

day,—the fanatical rule of Cromwell. After having laboured with success, in the cause of their christian brethren and fellow-Catholics, the searching persecution of the "Lord Protector" overtook them at last, and they were driven from the country. But the religion which they taught remained. Beyond the power of persecution, by which it may be attacked indeed, but can never be destroyed, it received, every day, new development, and cast its roots deeper and deeper into the soil. If to this time, Ireland continues firmly attached to the Catholic faith, her children owe the boon, in great measure, to the considerate zeal of Vincent de Paul, who sent his pious brethren to console them, when writhing under the lash of Cromwellian oppression; and who sustained those charitable men, by words of comfort in their trials, and by the exercise of his influence through the political power of his country.

In Scotland, they had to contend, as regarded religion, against a new order of things, whilst they were exposed to the fury of "the Lord Protector's" jealous rule. So well, however, were they received, and so powerful was their preaching, that many were reunited to the "one fold," (Jn. 10, Eph. 4.) and in vast districts, which were blessed with the zealous labours of the children of St. Vincent, the Catholic faith is still the faith of the people. Several families of the highest rank were gained to the Catholic cause.\* The representative of the ancient Island Kings, who still owned extensive possessions, resumed his place in the Church which had been the source of so many blessings to his ancestors. The Captain† of Clauranald who was the Lord

\* The son of Glengarry†, (such was the designation of this important and powerful personage) had embraced the Catholic religion shortly before the arrival of the missionaries. In the correspondence of the Rev. Father Duignin, Glengarry himself is mentioned as an aged man of ninety, who had followed the new doctrines from his youth. Father Duignin and his companion instructed him, and reconciled him to the Church, during a sickness which soon brought him to the grave; but not until he had received the sacraments and manifested unspeakable joy at dying a Catholic. Father Duignin also received into the Church several of Glengarry's domestics and some of his friends. The protection of this family is spoken of in Father Duignin's correspondence as having been highly advantageous to him. They were beyond the reach of Cromwell's wrath, and at the restoration of the monarchy, they were loaded with favors.

† "God, through his all powerful mercy has effected wonders beyond all expectation; for he disposed the hearts so well, that Clauranald, Lord of a good part of the Island of Uist, was converted together with his wife, his son and all their family; and, the example has been followed by all the gentlemen, their vassals and families. (Father Duignin's Letters to St. Vincent de Paul.)

The island of Uist here alluded to, contains a population of ten thousand souls. About the half of it, I believe, belonged to McDonald of Clauranald. All the people of this portion of the Island accepted the Catholic faith, with the exception of two men, who, "in order to sin more at their ease, wanted no religion."

Many other islands were visited—Canna, Eig, Skia, or Sckye, an island about seventy-five miles in length, &c. The Island of Barra, the territory of the McNiel, afforded great conso-

† MacDonell of Glengarry.