

THE CROSS.



NEW

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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, MARCH 23, 1866.

CALENDAR.

- MARCH 29 Sunday—Passion Sunday.
 30—Monday—In Passion Week.
 31—Tuesday—In Passion Week.
- APRIL 1—Wednesday—In Passion Week.
 2—Thursday—St Francis of Paula, Confessor.
 3—Friday—Seven Dolours of B. V. M.
 4—Saturday—St Isidore, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor.

ST. JOHN'S, N. B.

THE BISHOP'S BILL.

This vexed question has been set at rest for the present. The Bill, after having been mangled by the Collective Wisdom of the Province, has been passed by a triumphant majority of ONE, and now awaits the Royal assent, which we sincerely hope her Majesty will refuse. In the very sensible and temperate speech made by Mr. End on the subject in the House of Assembly, that gentleman stated that he held in his hand 17 petitions, in favour of this Bill, which bore the names of upwards of Seven Thousand persons. These petitions set forth the difficulties under which the Roman Catholics laboured, and as a remedy prayed for 'an Act of Incorporation for their Bishop, in the very same terms as had been already obtained by their Catholic brethren in Canada.'

He added that there were *Two Petitions against* the measure 'apparently signed by 110 persons'—that those 2 petitions were signed by the self-same persons, and should therefore be regarded

only as one; whilst there were thousands of names, including *all the Roman Catholic Clergy, and every Roman Catholic Magistrate in the Province*, on the petitions in favour of the Bill. We presume that the miserable minority of 110 who thus exhibited their indecent opposition to their Bishop, Clergy, and fellow-Catholics in the Diocese of New Brunswick, consider they have obtained a triumph. We wish the creatures joy of it, and we think they ought to get up a Public Dianer to commemorate the event. Perhaps they might subscribe to erect an obelisk or some public monument on which the names of the 110 could be appropriately engraved on a brass tablet. A small church of their own, would, peradventure, be still more suitable. Mr. Partelow would no doubt perform the ceremony of laying the first stone, and the building once completed, they could elect a Lay Bishop and Priests themselves, and have the services conducted, and the expenditure regulated in any way they choose. This is a bright idea, and we recommend it to their earnest consideration. Some of them believe, we are sure, that they could administer the Diocese better than the good Bishop himself. Hitherto Leonidas and his 300 Spartans stood alone and unrivalled in ancient or modern history. But, their day is gone by. Thermopylæ is beaten hollow by St. John's, and all the military glory of the Spartan Leader is eclipsed by the brighter blaze of Mr.