

In fact he (the Archbishop) considered that their singing of these melodies was as near perfection as could be. His Grace then went on to remark on the many and great advantages the boys enjoyed in that school. If they wished to profit by these to the full there was no position in life which any one of them might not hereafter be qualified to fill. They had here a country blessed with many of nature's choicest gifts; they had, moreover, the privileges of a free Government, and if any of the fine boys present were not hereafter fully able to fill the highest offices of trust or emolument in the service of their country, it would not be for lack of early training. They were too young yet to know how much they were indebted for these advantages to their good teachers the Christian Brothers. In future days they would appreciate these to the full. He hoped they would do their best now to profit by the opportunity they had here of receiving a first-class intellectual training. But over and above all this they were indebted to the Brothers for the priceless blessing of a religious education. On this he hoped they would ever set the highest value.

At the request of his Grace the school was given a holiday, a concession that evoked their heartiest acknowledgments.

The boys then knelt and the Archbishop imparted to them his benediction.

Three hearty cheers for the visitors brought the very pleasant proceedings to a close.

The prelates also visited the schools of the Dominican nuns. In the High School some very choice selections of music, also adapted to a brief occasion, were rendered, gaining the high applause of the distinguished visitors, who congratulated the nuns warmly on the perfection to which their pupils had attained. At St. Joseph's School also the children welcomed the visitors with some little display of their proficiency, and were also highly commended. At the request of the Rev. Mother Prioress the Archbishop and Bishops bestowed their blessing on the community, the children, and the work of the year just begun—the nuns, with their pupils, being ranged in the grounds outside the schoolroom as the prelates passed out through their kneeling ranks.

A drive around the city and suburbs, with which also the visitors expressed themselves charmed, filled up the hours until it was necessary to leave for Port Chalmers to catch the steamer for the Sounds. The Most Rev. Dr. Moran has accompanied the Australian prelates on the trip.

## CONCERT IN DUNEDIN.

THE concert given on Tuesday evening in the Garrison Hall in aid of the building fund of the North-East Valley church was in every sense a striking success. The large hall was crowded throughout, and the music was admirable, doing infinite credit to the taste and judgment of Signor Squarise, who acted as conductor. The programme opened with a string quartette from Mozart, played by Signor Squarise, Messrs. Parker, Barrett, and Moss, and which was a performance in every respect beyond praise. Mrs. Angus then sang Barby's "When the flowing tide comes in," a song well suited to her mellow contralto, and to which she did ample justice, giving in response to an encore "Erin, dear Erin." She afterwards sang with great expression Miss Lindsay's "Too Late," and also took part in a vocal quartette from the "Mikado," with Mrs. Murphy and Messrs. Dusem and Jones. Miss Morrison sang delightfully Gounod's "Serenade," with violin *obligato* by Signor Squarise. The song was sung in the original French, from which, indeed, its full effect is inseparable. Translation ruins it, completely robbing it of its chief characteristic—that, in fact, of being distinctively French, and destroying its delicate refinement. In response to an enthusiastic encore the young lady gave the pretty and pathetic song "Daddy," which she also sang very sweetly. In the absence of Mr. H. Moss, who was prevented by illness from fulfilling his engagement to give a flute solo, Miss Robertson sang "The blind girl to her harp," accompanied on the harp by Miss A. Lynch. Both of these young ladies are pupils at the Dominican convent school, and we need not say that they acquitted themselves most creditably. Miss Blaney also was prevented by illness from being present, and her place was kindly taken by Mrs. Murphy, who sang Depza's "Call me back," with violin *obligato* by Signor Squarise. Mrs. Murphy is a finished and artistic singer whose reputation has long been established in Dunedin, and her song was charmingly sung. In response to an encore she gave, with a particularly graceful humour and archness, an Irish song. The gentlemen who sang were Mr. F. L. Jones, who gave with very fine effect Piasutti's "Queen of the Earth," declining an encore; Mr. H. S. Riemer, who sang Weiss's "Village Blacksmith," and, as an encore, "Kate O'Shane," in both instances deserving loud applause, and Mr. W. Dusem, whose "Father O'Flynn" was simply glorious. The last two verses were repeated in response to a loud and unanimous demand. Signor Squarise played as a violin solo a very pretty arrangement of Verdi's "Un Ballo in Maschera," which, as a matter of course, was a masterly performance. The other instrumental solo was Liszt's "Rhapsodie Hongroise, No 2," played on the piano by Herr A. Barmeyer, and magnificently played it was. Herr Barmeyer is something more than a perfect master of his instrument, possessing the true artistic fire that borders closely on genius, if indeed it does not cross the border. His command of technique is perfect, and in his interpretation of the weird—almost wild—and splendid composition he could hardly have been surpassed. Piano solos, even of a very high class, sometimes fall flat upon an audience. In this instance, however, the performance aroused a *furor*, and the performer was obliged to respond to an encore—when he did with an equal effect. On the whole we may rank the concert as certainly one of the best of the season in Dunedin. The Rev. Father Lynch, Adm., who came upon the platform to return thanks to the audience for their presence and the performers for their valuable services, alluded, among the rest, to the absence of the Bishop. He said his Lordship, before starting on his trip, had expressed his regret that he would be pre-

vented from being present. The rev. speaker said the regret would be shared by the audience, but remembering that the Bishop had not been very well lately, they would also be glad of anything that promised to be of benefit to him. He announced that the concert had been a thorough success. The music they had heard, and he had to inform them that in a financial point of view, also an important one, there was good reason to be pleased. The audience, as we have said, was crowded. Among those present we noticed his Worship the Mayor and Mrs. Carroll, and many others of our more prominent citizens.

