

GLADSTONE METHODIST CHURCH.

Laying of Foundation Stones.

On Friday afternoon, October 21, the ceremony of laying two foundation stones of a new Methodist Church was performed at Gladstone. The Rev. John Tiller (minister of the church), who presided, was supported on the platform by the Bishop of Willochra (Dr. Gilbert White), Revs. W. T. Shapley (chairman of

North Western District Methodist Conference), P. E. Chennell (Port Pirie Methodist), J. Kilmartin (Laura Methodist), J. A. Talbot (Laura Baptist), and R. Plowes (Georgetown Baptist). Following devotional service the Rev. J. Tiller gave a history of the movement, which had culminated in the day's proceedings. Addresses were delivered by the Bishop of Willochra, and the Rev. W. Shapley, and the choir sang an anthem, Mr. Hewett conducting and Miss T. Hewett presiding at the organ. Messrs. W. Coe and J. Growden, the two oldest members of the congregation, each formally laid a foundation stone

at the northern corners of the building. Before Methodist union took place Mr. Growden had been Treasurer of the Bible Christian Church, and Mr. Coe that of the Wesleyan Church, and when the former merged into the latter church, Mr. Growden continued in office. Each gentleman was presented by Mr. Tiller with a fine mallet, made of curled jarrah. The offerings placed on the stone totalled £170. The "live wire" of the whole movement was the local minister, who quarried the stone and carted the first and last load. Messrs. Coe Brothers carted most of the sand. The contractor is Mr. F. E.

Delsar, who hopes to finish the edifice by next February. The plans for the building were drawn by the Rev. T. Geddes White; and Mr. J. F. Jenkins, of Port Pirie, is supervising the operations. The church will be 45 ft. square, practically, with two porches, and a handsome three-barred window facing the main street, flanked by two smaller windows on either side. The east and west gables will also have three windows. The contract price is in the region of £1,400, almost all of which has been promised, and the officers are confident of opening the church free of debt. A banquet in the town hall followed,

**and about £20 was raised. The ladies
of the church were responsible for
the fine repast.**
