

THE CROSS.



NEW

SERMONS.

VOL. 2.

No. 31.

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, AUGUST 1, 1846.

CALENDAR.

- Aug. 2—Sunday—IX. after Pentecost. St Stephen 1, Pope and Confessor.
- 3—Monday—Finding of the Body of St. Stephen.
- 4—Tuesday—St Dominick, Conf.
- 5—Wednesday—Dedication of B. V. M.
- 6—Thursday—Transfiguration of our Lord.
- 7—Friday—St Cajetan, Conf.
- 8—Saturday—SS. Cyriacus, Largus and Smaragdus, Martyrs.

THE HOUSE OF GOD.

From the days of eternity, O Lord! hast thou filled all space. Thy House was commensurate with thine own boundless being. On the morning of creation, while the Heavens, and the Heavens of Heavens could not contain thee, yet didst thou make the earth thy footstool, and these Heavens thy throne; While universe in its mighty-magnitude was but an atom in your immensity, while the region of thought itself was lost in thy limitless domain, yet didst thou condescend to make a lowly dwelling place upon the earth, and to rear thy tabernacle among men. How unsearchable are thy ways, O Lord? Who shall measure thy goodness or tell thy mysterious mercies? I saw, said John, a holy city coming down out of Heaven, from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. That city is the House of the Lord: it is the dwelling place of Jesus, who descended out

of Heaven from his Father. The Church is the bride, and Jesus the husband that has espoused her in everlasting wedlock. And they, with whom he dwells, shall be his people, and He shall be their God. He shall wipe away the tears from their eyes, and give to him that thirsteth a fountain of the water of life, that he may be satiated. While the earth, and everything thereupon, were his, yet in his unspeakable mercies did he select a spot which should be peculiarly his own. Under the ancient dispensation that spot was reserved for a privileged few. It was as a sealed fountain, and as a garden walled in, to which the nations of the earth had no approach. But the hour came when it was neither in the ark, nor in the temple; when it was neither at Bethel, nor upon Gerizim, that God has made his dwelling place. No! broad as the expanse of Heaven, unfettered as the genius of his new religion, his Bethels, and his temples, were to overspread the land. By far a more ample, and a more perfect tabernacle than the former was to be raised on every hill, and in every valley. This mysterious empire of Jesus upon the earth, started with himself from a lowly cradle. Neither the glitter of arms, nor blood, nor the title of regal ancestry gave rise to it. A stable saw it bud into existence. It was nurtured in the dungeon as in the sunlight. Life—like it was found to grow on every soil,—as the seed is first to die before it can spring again to life,