

The Colonist

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1899. WHICH IS THE CLEVERER?

The San Francisco Examiner has been interviewing school inspectors, school superintendents and principals over the comparative intellectual capacity of boys and girls. The late competition and its result seem to have bewildered the men connected with education in San Francisco. They appear extremely reluctant to accept accomplished facts. They try to explain them away. The facts are, that a selection of the best pupils in the schools resulted in fifteen girls and seven boys being chosen.

Twenty-one were selected in this class of twenty-one the six first places were won by girls. One would think that this competition as far as it was in favor of the equality but it was the superiority of the female intellect between the ages of fourteen and seventeen, but as we have said, the gentlemen are very reluctant to admit this.

They have many ingenious ways of accounting for the backwardness of the boys. A favorite one is that the boys think more of their sports than of their studies. The boy's attention in school as well as out of school is taken up with baseball. Others say that the habit of smoking cigarettes makes boys dull. This is greatly to be deplored if it is true.

There is hope for a boy who is so absent-minded as that, but there is no hope for a girl who is so studious. It may be said that she is building up her constitution, and that the vigor of her manhood will make up for any apparent loss he may sustain by neglecting his books in his boyhood. Such a boy's mind will be as strong and as vigorous as his body, and when he sets to work to study in earnest he will soon overtake the young bookworm.

It is not the position that the young prospect before the lad who enfeebles his mind and injures his nervous system by the habitual use of tobacco. He will make a useless man, and will not probably live out half his days. Others say that the girls are smarter than the boys, and give a greater attention to details, but that the boys show more originality, but that they are more capable of passing the girls later on. This argument of prophecy is a very poor one.

When the boys continue in school years after the girls are sent home to help their mothers or to shine in society, the superiority of the former when their education is finished is no indication of greater mental power. Let the girl have the same amount of education, and she is not doing so in England, and she is not doing so in Canada, and we have a notion that she is able to hold her own in the States.

It would have been just as well if the San Francisco school authorities had acknowledged that, so far, the girls have had the best of it, and that the boys, if they want to keep up with her, will have to work a great deal harder.

HOW LONG SHALL WE LIVE? How long shall we live? is a question that many good people look upon as absurd, or, perhaps, more correctly, as a wickedly gratuitous one. They believe that every man dies when his time comes, and that that time is fixed by a Power over which he has no control. Death is to them mysterious, inflexible, and they believe that there is no putting off the day of his coming. He comes, they say, when he is sent, no matter what form he takes. They are not afraid of death, but they are afraid of the pain which may attend it.

The school authorities have been very much surprised to find that the girls have had the best of it, and that the boys, if they want to keep up with her, will have to work a great deal harder.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, JUNE 18. LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

THE VICTORIA STEAMSHIP CO. We are pleased to state that, as soon as our arrangements could be made, a very desirable steamer will be on the coast, owned by Mr. John Turner, a well-to-do American visitor to Victoria, who will shortly cross a large part of the coast. The amount of construction was \$1,300.

THE VICTORIA STEAMSHIP CO. Mr. F. G. Richards, jr., real estate agent, yesterday effected the sale of a house on the corner of Broad street and Troughton street, owned by Mr. John Turner, a well-to-do American visitor to Victoria, who will shortly cross a large part of the coast. The amount of construction was \$1,300.

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EASTERN TOURISTS COMING.

Three Large Raymond-Whitcomb Parties to Arrive this Week.

Two large Raymond & Whitcomb excursion parties will be in Victoria the present week—in fact, three, for the larger of the two parties will come in the afternoon, and the smaller in the morning. They are chiefly from the east, Philadelphia and other eastern cities being particularly well represented.

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PRESIDENT VAN HORNE

Spends a Day in Victoria on General Business.

Mr. C. P. Van Horne, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and day night, and stayed at the Grand Hotel, Victoria, on Friday, June 17. He was accompanied by Mr. J. H. Holden, of Boston, who is the general manager of the firm's business in the Pacific Northwest, and Mr. J. H. Holden, of Boston, who is the general manager of the firm's business in the Pacific Northwest.

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LITTLE LOCALS.

There were 63 prisoners in the provincial jail last night.

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MORE EXCURSIONISTS.

The First of a Large Party Will Reach Victoria This Evening.

A large party of English and European excursionists is at present in Victoria, and will shortly cross a large part of the coast. The amount of construction was \$1,300.

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