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# CROSS.

"God forbid that I should clery, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; by whom the world is Credified to me, and I to theworld. - St. Paul. Gal. i. 11.

HALIFAX, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1843. Vol. 1. No. 43.

# Weekly Calendar.

Dec. 24 Sunday IV of Advent, Vigil of Nativity, Vesp. et following testival.

At Vesp. com, of following festival,

26 Tuesday, S Siephen, Past Marty :

Wednesday, S John, Apostle and 27 Evangelist.

25 Thursday, The Holy Innocents, Mar-

29 Friday, S Thomas, of Canterbury, B and Mart.

Saturday of the Octave of Nativity.

# DISCOURSE ON THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD.

\*\* B Told I bring you good tedings of great 309 that shall be to all the people, for this dry is born to you a Suriour, who is Christ the Lind, in the Usty of David."-St. Luke n. 10, 11.

If there ever was a time, O Christian when your faith should be colivened, your hope excited, or your love inflamed; when all the acts of humility, patity; gratitude, and praise, which Picte elicited from the time you breath, should be united in sidimon adoration of your God, it is the present solemnity of and of humiliation.

Ter your Faith be strengthened, for **he object** of it has descended upon the carth.

Let your hope be enlivened; for the "Desire of the Eternal Hills" has verified the predictions of his Prophets, made to his servants.

Let your love know bounds, for a God has become man; heaven and earth are united together-the angels 25 Monday, NATIVITY OF OUR LORD are astonished—a daughter of guilty Jesus Christ, Ho'rly of Obligation, Eve is at the same time a mother and a virgin, and all this for your interest and happiness!

> Let your humility be unexampled; for he that was rich, has, for your sake, become poor; the God of God-the Light of Light—the Splendour of Heaven—the Omnipotent—Immense—E-Iternal Jesus, has for you concealed all the resplendent rays of his glory under the vilest rags, within the confined compass of a crib, in the midst of a desolate stable!

> Let your purity shine forth with the lustre of a polished mirror, untarnished by a single breath; for your illustrious Mother now receives the full recompense of her angelic innocence; though ennobled by the dignity of Heaven's Queen, and enraptured by the joys of the Mother of a God, she still breathes an unspotted Lily of the Valley-all the undying fragrance of Virgin bloom.

> Let your gratitude be immeasurable; for your redeeming Jesus, amid the loneliness and misery of Bethlehem, comes smiling to earth to expiate your crimes, and the inestimable price of your atonement already flows through his infant veins.

Let your praise and thanksgiving, for and fulfilled the promises which he so singular a mercy, be uninterrupted and ardent : for Heaven has dispatched

a choir of its brightest princes to con- of the meanest habitations of a vile and gratulate the earth on the rich present has received.

In fine, let your eyes swim in tearslet your hands be clasped in ecstatic fervour-let your tongue be elequent in devotional gratitude, and your heart be dissolved and melt away in the furnace of pure love whilst I recount to you the most astonishing of all prodigies -one of the greatest mysteries of love, which infinite wisdom and migut could devise, or perform, in the sublimely simple narration of the Evangelist.

Attend with amazement, reverence and love, to the humble history of the birth of Jesus in the grot of Bethlehem :-

"And Joseph went up from Galilee out of the City of Nazareth, into Judea to the City of David, which is called you not banish discord and strife, and and family of David, to be enrolled with King and Prince of Peace has descend-Mary, his espoused wife, who was with, ed upon the earth to cultivate this achild. And it came to pass that when they were there, her days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped him up in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger : because there was no room for them in the inn."

Shall I presume to add a single word by way of comment, to this enrapturing Have we not here ample subject for reflection to an eternity?

Ove Angels and men!—saints and sinners—women and virgins—parents and children! enter the little cave ! come forward, and behold your King' your Brother, your Justifier, your Redeemer, your Honor, your Glory your Model, and your Reward!

misera le world.

But i need not call upon you. ready I hear your enchanting sounds through the stillness of the air; already I hear your joyful proclamation of "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to men of good will."

O, fallen man! will you not unite your voice of gratitude with the angelic choirs? Will you not ceho the heavenly strains? Oh, rejoice! Your music should, if possible, be sweeter than that of the Angels; their glorious King is about to leave them, and they proclaim to you his approach to earth. Will you not, then, respond to the joyful sum-Will you not with them sing mons? glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to your fellow-men? Bethlehem, because be was of the house restore harmony and peace; for the miable virtue? Now, indeed, are verified the words of the Psalmist: "Mercy and Truth have met together, Justice and Peace have kissed."

Approach ye just, and view the author of all sanctity-contemplate this kingly Babe as the Saint of Saints, the fountain and source of all holiness the perfect pattern of piety. This infant Jesus, whom you behold, comes to render your good works meritorious in the sight of his Father, to adorn your souls by the reflection of his virtoes, and through the infinite propitiation of the sufferings which he here commences in the crib, gives you a title to the name of Saints, and renders your access secure to the regions of the blessed.

Is it possible, O merciful Jesus, that O, ye Angels! blush not to attend ungrateful man, whose crimes have inyour King, at his descent from the duced thee to forsake the bosom of thy splendour of his celestial court, to one Father, should be allowed to approach

thee in this state of humiliation? the object of thy coming, no transgressor howsoever stained with crime, should be absent from the scene of merey and love.

Approach, then, with confidence, O sinner! for He has come to call, not the just, but sinners: He has come to seek and to save that which had perished; He has come to restore the lost sheep of the house of Israel; He has come to unlock the gates of mercy-and to shew his extraordinary love for sinners, He assumes that frail, corrupted nature, which He has come to repair, to honor and to purity.

Return, then, thou strayed sheepthou unhappy wanderer, to the arms of thy tender Shepherd, who comes to take thee on his shoulders to his peaceful and happy fold.

