

the squadron under my command to find upon arrival at this place, more than 2,000 miles outside their station, that the enemy had escaped, and the batteries were deserted, yet their Lordships will not fail to observe that not the less credit is due for the great zeal and anxiety that has been shown by each of the ships in pushing onward, in the hope of being in time to take part in the anticipated operations at this port.

13. The best understanding subsisted between Captain Penanros, of the *Alceste*, and me, and I cannot say too much in favour of the zeal and activity he displayed to meet every wish of mine, and to keep the appointed rendezvous; the same continues with respect to Rear-Admiral Fourichon.

I am, &c.,

H. W. BRUCE,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

No. 54.
SIR,

President, off Sitka,
July 17, 1855.

I REQUEST you will inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that before leaving Petropaulovski, I succeeded in opening a communication with Captain Martinhoff, the temporary Governor of that place, who had retired into the interior, having for its object the release of two prisoners taken last year, as reported in my general letter of the 15th ultimo, No. 44.

Having forwarded a safe conduct to Captain Martinhoff, through the kind offices of an American resident in Petropaulovski, that officer sent 150 versts inland for them, and on their arrival, on the 25th ultimo, delivered them up to Captain Houston, of Her Majesty's ship *Trincomalee*, and three Russians that had been detained on board the French brig *Obligado* since last year, were given in exchange.

The two men proved to be William Garland, ordinary seaman, of Her Majesty's ship *Pique*, and Pierre Langois, of the French frigate *Forte*. The latter will be handed over to the *Forte* on my arrival at San Francisco, and the former will, at his own request, be appointed to the *Brisk*, his proper ship having sailed for the China Station. Both appear to have been treated with much kindness during the time they have been in the hands of the enemy.

I have, &c.,

H. W. BRUCE.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

AT the Court at *Osborne House, Isle of Wight*,
the 13th day of *August*, 1855,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to make better provision for the spiritual care of populous parishes," duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a scheme, bearing date the second day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, in the words following; that is to say:

"We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the

session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of your Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to make better provision for the spiritual care of populous parishes," have prepared, and now humbly lay before your Majesty in Council, the following scheme, for constituting a separate district for spiritual purposes out of the chapelry of Coley, in the parish of Halifax, in the county of York, and in the diocese of Ripon:

"Whereas it was by the said Act enacted, that if at any time it should be made to appear to us that it would promote the interests of religion that any part or parts of any parish or parishes, chapelry or chapelries, district or districts, of great extent, and containing a large population, and wherein, or in parts whereof, the provision for public worship and for pastoral superintendence is insufficient for the spiritual wants of the inhabitants thereof, or any extra-parochial place or places, or any part or parts thereof, should be constituted a separate district for spiritual purposes, it should be lawful by the authority in the same Act provided (that is to say, by a scheme prepared by us, and an Order issued by your Majesty in Council, ratifying such scheme), with the consent of the bishop of the diocese, under his hand and seal, to set out by metes and bounds, and constitute a separate district accordingly, such district not then containing within its limits any consecrated church or chapel, in use for the purposes of divine worship, and to fix and declare the name of such district; provided always that the draft of any scheme for constituting any such district should be delivered or transmitted to the incumbent and to the patron or patrons of the church or chapel of any parish, chapelry, or district, out of which it is recommended that any such district, or any part thereof, should be taken, in order that such incumbent, patron or patrons, might have an opportunity of offering, or making to us or to such bishop, any observations or objections upon or to the constituting of such district; and that such scheme should not be laid before your Majesty in Council until after the expiration of one calendar month next after such copy should have been so delivered or transmitted, unless such incumbent and patron or patrons, should in the mean time, consent to the same; and it was by the same Act also provided, that in every such scheme for constituting any such district we should recommend to your Majesty in Council that the minister of such district, when duly licensed according to the same Act, should be permanently endowed, under the provisions of the same Act, to an amount of not less than the annual value of one hundred pounds; and also, if such endowment be of less than the annual value of one hundred and fifty pounds, that the same should be increased to such last-mentioned amount at the least, so soon as such district should have become a new parish as thereinafter provided;

"And whereas it was by the said Act further enacted, that it should be lawful, by the authority aforesaid, at any time to assign the right of patronage of any such district or new parish as aforesaid, and the nomination of the minister or perpetual curate thereof respectively, either in perpetuity, or for one or more nomination or nominations, to any Ecclesiastical Corporation, aggregate or sole, or to either of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, or Durham, or to any college therein respectively, or to any person or persons, or the nominee or nominees of such person or persons or body respectively, upon condition of such corporation, university, college, person, or persons contributing to the permanent endowment of such minister or perpetual curate, or towards providing a church or chapel for the use of the