**Moving St. John’s Old Church, Beecroft 1906**

**World's News (Sydney, NSW), Sat 10 Mar 1906**

Having a Church.

HOW ST. JOHN’S, BEECROFT (N.S.W.) WAS TRANSPLANTED.

In the United States they often move buildings without disturbing either their external or internal arrangements. Some of the stories told about these feats border on the marvellous. But we have in Australia plenty of proof that this sort of thing can be done, and done quite as well, and expeditiously as elsewhere.

Recently there was chronicled in "The World's News" the story of the removal of the Presbyterian Mission Church at Abbotsford, and now we have a similar feat performed with St. John's Church (Anglican), Beecroft (N.S.W.).

The churchwardens of St. John's, haying purchased a larger and more suitable site, decided on the transplanting of the present building thereto. Being desirous of avoiding damage and expense, they decided that the building, a wooden one weighing 25 tons, should be moved

bodily from one site to the other, a distance of over half a mile. The building was about 50ft. long, 21ft. wide, and 24ft. high, and the only portion that it was found necessary to interfere with was the tiled roof. The tiles were taken off to prevent breakage.

To effect the removal, the building was raised, and a specially-constructed frame placed underneath it. The wheels supporting this frame were strong, with broad tyres, and the total weight of the whole thing when ready for the road was 31 tons.

To haul this, a traction engine was used, and the spectacle of so extraordinary a load moving along the public road attracted a crowd of interested sightseers. The road was only ballasted for a width of 18ft., and this made the work of transit all the more difficult, because the main axle supporting the frame was 22ft. wide. The contractors for the removal, however (Mr. Arthur Slingsby, builder, of Redfern, and Mr. A. Cook, carrier, of Ultimo), were In no wise dismayed by this, and promptly built up the road with bushes, and thus kept the wheels from sinking.

The building was transported without the slightest mishap, and placed in position on the new site, the whole job taking only four hours, the contents of the church being absolutely uninjured. This only serves to show, as before stated, that Australia can keep well up to date

in these matters.