

any one nation or people; it was world-wide and universal. Leo was a great ruler, whose power came from the right hand of God, whose sceptre ruled over the willing hearts of men, whose throne rested not on the will of any nation. Greater was he than Abraham in power, than Melchizedek in priesthood, than Moses in authority, than Samuel in jurisdiction. In him Catholics recognised the centre of human faith, the infallible guide and shepherd of Christ's flock militant, the cardinal point of all the Churches. To-day he is taken from his flock. Time and history will crown him with outlined the life of the Pontiff, who, he said, had outlined the life of the Pontiff, whom, he said, had striven with uncompromising hostility, to check the advance of atheism, materialism, and socialism, which were very rampant when he ascended the throne. All combined forces against him, but he arose like a giant and smote them. His tactful suppression of the persecution in Germany and the defeat of the powerful Bismarck was one of the glories of his reign. Leo always exhibited the greatest zeal in the cause of education, and was unswerving in his efforts to uplift the poor. The speaker concluded by enjoining the faithful to offer prayers for the repose of the soul of the departed sovereign Pontiff, thus assuring him that their blessings follow him beyond the grave.

On Wednesday morning the Cathedral was again crowded, when Solemn Requiem Mass was sung, Rev. Father Patterson being celebrant, Very Rev. Dean Hackett, deacon, Rev. Father Brodie sub-deacon. His Lordship the Bishop occupied the throne, and there were also present Very Rev. Mgr. Paul, V.G., and Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly.

The ceremonies at the catafalque were conducted by the Bishop, assisted by the assembled priests, who sang appropriate music, the Rev. Father Patterson accompanying them upon a small organ inside the sanctuary rails, Rev. Father Gillan being master of ceremonies. At the conclusion of the services on Tuesday and Wednesday Mr. Harry Hiscocks, organist, played the Dead March in 'Saul.'

Dean Hackett's Panegyric on the Late Pope.

'Mercutio,' the well known 'Herald' critic, writes under local gossip: 'The sermon preached by Dean Hackett on Leo XIII. was one of the most forcible, eloquent, and learned orations that I have ever heard, and my experience in that line is probably as great as that of anyone in New Zealand. He preached for an hour and a quarter to a congregation, many of whom were standing, and to the last word he uttered there was not a movement or a sign of impatience or weariness. This was a sure test that the sermon had all the qualities that it should have. The Roman Catholic Church may be proud of such an orator. His sentences were as fluent and correct, as well balanced, as free from tautology in the wording, as if they had all been carefully written out, and yet the discourse was preached with free action, not read. Dean Hackett did not simply pile up eulogistic adjectives upon the late Pope. He did much better than that. He defined the functions of the office, and in doing so made a clear statement of the position and fundamental doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. Then in noticing Pope Leo's encyclical letters he was enabled to state what were the Church's decrees in reference to marriage, divorce, the education of the young, the sanctity of private property, as opposed to Socialism—in fact, to review the great questions of the age. He gave a brief narrative of the contest of Bismarck with the Church over the Falk Laws, and showed how the great man of 'Blood and Iron' had to give way. An element of pathos was reflected over the entire discourse. Many have been the discourses throughout Christendom on Pope Leo XIII., but I think that few could have been more edifying and useful than that which the congregation of St. Patrick's had an opportunity of hearing on last Tuesday evening.'

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OTAKI.

There was a very large congregation present in St. Mary's Church, Otaki, on Thursday, July 30, when a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Pope was celebrated by the Rev. Father Melu, Rev. Father Delach being also present. A considerable number of natives (says the local 'Mail') were among the congregation. The church was appropriately draped in mourning, numerous folds of black, relieved by bows of white, being displayed in various directions. The whole of the draping had been carried out most effectively by the Sisters of the convent. The chanting and singing of the choir was most effectively rendered.

The Rev. Father Melu expressed pleasure at the large number who had assembled to testify to their deep love and devotion for the late Holy Father, and specially thanked the choir for the excellent services rendered by them at so short a notice. He also addressed the Natives present, reminding them that though the Pope was dead the Church was alive, and urging them to adhere to its teachings.

As the congregation dispersed the Dead March in 'Saul' was played on the organ.

Previous to the celebration of Mass an ancient Native, Piripi te Ari, chanted a Maori waiata in memory of the late Pope, and a large number of Natives who were present said prayers for the repose of the soul of the departed Pontiff. The native women, in accordance with their usual custom on such occasions, wore tauas, or bands of greenery, round their heads, in token of mourning.

Complimentary Concert to Miss Rose Blaney

The large audience which was present at his Majesty's Theatre, Dunedin, on Friday night, on the occasion of the complimentary concert tendered to Miss Rose Blaney in connection with her forthcoming departure from this city, was a splendid testimony to the popularity of the talented vocalist. Had it been an ordinary occasion, it is fair to assume that not more than a few score persons would be brave enough to leave their homes on such an inclement night, and, therefore, when they attended in their hundreds they showed that they had put their own comfort to one side when it was a question of paying not alone a compliment but a debt of gratitude to a lady who has at all times been ready to place her splendid talents at the disposal of the people for the aid and furtherance of every good cause. Apart from her vocal abilities, which are unquestionably of a very high order, Miss Blaney possesses a charm of manner, and freedom from affectation which have helped her to win her way into the hearts of all, and consequently she has been without doubt the most popular vocalist in the city, where her departure will create a void in musical circles. In consequence of the length of the programme it was decided not to allow encores, but the audience could not be prevented from exercising their privileges in connection with the appearance of Miss Blaney and her popular sister, Mrs. Costelloe, in their solo items on the programme. Miss Blaney also took part with her sister, Mrs. Costelloe, in the duet, 'O sainted mother,' from 'Marilyn,' which was undoubtedly the gem of the evening. Mrs. Costelloe on her appearance received quite an ovation, her enthusiastic reception being evidence that, notwithstanding her absence from Dunedin, her many friends here have still pleasant recollections of her fine vocal powers.

To keep the air in a public building pure without creating a draught should be the aim of every architect, but this necessary result is not always attained. To remedy this defect, Mr. H. I. M. Ross, Castle street, Dunedin, has invented his Double Current Ventilator, which introduces the fresh air free from dust and other impurities, at the lowest possible level of any apartment, and withdraws the heated and impure air from the highest point. The value of such an invention is obvious, and we are pleased to learn that this very useful apparatus has received the highest encomiums from members of the medical profession, architects, builders, and Government officials...

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