

ble grows to beauty." Nine of the great columns of the hall have fallen.

—MORITZ Busch, biographer of Prince Bismarck, is dead.

—THE new commercial treaty between Mexico and China is written in English.

—THE children who are engaged in studying the map of Africa will be interested in hearing about the project of France to build a railway through the great Sahara desert from Tunis to the group of oases called Air, with branch lines to Lake Tchad and the Niger. The object of this railway is to unite the French colonies in Central and Northwestern Africa. The line at present running from Biskra, along the border of Tunis, to the end of the Atlas mountains, is to be used. The line of railway when completed will be over a thousand miles through the desert. The great difficulty in the undertaking will be in provisioning the workmen, in providing them with good water to drink, and in protecting them from attacks by hostile tribes. The cost will be lessened, because there will be no charge for right of way through the desert. No houses will have to be pulled down or farms cut through. Let the children trace the line on the map.

### **Practical Hints and Examination Papers.**

REMINDERS TO TEACHERS.—“A lie is a wronged child's only defence, and this shield of falsehood is adjusted to meet all the emergencies of life.”

The habit, indulged in by both boys and girls, of cigarette smoking should be the subject of serious consideration on the part of the teacher. It is a habit injurious to the nervous system and immoral in its tendency.

While children are in the school-room they should be kept busy. When work is done they ought to be sent out to play. For young children the lessons should be short and the hours of recreation long. Encourage children to do their work in the school hours.

Shortsightedness is a disease of the school-room. Children wearing spectacles should be taught to keep the glasses clean. It is a serious tax on the eyes to be constantly striving to see through dim glasses. It is a matter of considerable doubt as to whether a child is more helped or injured by wearing twisted, clouded glasses.