Return, thou prodigal child, with a tear of sorrow in thine eye, to the bosom of thy tender Father, who awaits thy arrival in anxious solicitude; return in haste, for he has prepared a fatted calf for thy entertainment. ner, I say, advance; enter the humble grot; behold there with amazement, gratitude, and confidence, your future from your troubled bosom, when you to conceive within your chaste minds contemplate the smiling Infant, who Jesus 'the mirror without stain,' that comes with a burning desire to wash! away your crimes in his blood; and let not their enormity by any means weaken your confidence, for He is all suffi cient. If you are polluted with sin, He is holy by excellence; if you are ambitious, He is humble; if you are rich ous mansions of heaven in his virgin in spirit, He is poor; if you are clothed in purple, He is covered with rags; if you are defiled by impurity, He is adorned with chastity; if you are disor-

Yes, Innocent Martyr of Penance for your O Loving Heart! when we consider sake, and the willing Victim of Mortification to atone for your many crimes.

Christian Matrons! behold your Mo-Contemplate Mary, the Mother of See her respect for her husband the virtuous Joseph, and her most pure love for Jesus, the fruit of her womb: she kisses, with maternal tenderness, the divine face of her new torn Son: she at the same time adores him as her God, and her heart beets in silent response to his love; though crowned with henour, and dignity, and glory she is not clated; she is meek, and silent, and reserved; she treasures up in her heart all the wenders she beholds.

O ve unspotted virgins! chosen por-

tion of the flock of Christ! enter and behold Jesus the King and Crown of purity. Behold Mary, his Immaculate Learn from this scene, how dear to him is a virgin life, and love it ior his sake. Here contemplate that virginal desh that knew no corruption, and that spotless creature, whose love for purity is rewarded by the diguity of Mother of Jesus; en ulat; her bright example that you may deserve to share in her reward; preserve the inestimable virtue of virginity with the utmost Repel the gloom of despair care, that you may be worthy, by faith, you may have His name and that of his Father written on your foreheads; that with white robes, the emblems of your purity, and palms in your hands, the

O ye parents! hehold Joseph and Mary, your models in the conjugat state: dered by intemperance. He comes the contemplate the hely loseph, the kind,

tokens of your triumph, you may sing a

new canticle to the Lamb, and be per-

mitted to attend him through the spaci-

walks.

affectionate, and charitable husband; native place of that monarch, where he see him bending over his reputed son tended flocks in his youth. in silent adoration and respectful love; thias, the Apostle, had the happiness to see with what earnestness he ministers be born in the city where the Messiah to Jesus and Mary, and how she obeys came into the world. him in all things. Learn to regulate your life by theirs, and to make your family a holy family, like that of Jesus, Saviour was laid; but Adrian overturn-Mary and Joseph.

His complacency and love; lo, He is become as a little child, like to one of you: in his greatness, He is worthy of admiration; in his littleness, He is wor. thy of love; look on His infant smiles -His angelic face-His lovely hands-His tender feet; see how in all things He submits to the guidance and care of His Virgin Mother—how He seems to have no will of His own, but to be perfectly regulated by her; and in all this littleness and humiliation and obedience recognise the Eternal Son of God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth. what lessons of obedience, and docility, and resignation to the will of your parents, will you not learn from your infant God, thus humbled for your example?

# DESCRIPTION OF BETHLEHEM.

TRANSLATED FROM CHATEAUBRIAND.

Bethlehem receives its name from Abraham, and signifies The House of Bread. It was called Ephrata, from the name of Caleb's wife, and to distinguish it from another Bethlehem in the wife of Zabulon. It belonged to the tribe of Judah, and also bore the

ed it to place there a statue of Adonis. O, all ye little children dear to Christ | Saint Helen destroyed this it'ol, and behold He invites you to approach Him: built a Church on the spot where it Suffer little children,' says he, 'to stood; the architecture of which is now come unto me, and forbid them not, for blended with the different parts added of such is the kingdom of God.' Do to it by Christian princes. Bethlehem, then approach Him, tender objects of conquered by the crusaders, was retaken, and fell with Jerusalem under the infidel yoke. It has always been an object of the greatest veneration to the Christian pilgrim. The holy religious devoting themselves to a perpetual martyrdom, carefully guarded it during seven centuries.

On the 5th October, 1806, I began my visit to the monuments of Bethlehem; and though they have been often described, the subject is in itself so interesting, that I cannot avoid entering into some details. The Convent of Bethlehem is joined to the Church, and enclosed in a court with high walls .-We crossed this court, and a small latticed door gave us admittance into the Church. This Church is of the highest antiquity, and though frequently destroyed, and as often rebuilt, still preserves traces of its Greek origin. Its form is that of a cross. The long nave or foot of the cross, is ornamented with forty-eight pillars of the Corinthian order, placed in four lines. The roof of this nave is wanted, and the pillars support nothing but a frieze of wood that replaces the architrave. work has been placed on the top of the wall, and raised en dome to bear a roof name of the City of David, being the that exists no more, and that never had

been finished. The walls are pierced marble. These decorations are aftiornamented with pictures in Mosaic, light from without, but is lighted by describe. This nave is seperated from This place is distinguished by a white the three other brancles of the Cross by a wall, and in such a manner that: the Church is not now united to it.— When you pass this wall, you find yourself opposite the sanctuary of the choir, which occupies the top of the cross.— This choir is raised three steps above the nave. We there saw an altar, dedicated to the Magi, and on the pavement at the foot of the altar, observed a star of Marble.

Tradition says that this star corresponds with the point in the heavens, where the miraculous star that conducted the three kings to this place, rested. Certain it is, that the spot where the Saviour was born in the subterraneous Church of the Manger, is perpendicuneous Church under the choir. This Child of Sorrow to the adoration of the is the place that has been ever revered three kings. Nothing can be more deas the birth-place of the Lord. Before lightful than this subterraneous Church. we entered, the superior put a wax It is enriched with pictures from the light into my hand, and made a short Italian and Spanish schools. exhortation.

it occupies the place of the stable and cense burns without ceasing before the manger. It is thirty seven feet and a cradle of the Saviour. I have seen the half iong, eleven feet wide, and nine inhabitants of this desert communicate feet high. It is cut in a rock, the wall at the altar of the Magi, with a fervour of which is encrusted with marble, and picty unknown to the Christians of

with great windows, that were formerly buted to St. Helen. It receives no and passages from Scripture in Greek thirty four lamps, the gifts of different and Latin, the traces of which still princes. At the eastern extremity of remain. The Christian sect of the Ar- this grotto, is the spot where the Virgin menians are in possession of the nave 1 gave birth to the Redeemer of man .marble flag, encrusted with jasper, and surrounded by a circle of silver, which is radiated in the form of a sun. These words are eugraved around it:

> Hic, de Vergine Maria, Jesus Christus Natus Est.

