

## THE CENTRAL MISSION.

### THE BUILDING SCHEME.

The picture represents the new Central Methodist Mission premises, Franklin-street, the foundation-stones of which are to be laid to-morrow afternoon by the Revs. Henry Howard and W. H. Cann, the Director of Education (Mr. M. M. Maughan), and Mr. Joseph Ashton. This mission was established thirteen years ago by the Rev. W. A. Potts, now of Mount Gambier, and the Rev. J. C. Hughes succeeded him, the Rev. W. H. Cann taking charge of the work two and a half years ago. As a Bible Christian minister, Mr. Cann was for four years the minister of the church. All the missionaries have been sadly hampered for want of suitable premises, having had at

their disposal only a small room at the rear of the church capable of seating 70 people. The premises now being built have various rooms and halls. The Franklin-street Church itself will be retained and an end gallery will be placed in it. It will then seat about 800 persons, and will be used also as a hall for other than Sunday services. At the rear doors will lead into what will be known as the social hall, which will seat about 300 people. This will be used for mothers' meetings, men's meetings, and for social gatherings. Opening from this will be a public reading room, to be kept open daily up to 10 o'clock at night. This is to be made attractive, so that friends from the suburbs or country when in the city may meet there for rest, to read a paper or to write a letter. There will also be a recreation room, where young men will be able to spend their

evenings profitably. It is expected that arrangements will be made for afternoon teas. Provision is being made for Bible study and classes, but the social side will be well looked after. A kitchen is to be located adjacent to the social hall, recreation room, and reading room, so that tea or supper may be served in the three places at the same time. There will be a storeroom for wood and other requisites for distribution to the poor, and one for old clothing, and a fumigating room, in which the old garments sent to the mission will be subjected to the process of fumigation before being handed to the needy. Ladies' and gentlemen's lavatories are to be provided, also kindergarten rooms, a waiting room, superintendent's room, and many class rooms and offices. Quarters for the Sisters of the People and the caretaker will be included.

offices. Quarters for the Sisters of the People and the caretaker will be included. In addition there will be seven shops and

as many offices for letting purposes, the revenue of which will go towards the cost of the upkeep of the mission and to help the needy. The tower of the church will be used as a projecting lantern room and an opening from it will be made into the church. In front of the tower will be a room for the bandsmen, and there will be a balcony over the footpath, where the band will play on Sunday nights before the service, instead of in the street. It is expected that it will take ten months to complete the building. By the time it is furnished, the necessary alterations to the church have been made, and a pipe organ installed the cost will reach £12,000. At present the cash in hand and promises amount to £9,630. Mr. C. H. Martin is the contractor, Messrs. Cowell & Cowell the architects, and Messrs. Dawe Bros. are doing the mason work.

