

LAUNCESTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

UNVEILING A WAR MEMORIAL.

There was a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen at the Launceston Church Grammar School yesterday afternoon to witness the interesting ceremony of unveiling a tablet which had been erected in the schoolroom as a memorial to the "old boys" who fought in the South African war. Many "old boys" were among those present. The Grammar School cadets were drawn up in a body in front of the tablet, which was veiled with the Union Jack.

Rev. C. G. Wilkinson, one of the principals of the school, offered prayer, after which Mr H. Weedon, as chairman of the memorial committee, said that a number of the "old boys" had fought in South Africa, and it was suggested that a permanent memorial should be erected to their honor. A committee was formed, and it was decided to erect an appropriate brass tablet in the schoolroom, the cost being defrayed by subscriptions received from old and present boys. The tablet had been designed by Mr W. Oliver Bowman, of Launceston, in accordance with suggestions agreed to by the committee, and the work was executed by Messrs. Brooks, Robinson, and Co., of Melbourne. The Bishop of Tasmania had been invited to perform the ceremony of unveiling the tablet, but owing to other important engagements was unable to be present. In the Bishop's place he would ask Mr Alfred Green, an "old boy," and a trustee of the school, to perform the ceremony.

Mr Alfred Green expressed his pleasure at coming forward to unveil the tablet, which had been erected to the "old boys" who at the call of their country had gone to the war in South Africa. He referred to the way the Australians and Tasmanians had nobly gone to the assistance of the motherland in what appeared to be an hour of danger. They were proud of the fact that a number of the "old boys" of the Grammar School were included amongst the contingents. They were specially proud to be able to rank amongst the "old boys" Colonel Cameron, one of the bravest of the brave, and one who had shown in the course of the war a solicitous regard for the welfare of those serving under him. He also referred to the other "old boys" who had served with the troops, and said it was not always the one in the highest place who deserved all the praise. All deserved to be honored. Some of them unfortunately would return no more, having laid down their lives for the cause they fought for. He then addressed a few words to the young boys, and hoped the tablet would be an incentive to them to do their duty in whatever station of life they found themselves. He advised them not to disregard small things or endeavor to pass their work on to somebody else, but to observe the spirit of Nelson's historic signal, whereby every man was expected to do his duty.

The tablet was then unveiled, the cadets standing at the salute while the assemblage sang the National Anthem,

cadets standing at the salute while the assemblage sang the National Anthem, which was followed by three hearty cheers.

Subsequently Lieutenant-Colonel Martin spoke of the Old Boys' Association, and the advantages to be derived by membership.

The tablet, a description of which has already been published, was greatly admired by those present. The badge of the school and the national flag at the top are accompanied by the motto, "Mos patrius et disciplina," and the following names of "old boys" are inscribed beneath: C. St. C. Cameron, A. Sale (killed in action), J. I. W. Morris, F. B. Heritage, A. Boyes, W. A. Edwards, A. Johnstone, A. B. Adams, C. Beresford, O. E. Lawrence, A. A. Evans, G. Weber (died in active service), F. Barnard, F. Warner (killed in action), W. M. Bell, L. Loane, G. N. Cox, E. S. Brown, R. W. Headlam, F. A. Groom, M. D. Hales. The ranks and distinctions were not added to the names on the tablet because they all rank equally as "old boys," but the design is to be filled in with all particulars and framed, to be kept as a key to the tablet for future reference.

If any old boys wishing to join the "Old Boys' Association" will send their names and addresses to the hon. secretary (Mr Hugh Ritchie) they will be enrolled as members.