Here, of the Virgin Mary, Jesus Christ was born.

A marble table, that serves for an altar rests against the rock above the place where the Messiah was born. This altar is lighted by three lamps, the finest of which was given by Louis XIII. Seven steps from this spot, nearer the south, you find the manger, and descend to it by two steps, for it is not on a level with the rest of the grotto, but sunk larly under this marble star. The in the rock. A block of white marble, Greeks occupy the sanctuary of the Ma- raised a foot and a half above the soil, gi, so that the two other limbs of the and excavated in the form of a cradle, cross are waste, and without altars.— indicates the place where the Sovereign Two stair cases, of fifteen steps each, of Heaven was laid upon straw. At two open at the two sides of the exterior, paces opposite the cradle is the place Church, and descend to the subterra- where Mary sat when she presented the neral ornament of the manger is blue The holy grotto is irregular, because satin, embroidered with silver, and inand the pavement is also of precious the west. No place in the universe in-

spires more devotion. -the public prayers—the prostrations -the rich presents sent thither by Christian princes—al! excite in the soul what is better felt than described. Added to this, the extraordinary contrast in scenes the most striking. On going ! riches, the arts and the religion of a civilized people, you find yourself in a profound solitude, in the midst of the paltry houses of the Arabs, among halfnaked savages and Musselmen without This holy land dare no more display its gladness—the renembrance of its glary is confined in its bosom. We despended from the Grotto of the Nativity to a subterraneous Chapel. the Innocents. The Chapel of the Innocents leads to the grotto of St. Jerom. We ther saw the tomb of this doctor of the C urch, who passed the greater part of his life in this grotto. Paula and her daughter S. Eustochia, are also buried here. These noble ladies, of the family of Scipios, quitted the splendor of Rome to live and die at Bethlehem in the practice of mo astic virtues.

Ligiturned to the convent, and viewed the country from the top of a terrace. Bethlehem is built on a small hill that overlooks a long valley. This valley extends from East to West. to the South, is covered with olive trees higher Son? and to t e North, with fig trees. monastery owes part of its riches to Baidwin, king of Jerusalem. It was a **fortress, and its walls are so t i.k, that** it would easily sustain a siege against the Turks.

At six o'clock in the morning we departed from Bethlehem. We followed

The continual extends, as I have said, to the East, caravans from all the Christian nations and arrived at a grotto, called the Grotto of the Shepherds. In this place, the shepherds of Judea were apprised of the birth of the Saviour. The piety of the faithful has transformed it into a Chapel. It must have formerly been greatly ornamented, as I remarked there out of the grotte, where you have found two pillars of the Corinthian, and two others of the Ionic order.

#### CHRISTMAS EVE.

"Yet a little while and a very little while, and he that is to come will come, and will not delay."

"To morrow you shall go out, and the Lordwill be with you."

" Be prepared to meet your God?"

O Goo! who cheerest our hearts by the yearly expectation of the feast of our Redemption, grant that as we joyfully receive thy only where tradition places the Sepulchre of Degotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, when he comes to redeem us, we arry niso behold hum without fear, when he shall come to be our judge; who with thee liveth, &c.

#### CHRISTMAS DAY.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

"And the word was in ide flish, and dwelt among us."

"While the night was in the midst of her course, thy Alanghty Wood, O Lord! Lapt dow from thy royal throne."

"He is God, our God unto eternity: he shall rule us for ever more."

"And of his kingdom there shall be no end."

"This day is born to you a Saviour." "The Lord your God is in the midst of you

to celiver you?" God so loved the world as to give his only-

"The Son of man is come to seek and to sive that which was lost."

Through the bowels of the mercy of our God, the Orient, from on high bath visited us: to enlighten them that sir in darkness, and in the shadow of death: to direct our feet into the way of peace.

"Bory of His Father before all ages," Christ was, in the fulness of time, " born of the Virgin Mary," and he is daily born spiritually in the at first the valley of Bethl.hem, that beart of the just. These three births of the

Son of God are celebrated by the three masses, | upholds all things with the word of his power which every Priest is allowed to say on Christmas Day. The temporal both of Christ, when the Blessed Virgin "brought forth her first born Son, wrapped him up in swadding clothes and hid him in a manger," is celebroted at the first or midnight Mass; the second Mass may be considered as the celebration of his spiritual birth in the heart of the just; and the third Mass, as the celebration of his eternal birth in the bosom of his Father.

#### COLLECTS.

### At the Midnight Mass.

O God! who didstenlighten this most sacred night by the brightness of the true light, grant, we beseech thee, that having known upon earth the mysteries of thy incarnate Word, we may partake his joy in Heaven: who liveth, &c.

#### At the Second Mass.

We pray thee, O Almighty God! who surroundest us, on this day, with the new light of thy incarnate Word, grant that whilst it enlightens our minds by faith, it may shine forth ; in our actions: through the same Jesus Christ, &c.

#### At the Third Mass.

Grant, we beseech thee, O Almighty God! that the new birth in the flesh of thy only begotten Son, may free us from the yoke of sin, stretched on the ground. which we have home for so long a time. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, &c.

#### HYMN.

## Jam desinant suspiria.

Er the sighs of mankind cease: God has heard them from above; the heavens are open; -behold! the peace promised to mortals is granted.

The angelic choir breaks in amon the stillness of the night, and with festive song announces to the earth the birth of God.

Lo! the vigilant shepherds hasten to the sacred cave :- let us follow them, and clasp to our breasts the new born Saviour.

But what sight opens to our view as we enter!-a manger, straw, swaddling bands;-needy mother, a helpless infant!

. Art thou O Christ! the Son, and brightness | enkindled in our hearts, grant that we may love

and weighs the heavens with his palm?

'Tis so; faith penetrates the mysterious clouds under which they are concealed; in thee, I recognise him in whose presence the Angels how down,-and tremble whilst they adore.

