

THE GUARD AND TACKLE

Devoted to the Interests of the Stockton High School.

Vol. III.

Stockton, California, March, 1898.

No. 7.



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Cor. Market and San Joaquin Sts., STOCKTON, CAL.

The Guard and Tackle.

VOL. III.

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA, MARCH, 1898.

No. 7.

DO WE NEED A NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING?

EDUCATION, the motor power of the world of civilization, endows its possessor with a grace of manner and warmth of heart acknowledged by all. Hence, there is no question of such vital importance to the taxpayers of Stockton, to the parents of this community, and to High School students as that of High School Buildings. Having had the pleasure of teaching in the Stockton High School for the past five years, I fully appreciate its wants.

Let us glance at some of the requisites of a modern schoolhouse. Has the present High School Building the minimum width of 60 ft. around? Count the doors that violate the axiom, "All doors of exit must open outwards."

A schoolhouse for young people from 13 to 19 years of age should be not more than two stories in height, and the stairs should measure not less than 5 to 6 ft. in width. Taxpayers, climb the stairs of our highest institution of learning in the City of Stockton, of which you are so proud. Wending your way upward, upward, upward. Do not stop until you reach the top. Travel with the students from 9 a. m. until noon. It is safe to assert that some of you could not keep up with the procession that tramps to the upper floor, then to the second, then to the first, perhaps, and back to the third before dismissal at noon. Remember, please, there is no recess on account of loss of time in ascending and descending stairs. Call on the parents, and mark well what is said. The condition of our High School student appeals to parents, if not to politicians.

But the greatest problem is that of ventilation. Having, when a school teacher, been a victim of poor ventilation, I can from dear experience discuss its demerits. Headache, headache for two or three hours after close of school; languor, nervousness, and a thousand and one ills are disseminated by the dust, gases from heaters, and carbonic acid from lungs. How many rooms allow 30 cubic feet per head per minute? I can recall the time when 80, 90, even 105 pupils were herded, simply herded, in room 16 in the Washington School House for the purpose of studying. Faces that were bright and intelligent in the morning looked woebegone and pathetic by night. Just look into the subject of a New High School Building. It is worth most profound attention from all. When you study the subject, note the temperature records: 68° F. to 82° F. or 85° F. is the standard for study, above or below which no mind is capable of doing first-class work. Yet there is not a room in the third story of the present High School Building that is not above 85° F. on a summer day. Yes, ye politicians, ye seek cool places on such days while the rising generation sweaters, gasps for breath, and lap the fountain of disease when laboring in education's cause, owing to the lack of a suitable building in which to study.

Parents when you make your tour of inspection, do not forget to notice the lighting of the building for near-sightedness is the root of many ills. Does the light reach the back of the room? Are the blackboards between the windows dead black?

Once more I appeal to you as parents, as taxpayers interested in the welfare of the community, to investigate the necessity of a New High School Building. Step forward, make a move in the matter, put up a building worthy of a city of the size of Stockton, ward off dyspepsia, headaches, eye-affections, and kindred ills ere another decade passes, and give to the brightest High School students in the State their due—a New High School Building.

MARY L. H. ANKOLD, M. D.

IN expressing my views on this subject, I fully realize that I am subjecting myself to severe criticism by some of the back numbers and moss-backs of our city, of which, I am sorry to say, we have a few left. Do We need a New High School Building? Emphatically YES!

Stockton has always looked and pointed with pride to her schools, and more especially to her High School, which is second to none in this State, and will hold her own with those of other States.

But, as to the building, it is second, third and even fourth to some. I, myself can see no reason why Stockton ought not to have a High School Building which will be one of the principal buildings in her city, and something which will reflect credit to Stockton's buildings, as do the pupils to the Stockton school system.

Good, substantial, imposing public buildings give an impression of stability to any city, and I think Stockton should share a goodly proportion of these, of which she possesses few at present as compared with other cities of her size, and possessing the advantages which our city does.

