

they made a 'haul.' The Japanese were very indignant, but used no violence, and after that furnished the vessel with all the fish that were required. They refused to furnish any beef, though the cattle were very numerous in the islands.

From the Japanese waters the Hancock went to the mouth of the Amoor, where they met some Russians. These latter said that the Russian fleet, after having been blockaded by the Allies in the bay of Cassary, had escaped in a fog, and went through a difficult pass between the island of Saghalien and the town and into the river Amoor. The vessels were anchored at a strong fortification, said to contain fifteen thousand men. There were seven vessels in all, several frigates, three corvettes, and one small steamer. There is a bar at the entrance to the Amoor, and the Russian frigates had to be lightened, and to have their masts taken out before they could enter.

"The Hancock was about to enter, when she was requested to keep off, and she did so. The Russians said that if the allied fleet should attempt to enter the river, they would pay severely for their boldness. After leaving the Amoor, the Hancock went through the Ochotsk Sea to its northernmost extremity, meeting a great many whaling vessels, which had mostly done well. They saw but one Russian vessel, and that was a sloop of forty tons belonging to the Russian Fur Company. The natives of the shores of the Ochotsk Sea are semi-barbarians—half Tartar, half Esquimaux. They dress in skins, and live in log cabins. They know nothing of money, and will sell almost anything for a drink of whiskey.—*San Francisco Chronicle*, Oct. 20.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, NOV. 24, 1855.

THE CHURCH WITNESS AND ITS CORRESPONDENTS.

It is a common saying that "liars ought to have good memories," but happily for the cause of truth they are often deficient in this useful qualification and are thus self convicted. Of this *Nova Scotian* is the most remarkable example that has come under our notice, for he has forgotten what he wrote and published only three weeks before. His calumnies having been refuted, he now denies that he ever circulated them, and he must have a very low opinion of the readers of the *Church Witness* if he supposes that they cannot remember his former statements, or have not sense to see, and right principle to condemn, his dishonesty and meanness. Fortunately, we have both letters before us, and think it sufficient to furnish our readers with extracts, and leave them to judge. In his first letter, after stating that if the Chapel is intended for the poor it does not answer its purpose, he says "The Bishop's Chapel is frequented by the most fashionable congregation in the City." "The Services as conducted seem to be arranged for the gratification of such an audience." "We are now as far as ever from having a poor man's Church, may I not say farther than before the present move was made." In his second he says "I have referred to facts. Let these be disproved and I will withdraw my statements and offer full apology for having made them. I stated that on the opening of the Bishop's Chapel it was frequented by a very fashionable congregation, whose gay dresses stood in strong contrast to that which must necessarily be the attire of those for whose especial benefit it was intended. This is a fact." The italics are ours and mark the discrepancy between what *Nova Scotian* said and what he professes to have said. He now pretends that he only referred to one particular occasion, whereas such an interpretation cannot be put upon the expression, nor would any one possibly infer it from the context and general tenor of the letter. His words were "is frequented," and he must be a much more able man than we take him to be, if he can prove that this means "was frequented at the opening" to say nothing of the absurdity of a locality being frequented once.

He stated, or as the Editor has it "he more than implied" in his first, that the Gospel is not there preached, and now he finds out that the Clergyman under whose charge the Chapel has been from the first, and who has generally occupied the pulpit, is one "whose character is a warrant that he does not favor innovations, and a pledge for the faithful performance of the duties entrusted to him." His former charge must therefore have been merely a surmise or a pure invention, and he has propagated a vile slander, without any foundation or anything to warrant the supposition that he could have believed what he stated.

We now take our leave of *Nova Scotian*, and

shall probably not trouble ourselves to comment upon anything further that he may choose to publish. He has been challenged by *Corrector* in the *Chronicle*, and by *Observer* in the *Witness*, to come forth under his real name and substantiate his charges, with an offer to meet him on equal terms. The latter says, "if he will thus verify his assertions you are at liberty to publish my name, with the flat contradictions which I feel it right now to give." That he has not accepted this challenge will surprise no one, for a guilty conscience makes a man a coward, and he who will confess himself the author of these precious compositions, must be lost to all sense of shame. We regret however that the honorable name of "*Nova Scotian*" has been selected by one who, if he has any right to it, does no honour to his country. We cannot think so meanly of our neighbours in the other Province as to suppose that such proceedings can be pleasing to them,—but so long as the Editor of their Church (?) Paper allows it to be a receptacle for every spiteful effusion rejected by the Press on this side of the Boundary, they must expect to be constantly misled. On the party spirit and unfairness of the Editor himself, we made some observations in our Editorial of last week, to which we now add that he has not even hinted to his readers that we had refuted *Nova Scotian's* letter in detail, and that he has published the second communication without one word of comment upon the discrepancy between it and the former. We truly pity those who are so blind that they can be thus easily imposed upon, or do not see that the spirit engendered by a Newspaper so conducted can never be a Christian spirit. We fear that a heavy responsibility rests upon the managers of the *Church Witness*, and in their degree upon those who support it, believing that the interests of true religion which it professes to uphold have suffered much from its cavilling and contentious spirit.

R. M. S. CANADA.

The news by the R. M. Steamship *Canada*, embraces details of the capture of Kiubura, and the surrender of the Russian force engaged in defending it. This appears to have been a gallant enterprise; and if a superiority must be accorded to the French on land, at least in numbers, the naval superiority of Great Britain was fully maintained in the measures which placed the entrance of the Dnieper and Bug in possession of the allies.