Though silent, thou teachest us from thy cradie to slom what gratifies the flesh, and patiently to bear what is repugnant to its corrupt inclinations.

O Divine Infant! be born in our hearts; heal their pride, and kindle in them the sacred fire of thy love. Amen.

#### PROSE.

#### Votis Pater annuit.

THE eternal Father has at length granted the wishes of mankind; the Heavens have rained down the Holy One: a Virgin Mother has brought forth the Saviour; -the Man-God is born.

The angelic choirs proclaim the Mystery;let us with the shepherds surround the manger in which Christ is laid.

Thou. O light of light! art before the sun; thou, God of God! art begotten from eternity, in all things equal to thy Father.

Such is thy greatness! and—what love urges thee?-thou comest down from the sents of bliss; that our weakness may rise, thou liest

The atonement which I owed for my sine, thou who art innocent, dost undergo; thou, the lawgiver, submitted to the law which I have despised;-time doth thou teach us justice.

Heaven is thy abode, and thou dost not disdain a stable; all power belongs to thee, and thou takest the form of a servant;-thus dost thou confound our pride.

Thou yourhsafest to become like to us imall things; weak with the weak; mortal with mortals; -thus dust thou draw us to thyspif. Exempt from the common contagious, allow minglest with the infected; there is no sin, in thee, and thou sufferest for sin; - in this alone unlike to us.

Almighty Pather! who sendest thy Son to man, grant that we may know Jesus; the principle of grace, the origin of salvation. : a

Holy Spirit! by whose sacred fire charity is of the eternal Father? do I hehold him, who I lesus, who is horn for us. Amen.



#### HTM N

### Jesu Redemptor omnium.

O Jesus, Redeemer of all men! only-begotten son of the Father, who alone, before all ages, art born equal to the most High!

Thou art our peace and our glory, the only hope of mortals; hear the prayers which we offer up to thee on the altar of our hearts.

In the fullness of time, being made in the likeness of men," thou grantest us to be partakers of thy Divinity.

Protect thy brothers whom thou hast raised to that dignity, lest a degenerate life may sink us into our former vileness.

'Tis the grace we beg of thee on this sacred day commemorative of thy birth, when thou, ' the true sun of justice, arising from the bosom; of light, visitest the world.

The heavens, the earth, and the vast extent of the sens, now emulously vie to praise the Father who gave thee, O Christ!

And we, for whose Salvation thou art born, delight in celebrating this glorious day with transports of joy and exultation.

Jesus, born of a Virgin! glory be to theetogether with the Father, and the Holy Ghost world without end. Amer.

#### PRAYER.

"Glory to God in the highest; and on earth, "peace to men of good will."

Let every spirit praise, bless, and give thee thanks, O Almighty Father! for having manifested thy glory and thy mercy on the carth, by the wonderful birth of thy Son, whom, through thy infinite love for us, thou has sent to be my Lord and my God. The state of humility poverty, and suffering, in which I behold thee, far from deterring me, strengthens my faith, revives my hope, enkindles my love, and heightens my gratitude; for such is the Saviour who was promised to me and whom I needed, to heal the wounds which pride, ambition and sensuality have inflicted on my soul. Grant then, O , hearts run in their footsteps. Jesus! that taught by thy example and ained t . by thy grate, I may be poor in spirit, meck and s humble of heart, mortified and obedient us thou art in the manger, in which thou liest wrapt up in swaddling bands to free me from the pains of sin, and "call me unto the liberty of the children of God." Grant, that considering myself as "a stranger and a pilgrim upon earth,"

against the soul," and be born again with thee to a new life, according to the pattern which thou showest to me in thy lumble birth; who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest God, world without end. Amen.

#### PSALM XCVII.

Sing you to the Lord a new canticle; hecause he hath done wonderful things.

His right hand both wrought for him salvation, and his arm is holy.

The Lord bath made known his salvation: he lath revealed his justice in the sight of the Gentiles.

He both remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel.

All the ends of the carth have seen the salvation of God.

Sing joyfully to God, all the earth: make melody, rejoice and sing.

Sing praise to the Lord on the harp, on the harp, and with the voice of the psalm; with long trummets and sound of cornet.

Make a joyful noise before the Lord our king: let the sea be moved, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell there-

The rivers shall clap their hands, the mountains shall rejoice together at the presence of the Lord; because he cometh to judge the earth.

He shall judge the world with justice, and the people with equity.

Glory be to the Father, &c.

### ADISTE FIDELES.

Hasten, Christian people! joyful, triumphing, come over to Bethlehem; come, and behold the new born King of Angels.

Come, let us adore our Lord.

Lo! the shepherds have relinquished their flocks, and, obedient to the heavenly call, they Let us with exulting hasten to the manger.

Come, &c.

We shall see the eternal brightness of the eternal Father clothed in human flesh,—an infant God, wrapped in swaddling bunds.

Come, &c.

Made poor for us, he lies on straw ;-let us devoltly clash thin to our breakts O, who I may "refrain from all desires which war (would not love him, who so loved us?

liave Mercy on us

Have mercy on us

#### THE LITARY OF INFART JESUS.

Lord have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us,

Christ, hear us, Christ, graciously hear us, God the Father of Henven, God the Son, Redeemer of the world, God the Holy Ghost, Holy Trinity, one God, Infant Jesus Christ, Infant, true God, Infant, Son of the living God, Infant, Son of the Virgin Mary, Infant, begotten before the day star, Infant, the word unde flesh. Infant, the wisdom of thy Father, Infant, the integrity of thy Mother, Infant, the only begotten of thy Father, Infant, the first born of the Mother, Infant, the image of thy Father, Infant, the origin of thy mother, Ir fant, the brightness of thy Father, Infant, the honor of thy mother, Infant, equal to thy Father, Infant, subject to thy Mother, Infant, the delights of thy Father, Infant, the riches of thy Mother, Infant, the gift of thy Father, Infant, the treasure of thy Mother, Infant the Creator of man, Infant, the fruit of a virgin, Infant, the virtue of a God. Infant, the companion of man, Infant, our God, Infant, our brother, Infant, pilgrim on earth, yet in the fruition of glory, Infant, possessed of heavenly bliss, yet in the pilgrimage of mortality, Infant, a perfect man from thy Mother's womb, Infant, endowed with the wisdom of old age from thy childhood, Infant, the Father of ages, Infant of a few days, Infant, life in want of food, Infant, the word reduced to silence, Infant, crying in the crib, Infant, thundering in heaven, Infant, the terror of heal, Infant, the joy of paradise, lufant, formidable to tyrants, Infant, desired by the wise men, Infant, exile from thy people, Infant, king in thy exile, Infant, the overthrower of idols, Infant, zeolous for thy Father's glory,

