

SOUTHWELL WAR TRIBUTE

UNVEILING CEREMONY BY DUKE OF PORTLAND.

"SINK MINOR DIFFERENCES."

The war memorial cross to the 90 men of the minster town of Southwell who sacrificed their lives in the great war was unveiled by the Duke of Portland and dedicated by the Bishop of Southwell on Saturday afternoon, in the presence of a large gathering.

The cross is the second part of the cathedral city's war memorial. The names of the men who gave their lives are recorded on the town memorial in the minster. The total cost of the two tributes is in the neighbourhood of £900.

The memorial occupies a position on the green, not far from Burgage Manor House, where Lord Byron used to spend his college vacations with his mother, who was too poor to live at Newstead. The design is simple and dignified, resembling the village crosses abounding in England in the 14th century.

The plan is hexagonal, the base standing upon three steps and displaying a bronze tablet with the inscription: "In grateful remembrance of the 90 Southwell men who gave their lives in the great war, 1914—1918."

The cross shaft reaches a total height of 22ft. from the ground. The cross head carries a bronze sword, point downward, to indicate the presence of sovereign majesty, and wreathed with laurel leaves. The cross is executed in Clipsham stone from the design of Messrs. Harry Gill and Son, architects, of Nottingham.

A detachment of soldiers, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel P. H. Warwick, Captain J. K. Lane, Lieut. Huskinson, and Lieut. Hodgson-Wilson, took part in the ceremonial. Among others present were Mr. J. R. Starkey, M.P., Sir Wm. and Lady Hicking, and Mr. Harold Browne, chairman of the Memorial Committee, who presided.

A corporal's guard carried out its duties at the monument. The procession from the Minster was taken part in by all local bodies, including Scouts, Girl Guides, and Grammar School Cadets (the last-named under Capt. R. Matthews).

"ONE NATION."

At the unveiling ceremony the Duke of Portland said that, as they remembered the fallen they would, he trusted, remember also the spirit that animated them—the spirit of patriotic unity. During the war our country was united in one common purpose. Secondary and sectional differences were buried and forgotten. We felt we were, indeed, "one flag, one land, one heart, one hand, one nation."

Unity brought victory, and now that the supreme object had been achieved, let them not forget that they must still maintain that unity if they were to remain a great and prosperous nation. A house divided against itself could not stand. In like manner a nation divided against itself could not prosper.

The Duke appealed to all classes of the community to sink their minor differences, and to unite the one with the other, so that the nation might not lose the position it had gained by the gallantry and suffering of its sons. The men whom they were commemorating were absolutely united in aim. They took part in the great war, because of the love that they bore to their country, and perhaps it was because many of them hoped that there might be a happier world after the war was over that they were willing to risk their lives. It was for them to endeavour to realise the hope, the fulfilment of which they made possible.

The "Last Post" and "Reveille" were sounded by the buglers of the 8th Sherwood Foresters. The National Anthem and the Benediction (the latter pronounced by the bishop) concluded the ceremony.

Many floral tributes were placed at the foot of the cross.