

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.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1843.

No. 24.

Weekly Calendar.

- August 13—Sunday X. after Pentecost, Octave of Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ
14—Monday, S. Hormisdas, Pope and Confessor
15—Tuesday, Assumption of the B.V.M. Day of particular devotion
16—Wednesday, S. Roch, Confessor
17—Thursday, Octave of Saint Laurence
18—Friday, S. Hyacinth, Confessor
19—Saturday, S. Anslem, Bishop, Conf. and Doctor. (From April 21)

From the Annals of the Propagation of the Faith.

Missions of Tong-King and Cochin China.

Extracts of a letter from the Fathers Retord, Jeantet, Charrier, and Gauthier, Missionaries-Apostolic to the two Committees of the Institution.

December, 1838.

GENTLEMEN,

In order to understand the following narration, it is necessary to recollect, that, religiously speaking, the kingdom of Annam is divided into three Vicariates-Apostolic,

namely, that of eastern Tong-King, entrusted to the Spanish Dominicans, that of western Tong-King, where we now are, and that of Cochin-China, whose Missionaries, like us, are dependent on the Seminary of Foreign Missions. Such are the three great ecclesiastical divisions of this kingdom, the three theatres of the events we are about to relate.

Rumours of the most alarming nature were in circulation with respect to measures which Minh-Menh intended to adopt towards his Christian subjects; however, as he did not put his murderous projects into immediate execution, we flattered ourselves, silly as we were, with the hope of being allowed to enjoy a few moments' peace. We fancied that the tiger, satiated with carnage, would rest himself in his den, before he would immolate fresh victims to his fury: but, if he slept, it was only for a short time, to awaken more terrible than before. 'Flog without mercy,' said he in his circular to the Mandarins, 'torture, put to death, all those who refuse to trample upon the cross! Let them know, that their refusal to do so places them in a state of rebellion; exterminate them without any form of trial,