Infant, strong in thy weakness, Infant, powerful in thy littleness, Infant, treasure of grace, Infant, light of glory, Infant, fountain of love, Infant, source of sanctity, Infant, the restorer of lost beaven. Infant, the repairer of the earth, Infant, the head of angels, Infant, the root of patriarchs, Infant, the word of the prophets, Infant, the desire of nations, Infant the joy of the shepherds, Infant, the light of sages, I fant, the salvation of infants, Infant, the expectation of the just, Infant, the teacher of the wise. Infant, the first fruit of all saints,

Be merciful.—Spare us, Infant Jesus. Be merciful.—Hear us, Infant Jesus.

From the yoke of slavery imposed on the children of Adam, From the captivity of the devil, From the wickedness of the world, From the concupiscence of the flesh, From the pride of life, From inordinate curiosity, infunt-Jesus-deliksjr From blindness of mind, From a perverse will, From our sins Through thy most pure conception, Through thy tears, Through thy most painful circumcision, Through thy most glorious manifestation Through thy most devout presentation, Through thy most innocent conversation, Through thy most divine life, Through thy poverty, Through thy sufferings, Through thy travels and labors,

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world .- Spare us, O Infant Jesus. Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world.-Hear us, O Infant Jesus. Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the

world.-Have mercy on us, O Infant Jesus. Jesus Infant, hear us,

Jesus Infant, graciously hear us.

# Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus! who didst vouchange to debase the sublimity of thy incarnate divinity, and of thy most sacred humanity, to the humble state of birth and infancy, mercifully grant@hat acknowledging thy divine wisdom in thy infancy, thy power in thy weakness, thy majesty in 

thy littleness, we may adore thee little and debased on earth, and heliold thee great and exalted in heaven; who livest and reignest, world without oud. Amen

May the infant Jesus Christ hear as now, and for ever. Amen,

#### CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

For a Child is born to us, and a Son is given to us, and government is upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Connsellor, God the Mighty, the Father of the World to come, the Prince of Peace."—Isaias is 6.

Hann! what music fils the skies
With joyous melody of Heaven;
Bids mankind from despair arise,
And grateful own their crimes forgiven?

Tarong's colours stillasss of the night It gently steals along. Attua'd by Angels robed in white, "Glory on high to God" of might, And peace on earth its song!

Exult, ye Heavens! O Earth rejoice!
Let Men and Angels sing
In unsion, with heart and voice,
Their Sargur and their King.
For He it is who now descends
Frigarhis celested throne;
All nature in obsiszace bends,
A scraph retinue attends
- The Father's only Sin!

Thrice happy souls whose ardent sighs
Re-echoed through dark Limbo's prillion,
Your tears brought down from boty skies
The opener of the gates of Beaven!

He comes, the Ransomer of man!
The comes, the Prince of Peace!
To execute the wondrous plan
His love devised ere worlds began,
And sin's foul blots effice.

Approach, O man! and are thy God Assuming thy frail, wretched clay; A little crib his mean abode, And nought whereon his head to lay.

See Him whose glatious prowace fills Both Heaven, Earth, and Saa: How Lawand Propiets he fulfils, Though God, enduring mortal ills, And all for lave of them!

O'Babe of Bethlehem? Price of Sin!
Things piete dewith cold in every particle in the price of th

Then give us of that secred flame (Lest we angesteful prove) One kinding spark our souls t'inflame, That we may bless thy saving name, Returning love for love.

Glad tidings to all nations bring, In every find let by be heard; The Virgon's Son, the Angel's King, In Bethlehem has now appeared.

Let music, then, in numbers wild, Forget its rules, for now in the Crild," "The Just," "the Holy One's" come down From his eternal Father's throne, To Han be glory and renown.

Come let us Him adore.
Come let us Him adore.
Yes, yes, unto the Virgin's Son
Be glory given and renown,
For ever, evermore.
Come let us sing
The Angel's King,
Come let us it in adire.
Come let us Hima lire.
The Prince of all the Heavenly host,
With Father, on the Holy Gaost,
For ever, evermore. Amen.

#### THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.

Millist all things were in deep silence, and the night was in the midst of its tourso, thy Almighty Word came down from Herren, from thy Royal throne."—Wisdom xvin F4, 15.

Is-Eden, garden-of delivious sweets, Where all that pleas'd the taste, or charm'd the

Were hounteous, scattered with a liberal hand, Man, earth-horn in in, enjoyed screme repose, Till by dissembling Suan lured to guile His Gul, his earthly and celestial bliss He forfeited, by disabladience proud: Whose fruit was sin, and wong set toil, and death In thme, and for enemity; bad not. The richest mercy of the Son of God. A victim promised to his in [1,4,7] ther. To save mankind from pronsuments deserved. But who [O wonderful 2 this victim was? No loss than in himself, who undertook Our frail and protal nature to assume, And thus, by dying to restore us life.

Four thousand years rolled on, when now the time,
Foresold by Prophets for his birth, was come.
Then man behold the clernal San of God,

Whose presence fills built Hearing and cearth, and sen.
Ushering lifting if into this valle of tears, and

Confined within the Compass of a crib!
And oh remark! how neither pomp nor wealth
Accompanied his entrance; for a stable
His palace was, his, throne a manger vile;
His heavn'l, rating a troop of spirits,
Whose peaceful anthems sounded in the air,
A lowly ox and ass his earthly suite.

