

THE CROSS.

God forbid that I shou'ld glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; by whom the world is Crucified to me, and I to the world.—St. Paul, Gal. vi. 14.

VOL. 1. HALIFAX, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1843. No. 31.

Weekly Calendar.

- October 1. Sunday XVII after Pent. Solemnity of the Rosary.
2. Monday. Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels.
3. Tuesday. S. Francis Caracciolo Conf. (from June 1.)
4. Wednesday. S. Francis of Assisium
5. Thursday S. Galla, Widow.
6. Friday. S. Bruno, Conf.
7. Saturday. S. Mark, Pope & Conf.

Instructions on the Choice of a State of Life.*

At your present age you should think of choosing a state of life; and there is nothing more necessary for you to know than the importance of this choice, and the rules by which you should be guided in making it. You have asked me for some instruction on this point, and I willingly comply with a request, that is so reasonable, and so worthy of your piety and wisdom.

I. Be deeply impressed with this great maxim, that there is nothing on which salvation depends more than on the choice of a state of life, because it is certain, that nearly all the sins of men proceed from the

engagement of their state. How many reprobates does God behold in hell, who would now be saints, if they had embraced, for instance, the religious state! and how many saints are there in heaven, who would be eternally damned, if they had lived in the world! This is what is called the secret of predestination, which principally turns on the choice of a state of life. Strive then to comprehend this truth deeply, that you may be well directed in an affair of so much importance. For what would become of you if you should deceive yourself and select a state different from that to which God has called you, and to which he has annexed the graces of your salvation?

II. The most essential matter in choosing a state of life is, never to enter it without a vocation, that is, without having been called by God. For it does not belong to you to dispose of yourself as you please, or select a state according to your own fancy. Belonging to God, as we do, it is for him to speak to us according to the views and designs of his Providence; and if, to the prejudice of so holy an obligation, we rashly engage ourselves in a state to which he has not called us, he

* These instructions were written for a young lady.