

Caroline Hatchard at Exeter

Prominent among the soloists for the two concerts on 2 April 1913 was the celebrated soprano, Miss Caroline Hatchard. Aged thirty, she was approaching the height of her powers.

A few months earlier, she had sung the role of Sophie in the British première of Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*, under the baton of Thomas Beecham, becoming the first English-born and trained soprano to be hired by the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. She was to sing many operatic roles, as well as performing in oratorio and musical theatre. She was a regular broadcaster on the new medium of radio after 1924 and continued to tour extensively. She later taught voice at the Royal Academy of Music, retiring in 1952. She died in 1970, aged eighty-seven.



Miss Caroline Hatchard (Photograph, 1914, unknown origin (public domain) Glen Christodoulou Collection)