The sighs and tears of ancient Patriarchs, Their longings for th' expected Holy One Are satisfied; the clouds have rain'd, the just A Saviour buds from out the open'd earth,

Abel and Noc, Abealum the just, And Moses, leader of the chosen race, With all the souls of the primared Saints, Exult Lyour pain and sadness are no more For now a gleam of everlasting joy. Humes the pitchy night of Li ato's cave. Let Sian now break touth in hymns of praise. Welcome, ye daughters of Jerusalem, Your infant King, your true Emmanuel.

Approach him too, ye happy souls redeened And silently adore the shiving Babe, Who, smiling, comes to explate your crimes.

Let all approach, for he came down for all: Sinners and Saints; the wicked and the just? But why speak 4 of sinners or of just? Had he not come sure none were justified.

Night of celestial splendour! crib of joy! Stable of Bethlehem, wouler wor ing. bail! Mother and Viegin, God and Man, all hall!

Oh! swift invoke all nature to unite. In the Angelic song attuo'd before. Then greatest master-piece of all his works, Man! for whose sake he has come down and died.

O! join in the melodious harmony,
And call to thy assistance all the choir
Of jayons harps, with heavinly organ's tone.
O! ail ye other of his divine works—
Ye hiszing lights—ye gold-hespangled skies—
Ye scaly fishes, and ye plumag'd bads,
Mix in th' angelic and the human song,
That thus all nature may in unison
Chaint forth the praise, the beaudiess love of

Who gave himself a victim for mankind.

### ADDRESS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN FROM WORDSWORTH.

Mother! whose Virgin bosom was uncrost With the least shade of thought to sin allied; Woman! above all women glorified, Our tained nature's solitary boast; Pater than foam on central ocean tost; Thy image falls to earth. Yet some, I ween, Not unforgiven the suppliant knee might bend, As to a visible power, in which did blend, All that was mixed and reconciled in Thee—. Of Mether's love with maiden purity; Of high, with low, celestial with terrene!

— Ecclesciastical Sonnets vol. iv. 252.

# LINES ON THE MOTHER OF GOD. FROM DANTE.

O Virgin Mother! Daughter of thy Son! Created beings all in lowliness Surpassing, as in height above them all; Term by th' Eternal Counsel pre-ordained; Ennobler of thy nature, so advanced In thee, that its Great Maker did not scorn To make himself his own creation; For in thy womb, re-kindling shone the love Revealed, whose genial infinence makes now This flower to germin in eternal peace; Here then to us, of charity and love, Art as the noon day touch; and art, beneath, To mortal mea, of hope a living spring. So mighty art thou, Lady, and so great, That he who grace desireth and comes not-To Thre for aidance, fain would have desire. Fly without wings. Nor only him who asks Thy bounty succours; but doth freely oft Foreron Thee asking, Whatsoe'er may be Of excellence in creature, pity, mild, Releating a ercy, large munificance, Ans all consined to Thee.

## LOOKING AT THE CROSS,

I saw one hanging on a tree,

In agonies and blood,
Who fixed his languid eyes on me;
As near his Cruss I stood.
Sure never 'till my latest breath
Can I farget that look;
It seemed to charge me with his death,
Though not a word he spoke;
A second look he gave, which said
I freely all forgive;
This blood was for thy ransom paid,
I die, that thou may 'st live.

With pleasing grief and mournful joy
My spirit now is filled,
That I should such a life destroy,

about fire the same and a the group of the confidence of the company of the compa

SAINT MARY'S AND SAINT PATRICK'S TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

We publish the following report of the Secretary with much pleasure. We always hail the progress of Temperance as the sure indication of social and religious advancement. sources which are husbanded by its influence purchase biessings, which they would have been employed in destroying; and the self-respect acquired by the possession of a decent competency, will induce efforts at amelioration which otherwise would not be dreamed of. vered excitement of intemperance is supplied by the legitimate one of intellectual rivalry, and the degrading occupations of debauch are banished for the emobling ones of domestic or national improvement. The spirit of nationality which now reflects so many pure and hear venly virtues, first caught its line of strength and healthfulness in the atmosphere of Temperance. And that self-reliance which renders Ireland's penceful endurance more terrible to despotism, than the wildest wascal oratory of of days, go e by, is attributable to the developed power from which even experience of her own firmness has drawn the veil that covered it.

But. Temperance at best is but a pagan virtue if it were not rendered subsidiary to religion, from which alone it can derive permanence, and by whose zeal alone it can claim merit.-It is a monstrous retrogression to seek in it the pararea of all human evil, or to make it the summons of all human virtue. Temperance ought to be the effect of religious feeling. If it be made "Religion"-and that the virtue and the efficacy of the Sacraments are deemed secondary to a "Pledge" against intoxicating drink, it becomes a delusion-a pretender to the throne of pure faith and sound morality-that combines its followers by a passing impulse, and afterwards has not power to retain them in gubjection. We are glad, therefore, that with us Temperance and Religion go hand in handthe one pointing to heaven as the star, strength, and recompense of the other. We are glad that no absurd coercion of judgment, or disposition seeks to deprive men of their liberty, and that all are left to the exercise of a sound judgment-the best security for persevering faith. We are glad that our good Bishop is taking such an active part in securing the happiness of unhorn generations, by imparting to Temperance in Halifax the announgement of his Patronage -the intelligence of his mind-the blessing of his sanction-and the security which religion always given the efficiency, integrity and orthodoxy of the checks upon burnen presion.

Areport of the progress of St. Mary's and St. Pa-

HALIFAX; Nov. 8th, 1843. .

A Meeting of the requisitionists, who waited on His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, to organise this society, was held in the Parochial School room this evening; to receive the report of the Committee appointed to draw up a code of rules for a new Society, to be denominated the Saint Mary's and Saint Patrick's Temperance Society.

The Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, Patron of the Society, presided—assisted by L. O'C. Doyle, Esq., President.

The Bishop read the rules, and clearly explained the nature of the Piedge which was to be administered in the Society.

The Rules were then submitted to the meeting, and unanimously adopted, after which the Society proceeded to choose their officers, when the following were unanimously chosen:

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Walsh, Patron of the Society-Laurence O'Connor Doyle, Esq., President, Mr. James Wallace, Vice President,

Mr. Patrick Power, 1st Asst. Vice President, Mr. John Compton, 2d Asst. Vice President, Mr. Patrick Walsh, Trensurer,

Mr. Edwd. J. Gleeson, Secretary,

Mr. Patrick Donoboe, Asst. Secretary.

