

To those who observe the operations of Divine Providence it may seem an interesting coincidence that just when we were about holding our meeting the *Record* arrived conveying the intelligence that Mr. Geddie was appealing for another missionary.

Green Hill, 20th April, 1861.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE PATTERSON.

Several of our congregations are twice as large and wealthy as Mr. Patterson's. Should all exert themselves to the same extent we might have 35 or 40 missionaries in the South Seas, or we might have 20 in the South Seas and 5 or 6 in Turkey. The Church is indebted to Mr. Patterson's congregation for the noble example of Christian liberality they are exhibiting, and we trust that all our congregations will be stirred up to similar exertions.

EXPLANATION.—In Mr. Geddie's letter published in our last, two sentences occur which, from their slightly equivocal expression, have been misunderstood by some. Speaking of dividing the goods he says, "Some of the boxes came without any particular address. As we were all abundantly supplied for our respective stations, I suggested that they should be set apart for the use of the native teachers on the heathen islands. *We were all agreed with the exception of Mr. Matheson who took for Tana what he considered a fourth part of all unmarked articles. Among the articles thus appropriated was a box of hardware. * * ** It will be very valuable to our teachers," &c. The hardware was "appropriated" not by Mr. Matheson (as a correspondent supposes) but to the use of "our teachers." No reflection whatever is intended by Mr. Geddie in relating that Mr. Matheson took a fourth of the goods for Tana. The reason that Mr. M. did so was evidently that Tana was the newest and most needy of the missionary stations. If the passage in which the sentences we have italicised be read carefully it will be evident that the construction we have put upon it is the only correct one.

OUR CHURCH NEWS.

PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.—This Court met at Shelburne on Tuesday, the 2d ult. Present Rev. Messrs. Christie, Clark and H. D. Steele, and Mr. Philip Bower, Ruling Elder. The Presbytery heard and sustained the trials of Mr. Hugh McMillan, preacher of the Gospel. On the next day the Presbytery met at Clyde to ordain Mr. McMillan to the office of the holy ministry. After the Edict had been duly served the Presbytery proceeded to the Church for the ordination services, which were conducted in the presence of a very large and attentive audience. The Rev. G. M. Clark preached the ordination sermon. The Rev. G. Christie then narrated the steps which had been taken in reference to the call addressed to Mr. McMillan, by the Clyde river and Barrington congregation. The usual formula of questions, having then been put to Mr. McMillan, and satisfactory answers given, he was by solemn prayer with the imposition of hands of the Presbytery, duly ordained and set apart to the office of the holy ministry, and to the pastoral charge of said congregation—Rev. Mr. Christie offering the ordination prayer. Mr. McMillan then received from his brethren the right hand of fellowship, and his name was added to the roll of Presbytery. The charge to the newly ordained minister was then delivered by the Rev. Mr. Christie, and thereafter the Rev. Mr. Steele addressed the people on their duties and obligations to their minister. At the close of the ordination services an opportunity was afforded to the people of giving a cordial welcome to their minister. Mr. McMillan enters on a wide and interesting field of labor, amongst an intelligent and warmly attached people. Under the labors of this devoted young servant of Christ, it is confidently anticipated, by the blessing of the Divine Spirit, that much good will result, and that many will be gathered to the fold of the Redeemer. Some matters of a routine nature were disposed of, and the Presbytery