



THE GUARD AND TACKLE

Devoted to the Interests of the Stockton High School.

Vol. III.

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No. 6.



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The Guard and Tackle.

VOL. III.

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY, 1898.

No. 6.

SOME SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

WE are pleased to note that our High School is showing many signs of a healthy growth. It is not only requiring careful study from the pupils, but it is enlarging and strengthening its courses of study, and adding needed departments. Within the present year a course in Freehand and Mechanical Drawing has been begun, and the work already done by some of the pupils is indeed surprising and gratifying. The upper room in the Manual Training Building is used for these classes, and is fitted up with all the necessary conveniences to aid and encourage the pupil. It will afford our friends much pleasure to visit this part of our work and note the advantages which are here secured. The Manual Training Department added to the General Department a year earlier is also open to High School pupils, and a large number are taking lessons in handling the hammer, the saw, and the plane.

Another valuable addition is the enlargement of our History Course. There are, perhaps, no schools in the State where the pupils secure so extensive and competent training in the study of history. In place of the two years' course of former years, we now have daily recitation in history, extending throughout the four years. The History room is charmingly fitted up. Separate library cases for each year of the course, and well filled with the best reference books adorn the walls. A new cabinet for historical specimens has just been added to the furniture of the room, and filled with a rare collection of curios furnished by the teacher. The pupils are delighted with the study, and are taking great interest in helping to decorate the room. One class has purchased a large picture of "The Coliseum of Rome"; another "The Notre Dame of Paris", and a third a statuette of Venus de Milo. A further evidence of their interest in this work is the voluntary organization of a weekly debating club for the purpose of discussing questions growing out of their history lessons.

The interest of the pupils is not less noticeable in other directions. The Young Men's Debating Club, which meets every alternate Friday evening, is the scene of many a lively discussion of topics of general interest to the student of history and politics. The young men have also a Parliamentary Law Class for the study and practice of the rules governing deliberative bodies, and they are becoming so skilled in "arresting legislation" that the girls of the senior class have announced their intention of organizing a similar class in order to protect their own interest, and to "further legislation."

In the English Department a Reading Club meets after school hours once a week, to further their acquaintance with the style of the masters of English literature. These various clubs and classes are all voluntary, and are the result of in-

terest awakened in the pupil for their work, and indicates the true spirit of a healthy intellectual growth which we hope to see continued. D. A. MOBLEY.

ATHLETICS.

AT present little attention is given by the High School to athletics. No one seems to know the reason, and if any of the officials are asked anything concerning the matter they shrug their shoulders and say: "I can't help it. Why don't the boys get down to business and do something?"

This something should be done to hold up the Athletic Department of the school. No interest is taken in athletic sports, and the dues which are required to meet expenses are not being paid. This state of affairs has ruled for several years. For some reason the greatest interest is shown during the foot ball season. If as much interest were shown toward other athletic events, we could establish a record as good as the foot ball team made during last season.

The H. S. does not contain athletes who are record breakers, but there are some who are very good, and with practice and encouragement they may, after all, win some laurels.

In less than two months the Academic Athletic League, of which the S. H. S. is a member, will hold its semi-annual field day. No action has yet been taken by the directors in regard to our representation. This should be done, so that, if we are to be represented, the boys can have time to get in form.

DEBATING SOCIETY NEWS.

THE interest in debating is greatly increasing throughout the schools of the State. Of late the assembly room of the S. H. S. D. C. has been well filled. The Blue and White now boasts of two promising societies, which will, beyond doubt, stand well in the league which will soon be formed.

The questions that have been discussed during the past few weeks by the members of the S. H. S. D. C. are:

"Resolved, That Washington was a greater military genius than Napoleon;" and "That the lower classes in the United States are tending toward the same state of poverty that exists among those in the European countries."

The former was discussed by Peterson, '98, and Purdy, '99, vs. Coleman, '98, and Miller, '99. The latter by Torgerson, '98, vs. McQuiddy, '98. In both debates the negatives were victorious. During the former debate many amusing similes were brought up and skillfully turned.