It would appear that the Russians have no intention, at present, of retreating from the Crimea, and that there is no possibility during the ensuing winter, of preventing their communications by the isthmus of Perekop. A reconnaissance in force, by General Allonville, on the road from Eupatoria to Simpheropol, had found them entrenched on the opposite side of the ravine of Tchobatar, and so strongly that it was deemed proper to retire again upon Eupatoria, this decision being hastened by a scarcity of water and forage in this direction. Both the belligerents will therefore most likely go into winter quarters—albeit there was some reason to expect an attack of the Russians on the line of the Tchernaya.

Much excitement has been created in England by the probability of an American war—to which the rumour of angry correspondence between the two governments, backed by the powerful demonstration of an increase to the West India squadron, has given significance. The particular cause of quarrel is not set forth, but is supposed to refer to the determination of Great Britain not to relinquish the occupation or the protectorate of the Mosquito territory. It is not at all likely that any European nation exercising power upon this continent, will conform to the doctrine which the United States wishes to enforce,—that it is not to extend its possessions or jurisdiction. England will hold her own on the American continent, and will not give up any point that may be of consequence either to her commerce or to her influence. The United States will also acquire as much as they can in this way, and thus may be fairly accounted for, the success of the piratical or filibustering expedition of General Walker in the State of Nicaragua. According to the *London Guardian*, which we quote, but little is known of the particulars of the dispute which has created the excitement:—"Of what has actually passed between the two Governments all that we know is that ours has made a mistake, [the foreign enlistment] has atoned for it, has been unhandsonely treated in return, and has rejoined by an undisguised act of menace. Now, a menace sometimes stops the disposition to be quarrelsome, sometimes irritates it, according to the temper of those with whom you have to deal. The expediency or propriety of such a proceeding may be shown hereafter, but does not distinctly appear now. One thing only is clear,—that the difference hitherto has been only a tiff between the individuals who are at

the head of affairs. The American people seem to be as innocently unconscious of any inclination to go to war as ourselves."

It is a rather singular circumstance that Spain, whose sole possession in the West Indies it is assumed to be one of the objects of the naval reinforcement to secure, is also said to be on the point of a rupture with Great Britain, arising from an injustice done to a British subject formerly resident in Cuba, and an intention indirectly to encourage the slave trade, by appointing a notorious slave dealer to be governor of Fernando Po. In the former the British government has demanded reparation, and in the latter an abandonment of the debt.

By the R. M. Steamship *Asia* from Boston last night, dates to the West were received. It is gratifying to find that the demonstration of a British naval squadron in the West Indies, has had a salutary effect upon the war spirit of the American Cabinet, and that the recent gasconade of Mr. Cushing has been attributed to an electioneering manoeuvre, with which pumps Great Britain will be satisfied, and the enmity between the governments of the two countries will end in smoke.

We find also that the commercial circles of the United States are slowly recovering from the apprehensions of a monetary crisis.

His Lordship the Bishop, accompanied by the Rev. W. Bullock, visited St. Margaret's Bay on Sunday last, and held Confirmations at the Parish Church, at St. Peter's and the North Shore, administering the rite to 76 persons in all. It is gratifying to be able to announce, that by the exertions of the Rev. J. Starmer, and his assistant, Rev. Mr. Pearson, Divine Service is now held twice on every Sunday in the Parish Church, and once at each of the other stations above named. His Lordship returned to town on Tuesday.

The Provincial Normal School at Truro, was opened on Wednesday, the 14th inst. Rev. A. Forrester, (Free Church) Principal, delivered an inaugural address. Sixty-four pupils were enrolled, who it is said have come from various parts of the country, and we believe are to have their expenses of travel paid for them. Messrs. Randall and Mulholland, (Episcopalian) are named as secondary teachers. Although by no means in favour of the large expenditure of Provincial funds which this Institution will occasion, when it was demonstrated, that an efficient Normal School could have been had at less cost, we may be permitted to express a hope that it will subserve the cause of education by supplying good teachers for the country; and further, that it will not be allowed by the Legislature to be swerved from its original design. The institution will be an agreeable accession to the village of Truro.

The Session of the Young Men's Christian Association is advertised to open on Tuesday evening 27th Nov. with a Lecture from the Rev. Robert Sedgwick, (Presbyterian.)

A Correspondent from St. Margaret's Bay, under date of November 19, writes:

"I notice in the *Morning Journal* of 19th current, a remark that the Fishery has been prosecuted with great success by the people of St. Margaret's Bay this fall. As I know such an impression formed in the minds of some of the Mercantile community may be of serious injury to many, you will oblige by stating that there has not been over one thousand barrels taken this autumn in this place, including Dover and Peggy's Cove. Such reports as that may suit a few speculators at the expense of poor Fisherman and against our country, trade, and still worse, operate for the present against us in Foreign markets. I have this moment received a Letter from Mr. —, Arichat, in which he states also that Fish are very scarce in that locality."

The Cape Breton *News* shows in what way public works benefit a country. The young men spoken of will not only take home their savings, but will carry with them ideas of improvement that will content them with their present stagnant condition, and may help to expand the industry, and enlarge the prosperity of their beautiful and fertile island.

"Numbers of our young men belonging to Mira, Cateague, Cow Bay, and New Boston, are returning home from their employment on the Railway works, near Halifax. We understand that by the practice of that economy peculiar to the Highlanders, most of those who were engaged during the past summer, on the public works of this Province, have saved much of their earnings for future investment and appropriation."