

THE CROSS.



NEW

SIXPENCE.

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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, NOVEMBER 27, 1847.

CALENDAR.

- NOVEMBER 28—Sunday—First of Advent.
29—Monday—S. Gelasius I P. C. Doub Sup.
30—Tuesday—S. Andrew Apostle Doub Hcl.
DECEMBER 1—Wednesday—S. Didacus C. Semid in Brev 12 Novem.
2—Thursday—S. Bibiana Virg M. Semid.
3—Friday—S. Francis Xavier C. Doub.
4—Saturday—S. Peter Chrysologus B. C. and Doct Doub.

COPY OF A LETTER ADDRESSED BY THE REV. MR. NUGENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCILS FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH OF LYONS AND PARIS.

St. George's, Bermuda, 10th June, 1847.

GENTLEMEN—

Having had the happiness last year to accompany the Rt. Rev. Dr. Walsh, Bishop of Halifax, in the General Visitation of our extensive Diocese, I beheld so many things worthy of notice that I thought that I should render a service to Religion as well as to the Catholics of Nova Scotia, by sending you a brief account of them. Before, however, I could realize my intention, such was the desolate condition of the poor Catholics here, that his Lordship was obliged to send me from Halifax to Bermuda. I have at this moment a short respite from my missionary labors, and I gladly take up my pen to give you some account of the state of our Holy Religion in Nova Scotia, as it fell under my own observation, in a tour of nearly seven hundred miles.—Though it is probable you will have heard before now, some account from the Bishop himself of the many consoing circumstances connected with this Visitation, still it occurs to me that my narrative may not be totally devoid of interest. Moreover I am of opinion that to pass them over in silence, would be an injustice to that noble Society over which you preside, and whose exertions in the cause of Religion are so deeply felt and so gratefully appreciated in Nova Scotia.

In the early part of July 1816 the Bishop of the Diocese of Halifax, Rt. Rev. Dr. Walsh, accompanied by your humble servant, left Halifax on a Visitation of the Diocese. It had been the Bishop's wish to be enabled to accomplish a general visitation long before; but the peculiar circumstances in which he was placed, the long journey he was compelled to make to Rome in order to settle those disputes which had unfortunately agitated this Diocese, and the delay consequent upon their final adjustment, prevented the realization of a desire long and ardently entertained. You must be aware that the topics in dispute had been agitated for years before the appointment of Dr. Walsh, and although, of course, they involved nothing of a doctrinal nature, they were productive of much bitterness of feeling, and retarded the advancement of that holy cause which every sincere Catholic has so much at heart.

At length however, the time came when the Bishop felt himself at liberty to carry that cherished wish into effect. Tranquility had been restored to the Diocese, and the development of its religious resources was the next great object to which he devoted his best energies, his most earnest attention.

We set out on our journey at an early hour in the morning of the 7th of July from Halifax on our way to Windsor. The day was intensely hot. Our baggage was rather heavy and unwieldy, for in addition to the Episcopal vestments, ornaments and other matters which we had brought for the Bishop's use, we had also brought a variety of things for distribution among the Faithful as we went along, besides vestments, pictures, chalices, ciboriums, and everything in fact connected with the service of the Altar, to be left in the different churches that needed them, and indeed, I believe there was scarcely one Church that could not be ranked in that catalogue. At all events the flanks of our horses bore evidence to the heat of the day and the weight of our baggage. To give the animals some relief we stopped at a little village hotel for a few hours, and having partaken of a slight refreshment, we set out again towards evening, intending to remain at a sort of Hotel, thirty miles distant from Halifax, so as that we might reach Windsor fifteen miles distant, at an early hour in the morning. It was now perfectly dark. The