

Prof. Montgomery, of Toronto University, has found traces of the prehistoric moundbuilders as far north as one hundred and forty miles above the international boundary line. He believes they were related to the Aztecs of Mexico, and to the cliff dwellers of New Mexico and Arizona.

By some miscalculation in the plans, or, more probably, by some imperfection in the work, the great railway bridge which was partly constructed across the St. Lawrence at Quebec fell and was completely ruined, with the loss of many lives. A royal commission is investigating the matter.

Japan has taken possession of Prates, a small island north of the Philippines, which can be converted into a strong naval base.

The premier of the Province of Quebec advocates the annexation to that province of the territory of Ungava, which would make Quebec the largest province in the Dominion.

From experiments made during the current year, Prof. Lowell is convinced that the planet Mars is at present the abode of intelligent constructive life. Though possessed of intelligence and of the power to plan and execute great public works such as the canals are supposed to be, it by no means follows that these Martian beings, if they really exist, in any other way resemble human beings.

The Cullinan diamond, which it is proposed that the Transvaal government should purchase and present to King Edward, is the largest diamond known, being more than three times the original size of the famous Koh-i-noor, which weighed nine hundred carats before it was cut. The gift is proposed by Gen. Botha, premier of the Transvaal, as a token of gratitude for the grant of responsible government. The stone is valued by experts at £150,000.

The teaching of the English language is compulsory in the schools of Japan. As they do things thoroughly in Japan, this would seem to mean that in a few years Japan will be an English speaking nation, or at least that her people will be able to use our language for all their intercourse with foreigners, the English tongue being made the international language of the East.

To lift the water from the lowlands, Holland has over ten thousand windmills. The average area drained by each mill is something more than three hundred acres.

Certain coloring matters, including zinc white, cadmium yellow, vermilion, and others, are now obtained on a commercial scale from suitable solutions by the use of the electric current.

New experiments have shown that disease germs are very rapidly destroyed by sunlight. The time required for completely killing them was found to be from two to ten minutes. In diffused light, however, as that from a north window, the time required ran into several days. The importance of this from the point of view of public health is very clear.

A German engineer has invented a wireless telegraph for short distances. The apparatus is easily portable, and will probably be found useful in military operations.

As most of our pencils are made in Germany, it is interesting to know that the Germans are now using a material made of potatoes as a substitute for cedar for that purpose.

Peary decided some time ago not to make his next start for the North Pole this year; but Wellman, who was planning to carry the stars and stripes to that point from Spitzbergen in his airship, has started. He has also stopped, after a flight of a few hours duration; and concluded to make no further attempt this year.

A royal proclamation has been issued, in virtue of which our sister nation of the South Pacific will hereafter be known as the Dominion of New Zealand.

With a view to helping to solve the problem of the unemployed, the Transvaal government has determined to work the tin fields of the Pietersburg district in the interest of the state.

The Hague Conference has agreed that the contracting powers must not commence hostilities without a formal declaration of war, and that a state of war between two nations must be notified without delay to the neutral powers.

The French government is greatly encouraged by the improvement in the Moroccan situation, and hope soon to have accomplished the purpose of the joint French and Spanish occupation, namely, the restoration of order and security at the Moroccan ports. The outcome of the struggle between the rival sultans of Morocco is a matter of little concern.

The King of Annam, deposed by the French authorities in July last, has abdicated in favor of his son. The new king is eight years old; and now rules his kingdom by the aid of a regency composed of the council of ministers.

The King of Spain has signed a decree authorizing the construction of a railway across the Pyrennes into France.

Recent explorations in Equador have brought to light ruins of an ancient city, supposed to have been inhabited by a race of people hitherto unknown to us, and of higher civilization than any other living in America before the coming of Columbus.

The National Trades and Labor Congress, recently in session at Glace Bay, declared itself in favor of purely Canadian organizations; and declared unpatriotic the action of self-styled labor leaders in maintaining foreign organizations on British soil.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

The St. John County Teachers' Institute will meet at the high school in St. John, on the 10th and 11th of October, (see advertisement on another page). The Kings County Teachers' Institute will meet at Hampton on the above dates.

Professor E. W. Sawyer has removed from Wolfville, N. S., to be principal of the New Baptist college at Summerland, B. C.

Mr. Corbett is the principal of the school at Maitland, Hants County, and Miss Agnes A. Dodds is the teacher of the primary department.

The question of the establishment of technical schools by the Nova Scotia government was informally discussed at a recent meeting of the board of school trustees, it being the opinion of the board, that such a school should be established in Yarmouth.—*The Yarmouth Herald*.

Frank A. Good, of the Fredericton high school, whom