The recent meeting resulted in the election of the following officers: V. Peterson, '98, President; J. Wilson, '98, Vice-President; N. Franks, '98, Secretary; O. Torgerson, '98, Treasurer; J. B. Wetmore, '99, Sergeant-at-Arms; Prof. D. A. Mobley, Critic.

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FEBRUARY seems a month of famous birthdays. The fact that Lincoln, the only man whom Americans have deemed worthy of being placed beside Washington, was born in this month, already so dear to patriotic citizens, has made it doubly precious. We cannot mention Lincoln's name without his image coming before our minds—tall, awkward and homely, yet with a nature so kind and frank and unpretending, that it won every heart. His being President made no difference to him; he considered himself on the same level with every other American citizen. An amusing story is told of an incident of Lincoln's inaugural journey to Washington. He came out on the platform of the passenger coach as the train stopped in a manufacturing town and greeted the assembled crowds. A very tall workman caught sight of him and cried: "Hi, there! Abe Lincoln, I'm taller than you; yes, a sight taller!" "My man, I doubt it," Lincoln replied, good-naturedly. "However, come up and let's measure." Up he came and stood back to back with the President of the United States, while Lincoln proved himself the taller. "We are friends anyway, aren't we?" Lincoln asked kindly, as he offered his hand. "Yes, Abe Lincoln, as long as I live," the man replied heartily, completely won by the simple kindness of the man, who, though the head of a great government, lived up to his belief in the lines:

"The rank is but the guinea's stamp,
A man's a man for a' that."

On the 27th of February, 1807, another famous American, the "Children's Poet," was born. It has been said that Longfellow's poems are better known to all classes of people, at home and abroad, than those of any other poet. Certain it is that no other poems are so read and loved by American children.

There are several others who have helped to make February a famous birthday month, but the mention of these three, Washington, Lincoln and Longfellow, makes one glad that he is an American.

"Who are your heroes?" a young girl was once heard asking her companion. "Washington and Lincoln," was the prompt reply. "O, dear," said the first speaker, "I'm so tired at the very sound of their names that I always change the subject when they are mentioned. Now my hero is Napoleon."

How many of us have no more patriotism than this girl had? We have often heard the mention of Washington's name accompanied by some careless allusion to the "Little Hatchet Story," as though that were the most important incident in the life of the "Father of His Country." Other great Americans are often spoken of as "chestnuts." Let us not be ashamed with these people who do not appreciate our country's greatest heroes, but let us be true Americans, full of patriotism, and quick to champion any of our great men when we hear them spoken of slightly. This is the best tribute we can pay to their memory.

A GERMAN CLUB.

The Senior German Class have decided to meet every other Thursday evening of each month at the residences of the members, in order to promote their German conversational powers.

The first meeting was held Thursday evening, Feb. 3, at the residence of Miss Cora Sperry. The evening was pleasantly spent in games, the conversational part of which was carried on in German. During the evening it was decided that they should elect a President and Secretary, who should hold their offices for a month. Miss Janet Chase was elected President and Mr. Will Franks Secretary. A committee was also chosen to draw up a constitution and to report at the next meeting, which was decided to be held at the residence of Miss Clara Parsons.

The boys of the Parliamentary Law Class have a very quiet way of telling the girls to go home. They simply nominate the girls, who stay to listen to the proceedings, for office, and soon the girls go home.

THE cut on the cover of this issue is due to the kindness of Mr. De Treville. We are very grateful for the interest and good will that he has shown us.

ALL contributions to THE GUARD AND TACKLE must be handed in before the 15th of each month.

A FIRST IMPRESSION.

YES, we had certainly been misled and hoodwinked; spring had not come after all; the days of sunshine and violets had only been a tantalizing promise, and now the wind was blowing dismally, wearily, around the study room windows. The confusion of changing classes had subsided; the room was noiseless save for the rustling of papers, the occasional questions, and the singing in the room below.

