

THE 'CHARLESTON HERALD' AND BISHOPS CROKE AND MORAN.

SOME time ago, on the occasion of Sir George Bowen's departure from Auckland, Bishop Croke wrote a letter to His Excellency, explaining his reasons for not joining in the public demonstration of his fellow Colonists.

This letter, it appears, has given great offence to the learned editor of the 'Charleston Herald,' who declares the following passage as "utterly wanting in truth":—

"I need not tell Sir George Bowen what Orangemen are. Coming, as he does, from the North of Ireland, he must know that they are sworn enemies of the recognised head of the Catholic Church; that one of their chartered toasts in reference to him is too vile to be recorded here; that, generally speaking, they hate with a Satanic hatred everything most cherished by the Christian community which I, however unworthily, represent; and that their chief aim at home and abroad, seems to be to foster and foment social discord, and to array one section of the people in deadly hostility against another."

Let us examine these words which the very well informed editor of the 'Charleston Herald,' &c., pronounces to be "utterly wanting in truth." First, Bishop Croke states that Orangemen, for it is to such he refers, are the sworn enemies of the recognised head of the Catholic Church. Is this statement utterly wanting in truth? We appeal to the written rules of the Society. These will answer—the Bishop's statement is true to the letter. Secondly, The Bishop states that one of their chartered toasts, in reference to him, is too vile to be recorded here. Is this statement utterly devoid of truth? If so, then the toast in question is not too vile to be recorded in a letter to His Excellency. The toast is, "To Hell with the Pope;" and the public will form their own estimate of a writer of the hardihood of the editor who presides over the 'Charleston Herald,' &c. Lastly, Bishop Croke says that, "Generally speaking, they hate with a Satanic hatred, everything most cherished by the Christian community which I, however unworthily, represent; and that their chief aim at home and abroad seems to be to foster and foment social discord, and to array one section of the people in deadly hostility against another." Is this passage utterly wanting in truth? Now, what is to be thought of the recklessness of the man who, in defiance of the written rules of the Orange Society, and almost in presence of the riots and bloodshed that have recently taken place in Ireland, particularly in Belfast, has the courage to say that Bishop Croke's statements are utterly wanting in truth.

But the editor of the 'Charleston Herald,' &c., is not content with grievously insulting one Bishop; he must needs run a tilt with a second—Bishop Moran, who has done nothing to provoke any honest man's anger. Bishop Moran, it appears, when visiting the West Coast lately, felt it his duty to warn his people, in their own churches,

against secret societies, and the Freemason Society amongst others. It appears the Bishop told his people that this society was condemned by their Church, and that its members and abettors were excommunicated. The Bishop also explained the reasons of this condemnation. But, for doing this—his duty—the Editor of the 'Charleston Herald,' &c., attacks him in no measured terms. Well, then, has it come to this—that the lovers of liberty! will not permit a Catholic Bishop to explain the laws of his Church to his own people in their own places of worship, without misrepresenting him and endeavoring to excite public odium and indignation against him?!

A SPECIMEN OF PROFANITY AND IGNORANCE.

(From "Stray Notes," in the 'Otago Daily Times,' of 29th April.)

"Here is a nice question for Ritualists. The Church declares that Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the full moon, which happens upon or next after the 21st day of March. Now, though Sunday, April the 13th, met all the conditions in London and Rome, inasmuch as it was full moon at 9.51, or thereabouts, of the 12th April, yet here, in our antipodal parts, it was not full moon until 2.30 on Sunday morning, and consequently the true Easter fell on Sunday, the 20th. Much blood and more ink has been spilt about settling the true Easter, so we do not like to see so important a matter passed by without notice. As we are treating of "works and days," we would suggest that Jews should always come out *vid* California or round the Horn if they are wicked Jews. This would make their Sabbath fall on the same day as that on which the Christians hold it and save much time now lost to business. We consider this as valuable a hint as has ever been given by a non-professional to those who wish, like the commercial Christians of Great Britain, to make "the best of both worlds." We greatly sympathise with the unfortunates whom a culpable ignorance of astronomy on the part of their spiritual pastors has let in to feast upon a most solemn fast day, mistaking it for a feast of remarkable joviality, and still worse to fast at a time when abstinence from food can have had no especial soul-saving merit. The Church of old, which waged the Paschal controversy, did well to declare, on infallible authority, that there could be no antipedes, and that the man who said there were deserved the greater excommunication. It is horribly puzzling this about Easter, and we shall not easily forgive ourselves for eating our cross-buns on Palm Friday, if that is the name. Let Bishops Moran and Nevill account for this."

How does it appear that the true Easter fell on the 20th April? Again, when and where did the Church of old declare, on infallible authority, that there could be no antipedes, and that a man who said there were deserved the greater excommunication?

Mr Buckland, M.H.R., has purchased 14,000 acres at Taupo and leased 33,000 acres adjoining. A Napier firm is also negotiating for the purchase of 14,000 acres in the same district.

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