

1852 there appeared a second edition of *St. Wilfrid's Hymn-Book*, containing twenty additional hymns.

Matthew Brydges, in his *Hymns for the Use of Catholics* (1848-1851), wrote some beautiful hymns, including: 'Rose of the Cross, thou Mystic Flower,' 'Wave the sweet censer,—wave,' 'Rise, glorious Conqueror,—rise,' and 'Crown Him with many crowns.' He also issued *Passion of Jesus* (1852), in which occur: 'From circles starred with many a gem,' 'Holy of Holies, Seat of Love,' 'Rise, O Lord, in all Thy glory!' and 'The Wine-press, the Wine-press!'

J. Richard Best, in 1849, issued *Church Hymns, in English, that may be sung to the Old Church Music*; and two years later, in 1851, Father Formby's *Catholic Hymns* were productive of much good. *Catholic Hymn Tunes and Litanies*, by the Rev. J. M. Capes, was published in 1849; followed by *Easy Hymn Tunes for Catholic Schools* in 1851, in which appeared for the first time a musical setting for Dr. Lingard's hymn, 'Hail, Queen of Heaven.' Another interesting book with music, is *Easy Music for Church Choirs*, issued in 1853; while the same year saw a musical setting of Father Formby's hymns by Sir John Lambert. *St. Winifred's Hymn-Book*, in 1854, had a considerable vogue.

In 1854 appeared *Oratory Hymns*, edited by Father Faber, to which was added the music for the various hymns, as sung at the London Oratory. It is no exaggeration to say that this volume was a powerful auxiliary in the work of conversion, and gave a great stimulus to Catholic congregational singing. It contained hymns by Faber, Newman, and others; but the music was mostly adapted. No doubt something might be said in favor of judicious adaptations from such masters as Beethoven and Mozart, but the setting of really beautiful verses to popular Irish and English tunes was in questionable taste. One of the hymns, 'Daily, Daily,' was written by Father Henry Bittleston, M.A. (who became an Oratorian), in March, 1850, and is still popular. . . . A little known fact in connection with these adaptations is that Father Faber's exquisite hymn, 'I was wandering and weary,' was set to a tune composed by the illustrious Cardinal Newman.

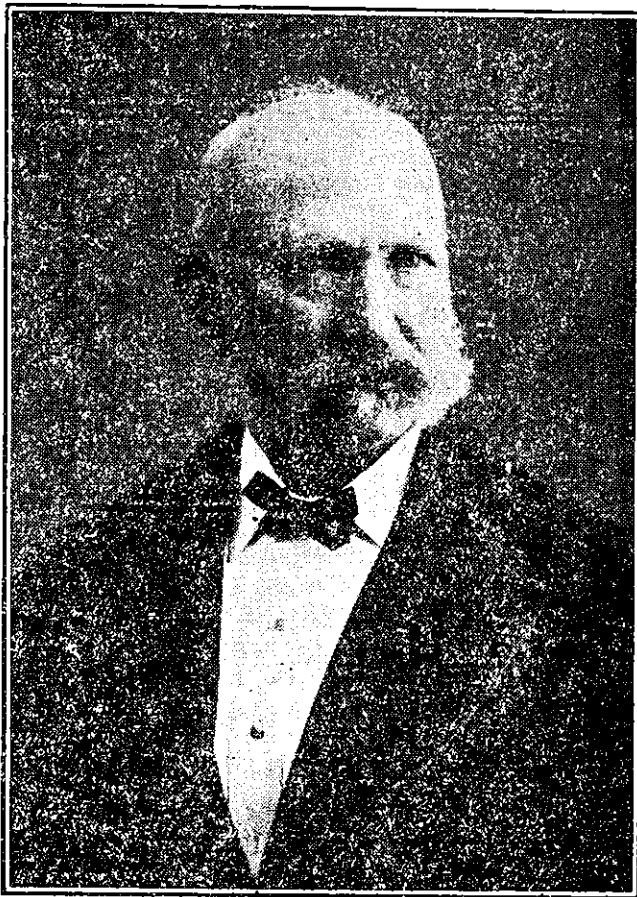
Of contemporary hymn-writers with Faber and Caswall must be mentioned Father Formby, Father Furniss, Father John Wyse, Bishop Chadwick; Father Christie, S.J.; Father Peter Galways, S.J.; Father Potter, and Father C. Pise, chaplain to the U.S. Senate. Others were Catholic poets like Robert Monteith, Adelaide Procter, Canon Oakeley, Aubrey de Vere, the Rev. Dr. Rawes, and Lady Georgiana Fullarton.

