

GLOUCESTER METHODIST CHURCH.

UNVEILING ROLL OF HONOR AND MEMORIAL TABLET

At the Methodist Church, Gloucester on Sunday afternoon last the ceremony of unveiling a Roll of Honor, presented to the Church by Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Brooker, to the memory of the lads of the congregation who answered the call of Empire, and also a handsome Memorial Tablet to the late Rev. R. H. Pittendrigh, the first Minister of the Gloucester Circuit of the Methodist Church, who died on active service at Gallipoli in the early days of the war, was performed. The preacher the Rev. C. T. Lusby said that these were memorials to brave men who had answered the call for the most wonderful duty the world has ever seen. Brave men who had gone forth and earned for their country and themselves for all time undying fame. In Britain and in other countries were famous places where men's deeds would be remembered as long as the countries lasted. This young country in the greatest crisis the world had ever known had the privilege of bearing a part, and Australia and many of her sons proved themselves "faithful unto death." These memorials we would leave to our children and our children's children that they might never forget the brave men of these times. A fragment from a letter from one of Robert Pittendrigh's comrades in arms, spoke of the departed soldier in highly eulogistic terms. His death, it stated, was mourned throughout the whole battalion.

Then followed a prayer of dedication.

The inscription on the Memorial Tablet read:

"13th Battalion A.I.F. In Memoriam, Corporal Stretcher Bearer Robert Herbert Pittendrigh. Enlisted Sept. 7, 1914; Fatally Wounded in Lone Pine Engagement whilst endeavoring to bring in a Wounded Soldier under Heavy Fire."

The following names appeared on the Roll of Honor:

Cpl. C. Akhurst, Pte. A. Wyborn, Pte. C. Pfeiffer, Sig. E. Anderson M.M., Pte. H. Phillips, Pte. R. Phillips, Pte. J. Finch, Pte. H. Gunn, Pte. G. Gunn, Pte. T. Shelton, Pte. W. Thurlow, Pte. A. Losiroh, Pte. H. Dransfield, Rev. R. B. Lew, Y.M.C.A."

An eloquent and thoughtful sermon was preached by the Rev. Lusby, the text being taken from the tenth verse of the second chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews. During the course of his remarks he said that men who had been at the front stated that our soldiers had no time for what would be called conventional religion but they did feel some living religion in their hearts. There was some wonderful religion in them whether they

realised it or not. The men were so wonderful that even under the hottest fire they would go out with no thought of danger to themselves, and carry in wounded men. No one could ever make him believe but that God was working in their lives.

The anthems "God is my Shepherd," and "Rock of Ages," were beautifully rendered by the choir, which was under the able conductorship of Mr. Brooker, while that difficult solo "My Task," was splendidly interpreted by Rev. L. Wright.

Among a very large congregation was the Shire President and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Corbett, and visitors from all parts of the district.