

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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IN MEMORIAM.

MRS KIRK.

Wellington District Union held a Memorial Service on January 27th for the late Mrs Kirk, Life President of the Union, who has been called to her eternal reward. Mrs Peryman, on behalf of the N.Z. Union, spoke of the loss sustained by the passing of such an earnest worker, and expressed sympathy with Mrs Atkinson and Miss Kirk and the other members of the family in the loss of such a mother. Mrs Wright read the beautiful tribute to the departed which we print below. Mrs Boxall spoke of Mrs Kirk's work in connection with the Girls' Association, and told how the girls always lovingly referred to her as "the dear old lady with the curls." Rev. J. Dawson, on behalf of the N.Z. Alliance, paid a tribute to this earnest temperance worker, and tendered sincere sympathy to the bereaved ones. Messrs C. M. Luke and Costall and Mrs J. P. Luke, the Mayoress, also spoke words of appreciation to the memory of a friend and fellow-worker. Miss Snelling sang "Crossing the Bar."

Thou art not dead, for death
Can only take away the mortal breath;
And life, commencing here,
Is but the prelude to its full career;
And hope and faith the blest assurance give—
"We do not live to die—we die to live."



THE LATE MRS KIRK.
Life President Wellington District Union.

TENDER MEMORIES OF MRS KIRK.

(By Mrs Johnson Wright.)

In speaking of our dear departed sister, Mrs Kirk, we speak not of an ordinary woman, but of a refined, cultured, intelligent, consecrated, Chris-

tian lady. When it was our great privilege to know her, to us she was indeed as a "Mother in Israel." Mrs Kirk in her home proved a pattern mother. She had all the difficulties and anxieties of motherhood. God gave to her ten of His precious jewels, some He called to Himself early, thus our sister was acquainted with grief. She also had a weak body, and added to that, for many years the care and anxiety of a dearly beloved, but delicate husband. Eighteen years ago the call came for Mr Kirk to go higher and enter the fuller service. Faithfully nursed by his loving wife, this was indeed a great blow, yet no murmuring or rebellion at God's dealing was heard. But she said amid her tears, "We were always sweet-hearts."

However, it is in connection with our Union we knew her best. This Union was specially favoured; we count it an honour to have had our dear sister as a member and presiding officer. Mrs Kirk was initiated a member in the year 1889. She had therefore an unbroken membership of 27 years, and on February 7th, 1895, was elected President. At that time I well remember the Union was passing through a particularly critical and trying ordeal, and we then needed more than ever before or since a wise, discreet, and capable leader. Mrs Kirk proved to be all that we needed. She lovingly piloted this Union through its dangers and difficulties. She not only won the admiration and confidence of her co-officers, of whom I am proud to say I am one, but also won the love of every member. She was ever faithful and loyal to the