Only a month and a week since Stockton, its vistas of shaded trees, its houses and its High School had been utterly strange to me, and now the faces of old acquaintances, the feeling haunted me that I had seen them, known them before. It is the friendliness of all I have met, even to the sights and scenes, that has made my first impression of Stockton such a singularly happy one.

Possibly the feeling has grown from the incident I met with when I saw for the first time the room which was to be my new home. It was a picture of no other than the stern face with the drooping eyelids, closely shut lips and ruffled throat linen of Washington that greeted me when I opened my door to take possession. It was the same portrait that hangs beside the hooded and kerchiefed Martha in the home dining room, and that was purchased over seventy years ago, when no home was complete without the portrait of the nation's idol.

Since then I have met with many another framed, familiar face, lit even those that are not framed and have not hung on the house walls are the faces of old friends to me, and the days that have been spent in learning their names, their expressions of discontent and satisfaction, their class-room likes and dislikes, their study-room preferences, I feel have not been misleading, but also full of promise.

CLUB NEWS.

JANUARY 24, 1898, marked the first truly loyal day in the history of the Stockton High School. The members of the Local History Club had planned to meet at Jackson's baths at 10 a. m., and from there go in a body to take part in the resurrection of the redman. On account of the false reports of the weather clerk, the members of the club were rather shy about exposing their delicate constitutions to the furies of the elements. As it was, only a few of the boldest reported at the stated time.

Five energetic members left the baths for the old Indian camps and burial grounds on the McDougald tract. The air was crisp and invigorating, and the members—contrary to the expected dignity of local historians—were rather inclined to express witty thoughts.

After a pleasant walk of a mile and a half, the grounds were reached. But how they differed from the happy pictures of our fancy; pictures showing grassy mounds labeled "Blood and Thander," "Eagle Eyes," "Deerfoot," and the like; pictures showing graves containing the remains of noble redmen, industrious squaws and assorted papooses. And, stranger still, not a sound was heard—not even a muffled warwhoop nor moan.

There lay the grounds connected with volumes of un-written romance and history. Notwithstanding the cold-

blooded fact that the general appearance was strongly suggestive of the backyard of a "two-bit" oyster house after a destructive fire, we were deeply moved. As we trod over the ground made sacred by its connection with the "noble and poetical" Digger Injun, we removed our handkerchiefs and wept.

But it was no time for the deep emotions of the heart. The shovel must be manned and the red patriot brought to light. After digging a hole that would have done credit to a gang of "Jerries," we turned up many pounds of shells, a small bone, several interesting implements, a pair of I X L overalls, an empty Lion's Sarsaparilla bottle and a considerable quantity of useful information. If it had not been for the company of Mr. Hughes we would have been entirely at sea. The club is very much indebted to that gentleman for his pleasant company and the free distribution of his knowledge of natural science. Frequently a big find was made by the amateurs and labeled "A fragment of an Indian general, 3000 years old." But the cool judgment of Mr. Hughes soon explained that it was the jaw bone of a male that had met his death within the past six months.

At the end of a few hours of pleasant digging we returned to civilization, a very tired and much wiser crowd. It is my own private opinion that, after a few more such outings with the company of Mr. Hughes, the members of the Local History Club will be able to determine the physiological difference between the twenty-first Dorsal vertebra of a black Spanish hen and the drumstick of a noble Indian chief.

J. B. WETMORE, '90.

SOCIETIES.

The members of the Lambda Theta Phi Sorority, who were so pleasantly entertained on the evening of the last G. E. K. initiation, wish to thank those young men. We beg to suggest that, in the next serenade, a bagpipe may be secured reasonably, which would keep all the voices, at least, in the same key.

The Sorority spent a very pleasant afternoon on Saturday, Jan. 29, at the residence of Miss Hattie Nicewonger. Musical numbers were rendered by Miss Nellie Stevens, Miss Bessie Rosenbaum, Miss Hattie Nicewonger and Miss Edith Adams. Progressive "It" and other games formed a pleasant pastime.

