

According to Mr. Russell, (Correspondent of the Times in the Crimea,) one of the greatest curses of the camp at the present moment is the multitude of flies. "It is really an Egyptian plague. In every tent and hut they swarm in myriads. From mosquitoes and fleas we are tolerably free; there are no bugs—at least I have neither seen nor heard of any. Probably bedsteads are not sufficiently numerous here to encourage the presence of those flat and scold insects. We are duly grateful for the absence of such irritating vermin; and we try to be resigned, but we certainly cannot be thankful, under the fly infliction. The Crimean fly is the most daring and aggressive animal of its size that it ever has been my lot to encounter. It belovels everything in your quarters, bites you, and will not be rebuffed. Its courage and activity constitute it the Zouave of the fly family. It dashes into the cup you raise to your lips, and defiles the morsel at the end of your fork. War with it is not to be thought of. Kill a thousand, and you shall have a million in their stead. Whatever food is exposed upon the table, sugar, meat, bread, is in an instant black with flies. The camp reounds with meditations on the genus. A cargo of 'Ketch-um alive' papers, arriving just now at Balacava, would find an instant sale at exorbitant prices. We should paper our huts and tents with them, and still despair of exterminating our tormentors."

BRIBERY IN RUSSIA.—There is one thing that, so long as it lasts, will prevent Russia from taking her rank among the great civilized nations of Europe, and that is the vast system of bribery that is carried on in all the public offices. It may appear strange to say a system of bribery, but so it is. Bribery forms the rule, and honesty the exception, in all matters relating to the law or the Government, though, doubtless, there are some few honest and honourable men to be found in the Russian empire; but the number is very small. Peculation is again another very prevalent sin, and generally practised throughout the country, otherwise how could men live upon the miserable pittance allowed them by the Government for their services? All this, however, is not considered as a stain upon men's characters; on the contrary, as it prevails universally throughout the country, there is no dishonour attached to it. A man, a small officer in the military service, holds a situation, the salary of which is about £70, and to be able to retain his place, he is obliged to pay for the protection of another man, £1000 per annum! This he not only does, but keeps up a large establishment of servants, horses, &c. It will be naturally asked, how can he do it? Why, by bribery, which renders his place worth to him about £4,000 or £5,000 a-year. Nobody ever thinks of inquiring about the salary attached to any office, but how much can be made in it?

The following is a copy of the inscription written by Lady Franklin for the tablet, now on its way out to the Arctic Regions in the United States Expedition, which is to be placed on Beechey Island:—

"To the memory of Franklin, Crozier, Fitzjames, and all their gallant brother officers and faithful companions, who have suffered and perished in the cause of science and the service of their country—this tablet is erected near the spot where they passed their first Arctic winter, and whence they issued forth to conquer difficulties or to die. It commemorates the grief of their admiring countrymen and friends, and the anguish, subdued by faith, of her who has lost in the heroic leader of the Expedition the most devoted and affectionate of husbands. "And so He bringeth them unto the Haven where they would be," 1855. This stone has been intrusted to be affixed in its place by the officers and crew of the American Expedition, commanded by Lieut. H. J. Hartstein, in search of Dr. Kane and his companions."

The following list of the ages of the Bishops is going the round of the press:—

"England.—Canterbury, 75; York, 67; London, 69; Durham, 85; Winchester, 65; Bangor, 83; Exeter, 81; Peterborough, 76; Chichester, 73; Worcester, 72; Gloucester and Bristol, 72; Carlisle, 71; Rochester, 71; Ely, 71; Lichfield, 67; St. Asaph, 65; Hereford, 64; Norwich, 62; Ripon, 61; Chester, 61; St. David's, 58; Llandaff, 57; Bath and Wells, 56; Oxford, 50; Manchester, 48; Salisbury, 47; Lincoln, 44; Soler and Man, 48. Ireland.—Armagh, 82; Dublin, 68; Cork, 74; Cashel, 72; Killaloe, 71; Meath, 69; Limerick, 69; Tuam, 63; Derry, 62; Ossory, 61; Kilmore, 54; Down, 47. Of these one English Bishop, Bath and Wells (Lord Auckland), and two Irish, Tuam (Lord Plunkett) and Killaloe, (Lord Riversdale), are likewise temporal."

