

the delight of knowing that my native as conferred on me, as its parting blessing, the highest honour in its power of gift—the name of the City. While I know you value the services to Irish musical art, and are proud of achievements as a singer, still I know that I am strongly supplemented by the love and affection you have always borne my family. My name is one of my name still fresh in your memory, and for whom you have always shown the deepest respect and esteem—that grand old man my father. Another of my family who have been honoured time and again by electing to represent you both here in the Chamber and in Parliament, is unfortunately, on account of illness, unable to be present to-day, my brother Stephen O'Mara. He, however, regrets that more than he. Of course I am sure. It is a common saying that a man is without honour in his own country, but I think it has had the courage to contradict that. The refinement of its people is demonstrated in conferring on a singer the highest honours. In doing so Limerick has set a precedent for other cities to follow, for as far as I can learn, this is the first time that Limerick has been so honoured in any country, and this act, Limerick has honoured music. Limerick has always been foremost in art. It was this city that sent the first singer of modern times to spread the fame of beauties of Irish song to the furthest ends of the earth, the immortal townsman, Catherine.

To her Irish music owes its popularity in America which has lasted to the present day. Now the call of art is taking us across the sea, and I hope and trust that my presence in that far off land will serve the cause of Musical Art as well as hers did. The noblest end of man on earth after the service of God is the service of his native land. Each of us has been given some gift or other, whereby he can serve his country best. I have been given me the gift of song, and that gift I have dedicated to Ireland. I shall always strive to demonstrate to the world that Ireland has no equal for beauty and sentiment among the nations (applause). And here I say a few words to young Irish musicians—the coming race of artists in whom I have my highest hope. Don't turn your back on the melodies of your native land. In them you have a priceless treasure, a heritage of art to compare. I firmly believe that the day is not far distant when you will see a school of Irish composition arise that will be a revelation of artistic beauty and will take its place as the best in the world. Mr. Mayor and the Mayor of Limerick, again I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and assure you that this gift of mine that will never be forgotten by me as long as I live, and I know that I am safe in saying that this gift will be treasured by all generations of the O'Mara's. (Loud and continued applause).

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

The Mayor announced that addresses would be read from the various bodies, and when they were all read Mr. O'Mara would make a reply. The addresses were then read from the Limerick City and County Guardians, by Mr. Bouke, V.C.; the Harbour Commissioners, by Mr. John Dalton; and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, by Mr.

and Miss Broom and Mr. Abel. At the final curtain, in response to an imperative demand for a speech, Mr. O'Mara appeared and thanked the audience for the kindness shown him.

Last night the concert programme consisted of excerpts from the great masters, and five scenes from "Il Trovatore" served to supply a brilliant ending to a highly delightful concert. It is scarcely necessary to say that the success achieved by Mr. O'Mara and his distinguished colleagues was repeated in "Il Trovatore." Everyone of the artistes sustained a high degree of dramatic skill, and invested their parts with a finish which reflected on the work as a whole. Madame Nicoll sang the music of Leonora very capably, while the Manrico of Mr. O'Mara sent the audience into raptures. He was again in excellent voice, as was Miss Broom, who portrayed the heavy role of Azucena. Mr. Abel gave a delightful interpretation of the music which fell to the lot of the Count de Luna, and sang "The Tempest of the Heart" with artistic spirit.

Mr. O'Mara again spoke at the conclusion, and said he could not find words to return thanks to the people of his native city for the way they had received him, and concluded by singing "The Wearing of the Green."

Departure of Mr. O'Mara.

Mr. O'Mara with his concert party left town this afternoon by the 4 o'clock train for Waterford, and was given a very hearty send off by a large concourse assembled on the platform.

Mr. Joseph O'Mara was photographed by Messrs. Guy's artist yesterday, and three capital photos are now on view in one of the windows of the firm's establishment in George street.

LIMERICK NO. 1 DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. John H. Ryan, J.P., presided at the meeting of Limerick No. 1 District Council to-day, and there was a large attendance of members.

The order of the King's Bench, awarding the representation of the Clarina Electoral Division to Mr. James Dundon, Clounanna, was received, as it was shown in the petition that he had a legal majority of votes over Mr. Wm. Hourigan Cloughatacka.

The Assistant Clerk said Mr. Dundon had signed the declaration of acceptance of office, and was entitled to sit in the Council.

Other important business was transacted, an extended report of which will appear in our next issue.

DROWNING FATALITY.

A small boy named John Sheahan, aged 8, accidentally fell into the river opposite Arthur's Quay to-day, and one Stephen Nash put out in a boat to his rescue. Restoratives were applied by Constable Shea when the lad was brought ashore, but they proved unavailing. The lad's family reside at Arthur's Quay, and there is much sympathy with them over the sad occurrence.

It will be seen from the splendid stud of coach horses of the Tourist Development Company routes in the South of Ireland season, will be disposed of on the 15th inst. This is the sale of these horses, which attended previous sales over the Company's various stands, have a very high reputation for excellent qualities. A very few of them develop into first-class hounds, fetch fancy prices at Tattersall's Kingdom. The present lot is fully selected, and will be found a bargain to all seeking useful animals.

THE HIBERNIAN GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

This Irish Company has been established, and throughout the country has received very considerable patronage from public bodies but from leading merchants. We understand that the mentioned Councils have all insured with the Company. Corporation, the North Dublin Union, Belfast Harbour Board, District Council, Drogheda Union, Enniscorthy Urban Sanitary Board, Ennis Union, Ennis Council, Kilkenny Asylum, Mountmellick Union, Rathdrum Union, Longford Union, Carlow Union, District Council, Kilmallock Council. Limerick Union and others have also promised to favour the application of the Company with the renewal of their policy as perceived by advertisement there is at 49 Dame street, Dublin.

DEPUTATION TO THE SECRETARY.

At last evening's meeting of the Mayor presiding, a letter from the City Technical Committee was read, and a deputation to Dublin to see the Chief Secretary the necessary £10,000 for the building of a Institute.

A resolution was proposed to grant the permission, and Councillor Dalton dissenting.

Miss McCarthy, the lady who exhibited such a remarkable exhibition of artistic taste at Mr. O'Mara's Theatre, is a daughter of Mr. McCarthy of this city, and is now in London. Her many friends in the native city are greatly pleased that she had a great ovation each