

OBITUARY.

MISS MARGARET ANNE FRENCH.

In our last issue we announced the death of an old and very highly respected resident of Mount Gambier. We refer to Miss Margaret Anne French, who passed away at her residence, "The Nest," on June 15.

Miss French, who was the second daughter of the late Captain French, a pioneer of Port MacDonnell, was born in Adelaide in 1860, and she came to Port MacDonnell with her parents as a child of three years of age. She was educated in Adelaide and Melbourne, and was highly cultured. She had excellent literary abilities, and her work as an artist has an Australian wide reputation, especially her water colors. She studied art in Adelaide under Mr. James Ashton, Misses Wadham and Sinclair, and in Melbourne under two Italian masters. Senors Catana and Lolairio, and Mr. H. S. Power, and when she visited England in 1913 with her sisters she studied there under a water color master of repute. As an art teacher she was most successful, many of her pupils doing excellent work, and one of them was successful in having a picture hung in the Royal Academy, London.

In connection with Christ Church she did an immense amount of work during the thirty-five years that she and her sisters resided at "The Nest." It was one of her cherished dreams to have an up-to-date hall and school rooms, and for twenty years she worked with that object in view. The first effort made for the building was a garden party at "The Nest," and when the building was finished, another garden party was arranged in the same place. During the intervening years she was instrumental in raising

years she was instrumental in raising funds by means of concerts and other social functions. As a Sunday-school teacher she was a most devoted worker, and she only ceased to take an active part after she was seized with her fatal illness. As well as the work she did for the Church, she was an excellent citizen, and did much for Mount Gambier. The Lakes were also a source of great delight to her, and she never failed to assist in any movement for their improvement.

Among other movements that she was interested in was the Mount Gambier A. and H. Society, and for many years she was a constant exhibitor in the flower section. The Mount Gambier Boys' Institute, of which she was a foundation member, always had her support, and during the time it has been in existence she has been a member of the Board of Management. She also acted as judge of art at the Penola and Millicent agricultural shows.

Her funeral was held yesterday morning. Before leaving for the cemetery an impressive ceremony was conducted in Christ Church by the Rev. K. W. Pobjoy, who was assisted by the choir. Mr. W. Pearce carried out the funeral arrangements.