On Monday, Jan. 24, a meeting was held at the home of Miss Hattie Ruggles. After the business was concluded a most social afternoon was enjoyed.

We regret to say that one of our members is growing tony. We wonder why.

The girls of the Stockton High School have organized a Girl's Debating Club, which meets every Thursday at 3.30 p. m. Ida Peterson, '00, is President; Jessie McJames, '01, Vice-President; Helen Moring, '00, Secretary, and Louise Simons, '01, Treasurer. The subject for the first debate on Feb. 24 is: *Resolved*, That war is productive of greater good than evil. The debaters are: Maud Sellman, Blanche Mohley, Maud Wallace, affirmative; Ethel Strohmeyer, Alice Phillips, Clara Doak, negative. All girls of the Stockton High School are invited to join the Debating Club. None but members are admitted to the meetings at present.



Miss McCall, '99, is with us again.

Why does Dorsev like Julia? Most boys like Quayle.

Miss Hazel Klensch, '99, attended the Jubilee celebration in San Francisco.

Mr. Brignole has made the number of Merry Middlers one more this month.

Miss A. and Miss T., '99, think it is perfectly delightful to walk through woods dotted with shady *Aspers*.

She—Jack said perhaps he would drop in to tea.

He—He better be careful; he might scald himself.

Did Miss Bagley, '99, really think Mr. Brown got in side of an engine?

Prof. Brown has become so fond of the middle physics class that he has been giving extra sessions after school, free of charge.

Miss Johnson, '99, has returned after a few weeks' absence on account of illness.

If the seniors value their lives they should ascertain whether Mr. McCloud's finger is loaded or not, for he is constantly pointing it at random around the class.

Miss Janet Chase, '98, attended the Golden Jubilee in San Francisco.

Anthony Bowers, '98, was absent for a week on account of illness.

Miss Anna White, '98, was absent several days of last month on account of illness.

Mr. Sundry has lately become a member of the class of '98.

Prof. Brown has his class stand up to recite now. This seems to be a very inconvenient arrangement, for before one can stand up he will have to put up the seat, put up the desk, and naturally in doing this he drops three or four books, and by the time he has found standing room he has also found that he has lost all that he ever had in his head concerning physics.

Senior 1—I don't understand the subject of "ether." I can't get it into my head.

Senior 2—Why, of course you can't, because your head is full of it already, for, you know, ether occupies all space.

Oh! why do the girls look scared

When they come in?

Alas! Prof. Brown has resorted

To discipline.

Miss Ethel Webster, '00, delightfully entertained a few of her friends Saturday, Feb. 4.

Why is Mr. Kenyon, '00, like an echo? Because he is always answering back.

Why is the Junior Class so united? Because it is connected by conjunctions—Butts.

The Parliamentary Law Club, organized last year, has been reorganized. The club meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 3:30 p. m. All students of the school are invited to join the club. The good work the club is accomplishing is already seen in the class meetings, and it is hoped that the membership will increase.

The pupils of the Stockton High School seem to be very much interested in debates. There are two Debating Societies, and recently there have been two debates, and another forthcoming in the English classes. During the coming month there will be a debate between the Senior and Middle Sections. The question is: *Resolved*, That Hamilton's policy was better than that of Jefferson's. The speakers on the affirmative are Mr. Cohn, Mr. McCloud and Miss Miller. Those on the negative are Messrs. Rhea, Wilson and Carey.

Without regard to single vowel,

His Latin he was reading;

When Mr. Israel, with a scowl,

Said to offending Alling:

"The scholars and I would all rejoice

If out of class you'd train your voice."

(One of the Middle A English Class)—Who has reached the highest point in Miss Lane's estimation?

(Another)—Miss Hill—ke.

Latin Class: Professor—"What voice has that verb?"

Pupil—"Tenor."

A New Simile: Instructor—"The first law of Heaven is order; therefore we must have order in this physics room."