His Lordship addressed the meeting in an emphatic and impressive manner, dwelling strongly on the advantages derivable from temperance, and was listened to with great attention.

Previous to adjournment, it was then Resolved, That the Society do meet again on the second Monday in December, to hold their first quarterly meeting.

On Monday last, Dec. 11, the Society held its first quarterly Meeting in the Parochial School Room, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the room was crowded to suffocation.

Laurence O'Connor Doyle, Esq., President of the Society, took the Chair, and was supported on his right by the Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, Patron of the Society, the Xice President and the other officers of the Society in their proper places, wearing their Stars and Medals as badges of of- ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRUPAGATIC fic e.

The President opened the meeting with an eloquent address, congratulating the Society on the progress it had already made, learning from the Secretary that it was only on Friday last, that His Lordship commenced administering the pledge, and that on Sunday evening the Society exceeded three hundred.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Doctor Walsh, then addressed the meeting at considerable length, briefly but emphatically explained the nature of the Pledge, the benefits derivable from it, the importance and necessity of strictly observing it, and the consolation and comfort it afforded the poor man here, as well as the happiness it ensured hereafter, to those who would kee, it inviolate.

'-The Society than proceeded to choose a committee of management, to consist of eighteen persons, three out of each ward, when the following persons were unanimously chosen.

Ward No. 1-Messrs. Valentine Mulloy, Jas. Kelly, and Arthur Bennett.

Ward No. 2.-Messrs. Thomas Murphy, Mat-

thew Young, and Pierce Ryan.

Ward No. 3,-Messrs. William Murphy, Jas.

Wall, and Thomas Brown.

Ward No. 4.-Messrs, Thomas Ring, John Dutfield, and Thos. Kirby.

Ward No. 5 .- Messrs. Timothy Linahen, Pat-

rick Wall, and John Etchingham.

Ward No. 6.-Messrs Michael Tinan, Edw. Ryan, and Jeremiah Murphy.

Mr. E.Iw. Eustace was appointed Marshal and Mr. Patrick Going, assistant Murshal.

A Resolution was then moved and carried That a Temperance Band be organised in this Society, previously to which the Bishop spoke at much length on the science of Music, both as consecrated to the service and praises of God, and as a source of refinement and innocent recreation. A committee was appointed to carry the resolution into effect.

Several persons then came forward to join the Society, to whom His Lordship delivered the pledge in a very solemn and imposing manner.

Having gone through with the business of the evening, and subscribed a considerable sum for the sick fund, the meeting adjourned.

E. J. GLEESON, Secret

# OF THE FAITH.

It will be seen by the following list that the exertions of the Collectors are unceasing:-

Miss Fagan,	£0	3	0 .
Mrs. P. Power,	20	11	0
Mrs. Michael Tobin.		2	0
Miss M. Barber,		6	ÍÀ
Master T. Kenny,		7	6.
Mr. T. Kirby,		8	8
Mrs. M. Cochran,		8:	Đ.
Miss E. Condon,		6	24
Mathew Young,		3	6
Miss Mr. Dowling,		5	3
Edward Daly,		4	io
James Conroy,		3	7
Miss Cragg,		2	<b>6</b> :
Mrs Connors,		2	6
Mrs. F. Walsh,		10	Ó.
Miss Margaret Cragg,		2	2
Mrs. J. C. Tobin,		2	6
Miss Margaret Heffernan,		.8.	43
Miss Deborah McSweeney.	1	٦٠	0.
Miss Brennan,		3.	4
Miss Longard,		2	6
Mrs. Butler,		4	73
Miss Mathew,		7	4
Miss Moser,	. :	ъС.	
Miss O'Dell,	•	4	, Ą3
Mrs. Power,		3	9
Mrs Dillon,		<b>'</b> 5	. <b>2</b> ,
Mrs. Hickey,	٠.	5	5
Mrs. Harney,		8	<b>∂</b> ?
Miss Ann O'Brien,		6	<u> </u>
Miss Compton,	<b>S</b>	.8	. <del>?</del> .
Miss Ennright,	•	2	. 6
Richard Ryan,	,	: 14	di.
Hugh Carey,		5	7
Miss Driscoll,		6	• • • •
Mr. Patrick McGbee,	•	3	
Messrs. Whall & Walker	1	. 0	. Q.
Miss E. Power,		11.5	···• 8•
Mrs. Morgan Doyle,		. 2	, G
Muster John Hackett,		3	in
Master Patrick Power,		115	, Ň
Muster J. Ryan,	्य पूर्णका	# 6	in i
Miss Moonay,		12	••• <b>••</b> •

ON THE MURNING-OF-CHRIST'S TRATE YOU AND VITY. -FROM MILTON, YOU AND

This is the month, and this the happy morn, Wherein the Son of Heaven's Eternal King, Of wedded maid and virgin mother born, Our great redemption from above did bring; .For so the holy sages once did sing,

That he our deadly forfeit should release. And with his Father work us a perpetual peace.

That glorious form, that light insufferable, And that far beaming blaze of Majesty, Wherewith he wont at heaven's high council-To sit the midst of Trinal Unity. He laid uside, and here with us to be,

Forsook the courts of everiasting day, felay. And chose with us a darksome house of mortal: Say, heavenly muse, shall not thy sacred yein Afford a present to the Infant-God?

Hast thou no verse, no hymn, or solemn strain, To welcome him to this his new abode, Now while the heaven, by the sun's team untrod, I For all the morning light,

Hath took no print of the approaching light And all the spangled host keep watch in equa- But in their ginnmering orbs did glow, dron bright?

See, how from far, upon the eastern road, The star-led wizards haste with odoms sweet: Drun, prevent them with thy humble ode, And lay it lowly at his blessed feet;

Have then the honour first thy Lord to greet, And join thy voice unto the angel-quire, Thre. From out his secret altar touch'd with hallow'd

THE HYMN.

