

tion for eternity. The Roman Catholics were the first in the field, they are the most widely spread, and they have the largest number of followers.

There is probably no greater living authority on China and the Chinese than Sir Robert Hart.

THE NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC HIERARCHY AND THE PAPAL JUBILEE

We have received from the Right Rev. the Bishop of Auckland the following translation of the Jubilee address from the New Zealand hierarchy presented by Bishop Lenihan to the Holy Father:—

'Most Holy Father,

'We, the Archbishop and Bishops of New Zealand, prostrate at the feet of Your Holiness, gladly availing ourselves of this fitting and most happy occasion when the Catholic World is about to celebrate with the utmost joy Your Sacrodotial Jubilee, return You hearty thanks for the recent Encyclical Letter *On the Doctrines of the Modernists*.

'Although the impious and insane errors condemned by the Supreme Pastor and Interpreter and Defender of the Faith has infected very few if any, at least among Catholics, in this region, yet as such errors have wings which enable them to fly soon to all parts of the earth, their condemnation by Your Voice has been most opportune.

'That all who have been infected with these errors may return to the truth now they have been admonished and enlightened by the words of Your Holiness, we earnestly beseech Almighty God, through the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, and we shall do all in our power that the decrees of Your Holiness may lead to a happy and most fruitful result.

'For our faithful flocks and for ourselves we most humbly beg the Apostolic Benediction.

'✠ Francis, Archbishop of Wellington; ✠ John Joseph, Bishop of Christchurch; ✠ Michael Verdon, Bishop of Dunedin; ✠ George Michael, Bishop of Auckland.

'Wellington, February 22, A.D. 1908.'

The Holy Father (says Rome) was pleased to return the address to Bishop Lenihan after adding to it the following autograph: 'To Our Venerable Brothers, congratulating them and begging for them from the Lord all success in their Apostolate, We most lovingly bestow the Apostolic Benediction in token of Our affection, and We extend the same to the faithful entrusted to their care.'

'October 29, 1908.'

'PIUS, PP. X.'

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

On Sunday, December 13, in St. Joseph's Cathedral, twenty-five young ladies were received into the Sodality of the Children of Mary.

Miss Pearl Evans, a pupil of the Dominican Convent, Queenstown, obtained honors (130 marks) in the Advanced Grade, Associated Board, at the examination held recently in Invercargill.

In a private note received in Dunedin from the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, his Lordship gives an interesting account of the preparations which were being made in Rome at date of writing for the celebration of the Holy Father's Jubilee. His Lordship states that he was to spend Christmas in London, and hopes to arrive in Auckland about the middle of February.

Rev. Father Lynch, of Palmerston, in the course of a private letter, states that he paid a visit recently to Lourdes, and saw everywhere during his visit evidences of the faith, piety, and devotion of the people. In company with the Very Rev. Father Power, of Hawera, and Rev. Father Luby, of Melbourne, he was received in private audience by the Holy Father, whom they found a most benignant and charming personality.

The following are the results of the musical examination in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music, London, recently held at the Dominican Convent, Invercargill, by Mr. T. Dunhill:—Elementary division—D. Hamilton, 120; M. Rankin, 119; L. Greig, 104; M. Stretell, 101. Primary division—R. Shepherd, 130 (distinction); M. McAlister, 128; D. Martin, 125. All the candidates presented for examination were successful.

A solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Lynch, mother of Rev. Fathers James and John Lynch, and sister of the Very Rev. Dean Burke, was celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Friday morning. The

Rev. Father Corcoran was celebrant, Rev. Father J. Lynch deacon, Rev. Father Hearn subdeacon, Rev. Father Coffey master of ceremonies, Rev. Fathers Liston and Morkane cantors. The other priests present were Rev. Fathers O'Dea, Howard, Delany, M. Ryan, Buckley, D. O'Neill, and Cleary.

A meeting was held on Sunday evening in St. Joseph's Hall for the purpose of making arrangements for the annual schools picnic. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and there were also present Rev. Fathers Howard and Corcoran. Mr. J. Salmon read the report and balance sheet for the last picnic, which showed that it had been in every way a success. Mr. Salmon was unanimously elected secretary for the next outing, which it was decided to hold at Outram on Wednesday, February 3. Those present were appointed a general committee, and Rev. Brother Brady, and Messrs. Hill, Mead, Swanson, Marlow, and Purton a sports committee. Mesdames Powell, Jackson, and Swanson (Dunedin), and Mrs. McCurdy and Miss Long (South Dunedin) were appointed to collect subscriptions on behalf of the prize fund.

At the meeting of the ladies' branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday afternoon, advantage was taken of the occasion to present the secretary, Miss Dozie Purton, with an address, a silver hot water kettle on stand (suitably inscribed), a silver-mounted oak tray, and three nicely framed pictures, in connection with her approaching marriage. The address, which was in a handsome frame, was artistically illuminated by the Dominican nuns. The pictures were the gift of Miss Mary Callan, the youngest subscribing member of the society. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and the Rev. Father Corcoran was also present. The following address to Miss Purton, which was signed by the spiritual director and all the active members of the society, was read by Father Coffey:—'We, the undersigned members of the above association, on behalf of ourselves and the members generally, beg to offer to you our very hearty congratulations on your approaching marriage. You have been connected with us now for the past ten years, and during eight of them you have filled the important position of secretary. Your amiable and obliging nature has always made it a pleasure to work with you, and your never-failing charity and tenderness of heart have been an example to many of us who from time to time have felt ourselves discouraged by what is sometimes thankless work. With this small recognition of your valuable co-operation in the cause of charity, please accept our sincere good wishes that you may enjoy health, happiness, and prosperity in the coming years.' Father Coffey, supplementing the expressions of praise and appreciation contained in the address, said that during the time he was connected with the St. Vincent de Paul Society he had ample opportunities of noticing the active part which Miss Purton took in its work. She was always ready to do what lay in her power to further the objects of the society. Although she was about to undertake new responsibilities in life, he felt confident that she would still assist in the works of charity with which she had been identified for the past eight or ten years. On behalf of the priests of Dunedin, he tendered her his heartiest congratulations, and on the part of the ladies of the St. Vincent de Paul Society he asked her to accept these gifts as a slight token of their appreciation of the work she had done for it, and on their behalf he wished Miss Purton a long, happy, and pleasant future. Rev. Father Corcoran replied on behalf of Miss Purton. On Thursday evening Miss Purton was the recipient of a dinner service and address from the pupils of the Mornington Catholic Sunday-School, of which she has been in charge for some years. The presentation took place at the residence of Mr. Power, and was made by Rev. Father Coffey, who referred in eulogistic terms to the self-sacrificing work of Miss Purton on behalf of the Catholic children of the district. Mr. T. Hussey replied on behalf of Miss Purton.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 21.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the eleven o'clock Mass until after Vespers at St. Mary's Church, Manchester street North, on Sunday last.

The Marist Brothers of the South Island are to assemble in Christchurch for the annual retreat from January 2 to 9.

The annual retreat of the Sisters of the Missions, which is to be conducted by the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., of Meane, commences on Saturday, December 26.

The annual spiritual retreat of the diocesan clergy will commence in the Cathedral on January 12. The retreat is to conclude on the following Sunday, after which the annual synod will be held.

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