

lieves that the possibilities of extending the distance are almost limitless.

A new electric light filament has been invented which requires less than one-fourth the energy to give the same light as given by the carbon filaments now in use.

The Shah of Persia died on the 8th of January, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Mohammed Ali Mirza. The new Shah is familiar with European affairs, and is said to have approved the great political change which marks the close of his father's reign, the calling of a National Assembly. The new Assembly met on the 3rd of January, but five days before the death of the late Shah. It has control of financial matters and public works, but only an advisory voice in matters of administration.

A projectile that takes photographs is another German invention. It is in the form of a shell enclosing a camera, the shutter of which works automatically as the projectile begins to descend, thus obtaining a picture of a broad expanse of country.

Pneumatic locomotives in use in German mines have an air tank in place of a steam boiler. The air is stored at high pressure; and its expansion gives a safe, reliable and cheap power.

#### SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

Mr. Elmer E. King, for twenty years principal of the Loggieville, N. B., school, and a native of Kings County, died recently after a short illness of pneumonia. He was an estimable citizen and a competent instructor.

Among the candidates at Acadia University for the Rhodes scholarships to be awarded this month is Arthur Estey, of Fredericton, nephew of Mr. J. W. Spurden, manager of the People's Bank.

Mr. J. V. Lynn has resigned his position as instructor in manual training at the N. B. Normal School to assume a similar position at Calgary.

Mr. C. J. Mersereau, M. A., has recently been appointed principal of the Horton Academy, Wolfville, an institution in which he has taught with distinguished ability for several years.

Dr. Ernest Rutherford, Macdonald Professor of Physics at McGill University, has resigned to accept the post of Langworthy Professor and Director of Physical Laboratories in the University of Manchester.

Principal W. B. Shaw, recently of the Bristol, Carleton County, superior school, is at present teaching in the Industrial School near Red Deer, Alberta, and finds the work quite interesting.

Principal E. B. Smith, of the County Academy, Port Hood, C. B., is receiving deserved commendation for his excellent management of the schools of that town. *Greetings*, the local paper, says: "Parents and children here and elsewhere in the County of Inverness who have pupils attending must certainly appreciate the good, substantial educational work which is being done here."

On Friday evening, December 21, the students of Guysboro, N. S., academy called upon their principal, Mr. W. W. Herdman, and presented him with a complimentary address and a handsome sterling silver writing set. Mr.

Herdman replied, thanking the students for their kindness and good-will. The attendance at the Guysboro Academy this year is the largest on record, many students coming from different points of county. Mr. Herdman is a Pictou boy, a splendid teacher, and well regarded by those of whom he has charge.

The Fredericton Board of School Trustees have decided to introduce regular musical instruction in the public schools under their charge—a wise and progressive measure which it is hoped may be speedily followed in other communities.

Mr. Wm. R. Shanklin, recently a member of the staff of the School for the Deaf, Lancaster, has been appointed principal of the Newman street school, St. John. Mr. Shanklin has had considerable experience, and has shown much skill in teaching.

Mr. John G. MacKinnon has been appointed teacher of grade six, Leinster street school, St. John; not of the Douglas Avenue school, as stated last month.

#### RECENT BOOKS.

One of the great needs at this and all seasons of the year is the *Canadian Almanac* for 1907, published by Copp, Clark & Company, Toronto. The writer inquired for it at several of the city bookstores about the tenth of January, and the reply was, "All sold out; another lot ordered." Everybody seems to need the concise summary that is found in this invaluable publication—the astronomical and meteorological calculations, commercial reports of Canada, short history of the Dominion, Canadian banks and other public institutions, forms of government throughout the world, British army and navy, Canadian militia, post offices and railroad stations in Canada, officials of all grades, and the clergy, lawyers, *et als*, of the Dominion and the provinces, educational institutions, societies, Canadian tariff, and information of various kinds such as one needs every day from the first of January to the thirty-first December.

Messrs. Ginn & Company, Boston, publish two books that will prove of great benefit to students who wish a brief but clear view of history from the earliest times down to the present. The first is Myers's *Short History of Ancient Times* (388 pages, mailing price \$1.25), containing the first part of that author's *General History*, brought down to the period of Charlemagne. The second is Myers's *Short History of Mediæval and Modern Times* (438 pages, mailing price \$1.30), the companion volume to the *History of Ancient Times*, containing the record down to modern times. These books should be in every school library, furnishing as they do an interesting, authentic and concise account of the world's doings, available to every student.

Messrs. Geo. Philip & Son, London, publish an *Outline Elementary Atlas of Comparative Geography* (price, one shilling), containing a series of 32 outline maps on drawing. The series forms a very useful set of outlines for map drawing.

Messrs. Blackie & Son, London, publish a *Nature-Knowledge Diary*, compiled with notes on nature-study by W. Percival Westell. These notes are very simple and concise, and the Diary is an excellent *vade mecum* to the