

twenty Catholic families in that County. Mr Mogan a resident Catholic writes to assure the Editors that there are, at least, one hundred and seventy Catholic families in the County.—“If this be correct,” say the Times, “of course our statement is erroneous—we however doubt its correctness with our present information. The increase must have been recent, and very large, to bring the Roman Catholics up to this figure in Lunenburg, and of itself would imply an extraordinary motive.” This is certainly a very curious mode of backing out from an unfounded statement. At the time this bold assertion was so confidently made by the “Times,” we could have given it a flat and authoritative contradiction. But we were unwilling to notice even incidentally the very unprovoked and exceedingly foolish Anti-Catholic onslaught which has been recently made by the “Times.” We have no relish for the bitterness of religious controversy, because we believe that in a community like this, or indeed in any community, it can tend to no possible good. The Province has been distracted enough by other unhappy differences, and we wish it too well, to desire their increase. At the same time, we do not fear the most rigid investigation of our doctrines. The eternal truths of our religion are as immutable as its Divine Founder. After a conflict of nearly two thousand years with the powers of darkness, and the ever changing absurdities of error, the Catholic Church is this day more glorious more numerous, and more diffused, than at any period since the fishermen of Galilee were sent to evangelise the world. This is a great and astounding fact which all the sophistry of her opponents can never disprove.

“Any how,” adds the “Times,” “it behoves the Lutherans, Presbyterians, Baptists, and Episcopalians of Lunenburg County, to look around them, to keep their eyes open, and to be watchful of the progress of events.”

A Holy alliance of “the Lutherans, Presbyterians, Baptists, and Episcopalians of Lunenburg” preached up against “twenty Catholic families,” is certainly one of the most amusing Crusades we have ever heard of. We all know what a blessed and cordial agreement in doctrine, subsists between the four denominations above-mentioned. But it was ever thus with the Church of Christ and her enemies. The living Ark of Truth she has been simultaneously assailed by all the advocates of error. No matter how fiercely they may oppose each other, they are sure to unite against the Catholic Church. Each of them in succession, gives unwavering testimony to some of her venerable dogmas, which are denied by the rest, and yet all combine against her. So did Herod and Pilate forget their ancient enmities, when there was question of persecuting her Immaculate Spouse.

We can adopt, in the very best humour, the advice of the “Times.” Nay, we would earnestly entreat the “Lutherans, Presbyterians, Baptists, and Episcopalians of Lunenburg” to “look around them” at home and abroad and to observe the astonishing success of this calumniated Catholic Church; the number of wise, learned, and holy men who are every day joining her communion; the great disinterestedness and trying sacrifices of her illustrious converts; the vitality and vigour which animates her body from Rome the Head, to the extremities of the earth; the majesty with which she pursues her onward course despite the opposition of her Foes, and the scandals of her ungrateful children. Yes, let them look at the centre of Catholic unity, at the Eternal City, and if they “keep their eyes

properly open” they will behold in Everlasting Rome a perpetual miracle, a living proof of the truth of Christ’s promise to his Church. After all the revolutions which have convulsed the world for nineteen centuries, they will see the 250th successor of Peter the Fisherman, seated on the throne of the Cæsars, eye, on the very throne of that Nero by whom Peter was crucified, and ruling from thence over two hundred and fifty millions of souls, from every tribe, and tongue, and people. And, if they be “watchful of the progress of events” we promise them they will behold the still further extension of this mighty Spiritual Kingdom, and still more convincing proofs of the impotence and folly of its opponents both from within and without. For “this is the One Church, the true Church, the Catholic Church, contending against all heresies. She may fight but she cannot be overcome. All heresies have gone out from her, like useless branches lopped off from the vine. But she remains in her vine, in her root, in her charity. The gates of Hell shall not prevail against her.”—(St. Augustine.)

THE CROSS.

Our Journal is entering on the fifth year of its existence, and we hope we shall be pardoned for saying that its career has been one of usefulness. True to the principles on which it was established, it has carefully avoided, as far as was possible, the discussion of all topics of an irritating nature. In defending the doctrines of our calumniated creed, we have inflicted no intentional wound on the religious feelings of those who may conscientiously differ from us. We have published, as far as our space allowed, the leading Catholic news of the day, as well as every thing else which we thought would interest, edify or instruct the Catholics of Nova Scotia. To know that the Cross has cheered many a Catholic heart, that it has brought religious comfort to the door of many a Cottage, that it has revived dormant faith and renewed expiring energies amongst our own Communion, whilst it has attracted the serious attention of many of our separated Brethren, and induced them to examine with cool impartiality the real doctrines of Catholics; to know, as we do, that The Cross has been an humble but powerful instrument in the hands of Providence in paving the way for a return to the true faith of many and many a fervent Convert, who was once estranged from us, and who is now reckoned amongst the most devoted and affectionate children of our Church; to know all this, is not only a most abundant reward for the labours of the past, but also a powerful stimulus to exertion for the future. Whilst therefore, we sincerely thank our valued friends and supporters in this, and the neighbouring Provinces, we beg to solicit a con-