

the cross was also frequently chiselled upon the tombs."

Alluding in another part of his work, (page 46,) to the graveyard crosses, the same writer observes :

"Our pious ancestors generally erected in the churchyard a stone cross, probably both to serve as a significant memorial of the faith and hope of the departed, and to designate that the ground was consecrated."

Let us give one more extract on this subject from another writer of the same class—"Among the first Christians the instrument of God's suffering and man's redemption, the Cross, was made the chief emblem of their faith, the chief mark of their community, their standard and their watchword. It was carefully imprinted alike on the habitations of the living and the receptacle of the dead. It was frequently composed of foliage or ornamented with gems."—*Hope's History of Architecture*.

We will then fervently reiterate the hope that the unchristian cry against the use of the Cross will no longer be heard amongst us; and perhaps the sounder notions now beginning to prevail on this point, may induce many of our dear though separated brethren to look back with more consideration and respect on other pious usages of their and our forefathers; to examine with more scrupulous care the 'grounds of the old doctrine,' to revoke the unjust judgment that has been so flippant-

ly passed on what are termed the 'dark ages,' to contemplate the enduring memorials of their faith and piety which they have bequeathed us, and which with all our boasted enlightenment and zeal we have never yet equalled. If this be done with a sincere spirit of enquiry, an humble diffidence in themselves, and an entire reliance on the direction of the Holy Ghost, they will assuredly discover that the Catholic religion is very different indeed from what it has been represented, and that in other respects as well as in the use and proper veneration of the Cross they will learn to admire and love the Faith of their Fathers—that Faith which taught even the Christian warrior not to blush at the symbol of atonement, and by inscribing it on his arms, mitigated, by this memorial of mercy, the dreadful horrors of war :

"——— A bloody cross he bore,
The dear remembrance of his dying Lord,
For whose sweet sake that glorious badge he wore,
And dead, as living, ever him ador'd,
Upon his shield the like was also scor'd."

Might we not conclude our observations on the Cross and the train of ideas which they have produced by quoting again from Wordsworth an affecting appeal, which if listened to would produce the most blessed results of Christian union and love amongst us.

"Oh! gather whencesoe'er ye safely may
The help which slackening piety requires,
Nor deem that he perforce must go astray
Who treads upon the footmarks of his sires."

But we must bring these hurried remarks to a close. Sunday the 17th of