I sincerely hope that all of the members of the Stockton High School Alumni Association, will see the necessity and importance of a New High School Building as I see it, and will each and every one lend his or her aid for the accomplishment of this object, and it can be accomplished, if all will work with a will for it.

One thing I would like to impress upon the minds of all is, the absolute necessity of a fire-proof building, as a safeguard to its occupants.

FRANCIS CUTTING.

DO We Need a New High School Building? Emphatically YES! The antiquated structure now used for High School purposes was really intended for Primary and Grammar School classes. As the High School grew, class after class, of the lower grades, was transferred to other quarters. Then a third story was added, which is now

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.)

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ALTHOUGH the Stockton High School is said to be one of the strongest institutions of the kind in the State, nevertheless it has one serious element of weakness. This is the fault of the scholars, and it may be called lack of patriotism. The scholars of the High School show a good deal of interest in their various classes, but there their efforts stop. The Debating Clubs, Parliamentary Law clubs, and Athletic Association should receive hearty support from every student in the High School. By supporting and encouraging our fellow students we help them in whatever undertaking they may be engaged in. We often wonder why the blue and white is not carried to victory oftener by the athletes of our school. A school with our advantages should be foremost in every field. The cause of the failures is not the fault of the participants, but of the Stockton High School. The Athletic Association does not meet with the support that it deserves and demands. The games are but poorly attended by the scholars, while the majority of those who do go show but an indifferent interest off the field. If the mass of the students would turn out to the game, if they demonstrated to the boys by their hearty support that they were interested in their efforts we soon would see a different state of affairs.

The same is generally true of the two debating clubs. Almost every boy in the High School is eligible as a member of the club, yet the majority of the members are from the Senior and Middle Classes. The debates prove of practical help to the boys, and all should avail themselves

of its advantages. Those who cannot join should at least show their good will by attending the open meetings. This lack of interest is also felt by the other clubs and societies of the High School in a more or less degree. When the High School supports what the High School attempts, then we will meet with success and not failure.

As will be seen this issue of the GUARD AND TACKLE is exclusively devoted to the subject, "Do We Need a New High School Building?" This has long been a question of the deepest interest to the parents or the young people who attend the Stockton High School. In order to find the general opinion of the public, some time ago the GUARD AND TACKLE sent circular letters to representative alumni of the High School. The contributions received unanimously condemn the present High School Building. Although the evils of the present structure may seem exaggerated to some, nevertheless we who are pupils can vouch for every statement made. We sincerely hope that this issue will be read and pondered upon by all to whom it may come, and that a "word to the wise" will be sufficient.

The debates between the Senior History Sections took place Friday morning, March 11, 1898. The question was, *Resolved*, That Hamilton's Policy is better than that of Jefferson's. The speakers were: Affirmative, Mr. Cohn, Walter McCloud, and Mattie Miller. Negative, Eugene Cary, James Rhea, and John Wilson. The judges were, Mrs. Rose Winterburn, D. A. Mobley, and F. S. Israel. The judges decided unanimously in favor of the affirmative.

DO WE NEED A NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.)

fall to overflowing. The city will soon have to choose between more patchwork or a new building.

It seems to me that one of the most urgent needs of the city is a new, modern High School Building as centrally located as available sites will permit. If possible a whole block should be secured as a site. The building, architecturally and otherwise, should be such as would be a credit to the city. At least \$125,000 should be spent on the building alone. Such a building in the center of a block with broad walks, lawns, trees, etc., would be a fitting crown to the educational system of the city.

It is poor economy that herds hundreds of pupils in a veritable firetrap with poor lighting, worse ventilation, and a heating plant that demands overcoats and cloaks as helpers on all cold days. By all means let us have a New High School Building.

S. A. KITCHENER.

THE subject of "Our High School" or of anything pertaining thereto cannot fail to be of interest to one who is a graduate of our foremost institution of learning. The debating societies, the faculty, the athletic features are all watched with eager eyes by the alumni. When we observe the growth of our city, the beautiful homes erected, the business blocks and the improved streets, we look to our public buildings to see how they correspond with the

rest. We find the legislative and administrative departments of our City and County Government nicely located in our imposing Court House. For the criminal element we have our modern jail, and the sick and destitute are well provided for in the new County Hospital and Almshouse.

