

THE CROSS.



NEW

SERIES.

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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. 14.

HALIFAX, JUNE 12, 1847.

TRUTH IS POWERFUL, AND IT WILL PREVAIL. REMARKABLE CONVERTS TO CATHOLICITY.

At a time when so many foul calumnies are published both at home and abroad, against the religion of all our forefathers it may be useful to present in one view the imposing array of celebrated converts from Protestantism who have recently renounced in England all the absurdities of the mis-called Reformation, and embraced the saving doctrines of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church of which Pius IX., is the visible Head on earth.

In this List we behold men of learning and piety—of high attainments and distinguished rank, who in many instances have renounced all things to follow Christ; men, whose sacrifices are so great that the purity of their motives cannot be suspected—scholars and divines, who were well acquainted with all the objections against the Catholic Church, and who have nevertheless embraced the calumniated creed. If "Popery" be such as it is described by ignorant scribblers here, the conversion of such men as the following must indeed be a miracle in the moral order, for which we can find no satisfactory explanation.

In the Catholic Registry for the present year, the List of converts is introduced in these words:—

"We have long wished to be enabled to present our readers with a complete catalogue of the recent conversions to the Catholic Church. We do not mean, of course the multitudes who have conformed from the lower class of the community. They are, however, very considerable, as may be proved by the rapid multiplication of edifices dedicated to the Catholic Church in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, and in the west of Scotland.

But the great importance of the present Rome-ward movement is the extraordinary fact that it began in the highest ranks, amongst the most distinguished Ministers of the Anglican Church, and many of the first families of the land. In the years 1811 and 1812, there were only three or four notable converts. In 1813, the increase was considerable—in 1814, it was still greater—but in 1845-6, the number and the importance of the converts have surpassed the most sanguine calculations.

We have obtained the following list from a quarter in which we have the most thorough confidence, and, we believe that the reader will find it punctually correct:—

*Persons of note who have lately embraced the Catholic Faith.
Ministers of the Established Church.*

A. D. 1811 and 1842.

A. D. Wackerbath, B. A. Received into the Church at Grace Dieu Manor, Dec. 2, 1811.

Bernard Smith, M. A., Rector of Leadman, Lincolnshire, and late Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford. Received at Oscott, Dec. 15, 1842.

A. D. 1813.

George Talbot, M. A., Vicar of Evercreech and Chesterblade Somersetsire. Received at Oscott, June 10.

Daniel Parsons, M. A. Received at Prior Park, July 31.

Charles Seager, M. A., formerly scholar of Worcester College, Oxford. Author of several works, and Assistant Hebrew Lecturer. Received at Oscott, Oct. 12. (married.)

A. D. 1814.

Thomas Burton, M.A., Curate to Trinity Church, Brompton. Received at St. Edmund's College, July 13.

William Goodenough Penny, M. A., student of Christ Church, Oxford. Perpetual Curate of Dorton and Ashendon, Bucks. Received at Oxford, Oct. 12.

A. D. 1845.

John Campbell Smith, M. A. Received at Oscott, March 27 (married).

John Moore Capes, M. A., Incumbent of St. John Baptist's Church, Bridgewater. Received at Oscott, June 27. (married).

George Montgomery, B. A., Curate of Castleknock, county Dublin. Received at Oscott, June 27.

William George Ward, M. A., Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. Author of the "Ideal of a Christian Church," and other controversial Tracts, &c., &c. Received in London, Sept. 3.

Brook, Charles Bridges, B. A., Deacon. Received in London, Sept. 25.

Ambrose St. John, M. A., Christ Church College, Oxford, late Curate of Walmer, Kent. Received at Prior Park, October 2.

John H. Newman, B. D., Fellow, and formerly tutor of Oriel College, Oxford. Late Vicar of St. Mary the Virgin's at Littlemore. Author of "The Church of the Fathers," "The