The Leeds Mercury records an instance of what is stated to be a frequent occurrence—a frog imbedded in the centre of a large block of coal, being dug out alive at a coal pit near Morley. According to the latter account, "the frog was still lively." When found it was very dark in colour, but was on Wednesday becoming like the common every-day species. The seam of coal from which it was digested was supposed to be the same as that which was digested at the same place.

Correspondence.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

Beaver Harbor Parsonage, 3rd Sept. 1855.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHURCH TIMES.

DEAR SIR,—I presume, it is expected that I should give some detail of the movements and pious labours of our much respected Bishop while his Lordship was travelling "over flood and field," on the south eastern coast of the Diocese,—within the limits of Beaver Harbor Mission. I will, therefore, cheerfully enter upon the task, by stating, that the Bishop was met by the resident Missionary, at Liscomb Harbor,—the eastern boundary of Rev. J. Alexander's charge, on Thursday 16th ultimo, and conducted, on foot, some few miles to the residence of John Smith, Esquire, at Maria Joseph, accompanied by Rev. T. Dunn, myself and a few of the most respectable inhabitants of the place. There, the Bishop and Rev. T. Dunn were attentively and kindly taken care of for the night. Next day (Friday) between the hours of 9 and 10, notwithstanding the morning was ushered in by a dense fog and a heavy dew lying upon the grass (such was the happy impression made) that numbers, from the gray headed old man down to the youthful stripling and infant in arms, were seen directing their steps to the sanctuary. Boats too, gaily dressed with colours, approaching the shore with their living freight, anxious to be in time for service—and when the Bishop, with his clergy, drew near the Church in the absence of the joyful sounding bell, a goodly number of our hardy fishermen gave him a welcome by a salvo of a three round "feu de joie." Immediately after, all entered the Church,—there, all were silent, with hearts intent upon duties solemn and sacred. The dusk was occupied by Rev. T. Dunn. At the end of the second Lesson, an infant was presented for baptism, which being administered, the prayers were re-engaged in, till the end. After singing a few suitable verses of the 119th Psalm, the Candidates for Confirmation (25 in number) immediately arranged themselves around the Communion railing,—the Bishop then commenced his usual pious exhortation, closely and affectionately reminding them of the importance of the step, about to be taken, and counseling them, with heart-felt feeling, when once they have pledged themselves to be servants of the Most High, not, upon any account, willingly depart from that path in which they, that day, promised to walk. Before laying on of hands, a pause of some moments ensued. At this stage it seemed to have a most thrilling effect upon all present,—many appeared, it is to be hoped, to be deeply concerned about their spiritual life,—many, we believe, were engaged in silent breathless prayer, until the Bishop moved to confirm. This being over, the Bishop delivered an excellent discourse, in the course of which, he took care to speak of the prevailing vice, frequently practiced by certain individuals in this community to the great annoyance of the better disposed, advising them to give it up, else a dreadful doom awaited them from the hand of that God whom, by their evil course, they were hourly provoking. After the service was over, a large whaler well equipped, was ready to convey the Bishop and Clergy across a wide, rough bay; after a hard pull, the party were safely landed on the opposite shore, in time to begin a second service. This station, called the Narrows, has only a school house, in which a Sabbath School had been held, till quite recently, by a pious female member of the Church; but in consequence of her removal, the Sunday School has been closed, as no one, at present here, is competent to take her place. The Candidate, however, before her departure, had been very much assisted by her affectionate teaching and counsel, so that eleven now stood forth to receive the sacred rite of Confirmation. The Bishop too, did not fail to exhort them henceforth, to seek that grace from above which would certainly be given to them if applied for, through the merits of Christ alone. Then followed an impressive Sermon, full of spirituality and love. The Bishop spent the night at the comfortable residence of William T. Tidmarsh, Esq., Orkneys. Next morning early, Saturday 18th, the Bishop and Clergy having partaken of the hospitalities which Mr. and Mrs. T. so generously and happily bestowed on their guests, took their departure for Salmon River, where they arrived after a walk of some hours, early. Here the Bishop and Rev. T. D. received a hearty welcome, and a rest which was very much needed, as they had been travelling and performing ministerial duty every day since they had left Guysboro'. At sun-down, the inhabitants, knowing their Bishop had arrived, gave tokens of their joy, by a salute of many guns along both sides of the harbor, which had a pleasing effect, and

