

THE CROSS IN THE FAR NORTH.

LETTER FROM BISHOP SEGHERS.

Vivid Description of a long and arduous Missionary Tour in Alaska. Curious Habits of the Indians. The Pioneers of the Cross in their Ice-bound Home.

NULATO, ALASKA TERRITORY,
(On the Banks of the Yukon.)
64° 40' N. Lat., July 31, 1877.

REVEREND AND DEAR FATHER :

Thanks be to God, we are at the end of our long, wearisome and hazardous voyage. It is now six weeks and a few days since we left Nanaimo, and we have been constantly on the move. To-day we are at a place where it is our intention to set to work.

The steamer *St. Paul* left St. Michael on Thursday morning, 19th instant, and the same evening we left for Nulato. It would take me too much time to explain all the reasons why we decided to start for this place. A few words will briefly explain our position. The Indians on the lower Yukon live in the neighborhood of the Russian Mission. The Indians on the coast are said by the whites to be spoiled by their intercourse with whalers and given to the use of intoxicating drink. Therefore our field of labor will be confined to the interior of Alaska, particularly that portion watered by the grand and noble Yukon. This river (which the Indians call *Iouhkon*) is called *Kevihpak* near its mouth—two distinct names for what were supposed to be two distinct rivers. I shall not attempt to end the controversy as to who was the first to discover the *Kevihpak* and the