

his *Samson*. There was the note of the grand manner in the assumption of *John* and incomparable pathos in the delineation of Halévy's persecuted and vengeful old Hebrew. As an actor he grew amazingly in the last decade of his artistic career. Compare his light-hearted, frivolous *Duke* in 'Rigoletto' with the venerable Jew in 'La Juive.' Then we realise how far intense study intelligently directed may carry a singer. It has often been a cause of critical wonderment why Caruso never sang the music of Richard Wagner. What a *Lohengrin* he would have been, what a *Parsifal*, yes, even a *Tristan*! He knew every note of these rôles. Once for my delectation he hummed the plaintive measures of the dying *Tristan*. Tears came to my eyes, so penetratingly sweet was his tone, so pathetic his phrasing."

THE IRISH RELIEF FUND

Last week we handed to his Lordship Dr. Whyte a draft for £2000 to be sent to Cardinal Logue who will forward it for the relief of the Irish sufferers. Promises made to us are still unredeemed, and we are confident that in a short time, when all funds come to hand, we shall have several hundreds of pounds to send on to complete the donation from the charitable people of New Zealand. Already a total of £2300 has been forwarded, and we are hopeful that our next remittance will bring the fund nearer to £3000. Once more, on behalf of the poor victims of English misrule and of Orange savagery, we thank from our heart our generous friends who did not turn a deaf ear to the cry of their own kith and kin. Especial thanks are due to Mrs. T. Bourke, her sister, and their Wellington friends who made such wonderful efforts in and around the Empire City to make the Fund a success. The following letter was received from the Bishop of Dunedin before he left for Sydney:

Bishop's House,
Rattray St., Dunedin,
24/9/21

My dear Dr. Kelly,

I have forwarded to his Eminence Cardinal Logue a draft for £2000 (two thousand pounds), which, I inform him, is New Zealand's contribution to the Belfast Relief Fund in response to the appeal made by the *Tablet*.

I am, my dear Doctor,

Yours sincerely

*J. WHYTE,
Bishop of Dunedin.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

A social will be held in the Sacred Heart Schoolroom, North-east Valley, on Monday evening, October 3, in aid of the piano fund.

His Lordship Bishop Whyte was a passenger by the north express and ferry steamer on Monday to join the Ulmaroa at Wellington, en route to Sydney.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration will commence with High Mass at nine o'clock to-morrow (Friday) at St. Joseph's Cathedral. Sermons appropriate to the solemnities will be preached each evening during the devotion by Rev. Father Vincent, S.M.

The spiritual Retreat conducted by Rev. Father Vincent, S.M., for the members of St. Joseph's Cathedral Sodality of Children of Mary, which commenced on Monday evening week and concluded on last Monday morning, was most successful. The exercises of the Retreat, which were held in the chapel of St. Dominic's Priory, were well attended throughout. The members of the sodality in regalia, attended in very large numbers at the Cathedral on last Sunday evening, when, in the presence of a crowded congregation, they were specially addressed by Father Vincent. A reception of aspirants (numbering 16) into the sodality by his Lordship the Bishop formed an impressive ceremonial. The Bishop afterwards officiated at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Appropriate music was

rendered by the Cathedral Choir, a feature being the splendid rendering of a vocal selection by Mr. Mann, a visitor.

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DUNEDIN IRISH SOCIETY.

The Overseas Club room was comfortably filled on Thursday evening last, the occasion being the monthly meeting of the above society. The Rev. E. J. Lynch, of Mosgiel, lectured for considerably over an hour on "The Thirteenth, the Greatest of Centuries," his discourse being followed with interest and attention. Among the many matters dealt with, Father Lynch spoke on the rise of universities and hospitals, the Gothic style of architecture, and the existence of guilds, pension and insurance schemes, all of which flourished at the period he was dealing with. He also referred to the happiness and general contentment of the people then as compared with the unrest and panic of to-day. In moving a hearty vote of thanks to Father Lynch for his instructive and entertaining address, the society's president (Mr. Nolan) said they owed a deep debt of gratitude to the lecturer for the personal interest he took in their work. He asked them to carry the vote of thanks with acclamation, and the manner in which this was done left no doubt as to the appreciation of the audience. The following also contributed to the pleasure of the evening:—Songs—Misses Fitzpatrick and Spillane. Mrs. Murdoch, Messrs. Dillon, Keyes, and Rodgers; recitations—Miss Heley, Mr. Flynn; pianoforte selection, Miss Walsh. Mrs. Murdoch proved a most efficient accompanist.

A pleasing function took place the other night in the Christian Brothers' School Hall, the occasion being the Irish Society's presentation to the Rev. Father Ardagh, lately transferred to Invercargill. A large number of members were present and the proceedings throughout were of a most enjoyable nature. The society's president (Mr. Nolan) said he did not propose to refer to the success with which Father Ardagh had labored in other spheres; his duty that evening was to speak of Father Ardagh from the standpoint of his connection with the society. Mr. Nolan went on to refer in felicitous terms to the manner in which Father Ardagh had identified himself with their work. In presenting Father Ardagh with a divan chair, suitably inscribed, he said it was a token of love and esteem felt towards the recipient by the members of the society. On rising to respond Father Ardagh was greeted with prolonged applause. It was a source of great pleasure to him, he said, to be once more among the members of the society, and he was deeply grateful to the members for their kindness in giving him such a fine present. The evenings he had spent at the society's meetings were (he said) the most delightful of all he had passed in Dunedin. He then made reference to the excellent work the society had done and was doing in Dunedin. During the evening musical items were rendered by Mrs. Murdoch, Misses C. Dillon, McCallum, Bennett, and Carter, Messrs. Tapley, Perkins, and Coughlan. Misses B. Mead and C. Noonan were accompanists.

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Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

September 26.

Invercargill Hibernians learnt with regret of the death of Bro. M. F. Dennehy, of Timaru.

The quarterly Communion of the members of the Hibernian Society will take place next Sunday, at the eight o'clock Mass.

Next Sunday, being Rosary Sunday, there will be the usual procession during the afternoon in the convent grounds.

Rev. Father Vincent, S.M., concluded a very successful retreat for the Children of Mary last Sunday. The attendances throughout were excellent, and the final ceremony on Sunday evening was very impressive, when over 90 members of the sodality took part in the procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The members carried their beautiful banner and also a statue of Our Lady. Prior to the procession some 32 aspirants were received into the sodality and 10 new aspirants became associated.

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