Then turning to our schools we see another state of affairs. It is true the overcrowded condition of our school-houses has been in a measure relieved by the erection of new structures for the primary grades, but our High School is still occupying the same old quarters it has occupied since its establishment. This is a deplorable condition, to say the least.

The growth of our High School has been rapid, especially in the last few years, but when we consider the fact that this is the final school from which so many of our young people enter upon the active duties of life, and that it is a preparatory school for our Universities, the necessity of having commodious and convenient buildings is apparent. The principle of "always being room at the top" seems to have been applied to the edifice at present in use, for another story has been added to the old two-story building, and to the top the pupils must climb.

There is an urgent need for a modern structure in a convenient location, to be used exclusively by the High School. If Fremont Square could be utilized, it would no doubt prove an excellent choice.

The erection of a New High School Building is a duty which the citizens of Stockton owe to the young men and young women who constitute the student-body as well as to the faculty, a building to which we could refer with pride, as we do to the institution itself. FREEMAN F. BLACK.

ONE of the most urgent needs of the City of Stockton, at the present time, is a New High School Building. Not only is the present antiquated structure, much too small, improperly arranged, lacking nearly all the modern improvements, but since a third story was put upon it it has been a perpetual menace to the health and lives of the pupils so unfortunate as to be compelled to attend school within its walls.

Several years since, it was found necessary to provide increased accommodations for the rapidly growing High School and accepting, what seemed at that time, the only alternative, the Board of Education added a third story to the old building, and have ever since regretted it. At that time I was a member of the Board, and looking back at my years of service as a Director of the public schools of this City, I regard my assent to that proposition, as the greatest mistake I ever made in the discharge of my duties as school director. If I had known then what I know now I would, if nothing else could have been done, have erected a tent on the schoolhouse grounds for the use of the pupils, rather than compel them to go up and down more stairs.

Stockton has the reputation of being a good business town, destined beyond doubt to be the third city in California. Is it not time that its citizens recognizing the importance of keeping abreast of the times in educational matters as in all others, should in the near future, erect and

equip a modern school building as the home of our High School? one that will reflect credit upon those who build it, be a constant source of pride to every citizen and add new lustre to the fame of our beloved city.

C. M. KENISTON.

WID the residents of Stockton know the real conditions under which the High School pupils are compelled to do their school duties, this question would receive not only a universal, emphatic answer in the affirmative, but immediate steps would be taken to erect a new building at the earliest time possible.

Those who have examined the present structure, and have noted its dark and narrow halls, its long and steep stairways, its insufficiently heated and imperfectly lighted class rooms, and the utter absence of any ventilation that does not at the same time endanger the health of the pupil, are pronounced in their condemnation of the building.

The third floor of the building, where the larger number of recitations are necessarily held, and where every pupil must report for class-work from two to four times each day is reached by an ascent up 54 steps on a stairway too steep for health or comfort, and less than 4 feet in width, rendering it quite inconvenient for two pupils to walk abreast. This part of the building has not a single hallway. The windows are so situated that the teacher must always face the light, while the pupils are subjected to the ruinous effects of cross-lights from two, and in one room from three directions. The consequence is that many pupils are compelled to wear glasses, and in some cases the pupil has been compelled to quit the school or lose his sight altogether.

A more threatening evil is the poor ventilation of the building. The only means of securing fresh air is the opened window which is almost always accompanied with a current of air that chills the pupil. During the winter season these windows can be opened but slightly without endangering the life of the pupil from cold currents of air, and as a consequence the vitiated air from the lungs of from 30 to 80 pupils is breathed and rebreathed until it is positively poisonous, and to one coming from the outside it seems suffocating. Yet under such conditions the bright boys and girls of Stockton are compelled to study six hours per day, and accomplish results on par with that of High Schools where the conditions are all but perfect. Our schools are the pride of our city, and our school buildings should be such that every advantage for good results are afforded the pupils, instead of imperiling their lives while training their minds.

