

**French Domestic Life**

Mrs. Betham-Edwards has written a new book, 'Home Life in France.' The book (says the Boston 'S.H. Review') 'will be an eye-opener to people in this country who form their opinions of French social and domestic life, and the morals and manners of the French, from certain salacious novels which have, unhappily, all too great a vogue here. Mrs. Betham-Edwards says of such novels: "Why should capable, above all, reputed writers, fix upon themes, alike in subject and treatment, so grotesquely untrue to life and so repellent. The plain truth of the matter is, that the average existence, especially middle-class existence, in France is too uneventful, too eminently respectable, for sensational or dramatic handling."

**DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN**

We have received from Mr. M. Condon, Dunedin, £1 1s for the Stoke Orphanage.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered by his Lordship Bishop Verdon in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday afternoon.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday from last Mass until Vespers. In the evening the usual procession took place.

Miss Carr, who has been a member of St. Joseph's choir for many years, was presented with a tea set as a token of the members' best wishes on the occasion of her marriage.

The position of president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society having become vacant, owing to the departure of Mrs. Jackson for Greymouth, Mrs. Mouat, of Cumberland street, has been elected to the office.

Miss Jeannie Butel, a pupil of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Arrowtown, passed in the preparatory grade in the musical examination in connection with Trinity College, London.

On Thursday evening the members of St. Patrick's Basilica Choir took the occasion to present one of their members (Mr. James Flynn) with a memento on the occasion of his marriage. Mr. E. Eagar, choirmaster, made the presentation, and Mr. Flynn suitably responded.

The following is a list of successful students from the Dominican Convent, Queenstown, at the recent musical examinations in connection with Trinity College, London—Intermediate—Peal Evans (honors), Christine Bonner. Junior—J. Aldridge, Georgina Constable, Letitia Constable, Florence Layburn, John McChesney, Mary McCarthy, Rita McNeill. Preparatory—Angela Burke, Letitia Constable (violin), Colleen Evans, Nellie O'Connell.

We regret to record the death of Mr. John Gohar, one of the oldest residents of Dunedin, who passed away on Friday last at the advanced age of 83 years. The deceased, who was a native of London, came to New Zealand in 1859, and tried his luck at gold digging in Tuapeka. Shortly after he commenced business as a baker in Dunedin, which he continued up to the time of his death. The deceased was a fervent Catholic, and died fortified by all the rites of the Church. The funeral took place on Monday afternoon at the Northern Cemetery, when the burial service was read by the Rev. Father Coffey, Adm.—R.I.P.

A very pleasant gathering took place on Friday afternoon in the reading-room of St. Joseph's Hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion, when the active members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul presented the president, Mrs. Jackson, prior to her departure for Greymouth, with an illuminated address and a handsome silver sugar basin and cream jug, bearing the following inscription: 'To Mrs. Jackson, from the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, November, 1905.' The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., made the presentation, and in the course of his remarks paid a well deserved tribute of praise to the good work done by Mrs. Jackson, especially that in connection with the orphanage. It was only those immediately connected with the Society, said he, who had any idea of the extent of her work for the poor, the afflicted, and the orphan. On behalf of his Lordship the Bishop and the clergy he thanked Mrs. Jackson for what she had done, and wished her happiness and prosperity in her new home in Greymouth. The following is a copy of the address, which was signed by Mrs. Callan (vice-president), Miss D. Purton (hon. secretary), and the other active members of the Society:—'Dear Mrs. Jackson,—It is no exaggeration to say

that we, your fellow workers in the Dunedin St. Vincent de Paul Society, are dismayed at the thought that you are leaving us, for we feel that it will be almost impossible to replace you. For some years past you have given all your leisure time to the work of the Society, and no one but God knows all the good that you have done; the books of the Society record the number of cases that are helped, but give no indication of the work that each case entails. Your goodness of heart and generosity of nature make the doing of charitable deeds a labour of love to you, and you have never grudged time or trouble if there were any possibility of doing good. We know that in the life to come God will reward you abundantly, but we most sincerely trust that in this world also you may experience the happiness you deserve.'

