

girls who infest our streets and lanes, and whom it might save from a life of crime, and make useful members of the community, by a judicious expen-

diture of money which would not amount to so much as has to be spent upon them afterwards as criminals.

(To be continued.)

SCHOOL BOYS AND GIRLS—OUR FUTURE MEN AND WOMEN.

THE reading of a paper by Miss Stewart on Inequality of the Sexes, published in the last number of the magazine, suggested the writing of this one.

There is evidently a mental difference in the sexes, as well as a physical one; and that the one difference as much as the other was designed by the unerring wisdom of Him, who fitted each for a peculiar lot in life, seems quite reasonable to believe.

The question then remains for us as teachers:—How far should this mental difference be recognized in the school room?

The aim of all earnest teachers is to do what they can in training and fitting their pupils to become good citizens; that is, manly men, and womanly women, ready to fulfil successfully the duties devolving on them, when they shall enter the domains of manhood and womanhood. The departments to be filled by each sex are quite distinct and clearly defined in our own, as well as all other civilized and christianized lands. In the words of Mrs. Sigourney:—"The toils, the perils and the stormy honours of the outer life devolve on the one; and the cares, the burdens and the exquisite harmonies of the inner life are reserved for the other." Which sex is the superior? is a question I leave to others to debate; for though I admire Miss Stewart's loyalty to her own sex in claiming for it mental superiority, yet I find it difficult to overlook the fact that the leaders in science, art and literature, have all been men. And

yet I do not estimate lightly the ability of my own sex. It is known that some of the strongest forces in nature work silently and imperceptibly; and to such forces may be compared the work and influence of women. Unseen beyond the quiet radius of their homes, their work may seem trivial; but the biographies of eminent men nearly all give to the mothers a pæan of praise for lessons inculcated, stimulus given and earnest thoughts inspired, while at the home fireside. Perhaps the strength and effect of women's work are beyond estimation. The mental capacity of the sexes appears so different as to be difficult of comparison. Women seem capable of lightly culling from each of a great range of subjects, to a depth required for practical use in their varied round of duties. Men grasp a few subjects firmly, concentrate their minds upon them, follow them up, and make them subservient to their life work. While a man chooses one of the various callings or professions and makes it the business of his life, a woman, in order to meet successfully her varied domestic duties, must know something of, and be something of, each and all of them. She must know something of medicine, and be skilled in nursing the sick; she must be a lawyer, or rather a judge, in so far as to be able to decide with justice the cases of dispute that will arise among the little belligerents under her jurisdiction; she must possess something of the merchant's art, so as to be able to purchase for her household with prudence and