

THE CROSS IN THE NORTH !

BISHOP SEGHERS' LETTERS.

FOURTH LETTER.

The Indians of Alaska.—Traveling on the Youcon.—Dress of the Missionary.—Narrow Escape from Drowning.

St. Michael's Redoubt, Alaska Territory, July 3rd., 1878.

REVEREND AND DEAR FATHER JONCKAU.

Three days of patient expectation have elapsed and no letters as yet. My last hope was that they might be in a box, among the steamer's freight ; but I am disappointed. Accept now a brief sketch of my mission among the Kyoukouk Indians. Having bid farewell to Father Mandart, to whose care I left the Nulato Indians, I started on the 30th. of October, 1877, with a Russian and Canadian trader to visit the country drained by the Kyoukouk River. The farthest point we reached North-east of Nulato, was about twenty-five miles this side of the Arctic Circle, beyond which the sun does not rise in the winter, and does not set in the summer.

THE FIRST WHITE MAN

that had ever visited the dwellings of the Kyoukouks, in 1876, ran great risk of falling a victim to their vindictiveness. It appears that a chief, with whom he had been traveling, fell suddenly dead. His men, imagining that their chief had been killed by the American trader, and instigated by their *shamon*, followed the trader in close