

THE CROSS.



NEW

SERMONS.

VOL. 3.

No. 32.

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.

HALIFAX, AUGUST 7, 1847.

CALENDAR.

- August 8—Sunday—XI after Pentecost, II of August Com. of all the Holy Roman Pontiffs.
 9—Monday—St. Emygidius, B. M.
 10—Tuesday—St. Lawrence, M.
 11—Wednesday—St. Sixtus II. P. M.
 12—Thursday—St. Clare, Virgin.
 13—Friday—Octave Day of the Transfiguration.
 14—Saturday—St. Hormisdas, P. C.

DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Tuesday last will be a memorable day in the annals of the Dutch Village. Such an assemblage was never witnessed before in that romantic and secluded spot. We are fortunately saved from the necessity of describing the scenery, the ceremonies and the proceedings of the day, as they were all beheld by thousands of our fellow citizens. Well indeed; may the Catholics of Halifax be proud of such a spectacle. We never had the good fortune to see so much innocent and hearty recreation, mingled with so much deep religious feeling, and fervent zeal for the glory of the House of God. The Dedication of the rural temple was performed according to the Roman rite by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Walsh, assisted by the Vicar-General and the Rev. Messrs. Doyle, Phelan, McLeod, Melsaac, and Daly. Several acolythes, from St. Mary's also walked in the procession, attired in their handsome costume. Nothing could exceed the impressive solemnity and beauty of the scene, as the Bishop and clergy went round the walls of the sacred edifice, chanting the Psalms, &c., appropriate to the occasion. The echoes of those holy strains were heard along the surrounding hills, and as they died away through the valley of the North West Arm, they gratefully saluted the ears of the countless numbers who were hastening from all parts to the festive scene. High Mass was sung by the Very Rev. Mr. Connolly, at which the whole multitude assisted in devout recollection. The peo-

ple then scattered in all directions to enjoy the beautiful scenery, and precisely at one o'clock, they were again summoned by the sound of trumpet, to the newly dedicated House of God, to listen to the sermon which was preached by the Bishop. His Lordship took his text from the second Book of Paralipomenon vi. 18. "Is it credible then that God should dwell with men on earth? If heaven, and the heavens of heavens do not contain Thee, how much less this house which I have built!" The Sermon lasted a little more than an hour after which an offering was made, which as we are informed, amounted to nearly One Hundred Pounds.

The religious exercises of the day being over, the Church Grounds, which with the late purchase by Dr. Walsh, amount to nearly twenty acres, were filled in every direction by numerous happy groups who discussed with evident enjoyment the good things that had been prepared for them. Several members of the late Band of St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Temperance Society, played during the day and gave an additional zest to the festivities. There were other musicians also on the grounds. At an early hour in the evening a vast number of the people walked in procession to town; headed by the Band. They drew up opposite the Bishop's residence at St. Mary's, and gave several hearty cheers. The Clergy and Bishop acknowledged the compliment from the balcony, and at the request of the people, his Lordship addressed them for a short time in terms of congratulation on the religious and happy day which they had spent, as well as on the strict order and decorum which were observed throughout the entire proceedings. Having received his blessing, with an exhortation to return to their homes in the same peaceful order, the multitude quietly separated.

Thus terminated one of the happiest days which we have ever witnessed. It was in every sense of the word a truly Catholic Festival,—a day of gladness, and recreation as well as of religious fervour,—a day which proved that cheerfulness and innocent relaxation are by no means incompatible with true religion. There was nothing morose, nor stern in the celebra-