LETTER FROM LONDON.

Weekly Correspondence of the Register

LONDON, Eng., Feb. 9th, 1894. The talk of the week has, of course, boon the rumoured resignation of Mr. Gladstone. The papers — Conserva-

tive, Liberal Unionist and Liberalhave written columns upon it, all trying, each mits peculiar way, to account for so sudden and unexpected an announcement. The Guardian seems to have hit upon nearly the best explanation of the mystery. Mr. Glad-stone lives in public life for one object. His singular purpose is the granting of Home Rule to Ireland. He has told the world that he cares for little else; he thinks of little else. But he is climbing the ladder of his 85th year; and if he is to live to accomplish his one desire, he must not delay. On this theory the Guardian writes: "The rumour of resignation is merely the echo, more or less exact, of an intention which Mr. Gladstone has allowed to become known in order to bring over his colleagues to the necessity of speedily taking down Home Rule from the shelf on which some among them would so gladly leave it. In that case the Bill would not again be sent up to the Lords. The opposition it would encounter in the Commons would soon give Mr. Gladstone an excuse for ap pealing to the country. The issues presented to the electors would in effect be this. If you want me to stay in office you must pay my price, and the price is the return of a majority strong enough to keep me in office for the express purpose of settling the Irish question. It would be a bold venture, but if it succeeded it would ensure

Mr. Sexton addressed a crowded meeting at Belfast last evening. His speech was full of eloquent prophecy and encouragement. He declared that the Irish party must include in their policy, the support of Government measures whether those measures dealt with British interests or with Irish affairs. As to the Home Rule Bill, it had survived the committee stage in practically the same form as when it was introduced, and he ventured to prophecy that when the general election came the Government majority in support of Home Rule would be 100 instead of 40. There were more improbable thing than that the Tory party would bring in a brand new scheme of Home Rule; but of this he could assure them, that the next Home Rule Bill would be more drastic, more Radical, and more conclusive than that which bad been thrown out by the House of Lords.

the passing of the Home Rule Bill,

and that is more than can be said of

any alternative policy.'

The Irish members are perfectly satisfied that the Government intend to introduce the Evicted Tenants Bill at such a time as will enable them to send it up to the House of Lords, shortly after Whitsuntide. Mr. John Redmond has not been consulted on the matter, but the outlines of the measure have been submitted to Mr. Justin McCarthy and his co-leaders, and they have expressed their approval of the thorough character of the proposals of the Government. The Bill proceeds mainly on the line of the recommendations of the Mathew Commission.

The manifesto issued by Mr. John Redmond tells its own tale. The party exchequer is empty, and unless there should be an altogether unexpected turn in the fortunes of the Parnellite party. Parnellismas a distinct political force will disappear at the next election. The heavy costs involved in the Meath election petitions are hinted at in appeal as one cause of their financial straits, but that item is nothing compared with the amount which has been sunk in carrying on the Daily Independent. There are rumours that the paper will stop shortly, but even when this drain on their resources is ! removed the party will not for a time be able to carry on any aggressive movement as there are heavy liabilities still to be discharged. The mission of Mr. Wm. Redmond to the Antipodes has also been a failure.

Vaillant has at last been guillotined. Such precautions had been taken by the authorities that no attempt at disturbance could possibly have succeeded. As a matter of fact all passed off in good order. Regarded as a grim and ghastly show, an execution in the Place de la Roquette is hardly a success. The presence of the cavalry prevents the crowds from seeing very much and the Parisians who have been spending their morning in the neighbourhood for the past week have had no satisfaction for the most part save that of being present when the act was accomplished, which they were unable to observe. If any Anarchists were there ready for riot they must have been over-awed by the police, who actually so held the square that no body could have left it had disorder occurred. The execution was thus happily accomplished without any further loss of life. It is singular to reflect that the death sentences could not have been passed upon him in this country. He injured many, but he killed nobody and his offence was consequently one for which he could not have been hanged. Englishmen are beginning to question them-selves whether for such a crime against society it would not be proper to inflict capital punishment.

Such weather! Mist this morning. Fog this evening. Rain all day. No joy in life for such as have to move about. One must not grumble, however. There has been no such mild a season for years as we have enjoyed this winter, and if the thermometer did shew fifteen degrees of frost once the trouble did not continue.

Book Notice.

Our thanks are hereby returned to Benziger Bros. of New York for a very interesting and deeply instructive manual of Pastoral Theology entitled "The Priest in the Pulpit." though only the first of a series it is complete in itself and may be used independently of the others which are intended to treat on the Liturgy and the special duties of Pastors. The fact that it is of German origin, being an adaptation from P. Schuech's Handbook of Pastoral Theology with special reference to the decrees of the Council of Baltimore, is a sufficient guarantee of its solid matter and the complete treatises of various subjects. One important point dwelt upon at length, and with advantage, is the second part treating upon Catechetical Instruction. Perhaps the most difficult of all subjects is to teach Catechism-not as it is taught in many of our Separate Schools, but as it should be taught, and as it is taught by zealous pastors who strive to prepare their young people to render a reason of the hope that is in them. For the sake of the second book which is devoted to the Catechetical work the volume is well worth the price, \$1 50, and should be studied by all who have charge of catechism classes.

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