Murray, M. S. McCombe, A. W. Painter, A. Sorensen, T. W. Stokes, W. H. Wenn.