It is safe to say that one-third better work could be accomplished by the pupil, and that a much larger per cent. would be advanced through the higher grades if a properly constructed building were erected. Parents, come and see what the conditions are under which your children are getting their High School education. Climb the steep stairways, sit for an hour facing the blinding light and breathing the vitiated air, then tell us whether we shall have a New High School Building. D. A. MORLEY.



OUR HEROES.

Through the depth of this land, on this first spring-tide day,

A longing for vengeance, the people doth sway,
For our flag's been insulted, our wrath been defied,
In Cuba's dark harbor, our sailors have died.

They met not their death midst the battle's loud roar,
With great crash of cannon, a brave foe before—
The blow came from friends to their guests at their gate,
Friends(?) whose lips whispered "Peace," but whose hearts harbored hate.

The people are anxious for war—let it come—
All are ready to march at the tap of the drum.
And we'll fight, and we'll die, on land or on sea,
Till avenged are our martyrs, and Cuba is free.

On great ships at sea will glad mariners shout,
For the country and flag that no dastard can flout,
As all over the vessels a white mist is curled,
That proclaims a salute to the flag now unfurled.

E'en criminals desperate, without home or friend,
By fighting for country, for guilt make amend—
While the poor stricken sufferer on low couch of pain
Freely cheers for the flag, he'll ne'er fight for again.

MAMIE E. HUGGINS-MILLER, '80.

YORK vs. HIGH SCHOOL.

The S. H. S. D. C. met the Y. P. S. D. C. in a joint debate at New Pioneer Hall, Friday evening, March 11. The question for discussion was, *Resolved*, That Christianity has been the Most Potent Factor in the Production of Modern Civilization. Messrs. McQuaidy and Miller upheld the honor of the blue and white. Messrs. McGinn and Laughlin the purple and gold. The judges were Mr. Eddy, Mr. Wheatly, and Mr. Gibson; time-keeper Mr. Kerrick. It is needless to mention the result, as our colors have been flying at half-mast ever since the event. The hall was crowded with eager listeners, who manifested their appreciation of the discussion by loud applause.

SOCIETIES.

Miss Cora Patton pleasantly entertained the Lambda Theta Phi Sorority at her home on Tuesday, Feb. 22d.

The girls in the High School wonder whose picture Mr. G. A. McD. has in his hat. (Apply to the Lambdas for information.)

The readers of the GUARD AND TACKLE will be sorely disappointed in not hearing more from us in this issue. Greatest secrecy is necessary that we may dazzle the more when we finally make our appearance.

We are happy to notice signs of improvement among the G. E. K. Fraternity. Besides negotiating for the bag-pipe, they have secured a corner of the Tannery for meetings. We appreciate the value of such a place for initiations.

Drink "Shasta Water," the best health producer.

Why does Miss Murphy, '98, look so devout lately? She is always thinking of Sund(a)y.

Miss Vail and Mr. Wilson study by the light of each others smiles during the last period in the afternoon.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.—Senior girl (timidly) Mr. President, I rise to a point of order.

Mr. C^o (springing up) Mr. President, according to Roberts' Rules of Order, which I hold in my hand, which this class has adopted, and which this class should stand by, the young lady is entirely out of order. The question is not—(and the young lady sinks in her seat and is never heard from again.)

Senior 1—Don't you understand that example? Why any fool can understand that.

Senior 2—But I'm no fool.

Why is the S. H. S. baseball team like the currency of France?

Because Franks plays the principal part in it.

Young lady—Oh! dear!

Young man (near by)—Were you addressing me?

Young lady—Yes, I said, "Oh! dear."

The class motto of '98 is "Deeds not Words." During the class-meetings it would be more appropriate if it were "Words not Deeds."

"Have you heard of the terrible accident that happened to Miss Sperry, '98?"

"No, what was it?"

