

WHITE & Co. have lost very much during their annual Shipping. The conclusion of the year is a very fair summary of the past year," it says, "has not been disappointing; there have been no serious reversions in building to legitimate business there is every prospect that next year will be much better." If this general opinion is bright, yet it is not dark, and promises improvement. The last year's shipping, it appears, bears a great contrast to that of the year before, with the result that at present there is a much larger amount laid up idle than there was at the end of 1894. The year commenced, with a decidedly buoyant feeling among the owners, and although freights were moderate in all directions, the result was rather than the average of the two years, and induced the opinion that the year had not in which was to be expected after the long depression business had endured since 1890; unfortunately the year's trading has not justified the hopes formed. Government orders for the Navy, following large contracts for merchant ships that had been given in the previous year, caused an advance in the price of the year in the price of iron, which induced many owners, anticipating a further advance, to give out large contracts in January and February for new cargo vessels. The subsequent course of the market has shown would have been different. Shipbuilders have consequently been very well employed throughout the year, many of whom would have had many orders sometime since had not the outbreak of the pattern makers' strikes, which has for six months, delayed the progress of the engines for many vessels." It is therefore, we read in the next issue, that at present the shipbuilding works are not employed to more than half their capacity. The previous year has been 603 steamers, of 1,000,000 tons, together with 176 sailing vessels, the total tonnage of all being 1,500,000 tons, which is a quarter of a million more than that for 1893, though the average for the four preceding years, to the end of September the most

tions held by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge in connection with Marlborough street College, Dublin, on the 17th ult, Miss Florence E Switzer, of this city, obtain a good place with book prizes.

SIXMILE BRIDGE PETTY SESSIONS.—The above sessions were held on Tuesday last before Mr Solomon Frost, presiding, and Mr A N Brady, R.M. The business of the court was light, consisting of a few cases of drunkenness on the occasion of the late Federation meeting held in the village.

THE SHANNON HOTEL, CASTLECONNELL.—Amongst the visitors to the above hotel during the week were—Seymour Bushe, Esq, Q.C; Mrs Bushe, Mr Lane and Mr Fitzgerald, of Dublin; Leslie Croery, Esq, Irish Land Commissioner. The Most Rev Dr Hogan, Bishop of Kansas, is staying at this hotel.

ANOTHER PICTURE BY REYNALDS.—Mr Richard Coplen-Langford, J.P, of Kilsosgriff, Co. Limerick, has in his possession a painting, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, of Gertrude, daughter of John St Leger, of Doneraile, and Lady Mary Chichester, daughter of the Earl of Donegal and sister to Arthur, first Viscount Doneraile, married to William Langford, of Kilsosgriff Castle, 1703. This gentleman was a Commissioner for raising the supplies then demanded for the public service in Ireland, 1695 and 1698.

MILITARY FUNERAL.—The remains of Private Watson, of the Manchester Regiment, were interred with full military honors at the King's Island Cemetery on Thursday. Deceased was unable to leave the garrison with his regiment, and had been in hospital up to the time of his death. The band of the Royal Irish played the funeral march. On the coffin was a beautiful wreath sent on behalf of deceased's company by Colour-Sergeant Banks.

SHIPPING.—A four masted barque, the "Eudora," of Dundee, 1,938 tons register, with a cargo of 3,000 tons of wheat for Messrs J Bannatyne and Sons, has arrived from San Francisco, and is now at anchor at Beigh Castle. The "Craigerne," of Greenock, a four masted barque of 1,732 tons register, with 2,700 tons of grain from the same port, is also at anchor at Beigh Castle. These are the two largest vessels that have come into this port for a considerable time.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.—First Sunday after the Epiphany—Morning Prayer, 11.30—Venite, Godson, in C; Chants, Crotch, in G; Service, Te Deum and Jubilate, Garrett, in F; Hymn, No. 563; Communion Service, Garrett, in F; Offertory Sentences, Barnby. Even Prayer, 3.30—Chants, Mosley, in F, and Turle, in D; Service, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Cooke, in G; Anthem, "Lord, how are they increased?" Ps. iii., Sir J Stevenson; Hymn after Sermon, No. 495. Weekday Services at 11 a.m and 3 p.m daily; Litany on Wednesday and Friday.

OUR TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Owing to the fact that telegraphic communication for Press messages with England and Dublin has been completely interrupted by last night's storm, we have received none of our ordinary telegrams this evening. The occurrence being almost unprecedented, we think it right to give this explanation to our readers.

Those who attended the Theatre Royal night could not but feel that they were not because not for a very considerable time concert party so eminently talented as our local boards. The audience, it was to see, was very numerous, every part of the house, including the dress circle, being well filled. There was only one regrettable in connection with the event, and that was the indisposition of Mr Manners, who, consequently, was unable to appear. This circumstance necessitated a material change in the programme, but the substitution of the garden scene in *Philemon and Baucis*, due to the absence of Mr Manners, was highly acceptable, a representation of that ever fresh and original piece was without fault. The first part of the programme consisted of a grand ballad which was opened with a violette selection from Irish airs by Miss Gordon, whose performance created the most favorable impression, and the artist was very warmly encored, and responded. The lady also sang a piece entitled "Mazourka," by Zarzyki, and was again obliged to reappear. The baritone Wm Dever, who possesses a voice of excellent quality, sang "Bid me to D'Auvergne Barnard" in most perfect style, and his encore song was likewise appreciated by Miss Lily Moody, the contralto, whose rich, sonorous, and flexible, sang "The Song of Life," (F H Cowen) in the most acceptable fashion. It is hardly necessary to say that the encore was demanded, and gracefully answered by Mr John Child, who in an splendid manner sang "Sound the alarm" (Haudel) with a most successful effect, and his encore song was rendered in an equally effective manner. However, we may be to make a distinction among such all-round excellence, it must be the chief feature of the occasion was the performance of Madame Fanny Moody. This most talented artist brought the audience completely under her spell. Her vocalism was simply charming, and her rendering of a song by Maseheroi "Songs we used to sing," seemed to transport the audience into ecstasies of delight. She was accompanied by the beautiful soprano to the utmost advantage, while her expression is artistic. Madame Moody sang for an encore a ballad ending with the words "My own, my blue boy," which was admirably suited to the occasion, and this lady was lucky in escaping having to again respond, but the audience was so considerate. In the garden scene which was produced in costume, the performers were the *dramatis personae*:—Madame Fanny Moody; "Nurse and Miss Lily Moody; "Faust," Mr John Child; "Mephistopheles," Mr Wm Dever before in Limerick, or probably elsewhere the piece been produced with greater success. Mr Child's singing and acting were highly appreciated, and could be wished for. Madame Moody, appearing as "Margherita," and her introduction of the celebrated "Jewel Song" was a most successful performance. Miss Lily Moody and Mr Dever were also highly appreciated. Mr Alfred Pratt conducted in a most capable manner.

MR F. E. BENSON'S VISIT TO LI

As already announced, Mr F E Benson, of the Shakespearean Company, commences his engagement at the Theatre Royal on next. A most interesting and attractive programme has been arranged for the week. *Hamlet* will be the opening performance, which is followed by *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Much Ado about Nothing*. It is impossible