

THE CROSS



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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. 11.

HALIFAX, MAY 30, 1856.

CALENDAR.

MAY 31—Sunday—Pentecost.

JUNE 1—Monday—Whit Monday.

2—Tuesday—Whit Tuesday.

3—Wednesday—Ember Wednesday in Whitsuntide.—
(Fast Day.)

4—Thursday—Whit Thursday.

5—Friday—Ember Friday. (Fast Day.)

6—Saturday—Ember Saturday. (Fast Day.)

CONFIRMATION AT ST. MARY'S.

On Sunday last the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered in the Cathedral. After High Mass, at which the Bishop assisted pontifically, a sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Nugent, of St. Mary's College, on the nature and efficacy of the solemn rite by which the Holy Ghost is received. One hundred and four adults were then signed and sealed with the Spirit of Promise. Amongst them were several converts, some of whom had been but lately received into the bosom of the true Church. There were also two people of colour confirmed. A numerous congregation remained to witness this interesting rite, which was rendered still more edifying by the pious demeanour of those happy members of the Church, who were thus made strong and perfect christians. May He, who has begun in them the good work, confirm and establish it until the day of the coming of Christ Jesus, and may it be our proudest boast

to witness often such spectacles of devotion and faith within the hallowed walls of St. Mary's. At Vespers the Vicar-General delivered a Discourse on the Ascension of our Lord.

THE IRISH COERCION BILL.

We have seen a private letter from a patriotic Irish Member, dated London, April 29, an extract from which will give an idea of the determined opposition with which Sir Robert Peel will be met on this unfortunate measure :

"We are hard at work here, fighting the Coercion Bill. We are to divide on the *First* reading, next Friday, after five weeks' debate. The next stage shall take, at least, five weeks more—that is, on the motion to read it a second time. After that, comes "Committee," with a fortnight's debate on each clause—the stage of "bringing up the Report." Ditto "*Third Reading*," and ditto that "*this Bill do pass*,"—each stage requiring *weeks*. So how Peel can get the Bill *through*, together with minding his other business, it is for him to say!"

We copy the following Horse Guard Circular from one of the Irish papers, and, in doing so, we must confess that it is the first time in our lives we have heard of a distribution of Catholic Bibles in the English Army. We should like to see one of the Douay Bibles referred to, as from past experi-