A very successful entertainment was given by the pupils of the Convent School, Port Chalmers, in the Foresters' Hall on Friday evening. The programme was as follows:—Instrumental duet (3 pianos and organ), Misses Anderson, Borlase (2), Hart, Drake, Wilson, and Ruddy; chorus, the pupils, assisted by the choir; dialogue, Masters Albertson (2), Flynn (2), Neil, Clark, Fountain, Varney, Moir, Marr, Johnson, and Smith; vocal duet, Misses Anderson, Borlase, Hart, and Salter; dance and tableau, Misses McDermott, McCann, Ruddy (2), Anderson, Drake, Osborn, McAlpine, Simpson, and Johnson; song and chorus, Master Hart and senior boys; vocal solo, Miss Salter; piano solo, Miss Varney. The first part concluded with the cantata, 'The White Garland,' in which the following took part, Misses Hart, Ruddy, Osborn, Anderson, Mackie, Simpson, and O'Halloran, Masters Carey, Mead, and Moir. The second part opened with an instrumental duet (3 pianos and organ) by Misses Osborn, Albertson, Wilson, McDermott, Ruddy, Drake, and Master Albertson; then followed a song, Misses Mackie, O'Halloran, Simpson, Birker, Amalfitano, Varney, Waltrodari, and Percy; song and drill, Masters Docherty, Mackie, Fountain, Carey, Hart, Mead, Flynn (2), Moir, and Varney; vocal duet, Misses Hart and Salter; skipping-rope dance, Misses Anderson Ruddy, and Varney; instrumental duet (3 pianos and organ), Misses Borlase (2), Anderson, Wilson, Ruddy, Hart, and Drake. The final item but one was a farce, in which the characters were sustained by Masters Mead, Hart, Docherty, Varney, Mackie, Carey, and Amalfitano. The entertainment, which was well attended and successful from every point of view, was brought to a close by the singing of 'Zealandia' by the pupils, assisted by the choir.

**DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH**

(From our own correspondent.)

December 4.

On Wednesday afternoon his Lordship the Bishop is to commence a retreat for First Communicants and candidates for Confirmation.

The Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R., of the Redemptorist Monastery, Perth, arrived in Christchurch last week, and on Sunday commenced a mission at Lincoln. The Very Rev. Father Cleary, C.S.S.R., left for Wellington last week.

A tennis club has been formed from among members of the Christchurch Catholic Club, and the use of the court at the 'Grange,' the recently acquired property of the Sisters of Nazareth, has been kindly granted to the players. The club's cricket team played their second match last week against St. Matthew's Cricket Club at St. Albans.

The first ordination in the Christchurch Cathedral took place on Sunday last, when the Rev. Richard Hoare, a native of Temuka, was raised to the dignity of the priesthood by his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes, in the presence of a large number of the clergy and a crowded congregation. The ceremonies commenced at a quarter to eleven with an imposing procession from the episcopal residence, followed by Pontifical High Mass. His Lordship the Bishop was celebrant, the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, S.M., V.G., assistant priest, the Very Rev. Dean Giaty and Father Marnane deacons at the throne, the Rev. Fathers Mahony and Kerley deacon and subdeacon respectively of the Mass, and Rev. Father O'Connell master of ceremonies. There were also present in the sanctuary Rev. Father Lezer (professor at Meance Seminary), assistant to the newly ordained, the Rev. Father Hickson, and the Revs. Geary and Venning, ecclesiastical students of the Seminary at Meance. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, his Lordship the Bishop preached a very fine discourse on the priesthood, after which the newly ordained priest imparted his blessing to the congregation. Gounod's No. 3 Mass was sung by the choir. Miss Katie Young was organist, and Mr H. H. Loughnan conducted.

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