

**Ballarat Star (Vic. : 1865 - 1924), Friday 3 August 1888, page 2**

The ceremony of unveiling the statuary purchased from the bequest made to the citizens by the late Mr J. Russell Thomson will be performed to-day at the gardens by the Premier of the colony. Mr Gillies—who was a personal friend of the deceased gentleman, so that it is peculiarly fitting that he should unveil the statuary—will arrive by the 11.30 a.m. train, and will at once proceed to the gardens. At 12 noon the executors of Mr Thomson's will —Messrs J. Noble Wilson and H. A. Nevett —will formally hand over the marble figures to the Mayor of the City, the Hon. W. C. Smith, M.L.A., who will, on behalf of the citizens, accept the gift. After a few remarks from the mayor, Mr Gillies will unveil the statuary and deliver an address to those present. Considering the great value of the bequest, and the great ornament it will prove to the gardens, it is a matter for wonder that no official programme for the occasion has been drawn up, but so far as we can learn the above is the order of procedure that will most probably be adopted. The absence of arrangements by the City Council would seem to indicate that no interest is taken by the public in an event of such importance. We are certain, however, that this mismanagement by no means represents the views of the citizens concerning the late Mr Thomson's munificent bequest. Had proper notice been given, doubtless there would have been a large and influential gathering of citizens at the ceremony, and it is to be hoped that even now ratepayers will, as far as possible, show their appreciation of Mr Thomson's love for the city. After the unveiling the Premier will be entertained at luncheon by the mayor at Craig's hotel.