"Wade et (h)er."

There is something quite shocking in the eastern part of the laboratory—the electrical machine.

Why do we have so many "Ex's" lately? Our teachers tell us not to work for marks, yet Miss Harry, '01, seems to think it is nice to have a mark who has strings (heads) on the Latin Professor?

Since the Cuban war is being talked about Mr. Sundry going to Have Anna,

Miss Mc—We will call this angle B A Z, now, what I say, Cyril?

Cyril—Be aisy, now.

Teacher—In what case is the noun feather?"

Johnny—Pillow-case, mam.

A Riddle—Was Jerome really sick, or did he fear that militia might be called out?

BASE BALL WITH POLYTECHNIC.

The second scheduled game of the Academic League played on the 18th instant. The game was promptly set at 1:30, Stockton taking the field. The two teams evenly matched and throughout fast ball was played. Stockton led up to the sixth inning, when Polytechnic came up in good batting order, and won by the close score to 3.

In the first inning an accident occurred, which materially weakened the team. Kenyon, who was playing on the left base collided with Colberg in center field. The result resulted with Kenyon having his leg broken. Having no substitutes, Jones, of the Stockton Business College was put in his position.

Der Deutsche Sprach Verein was pleasantly entertained during the last month, at the residences of Miss Heimann, Parsons, and Miss Cloudsley.

EXCHANGES.

Among our new exchanges are "The High School Echo," "The Student," "The Red and Black," "Olla Podrida," "The Distaff" and "Union School Quarterly."

The cover of February "Flash Light" is in harmony with its name.

"The Owl" contains some cuts of Fresno Public Buildings.

"The Autobiography of a Horseshoe" in the "North Record" is fine.

"At the Circus" is well worth reading in the "Panorama" of Providence, R. I.

"The Boardman Monthly" is printed on the Boardman School Press and is an excellent paper.

"We have received our first copy of "The De La Salle" and it is a good paper and we hope to receive it regularly.

"The Union School Quarterly" is an entertaining paper and contains an excellent cut of the Union School.

"The Columbia" annually buys \$7,000 worth of books for her library. Harvard spends \$18,000 for the same purpose and Columbia \$43,000.

"The Slingshot," an article, in the "Recorder" of Springfield, against the use of slang, might be of interest to some of our readers.

"The Literary Voice" describes "Ye Associate Editors" in a most interesting manner. We are glad to see the "Guard and Tackle" was of use to him in his

Teacher—"Compare ill."

Port Volunteer—"Ill, sick, dead."

Where was the Magna Charter signed?" asked the

base sir, at the bottom," was the reply.—Ex.

Junior—Why is a garret room like a pain in the back?
Freshie—Give it up.

Junior—Because one is an attic-room and the other a rheum-attic.

Teacher in History—"Who was the first man?"

Prodigy—"George Washington."

Teacher—"Next."

Next Biggest Prodigy—"I don't know what his name was, but I know George Washington wasn't, because he married a widow, so there must have been one man before him."

A little iron,

A cunning curl;

A box of powder,

A pretty girl;

A little rain,

Away it goes;

A homely girl,

With a freckled nose.—Ex.

Neighbor—Well, Patrick, I'm glad your master is dead. He was an old shinflint anyway.

Patrick (indignantly)—Faith an' I bet if he wor alive you'd not be after sayin' you were glad he wor dead!

The plaintiff says you berated him and then assailed him with a dangerous missile, said the judge. "Oj didn't do nothin' of the kind, yer honor. Oj called him a liar and a blatherskite, and then hit him wid a brick—that's all."

First man—I hear you came near kicking the bucket.
Second man—No, I only turned a little pale.

Teacher—Spell needle.

Johnny—N-e-i-d-l-e.

Teacher—There's no "i" in it.

Johnny—Then its no good.

Teacher of Rhetoric—Give me an illustration of a periodic sentence. Can you make one up?

Pupil (who has been waiting for the chance)—In all my life from the primary school I have never encountered such a hard lesson.

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