

THE CROSS.



NEW

SERIES.

VOL. I.

No. 2.

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, JANUARY 18, 1845.

CALENDAR.

JANUARY 19.—Septuagesima Sunday—Vespers of the following day.
 ... 20.—Monday—Sts. Fabian and Sebastian, Martyrs.
 ... 21.—Tuesday—Prayer of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
 ... 22.—Wednesday—Sts. Vincentus and Anastasius, Martyrs.
 ... 23.—Thursday—Espousals of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
 ... 24.—Friday—St. Timothy, Bishop and Martyr.
 ... 25.—Saturday—Conversion of St. Paul.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

A meeting of the committee and collectors of this Society was held, pursuant to notice, in St. Mary's Vestry, on Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock. The meeting was a very crowded one; and never have we seen more fervent anxiety for the progress of the great cause than was manifested by the devout and laborious christians who assembled upon the occasion. A little after seven o'clock the chair was taken by

THE REV. MR. O'BRIEN.

The Chairman congratulated the Ladies and Gentlemen, who had assembled in such numbers, upon the unabated zeal which distinguished the Halifax branch of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith, in the advancement of this great agent of Christian truth. Among the many modes by which the circle of christian charity was extended, and the merit of efficient operation augmented, there were few more important than the Society of which they formed a part. The blessed Saviour of mankind had descended from the bosom of the Father to bestow the boon of redemption upon fallen man, "gratuitously have we been saved;" for this he was born; for this he

laboured; for this he died. But how many countless thousands, millions, in various parts of the Earth, whom the glad tidings have never reached? How many are there to whom the "great light" had not yet been made visible; who still "sat in darkness, and in the shadow of death?" To them a saviour may be said, in some sense, not to have been born; for them, the calling and justification and glorification of the New Testament had been blessings unheaped for, because unknown. How beautifully conformable to his will, then, who "wishes all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth;" who "wills not the death of a sinner;" and "who would leave the ninety-nine sheep in the mountain to follow the one strayed one," that we assemble thus betimes, by prayer and by alms-deeds to become "Messengers—proclaiming good things, proclaiming peace." Such exhibitions as the present one were indices of the internal operation of the grace of God; marks of his eternal predilection, which insured his blessing and proclaimed his love. We became savours to our race, by applying the saving redemption of Jesus to those who should otherwise have been destitute of the blessing; we increased the household of Faith, by the introduction of those who should otherwise be aliens and strangers; and we become Apostles in the work of the ministry, by sending forth to the unknown lands of Paganism and Heresy the stout soldiers of the Cross, who like Paul and Barnabas seem segregated for the awakening of the Gentiles. It was not wonderful that in a work so humanising, so fraternising, so charitable, so God-