## OBITUARY.

It is with much regret that we (*Western Guardian* January 3), have to announce the untimely demise of Police-Constable Barry, which took place by accident early last Wednesday morning under the following distressing circumstances:—(It appears that about 2 a.m. that morning, the deceased, accompanied by Edward Baker, a boy ten years of age, the son of Mr. Lionel Baker of this town—proceeded in Mr. H. C. L. Reay's punt—a "flatty" about twelve feet long—to the Heads to fish. The sea being smooth, they went out over the bar without trouble. After fishing for some time, the deceased, Edward Chase, Jack Mitchell, and Rerekipake—who were also outside the entrance in their canoes, engaged in the same sport—started to come in again; deceased was following about eight or ten yards behind the last named. At this time two or three seas rather heavier than usual rolled in, and deceased was warned, it appears, to wait for a "smooth," but he came straight in; one of the seas broke and swamped the punt when she got within a few yards of the beach. Deceased then jumped out, the water not being more than up to his middle, and according to Chase, instead of seizing the punt, he went after his coat, which was floating in the water near at hand. Another sea then broke close to him and the drawback swept deceased out beyond his depth, the punt turned bottom upwards, and the boy was thrown out. The next thing Chase saw was deceased with his arms across an oar struggling to reach the beach, and the boy was on his back holding on to him. Chase then ran for a rope and soon after heard the boy scream, and looking back caught sight of deceased going down. Chase being unable to get a rope returned to the spot, and by this time Mr. H. J. Hansen, Karens, and others arrived; they all joined hands and by this means managed to get hold of the boy, who was floating just outside the break, and drag him to shore, when they found he was not much the worse for the immersion. Nothing, however, could be seen of poor Constable Barry, who had gone down out of sight. While steps were being taken to get a line and grapnel, the Pilot, Davy Jones, who had by this time reached the scene of action, caught sight of the deceased just outside the break, and with the assistance of the others, who again joined hands for the purpose succeeded in getting the body on shore. This was about twenty minutes or half an hour after the accident occurred.

The late Constable Barry was a native of County Cork, Ireland, and was 32 years of age when he died. He had been in the Police Force about nine years, we believe, and was last stationed at Napier. He leaves a widow and three children to mourn his loss. We understand his life was unimpaired. The deceased had the reputation of being a good and attentive police-constable, he was very well liked in the place, for his kind, civil, and obliging nature, and his untimely death is much regretted.—*R. I. P.*

Mr. James O'Driscoll has commenced work at the bootmakers' trade in premises next Carroll's Hotel, George street, Dunedin. The work turned out by Mr. O'Driscoll, both as regards workmanship and material, will invariably be the best of its kind.

The Hon. William Gibson, eldest son of Lord Ashburne, has been received into the Catholic Church by the Rev. W. D. Strappini, S.J., at Oxford. Lord Ashbourne is Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and his brother, who at one time represented the White Division of Liverpool, is another member of the Irish Judiciary.

The Duke of Norfolk is at present in Lourdes with his son, the young Earl of Arundel and Surrey. The poor boy has been a helpless cripple from his birth. This is the third visit of the duke to Lourdes. It is to be hoped that God will reward his unwavering trust in the Blessed Virgin.

The Cologne *Volke Zeitung* announces a bill to be submitted to the German Imperial Parliament early this year, providing for the restitution to the Catholic Church of the entire accumulated capital formed by the priests' salaries when were confiscated during the anti-Catholic agitation.

A letter in defence of Catholic doctrines by the Reverend Alfred Young, C.S.P., a new and zealous member of the Catholic Truth Society, drew from Rev. Lymon Abbot, editor-in-chief of the *Christian Union*, the astonishing admission "that the Protestant minister in attacking Romanism ordinarily misrepresents what he is endeavouring to criticize."

In the German National Church of the Anima in Rome there is a Scuola Gregoriana for the reform of Church music in Italy. Signor Galgano, choir-master of the Duomo of Milan, has lately been present at a service in the Anima, in order to listen to the music of the Scuola Gregoriana, and has since published a most flattering report in his review, *Musica Sacra*, in which he assigns the post of honour among the choir-masters to the Germans of the above school. On October 23 the Scuola went to Arsoli, a small town on a feudal estate of Prince Massimo, to sing a "Palestrina" service—the Prince, who is a great lover of art, paying all expenses and entertaining the choir-masters in his castles. The correspondent of the *Popolo Romano* describes the singing of the choir as masterly. Taken with the opinions expressed by Sgambati Filippi (late deceased), and other Italian musicians, these appreciations seem to give ground for hope that the devout Palestrina ecclesiastical music may soon be restored to honour in its own country.