Perhaps on another occasion I may be tempted to treat of English Catholic hymnody in modern times; but meanwhile I wish to recommend *Arundel Hymns*, edited by the Duke of Norfolk and Charles T. Gatty, as about the best collection at present before the public.

The Late Mr. Michael O'Meara, MELBOURNE

A notable figure in Irish and Catholic circles in Victoria (says the *Melbourne Advocate*) passed away on January 2, in the person of Mr. Michael O'Meara. Born at Woodford, in County Tipperary, in 1829—the year of Catholic Emancipation—he had reached the ripe age of 84. When 18 years old he joined the Royal Irish Constabulary, and was a police officer during the terrible years of the Irish famine, and witnessed harrowing scenes, that were ever vivid in his memory. The discovery of gold in Australia induced him to emigrate and seek his fortune in the new land, and he arrived in Melbourne in 1853, having as cabin mates the late Sir Henry Wrixon and Judge J. J. Casey. After varying fortunes on the goldfields at Castlemaine, he joined the Victorian police force, and served under Mr. Robert O'Hara Burke, who was then Superintendent of Police, who afterwards led, in company with Wills, the famous exploring expedition across Australia. Mr. O'Meara and Mr. Burke had served together in the Royal Irish

Constabulary, and were warm friends. In a short time he was made a senior constable, and placed in charge of a station. He had many trying adventures with bushrangers and other law-breakers, and was always noted for his fearlessness. When doing gold escort duty at Violet Town in 1861 he had the misfortune to lose two fingers of his right hand by a gun explosion, and was thereby forced to sever his connection with the Victorian police. He then secured an appointment in the Railways and Roads department, and remained a Civil Servant until he retired on pension nineteen years ago.



The Late Mr. Michael O'Meara.

In the early sixties he began to take an active interest in Irish and Catholic matters. He joined St. Patrick's Society, and was president on several occasions, and a member of the managing committee for close on forty years. He was one of the founders of the United Friendly Societies' Dispensary. He was always a zealous worker in Church affairs; was one of the first members of the League of the Cross, and took a deep interest in the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

In 1858 he married Margaret Patterson, whose brother, Sir James B. Patterson, was for many years a member of the Victorian Parliament, and was Premier of the State in 1893-4. This lady predeceased him by nearly fifty years. His second wife was Catherine Cashin, whose family was well known in Raitown, near Clonmel, County Tipperary. She died four years ago. He leaves behind him to mourn the loss of a good father—Mr. J. T. P. O'Meara, the managing editor of the *Austral Light*, and lay secretary of the Australian Catholic Truth Society; Mrs. Lawson, and Sister Pancratius, of the Convent of Mercy, Fitzroy. Mr. James Butler, of Palmerston North, is a nephew of the deceased. He was buried from his son's residence on January 4, and the respect in which he was held was manifested by the large attendance at his funeral. Among the pall-bearers were the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Mr. P. C. Quirk (State Parliamentary Librarian), and Dr. T. P. McInerney (Warden of the Senate of the University). In the words of his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, 'he had reached a ripe old age, and in the days of his activity and strength he labored well for Church and State, and gave an example of virtue to younger men which will survive him long.'

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