

June 16 1922
PRICE 1d

CORRESPONDENCE

(To the Editor).

Sir,—Your reproduction of the photo of Albury's projected War Memorial is especially opportune and ought to be a stimulus to us. I have read the various opinions published in your issue of Monday, and with all due respect to those who advocate placing the memorial in the corner of Belmore Park, I still believe in Rocky Hill. In my opinion it stands beyond all comparison, and leagues ahead of either a corner of the Park or any other site anywhere within our reach.

Wherever in England the natural conformation of the land permitted, the founders of the grand old cathedrals placed them not in corners, but on high ground. In their ardour of devotion, they were not unmindful of the claims of art and beauty as embodied either in architectural design or in fitness of position, or of subtly spiritual influence, which seems to hover like a perpetual benediction about the great open spaces. It is said that if the memorial were placed in the Park, everyone would view it closely. Just so, and after a month or two, the ordinary citizen would not view it at all, much less closely. Whereas, standing serenely alone, as if in proud and compelling isolation on that fine natural base of the hill, it would strike the eye of unnumbered thousands, who in years to come will pass through by rail, road or aeroplane. Bury that cenotaph in a city street or an insignificant corner of the Park, and not one in fifty-thousand of those passers-by would have the slightest visible token to believe that we had spared a single thought or spent a single twopence in remembrance of those to whom we owe so much. I do not want it said of Goulburn in the after days that it was in the hour of its opportunity, incapable of rising above the commonplace, and that it flung away in the unique and ideal site of the hill, a treasure beyond price.—I am, etc.,

W. S. BARTLETT.

"Broughton."

OUR WAR MEMORIAL.

(To the Editor).

Sir,—As a citizen of nearly forty years standing, may I be permitted through the courtesy of your correspondence columns, to voice my own ideas about our War Memorial. I certainly think an irreparable blunder will be made if any other site save that furnished by nature itself—Rocky Hill—is chosen. Mr. E. Bond in the course of that interview your representative had with him, was emphatic that there should be nothing of an advertising character about the project, and apparently for that reason, prefers the Belmore Park corner to the Hill. Well, I am afraid that if the half-hidden corner is finally selected, it will be for all time a very undesirable advertisement of our lack of imagination and our ability to picture the whole thing complete—conception and realisation—as it will appear in the true perspective of the years to come. I have no rooted preference for any design of the memorial itself, except that it be emblematic of stubborn hardihood and free from any cheap tinsel work.

When I was a youngster, there was a house standing a considerable distance apart from my native village, and at the summer season, just about sunset, the windows were a blaze of reflected light. It would be a poetic idea to so adjust, at a proper angle, a concave metal mirror, say of polished aluminium, faced with plate glass, that when the sun was setting, it might catch the horizontal rays, and throw them back over the city in a message written in light itself—"The light of setting sun," that Wordsworth, with such profound meaning, wrote of. The idea may sound fantastic, but the memory of that mirror of resplendent windows has come back to me again and again, like the same poet's recollection of his sudden vision of the dancing daffodils "Beside the lake, beneath the trees."—I am, etc.,

T. J. HEBBLEWHITE.

Hebblewhite's letter