Who is the angel? Mr. B—?

The sub-juniors have postponed the "Poverty Party."

We are glad to see Miss Chestnutwood with us again.

He who inside his watchlid wears

His sweetheart's pretty face,

Is sure to have a time, for there's

A woman in the case.—*Ex.*

A correspondent in North Carolina sends us a definition of fog, who evidently reasons, if he does not reason well, "fog," he said, "is when the atmosphere and the hemisphere come together. That produces a great pressure, and causes the earth to sweet. The sweet is called fog."
—[*Yankee's Companion.*]

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WHAT THE PRISONER SAID.

A COLORED man was once on trial for assault. Old Uncle Mose was one of the principal witnesses for the State. The main point was whether or not the prisoner had given any provocation to bring on the row.

"Now, tell the jury all you know about the affair," said the Justice.

"Kin I tell de jury all I knows in my own way?" asked Old Mose.

"Yes: tell what you know in your own way."

Old Mose turned solemnly to the expectant jurymen.

"Gem'mens of de jury, you am de meanest lookin' crowd I ever seed—"

"Stop!" howled the attorney for the State.

"Your Honor will incarcerate the witness for contempt of court!" howled the attorney for the prisoner.

The foreman of the jury got up and asked the Court to protect the jury from insult.

"Witness, if you insult the jury again I shall certainly resort to extreme measures."

"I'm not gwine ter consult nobody if you don't interfere wid me," said Old Mose, sullenly.

"Proceed."

"Gem'mens of de jury, you am de meanest lookin' crowd eber I seed outside ob a jail—"

The prosecuting attorney jumped up and down. The foreman of the jury once more howled, "Your Honor!" The constable laid his hand on the collar of Old Mose, when he latter calmly repeated to the jury:

"You am de meanest lookin' crowd I ever seed outside ob a jail. Dem was de berry words de prisoner dar used when he just came inter de room, and which led to de row."

The foreman sat down quick. The attorneys doubled up like jack-knives, with suppressed laughter. His Honor smiled. The spectators roared; while Old Mose, with a surprised look of childish innocence, once more said emphatically to the cowed jurymen:

"You am de meanest lookin' crowd ever I seed outside ob de jail."

GRACE SELLMAN, '99.

SUB MISTLETOE.

We two stood near

The chandelier,

With mistletoe upon it.

A lovely girl,

My head awhirl,

Her wrap—I'll help her don it."

A button caught;

I surely ought

To help, when she'd begun it.

A pause, a hush,

A kiss, a blush,

And now, by Jove, I've done it.—*Lehigh Burr.*

Teacher—"I'm sorry to see you speaking."

Culprit—"I'm sorry to have you."

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EXCHANGES.

"The Wolfe-Hall Banner" comes to us for the first time. On the first page is a picture of Wolfe-Hall.

The "Vidette" has a very neat cover.

The exchange column of "The Crescent" is very good. The Jacob Tome Monthly is an ideal school paper.

The exchange column of the "High School Junta" is always good.

The cover of the holiday number of the "Kodak" is very pretty in purple and gold.

We welcome the "High School Review" of Sacramento and the "Irving Echoes" of San Francisco among our exchanges. Best wishes for the prosperity of both papers are offered by THE GUARD AND TACKLE.

"The Souvenir" is a very pleasing paper, both inside and out.

The "Old Oaken Wood Box," an interesting parody on the immortal "Old Oaken Bucket," is to be found in the January "Porcupine."

The "Aegis" comes to us in its usual interesting form.

The "North Star" Christmas number comes to us in very neat form, but it would be greatly improved by an exchange column.

"The good die young." Yes, all but the jokes.—*Ex.*

Small Boy—"Mister, I want a bottle of vaseline."

Drug Clerk—"Do you want scented or unscented?"

Small Boy—"No, I'll itch it with me."

Irate German (to stranger who had stepped on his toe)

—"Mine frient, I know mine feet vas to be walked on, but dat privilege belongs to me."

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