

LETTER FROM LONDON.

Weekly Correspondence of the Register.

LONDON, Eng., April 6th, 1894.

Two rival London evening papers have been competing during the past few days for the honour of precedence in the sensation market. The *St. James's Gazette* came out with the portentous announcement of an impending Dissolution; while the *Pull Mall*, not to be behind, determined to spring upon its readers a thrilling surprise, though one this time unconnected with politics. The former enterprising journal was unable to supply the public with any special reasons for supposing that a general election is going to be hurried on. It would have shown a little more editorial caution had it waited for the last of the bye elections. The result of what is termed the general election in miniature has clearly demonstrated that the Government of Lord Rosebery is as firmly seated in the good opinions of the country as its predecessor. The Parnellite members are threatening diversions, it is true; but their tendency to become restive has not developed in so sudden a fashion as to be anything in the nature of a surprise. Mr. Labouchere's candid friendship, it is also true, is being carried to a degree of irritating annoyance that could hardly be expected even from him. But he sits solitary in his cave, and such a position is too cheerless and uninviting to be long indulged in.

The *Pull Mall Gazette's* sensation, as I have said, was one of another type. It has discovered Scott *alias* Sweeney, the man who was outlawed by the Scotch Court for not appearing with Monson in the Ardlamont case. Scott or Sweeney became tired of being "civilly dead," and was willing to take his chances by surrendering. The P.M.G. men drove him down to Scotland Yard, and invited the police to take him into custody, but the latter washed their hands of all responsibility in the matter, and at last accounts the man who had been so much wanted a short time ago was once more walking the streets of London with all the privileges of a free citizen.

Death has closed the career of the remarkable individual who was known to the world as Major Henri Le Caron. Few tears will be shed, even by those who professed to be his bosom friends, at so inglorious a termination of a life that had in it many elements of better things. With the exception of Piggot, Le Caron was the most vile yet dramatic figure brought to light by the Special Commission which inquired into the now notorious Forgeries of the *Times*, but unlike Piggot, he went with unsurpassed audacity and coolness through the ordeal of a searching cross-examination respecting his romantic story, and emerged from it unshaken in any detail of his narrative. Few men have displayed more courage than he exhibited, whether in the relation of his experiences or in the eventful life he led. His real name was Thomas Beach, and he was born in Colchester in 1841. At the outbreak of the American Civil War he was in Paris. Prompted by a love of adventure, he crossed the Atlantic and enlisted in the Northern Army as Le Caron, a name by which he afterwards continued to be known. At the close of the war, when he had attained to the rank of Major, he was brought into contact with the Fenian movement, and learnt something of its designs against Canada. These he mentioned in letters to his father, and his father having shown the letters to the member for Colchester, the information was conveyed to the Government. The result was that Le Caron was requested to supply further information, and forthwith adopted the mission of a Government spy. He rose to high rank in the Fenian Brotherhood, and later joined the

organization known as the V. C., or Irish United Brotherhood. For a quarter of a century he continued to be a trusted member of these organizations, while during the whole of that time he maintained a correspondence with English Governments, whom he kept informed of the work and intentions of his fellow-members. Throughout that period he carried his life in his hand, but he bore himself unflinchingly; and it was not until he appeared in the witness-box before the Parnell Commission that his associates knew how they had been duped. In no country and at no period of history has the spy been held in regard; still Le Caron, by the success with which he fulfilled his vocation, and the courage he displayed, manifested qualities which, in any other walk of life, would have commanded esteem. His death means the return of his annuity to the *Times*, and while some will be the poorer by his decease the journal will get the reversion of £1,000 per annum, which was the amount allowed him for his services to the executive at Printing House Square.

One of the most frequent visitors in the lobby of the House of Commons is Mrs. Byles, the wife of the member for the Shipley Division of Yorkshire. During the coercionist regime she was much to the front in Ireland, and was present at many a stirring eviction scene. As a result of the warm interest she took in Ireland in those stormy times she is held in high esteem by the Irish members. The other night for nearly an hour she held an impromptu levee in the Lobby; and it was curious to note that after a five minutes conversation with Mr. Tim Healy the place of the latter was taken by Mr. John Dillon, who came to pay his respects to one who had done so much for the Irish cause on English platforms. The best service Mrs. Byles could now render for home Rule would be to effect a reconciliation between Mr. Dillon and Mr. Healy.

The world of literature seems to day to be interested solely in Mrs. Humphrey Ward's new novel, entitled "Marcella," since every newspaper devotes much space to reviewing the latest venture of the authoress of "Robert Elsmere" and "David Grieve." Though I have not read the work myself, in the opinion of most critics it is good, and likely to prove more generally attractive than her last, which—while full of subtle argument—was not so well received as "Robert Elsmere." Apart from the advanced views she holds, Mrs. Ward is no doubt a brilliant writer. Her characters show an acquaintance with the social problems of the day such as few possess, or can depict. Her descriptive scenes are works of art, and her knowledge of humanity marks her out as a woman of keen perception.

Hamilton.

The parish of St. Lawrence, the youngest of the city, has made great progress recently. The energetic pastor, Rev. Father Brady, is to be congratulated on his success at forming the first young peoples' Sodality in this city last Sunday. The interesting ceremony of installing the members was conducted by his Lordship Bishop Dowling, who gave the young people good and profitable advice.

The choir of St. Mary's Cathedral, under the directorship of Mr. J. D. O'Brien, assisted by a selected orchestra and Mr. George Fox, solo violinist, gave a grand sacred concert last Wednesday evening, April 13th, at which Kalliwoda's Mass in A was performed for the first time here.

It is expected that the new West end church, St. Joseph's, will be opened the first Sunday in June.

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The seventh centenary of the birth of St. Anthony of Padua will be celebrated on Aug. 15, 1895. Preparations are being made at Padua for fetes in honor of the great Franciscan saint. The basilica is to be restored prior to that date.

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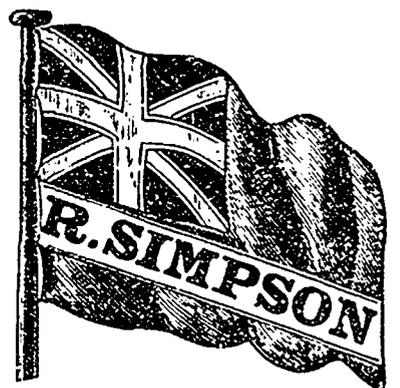
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BUILDING SALE.

IN some respects more care must be given to footwear in spring and summer than in the winter season. We are to be a little more particular about looks of footwear when weather is fine. All possible attention is given style, fit and perfection of workmanship in the footwear sold by this house. And we suppose that you save easily from 50 cents to \$1 a pair in buying boots and shoes here. A few specimen prices:

Men's Tan Goat Oxfords, worth \$1.75; sale price, \$1.25.
Men's Cord. Bals and Congress, worth \$1.50, sale price, \$1.
Men's Cord., Hand-sewed, Walkingfast Bals., worth \$2.50; sale price, \$2.
Ladies' American Kid Button Boots, patent tip, worth \$1.75; sale price, \$1.25.
Ladies' Dongola Kid, Hand-turned, Patent Tip Oxfords, worth \$1.75; sale price, \$1.25.
Ladies' Tan Calf Oxfords, hand-sewed, worth \$1.25; sale price, \$1.
Misses' Dongola Strap Slippers, sizes 11 to 2, worth 90c, reduced to 75c.
Misses' Dongola Oxfords, patent tip, sizes 11 to 2, worth 90c; sale price, 75c.
Girls' American Kid Button Boots, spring heel, worth \$1; sale price, 65c.

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