

ANOTHER LETTER.

THE following letter, which also appeared in the FREEMAN may, perhaps, be considered not undeserving of a place in this collection :—

To the Editor of the Freeman.

Dixeris egregie notum si callida verbum
Reddiderit junctura novum, si forte necesse est
Judiciis monstrare recentibus abdita rerum.

SIR :—Like all the great men and the "Johns of all trades" with whom this enlightened Province is now swarming, I too, donned in Achillean armour, and furthermore secured as to my extremities in the manly buskin of the invulnerable anonymous, will, with your permission, rush for a moment "where Angels fear to tread." In the Freeman of Thursday I perceived that a Mr. Smith Reid, having quaffed copious draughts of classicity from the Heliconian fountains of up river, was shocked at Bishop Connolly's allusion to the "two-faced Cerberus." For my own part, though I have been taking an occasional peep at classical authors since my boyhood, I cannot for the life of me see any incongruity in the expression.

If Cerberus had three, or three hundred heads, or only one head as represented by the several classical writers with whom I am acquainted, the term "two-faced Cerberus" was, under the circumstances, not only appropriate, but, in my opinion, most happy.

The Bishop wished to represent Judge Wilmot in the two-fold capacity of a brawling Methodist Parson and a Judge of the land. If he called him a "two-faced man,"—though, Mr. Editor, as you well know, honest men have but one face,—it would not be more accurate, and not one-millioneth part so *trenchant* as "two-faced Cerberus," which told with such tremendous effect. School-boys up river, in their superior enlightenment, may think that the "real Cerberus" had three heads, but with my imperfect recollection of the classics, I could not put my finger on a single line in Ovid, Virgil, Horace, Juvenal, Perseus, &c., &c., where he is so represented.

There are numerous passages where he is described with three mouths, three tongues, &c.; but as to the number of his heads, ancient authors are as discordant as Judge Wilmot and Mr. Smith Reid himself would be, if questioned on the doctrines of the Bible.