It was the winter wild, While the heaven-born child

All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies; Nature in awe to him,

Had doff'd her gandy trim,

¿ With her great master so to sympathise; At was no season then for her To wanton with the sun, her lusty paramour.

'Only with speeches fair, Sire woos the gentle nir

To hide her guilty front with innocent snow; And on her naked shame,

Pollate with sinful blame,

.. The saintly veil of maiden white to throw; Confounded, that her Maker's eyes Should look so near upon her foul deformatics.

But he, her fears to cease, 🗽 Sent down the meek-eyed Peace: Sliding , She, crown'd with alive green, came softly Down through the turning sphere,

His ready harbinger,

With turtle wing the amorous clouds dividing; And waving wide her myrtle watch [land.

No wincorbantle's sound Was heard the world around to-

The idle spear and shield were high up hung ; The hooked chariot stood

Unstain'd with hostile blood;

The trumpet spake not to the armed throng! And kings sat still with awful eye, As if they surely knew their sovereign Lord was

But peaceful was the night,

Wherein the Prince of Light

His reign of peace upon be earth began: The winds, with wonder whist,

Smoothly the waters kist,

Whispering new joys to the mild ocean. Who now buth quite torgot to rave, While birds of calm sit brooding on the charmed

'The stars, with deep amaze, Stand fix'd in steadlast gaze,

Bending one way their precious influence;

And will not take their flight,

Or Lucifer hath often warn'd them thence; Until the Lord himself hespake, and bid them

And, though the shady gloom Had given day her room,

The sun Limself withheld his wanton speed, And hid his head for shane,

Inced: As his inferior flame

The new-enlightened world no more should He saw a greater Stin appear [could hear. Than this bright throne, or burning axletree,

The shepherds on the lawn, Or o'er the point of dawn,

Sat simply chaning in a rustic row ;

Full little thought they then,

That the mighty Pan

Was kindly come to live with them below; Ikèrp. Perhaps their loves, or else their sheep, Was all that did their silly thoughts so busy

When such music sweet

Their bearts and cars did greet, As never was by mortal finger strook;

Divinely-warbled voice

Answering the stringed noise,

As all their souls in blissful rapture took; The air, such pleasure both to lose, (venly close With thousand echoes still prolongs each hea-

Nature that heard such sound.

Beneath the hollow round

Of Centhia's seat, the acry region thrilling, Now was almost won

To think her part was done,

And that her reign had here its last fulfilling She knew such harmony alone lunion. She strikes an universal peace, through sea and Could hold all heaven and earth in happier

At hist surrounds their sight A globe of circular light, tarrav'd; That with long beams the shamefaced night The ladated Cheraban. And sworded Seraphin, Inlay'd, Harping in loud and solemn quice,

Are seen in glutering ranks with wings dis-[Hrir. With mexpressive notes, to Heaven's new-born

Such music (as 'tis said) Before was never made,

But when of old the sons of morning sung, While the Creator great

Historistellations set,

And the well-balanced world on hinges land And cast the dark foundations deep, And bid the weltering waves their onzy channel

Ring out, ye crystel spheres, Once bless our human ears

If ye have power to teuch our senses so;

And let your silver chime Move in includious time;

And let the base of heaven's deep organ blow; [ And with your ninefold barmony Make up full concert to the angelic symphony.

For, it such holy song Enwrap our fancy long,

Time will can back and fetch the age of gold; And speckled vanity

Will sicken soon and die,

And leprous sin will melt from earthly mould; And hell itself will pass away, And leave her dolorous mansions to the peering

Yea, truth and justice then Will down return to men,

Orb'd in a rainbow; and like glories wearing, Mercy will sit between,

Throned in celestial sheen, With radiant feet the tissue clouds down

And beaven as at some festival,

Will open wide the gates of her high palace hall.

But wisest Fate says No. This must not yet be so,

The Babe that lies in smiling infancy,

That on the bitter cross Must redeem our loss;

So both himself and us to glorify;

Yet first, to those enchain'd in sleep, [the deep; The wakeful trump of doom must thunder thro'

With such a horrid clang

As on Mount Sinai rang, joutbrake; While the red fire and smouldering clouds The aged earth aghast,

With terror of time blast,

Shall from the surface to the centre shake; When, at the world's last session, his throng. The dreadful Judge in middle air shall spread |

And then at last our bliss

Full and perfect is: But now begins; for from this happy day,

The old Dragon, under ground, in straiter linus bound,

Not half so far casts his usurped sway; And, wroth to see his kingdom fail, Swindges the scaly horror of his folded tail.

The oracles are dumb.

No voice or hideous laum

Runs through the mened roof in words deceiv-Apolio from his shrine, Can no more divine,

With hollow signed the step of Delphos lenv-To nightly trance, or breathed spell, Inspires the pale-eyed priest from the prophetic

The lonely mountain's o'er, And the resounding shore,

A voice of weeping heard and loud lament; From hanned spring and date,

Edged with poplar pale.

The parting genius is with sighing sent; | a With flower inwoven tresses torn, lets mourn. The ayamples in twilight shade of tangled thick-In consecrated emth,

And on the holy hearth, [plaint; The Lars, and Lemaries, moan with midnight

In mas, and altars round, A drear and dying sound

Affrights the Flamens at their service quaint; And the clad marble seems to sweat, . . [seat. While each peculiar power foregoes his wanted. Peor and Baalim

Forsake their temples dim,

With that twice battered god of Palestine; And mooned Ashtaroth, Heaven's queen and mother both, [steering; Now sits not girt with tapers' holy shine; ]

> The hive Hammon shrinks his horn, In vain the Tyrian maids their wounded Thammuz mottra.

And sullan Melach, fled,

Hath left in sladows dread His burning idol all of blackest hue;

In vain with symbols ring They call the grisly Ling,

In dismal dance about the furnice blue; The brutish gods of Nile as fast,

Isis, and Oras, and the dog Anabis, haste. Nor is Osiris seen

In Memphing grove or green, . lings.loud : Trainpling the unshowered grass with low-

Nor can be be at rest ... Within his sacred chest;

Rought lift prolitantest hell can be his shroud lu vain with limbrelle it abthefus dails, L The sable-stoled sorcerers bear his worthing were not ark.

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