the Church has not yet attained to the honor of having a bell hung in her tower, so that on this similar happy occasion. Such a demonstration as this could not but be pleasing to the resident Missionary and his wife, to find that the people in this locality wished to pay respect to their chief pastor. Sunday 19th, a bright sun arose amid a clear sky, propitious of a fine day, and so it proved to be. Early the little Church was filled, every seat being occupied. The Bishop, with his clergy, at the hour appointed, entered. Service commenced by Rev. T. Dunn in the desk—at the conclusion of which, 17 of various ages, came forward to unite themselves, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, more closely to the Church of their affections, by declaring themselves openly and professedly as Members of Christ's Church here on earth. The Bishop again cautioned, counseled, and exhorted as heretofore, to pray continually to be kept from sin and pollution, and give themselves up to Him whose disciples they then avowed to be. Then followed the act of confirming. The Bishop again preached a Sermon which did all good to hear. In the afternoon the Bishop undertook the duties of the desk—afterwards (the Rev. T. Dunn delivered a very suitable discourse, in as much as it improved upon all, especially the young, to engage immediately in a religious life, which would be the only safeguard of avoiding sin and consequently preparing for the eternal safety of the soul. Next morning, his Lordship and Rev. T. D. bid adieu, for some time to come, to Beaver Harbor Parsonage, where the inmates of which felt a happiness to have them. As an appointment had been made for service at 3 o'clock, p. m. at Sheet Harbour, and as they had to walk thither, the party hastened on to be in time. The service being concluded at Sheet Harbor, the Bishop inspected the neat little Church in the course of erection, and expressed himself pleased with the site, design and workmanship of the same—stayed the night at the residence of Capt. Watt. Early on Tuesday morning, the Missionary and Building Committee presented an address, to which his Lordship replied in a neat, extemporaneous speech. A whaler well manned, being ready, another fine day appearing, adieu being interchanged, the Bishop and Rev. T. D. separated from this part of the shore, carrying with them many kind wishes and sincere prayers for safety and preservation. Thus ends an episcopal visit, which has afforded a high gratification to all, I doubt not, that were privileged to join in the services, and to have the pious counsel from one duly authorized to rule over the Church in this part of Christ's vineyard. The only regret that seemed to be avinced, was, that in all probability, three long years must necessarily pass away, ere the voice of the Chief Pastor shall again be heard here.

I am, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

J. B.

To the Right Reverend HUNTER, Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia.

MY LORD,

We, the Missionary and Church Building Committee, for ourselves, and in behalf of the congregation connected with Sheet Harbor Station, gladly embrace the present opportunity of offering our united respects to the gentleman who now fills the dignified office, as chief Pastor of this Diocese. We should, therefore, be wanting in our duty, were we to permit your Lordship to pass on without tendering this expression of our hearts which we beg to present in all sincerity, and feel thankful for this, your first visit to our Harbor. It is an evidence of the desire you are manifesting, to see and examine for yourself, the progress of the Church in every settlement, however obscure, within the field of your Episcopal labors.

We, also, desire to acknowledge, with gratitude, the ready response, not merely in word but in deed, to the Memorial presented last winter, in obtaining for us a sum from that good old Society, under whose fostering hand the Church has been, since it was first planted in this colony, so liberally sustained. By that timely aid, we are enabled to set forward the work towards completion of the beautiful little Edifice which graces the summit of yonder hill, and which otherwise might have lagged for want of pecuniary means, as the people here are elsewhere along these shores, with some few exceptions, are generally in humble circumstances, with large increasing families. Permit us, moreover, to assure your Lordship, you carry with you our best wishes and fervent prayers, that the great Head of the Church, by His gracious spirit, may support you in all your labors of love,—your fatigues of body and anxieties of mind to fulfil those arduous duties for which you left your Fatherland, willing to spend and be spent in the glorious cause of helping on that happy period, "when the knowledge of the Redeemer shall fill the earth as the waters now cover the sea."

With all due respect, we are, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble obedient servants.

Wm. Watt, Thos. Dunn, and Edward Richards, Building Committee. John Perry, Clerk.