

some preparatory services, and, after he came, a letter was received from Mr. Thompson to say that his Doctor had forbidden him to come. Mr. Balfour kindly undertook to do what he could instead, and remained three days, during which he preached some most instructive sermons to appreciating Congregations.

A stable has been built during the past month, the people giving their services freely for that purpose. The Incumbent, the Revd. J. B. Debbage, is grateful to them for this, and now he has provided himself with a horse and cow.

SANDY BEACH.

The Rev. G. T. Harding, reports :

Our Thanksgiving Service was held on Thursday, the 15th November.

A discouraging circumstance at the time caused suggestions of failure : for a special call just then took a good many of our people away, to assist in getting a belated vessel to sea. Things turned out better, however, than was anticipated ; and a very good congregation assembled at the Church, to join in the solemn offering. We had, also, the kind assistance of two brother clergymen—the Rector of Gaspé and the Incumbent of Peninsula—and such help has always a cheering and brightening effect.

The Incumbent said Morning Prayer, and acted as Celebrant. The Rector of Gaspé read the Epistle and administered the cup, and the Incumbent of Peninsula read the lessons and the Gospel. The Sermon was preached by the Rector of Gaspé, from Ps. cxvi. 12, 13 : "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits towards me ? I will take the cup of salvation, etc,"—and was a very able and earnest development of the idea, that the highest expression of our thanks is made through the Holy Eucharist.

The singing was hearty. In particular, the Responses after the Commandments (Ancient French Chant) and the Hymn after the Consecration Prayer—"And now O Father, &c."—were well sung.

Twenty-five received the Sacrament—a very good number, considering the circumstances—and the collection at the Offertory, for the Pension Fund of the Church Society, amounted to \$3.50.

One thing about the occasion to be regretted is, that the Church was not decorated in any way ; and so a pleasant feature—so common in other places, and one which helps so much to impress the lessons of the time—was absent. We have not quite risen to that yet, though we decorate at Christmas ; but it is to be hoped that our young people will, ere long, be moved to take up the matter, and bring about an improvement in this respect.

For the rest, the Service throughout was very enjoyable, hearty, and seemingly edifying. Much good is hoped for, from God's blessing, upon efforts of this kind.

SHERBROOKE.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the 11th and 12th of December, the Anniversary of the St. Francis District Association of the Church Society was held at St. Peter's Church, and was most interesting and successful. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese and twenty-eight clergy of the District were present. The Rev. G. Osborne Troop, M.A., of St. Martin's Church, Montreal, and the Rev. Canon Von Imland, of Bergerville, Quebec, were also present to take part in the proceedings.

The annual meeting of the Association for the reading of reports and general business took place on Tuesday afternoon. The officers of the preceding year were re-elected. On Tuesday evening, the Anniversary Service was held in St. Peter's Church. There was a good congregation and the service was very impressive. The clergy, to the number of 23, occupied the Chancel and led the responses and singing in a very hearty manner. The sermon, which was eloquent with the real eloquence of unmistakable earnestness and sincerity, was preached by the Rev. G. Osborne Troop, His text was *Isaiah* 53, 11. "He shall set of the travail of his soul and shall be satisfied." The preacher set forth in striking language, the story of God's dealings with mankind, and of the repeated failures and disappointments, summed up in the great tragedy of the Cross, which so strangely marked and crowned those dealings. Thus we were enabled to gather something of the meaning of the phrase, "The travail of His soul." It was the anguish the Saviour felt at the delay and partial defeat of His gracious work ; and every disciple should feel something of the same