



Antoine de Kotski (1817–1899), most famous member of a Polish family of precocious musicians, who toured New Zealand in 1896. Photo Neg 5126 ½.

particularly lively here during the last month, and a feud almost rivalling in intensity that of the Gluckists and Piccinists of bygone days has raged round the persons of de Kotski and Musin' wrote Diapason in the *Triad*.¹⁶

Alfred Hill had felt obliged to warn the members of the Committee of de Kotski's reputation and in the light of his own feelings and those of Musin, felt he could not conduct the concert to which the Society was committed. After a somewhat bitter controversy carried on in the local press he resigned and Robert Parker took his place. But the subsequent events are best told through Wellington reactions to the Chevalier himself.

At his first recital in the capital, the audience, 'coldly critical at first, as Wellington audiences always are, very soon became