

The Late Rev. Edmund Wood.

No death that has occurred in Montreal for many years has created so deep a sense of personal loss to so many people as that of the Rev. Edmund Wood, Rector of St. John the Evangelist's Church. The relations between him and his parishioners were very close and affectionate. He was a clergyman of a rare and admirable type, full of devotion to his church and of sympathy for his fellow men, especially those who needed his sympathy the most. His charities were proverbial and his whole life one of unfailing personal sacrifice. The Church of St. John the Evangelist is a noble monument to the memory of a noble man who is in no danger of being forgotten while the present generation lasts. The funeral service which was conducted by the Rev. Arthur French assisted by the Archbishop of Ottawa and the Bishop of Montreal was attended by many of the clergy and a host of sorrowing and deeply affected friends and parishioners.

South Pole. The North Pole having been discovered, or doubly discovered or not discovered as the case may be, the interest in future exploration is now transferred to the South Pole, so nearly annexed by Lieutenant Shackleton. Within ten months, Captain Robert F. Scott, who commanded the Discovery expedition, will sail in the Terra Nova from the Thames in command of an expedition headed for the South Pole. A French expedition, under Mr. Jean Charcot is already in the far South on the same errand. An esteemed contemporary observes that "there seems to be an excellent chance that a South Pole controversy may eventually develop." There is no danger of anything of the kind. Englishmen have been engaged in Arctic exploration 333 years and for the last century almost continuously; and there has yet to arise any question about the honour of the explorers, or any accusation of meanness in their rivalry for Arctic honours.

Air Resistance. Captain Ferber, who died at Boulogne through an aerophone accident, risked his life to demonstrate a scientific theory of permanent importance to the world. The theory as stated by him is, "For aeroplanes, the coefficient of the resistance of the air is ten times greater than it has been found to be by theorists. It is to be understood that this proposition has none of the rigor of a mathematical theorem, for it can hold only good with certain aeroplanes of very fine design, but it throws light on some singular phenomena and justifies the work and hopes of the aviators of the past, who have always felt very strongly that the air had a far greater supporting power than is generally believed."

It is not to be assumed that the theory has been falsified by the lamentable accident which has deprived the world of the services of a devoted enthusiast, who tackled the problem of aerial navigation in a truly scientific spirit.

G.T.P. Annual Meeting. The annual general meeting of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway was held in Montreal, on Wednesday. The old board was re-elected.

The statement was made at the meeting that the G.T.P. will be in running order from the head of

Lake Superior to within sight of the Rockies by June 1st next.

Another announcement of interest was the fact that the road will be able to have a grade through the Rockies of four-tenths of one per cent. "The best built railroad in the world" is what one enthusiastic director remarked in this connection.

Shots Fired at Glace Bay.

Seven men were wounded on Wednesday at Glace Bay, by shots from revolvers fired by the police. The incident is much to be regretted because it will not tend to promote peace. As usual in such cases, the testimony is very contradictory—the police maintaining that they did not shoot until stones were thrown at them, and the miners declaring that no stones were thrown until after the shots had been fired. One thing, however, is certain, and that is that the police were mobbed while in the execution of their duty, and even policemen are only human.

Spanish-Moroccan War.

Victory has crowned the Spanish arms in Morocco. The fact will help to popularise the war in Spain, and will tend to strengthen the dynasty. It is announced that the Spanish Government intends to extend its sphere of influence in Africa. If that is the case, the extension can hardly begin too soon, because whenever it happens the Kaiser will not like it, and His Imperial Majesty is hardly ready for the general war which German interference with Spain would provoke. It is high time that some of the European powers should assume the responsibility of keeping all the turbulent, fanatical and semi-barabrian tribes of Northern Africa in order.

Russian Duma.

The Russian Duma, which opens on October 28, has a great legislative programme. It appears to be trying to concentrate into a single session, democratic developments which most of the European nations enjoy, but which have only been acquired by centuries of toil and sacrifice of life and liberty. The baby of Parliaments will not accomplish all its desires. It has been said that the man who shoots at a bush is more likely to hit the mark than he who aims at the moon; but on the other hand the man who aims at the moon will shoot higher than the man who fires at the bush.

Automobile Ambulance

Mr. H. Vincent Meredith, Montreal, manager of the Bank of Montreal, has presented the Royal Victoria Hospital with an automobile ambulance, the first in Canada. The gift is a thoughtful and generous one, and may be the means of saving many lives on occasions when it is of the utmost importance to get accident victims to the hospital in the shortest possible time. The new ambulance is much appreciated by the medical staff.

Hudson Fulton Celebration.

The Hudson Fulton Celebration at New York, is being held with great *éclat*. A very distinguished company is taking part, and there is no lack of public interest. An up-to-date feature of the celebration was the contest between the heavier than air flying machines, and the dirigible balloons, in which victory fell (or should we say rose) to the former.