

It is not improbable that France will soon begin the construction of a great railway across the Sahara to Lake Tchad, and thence to connect with the British line of railway to Cape Town. Scientists sent out to examine the route have brought back a favourable report.

The declaration of independence in Mongolia has led to a battle lasting two days, in which the Chinese were victorious. There is much excitement in China, where it is thought that the insurrection is encouraged by the Russians, with the ultimate purpose of annexing outer Mongolia to Russia. Russia, however, has declared that she has no intention of annexing Mongolia, only desiring that Mongolia should have self government.

The rapid advances of the Balkan allies have been checked. While practically the whole of Macedonia is in the hands of the allies, the beleaguered city of Adrianople still holds out, and the defences of Constantinople have been strengthened. The Bulgarians have agreed to an armistice, and are discussing with the Turks conditions of peace. The independence of Albania has been proclaimed by some local chieftain, the apparent object being to check the advance of the Servian armies in that direction. There are renewed fears of open hostilities between Austria and Servia, in which other European nations would be involved.

The Federated Malay States have offered to supply the British government with a first-class battleship, and the offer has been accepted. The Federated States are not British provinces, but self-governing states under British protection. It is said that the independent princes of India are preparing to give three such ships and nine armoured cruisers as their contribution to the defence of the British Empire. Canada's action is now being discussed in parliament, and Premier has proposed to offer three first-class dreadnoughts to the Motherland, costing \$35,000,000. Parliament will no doubt give its assent to this.

Of the six million people who compose the inhabitants of what has hitherto been called Turkey-in-Europe, more than half are Christians of some one or other of the branches of the Eastern Church. Turkey-in-Asia contains as many more; but there they are largely outnumbered by the Mohammedan population.

### SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

Miss Marianne G. Otty, who received the degree of Master of Arts from the Chicago University last summer, is principal of the Queen's County Grammar School, Gagetown. Miss Marian Casswell is the teacher of the primary department.

Mr. James H. Munro, late school inspector for Yarmouth and Shelburne, N. S., died in Boston, November 8, after undergoing an operation. Mr. Munro was a native of Albion Mines, Pictou, was educated at New Glasgow Grammar School and Pictou Academy, and taught school in different parts of Nova Scotia, chiefly in Shelburne and Yarmouth, where he held several important positions until his appointment in 1886, to the office of school inspector of these counties. This office he held until 1907, when failing health obliged him to retire. During Mr. Munro's inspectorship, the school-houses were greatly improved and many new ones were built. He was a man of scholarly and quiet tastes and devotedly attached to literature. He had attained to the ripe age of eighty years.

A district Teachers' Institute for West Colchester was held at Great Village, N. S., on October 24 and 25, and another at Lower Stewiacke, on November 7 and 8, both under the supervision of Inspector Campbell. The institutes were largely attended, and model lessons were conducted in physical drill, nature work, drawing, primary reading and number, language work and other subjects, by competent teachers.

Mr. J. S. Gordon, a native of Prince Edward Island, recently inspector of the High Schools of British Columbia, has been appointed Superintendent of Schools for the city of Vancouver. Mr. Gordon is fitted for his responsible position by ability and experience, and his appointment will be a source of strength to the schools of that enterprising city.

Miss E. Iva Yerxa, one of the Canadian Contingent of teachers to South Africa from St. John, N. B., in 1903, has returned and accepted a temporary appointment in the St. John schools.

Mr. J. E. Barteaux, inspector of Evening Technical Schools in Nova Scotia, finds the schools in the mining districts of Cape Breton in a satisfactory condition, with good rooms, an excellent staff of instructors, and with the promise of a larger attendance than ever before.

The University of New Brunswick will elect a Rhodes Scholar to Oxford this year. Applications have been received from five candidates and the election must take place before January 1st.

Mr. Jos. F. Alexander, a student of the junior class of the University of New Brunswick, died of typhoid fever at the Victoria Hospital, Fredericton, November 27. The deceased was twenty-four years of age, a native of Fredericton Junction, and had taught school at Petitcodiac and Harvey. He was a brother of Principal Elmer J. Alexander of the Hartland, N. B., schools. Some time ago while on a hunting trip he is said to have drunk swamp water from which typhoid fever later developed.

A scholarship of the value of \$100 annually for five years has been donated to the University of New Brunswick, by Dr. A. Pierce Crocket, St. John, N. B., as a memorial to his father, Dr. William Crocket, formerly the Chief Superintendent of Education, now living in retirement at Fredericton. The scholarship will be competed for by members of the freshman class in the subjects Latin and Greek.

Dr. Everett W. Sawyer of Okanagan College, B. C., has been visiting friends in the East.

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College re-opened on Tuesday November 5, with an attendance of 102, the largest enrolment in the history of this useful institution. Several students from New Brunswick are in attendance. The influence of this excellently conducted college is steadily increasing.

A fine new school building was opened at Tatamagouche, N. S., on Wednesday evening, November 20, and advantage was taken of the occasion to hold a large educational meeting which the teachers of Colchester County and parts of Cumberland County attended, prior to the holding of a teachers' Institute on the two days following. The building is two stories high with two large school rooms with subsidiary class and laboratory rooms. It is heated by hot air, has hardwood floors and is finished in a superior manner. It is located on an ample square of ground in a central com-