

THE CROSS.

God forbid that I should 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.

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Weekly Calendar.

- October 22, Sunday XX after Pentecost
23, Monday, Feast of Jesus, our most holy Redeemer
24, Tuesday, S Raphael, Archangel
25, Wednesday, S Boniface I., P. & C.
26, Thursday, S Evaristus, Pope & Mart.
27, Friday, Impression of the Sacred Stigmata of St Francis
28, Saturday, SS Simon & Jude, Apostles

Sketch of an English Catholic Bishop in the Olden Time.

From Willis's English Cathedrals.

Thomas Beckington, one of the Canons, was elected Bishop of Bath and Wells in 1443. Of the manner in which this exemplary Bishop employed great part of his time, and the vast revenues of his See, he has left splendid evidence, and so long as one stone of his Cathedral remains, so long must his memory, his taste and his liberality, be held in veneration. It has been happily conjectured that he imbibed his love for, and perhaps skill in, architecture, from his first patron William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, from whom Bishop Waynflete is known to have acquired his knowledge of that science. Beckington's munificence was scarcely inferior to that of either of those celebrated personages. He repaired and

beautified all the Episcopal houses in his Diocess. He also erected a considerable part of the cloisters of the Cathedral of Wells, and built and endowed a Chantry Chapel on the southern side of the choir; the whole of the College of the Vicars choral was rebuilt at his expense by his executors. His attention was not confined to the mere appendages of his Cathedral. Amongst other benefactions to the City of Wells, he built "the new work," a row of houses on the northern side of the market place, and two large gate houses on the eastern end; he also granted permission to the inhabitants of the city to have a conduit near the cross, to be supplied by pipes from St. Andrews well, within the precincts of the palace, 'It is in Well's,' says Sir Harris Nicolas, in his life of this Bishop, 'that the lover of the arts, and the admirer of the zeal and disinterestedness of the prelates of the middle ages will be most impressed with respect for Bishop Beckington; but whilst viewing the effects of his munificence, will be able to refrain from asking himself, why it is that the most opulent successors of those great men have so rarely imitated them?—Will his respect for the established order of things* be sufficient to repress the reflection, that with nearly the same revenues, the modern clergy seldom indeed beautify or repair Cathedrals,

* The writer is a member of the Church of England.