

are offered him for their eternal rest, and appeased by their suffrages will translate them into the bosom of Abraham. "Thus saith the Lord: In an acceptable time I have heard thee, and I have preserved thee, that thou mightest say to them that are bound: Come forth; and to them that are in darkness: Be enlightened." (Isaias xlix. 8, 9.)

Who then can refuse to perform this truly charitable office? Who will not remember that he has lost a dear parent, an affectionate brother, a kind sister, a devoted wife, a sincere friend to whom perhaps the assistance of his prayers may be every day necessary? What Christian heart can resist the piteous appeal that continually ascends from that dreary "prison from which no one will be released until he has paid the last farthing?" Who can forget that it may be one day his own lot to endure that terrible purgation of which the apostle speaks (1 Cor. iii. 13, 15.)—"The fire shall try every man's work, of what sort it is. If any man's work burn, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire." Shall Christians neglect that sacred duty of praying for the dead, which was always observed by the Jews of old, and which is faithfully practised by their descendants to the present day? "The most valiant Judas Maccabeus, making a gathering, sent twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the sins of the dead, thinking well and religiously concerning the resurrection. It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins" (2 Maccal. xii. 42, 43, 46.)

We shall return to this subject. We must conclude for the present by congratulating the Catholics of Halifax on the spiritual progress that is every day making amongst us. More than 200 persons have already joined the Purgatorian Society, although but a few days in existence. We are convinced that before Christmas there will be a vast increase of numbers in this pious Association. The Rules of the Society were read by the Bishop on last Sunday and its object stated, and we are assured that

the appeal then made to the living in behalf of the dead, has not been made in vain. Eternal rest grant to them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine unto them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

On Monday Evening, 6th inst., the Monthly Meeting of the Committee and Collectors of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith was held in the Vestry, the Bishop in the Chair.—The sum of £16 was received during the month and the most gratifying reports were made of the progress of the good work.

On Tuesday last, the Anniversary of the late Hon. James Tobin was celebrated at St. Mary's His Lordship Dr. Walsh offered up the High Mass, and performed the Absolution at the Catafalque for the repose of the soul of this excellent citizen, and much regretted member of the Catholic Community of Halifax. May he rest in peace!

Notwithstanding the severe snow storm on Wednesday Evening, an unusually large Meeting of the St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Temperance Society was held in the New School Room at 7 o'clock. Dr. Walsh was in the Chair, and was assisted by L. O'C. Doyle, Esq., the President of the Society. His Lordship read and explained the Rules which had been drawn up in a Committee appointed with him for that purpose. After having been discussed seriously they were adopted amidst the unanimous applause of the meeting. The various officers of the Society were then appointed until December 1844. Several persons addressed the Chair in support of the good cause, and the greatest enthusiasm was shown to promote the objects of the Society. The Bishop clearly explained the terms upon which the Pledge would be administered, and the precise extent of any obligation connected with it. This will secure an uniformity of opinion, remove all doubt, and prevent all the misinterpretations of an erroneous or scrupulous conscience. May God speed the good work!