

along with the physical ease and litheness of movement, which give genuine artistry to the actor and actress. She devoted herself with the utmost earnestness to the instructions of Signor Sapio, and with such results that he considered her sufficiently trained to make her first public appearance in Dublin in the following month.

It was in the Rotunda on May 3rd, 1839, when her tutor, as was his custom, took his annual concert. Nervous as nearly all debutantes are on their first appearance, she did not display her vocal powers to the fullest in her first selections, but the enthusiastic reception accorded her reassured her, and her subsequent solos evoked responses that dissipated any fears as to her future. She gave, as one of the Dublin papers observed:—"Promise of attaining a virtuosity which the most gifted of artistes might well envy."

MEETS M. ABBE LISZT.

Early in 1841 she was introduced to the celebrated pianist, the Abbe Liszt, who complimented her on the brilliancy of her voice and style, and was so pleased with her performance that he wrote to the daughter-in-law of her patron:—"I do not know of any voice more expressive than that of Miss Hayes. I doubt if amongst the singers of the day there is one equal in extent and volume to what her's will be."

Her application to her studies was unremitting. During 1841 she was one of the leading sopranos at the Anacreonitei, the Philharmonic and other classic concerts in Dublin.

formance gaining for her the title, "The Pearl of the Theatre."

Henceforth ovations were hers wherever she appeared. Her reputation grew in all the Italian and Austrian cities she appeared, and at Covent Gardens and Buckingham Palace, where she was invited to sing, the popular verdict was confirmed. Just a hundred years ago her star was in the ascendant. In November, 1849, she returned to Ireland, and in Dublin, Limerick, Cork, Belfast, and other cities she repeated the successes won on the Continent. So, too, was it when she went to America in September, 1851. The New Yorkers were vociferous in their reception.

"SHOUT OF WELCOME"

One of their journals stated: "Her appearance was hailed by a shout of welcome, that reverberated like thunder through the theatre and made the windows fairly tremble. Shout after shout, mingled with a universal clapping of hands, lasting for nearly a minute, and after it died away it was caught up by the thousands outside who hoped to gain a glimpse or hear a few notes of 'The Swan of Erin.'"

One who heard her superb soprano often wrote—"Miss Hayes is a lady of great personal attraction and gentle, unassuming manners; her voice is of singular purity and flexibility; and when one considers her great enthusiasm in the study of her art and her wonderful industry in improving the organ with which she is so gifted, we must confess that brilliant and great as her numerous triumphs have been, they are all well deserved."

DIED GOING TO WORK

Mr. William Russell, of Ballyduff Ballylanders, residing in England, died suddenly when going to work on Saturday, the 22nd inst. (writes our Ballylanders correspondent). His wife and family received the news by wire and it was a great shock to the bereaved family as Mr. Russell was expected home on holidays next month. The deceased was of a comparatively young age. He was brother-in-law of Mr. Con Kiely of Ballylanders, who captained the first Limerick football team in the junior football championship of many years ago.

APPOINTED COMMERCIAL TEACHER

Miss Aherne, B.A., B.Comm., of Waterford, has been appointed to the position of commercial teacher in Hospital Technical School (writes our Hospital correspondent). Miss Aherne has qualified from Dublin University and up to now has been teaching in secondary schools. This, we understand, is her first appointment as technical instructress, and every good wish is extended to her in this new sphere of activities.

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