

THE CROSS.

"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.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1843.

No. 4.

WEEKLY CALENDAR.

- March 26. Sunday IV. of Lent, called *Lestare*.
27. Monday, 4th week in Lent.
28. Tuesday, S. Sixtus III. Pope and Cont.
29. Wednesday, 4th week.
30. Thursday, 4th week.
31. Friday, Feast of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.
April 1. Saturday, 4th week.

Lent.

FOURTH SUNDAY, CALLED MID-LENT SUNDAY, AND SUNDAY OF THE ROSE.

‘Rejoice, Jerusalem, and meet together all you who love her.’

‘Rejoice exceedingly you who have been in sorrow, that you may leap for joy, and be satiated with comfort from her breasts.’ *Isaias lvi.* (Introit, or commencement of the Mass for the 4th Sunday of Lent.)

Mid-Lent has nearly arrived—one half of the Penitential Fast is over—the sinner is animated to new combats in the holy struggle for heaven—the enemy of our souls has been forced to resign many an unhappy victim whom he held in cruel bondage—the angels of God have rejoiced over the conversion of many a poor sinner,—and to his peaceful and happy fold the Good Shepherd has brought home with rejoicing many a weary and wandering sheep!

And is not all this a cause of rejoicing to the Church our Mother? But can she indulge in joy in the midst of

penance and mourning? Can she call upon her children to rejoice whilst they are engaged in a fearful struggle with sin, death and hell? Oh yes! She knows she is the spouse of Him who even “when he is angry will be mindful of mercy,” of Him who “came to call not the just, but sinners.” She knows too how prone fallen man is to evil even from his youth. She fully understands the nature of the deadly warfare in which he is engaged. She knows how many sacrifices he has to make, how many enemies to combat, how many habits to renounce, how many passions to subdue, how many allurements to despise, and how many dangerous occasions to avoid. She has learned from the Apostle that her beloved children have to struggle not only against flesh and blood, but against the Prince of Darkness, the Rulers of this darksome pilgrimage, the spiritual things of wickedness in the high places; and she well knows what grace, and strength, and courage and perseverance are necessary for them in order to win that blessed kingdom which suffers violence, and which none but the violent will bear away.

With heavenly wisdom therefore she sometimes mingles a portion of spirit-