

Died in Belfast

Brilliant Limerick Musician

The death has occurred in Belfast of Mr Augustine Desmond Fitzgerald, the noted Limerick organist and musician, at his residence, Sunningdale Park, Cave Hill Road. The late Mr Fitzgerald, who was a native of Thomondgate, had reached the age of 77. He came from an old and very highly-respected Limerick family, and was one that had nitched for himself a very high place in the best musical circles throughout the length and breadth of the country.

Mr FitzGerald was organist and choir-master in St Michael's church, Limerick, for many years and he was well known as a composer of sacred music. His many compositions included Masses of St Patrick, St Michael and St Vincent. These Masses had their first production on St Michael's Day, and music lovers whose recollections go back to the early years of the century will recollect these first performances as being among the chief musical events in the city. These Masses are now sung in churches all over the world.

In addition, Mr FitzGerald composed many works for piano and violin, and he also composed numerous songs and works for solo and chorus.

As a teacher he was also well known, having been Professor of Music at Saint Munchin's and Mungret Colleges.

Prior to taking up the post of organist in St Michael's Mr FitzGerald held a similar post at the Cathedral, Enniscorthy.

Mr FitzGerald's last public appearances in Limerick were in 1914 when he conducted the Athlunkard Boat Club choir in the Theatre Royal.