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# **High School Advocate**

9



**Fair Oaks, Sacramento County, California**



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# The High School Advocate

VOL. I.

FAIR OAKS, CAL., MAY, 1903.

No. 9

## CAUSES OF THE FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.

(Regular History Work. By M. D.)

The primary causes of the fall of the Roman Empire were the economic, the military, the political or social, and the religious and moral causes.

One of the most important of the economic causes was slavery. Slavery degraded labor and had a bad effect on the character of both slaves and masters.

Another of the economic causes was the monopoly of land. Nearly all the land was held by a few rich men. The great multitude who tilled the land did not have a clod to call their own.

The fiscal oppression was another of the economic causes of the downfall of the empire. The taxation was a great burden on the people. These taxes continually grew heavier on account of the constant wars and expenses of the imperial courts.

Probably the decline of population had much to do with hastening the fall of the empire. Slavery undermined the family life and wore out men with great rapidity, therefore it was one of the causes of the decline of population.

The heavy burden of taxation caused many to leave the country, as it made life among the barbarians preferable to life within the empire. Among the higher classes of the Romans there had sprung up a great aversion to marriage. Threats and bribes were of no avail. Christianity increased this disinclination to marry. Monasticism was in great favor among the Christians, and thus many of them led a solitary life. The domestic, as well as foreign, wars, caused great loss of life, and the continual struggle for the throne caused many of these wars. From time to time plagues had swept over the country, destroying from one hundred thousand to three hundred thousand people. Another cause of the

depopulation of the empire was the mere contact of the barbarians with a civilization which they could not at once assimilate.

The principal military cause of the fall of the Roman state was the unpopularity of service in the army. One of the main reasons for this unpopularity was the lack of a military spirit, which was rendered more general by Christianity. Many would cut off their fingers to escape service in the army. If the early Christians were forced to enter the army they were enjoined to fight "backwardly." The ranks of the army were filled with barbarians. Many of the barbarians became generals in the Roman army. Because many of the soldiers had no patriotism, and did not care for the Roman Government a non-Roman spirit entered into the army.

Lack of unity in the state was one of the chief causes of the fall of the empire. The western provinces of the empire were Romanized, but it was impossible to Romanize the east. There was too much difference between the Greeks and the Romans, for the Greeks to be Romanized. This division of the empire was recognized by Diocletian, and by Constantine when he built Constantinople. Besides these great divisions there were smaller ones of the different tribes of conquered peoples. There was also an unsubdued national spirit among the conquered people of Spain, Gaul, and Britain, and among the Germans and the Jews. Where these peoples had lost their national spirit there was no attachment to the Roman Government. Therefore there was no patriotism or attachment to either the city government or to the national government, to unite the people and bind them together.

Besides this, the divisions into classes of the rich and the poor, the free and the bond, the titled and the untitled, tended to disunite the people still more.



The lack of a rule or principle of succession to the throne had a great deal to do with the fall of Rome. The struggle for the throne interrupted the work of government, and caused revolts and wars which did not put the army in readiness to meet foes from outside the empire.

The religious and moral causes of the downfall of Rome are important. Religion is an essential basis of a state. Christianity could not at once take the place of fallen paganism and it was impossible to awaken a real faith in the old Roman gods. The people could not believe in them. The early Christians refused to serve in the legions. The persecutions of one sect of Christians by another and the religious discord took their thoughts from government affairs and made them disunited. The Romans became very corrupt and lost the virtues of the early times.

The advance made by northern tribes in military discipline and political organization were the secondary causes of the fall of the Roman empire. These tribes had been armed and taught the art of war by the Romans. The wars with the barbarians were the immediate cause of the breaking up of the empire.

### DANIEL BOONE.

Daniel Boone was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1735. His father moved to North Carolina. There Daniel helped him to build a log cabin and cut down the trees so that they could plant corn. He plowed the ground, which was full of stumps, and planted it to corn. Daniel got so that he could use a gun about as well as the hoe, and any deer or coon that got in sight of him, had to look out, or that would be the last of him.

One day while he was out hunting, he shot a bear near a tree. On the tree he cut these words: "D. Boone killed a bear by this tree."

Nine years afterward he and some of his companions went to a new part of the country, which the Indians called Kentucky. The Indians did all sorts of tricks to kill the white man.

In the year 1715 Boone and his companions built a road two hundred miles long called the "Wilderness Road," after which thousands of emigrants, and Boone's family, went to the Kentucky River, where they built a fort.

Boone was captured by the Indians, but he escaped. The Indians found him in a shed drying tobacco. They said: "Now, Boone, we have got you." But Boone invited them in and said that he would give them some tobacco. He went and got some tobacco leaves, crumbled them up fine, then he sprang and threw the tobacco into their faces. He escaped while they were coughing, sneezing and rubbing their eyes.

Boone was very old now and he begged for some land, which he got, but lost it again. When he died he was buried in Kentucky in sight of the fort which he helped to build at Boonesboro.

A. F.

### HUILE DE OLIVE.

The making of olive oil is a most interesting process.

The olives to be made into oil should be ripe and should be carefully picked and then crushed as soon thereafter as possible, as they are liable to deteriorate by standing. The best quality of oil is made from olives thus handled.

The process of oil making consists, first, of crushing the olives by means of machinery; second, of pressing out the oil from the ground product; third, the filtering of this oil after it has stood for some time.

The crushing or grinding is done by passing the olives between revolving iron cylinders, which breaks up the fleshy part of the fruit so as to permit the oil to flow out freely when pressure is applied. The olives are passed down a chute to the crusher, where they feed themselves to the rollers as fast as needed.

The crushed fruit, or pumice, is put into vats made with openings for the oil to pass through, where it is subjected to hydraulic, or other pressure, sufficient to extract the greater part of the oil. This first oil is of the highest grade. An inferior grade of oil is ob-



tained by a second pressure, and a grade suitable for soapmaking by a third and last pressure. The refuse may be used for fuel or as a fertilizer, there being sufficient oil left in it to make a roaring fire, with a good draft.

The oil is put into tanks holding from 500 to 1000 gallons and allowed to stand several weeks, when it is filtered and is ready for use.

The greatest care must be taken at every stage of the process in order to obtain the best quality of oil. The oil is easily tainted, hence cleanliness is very desirable. The pure oil has a greenish-golden color quite different from the adulterated article generally seen in the market. No refining process is necessary in the production of olive oil, and it should contain nothing but the pure oil as it comes from the fruit.

For pickling purposes olives must be handled with much more care than for oil, as bruised fruit will rot in pickling. The olives are picked by hand and dropped into water and thus conveyed to the pickling tanks. Here the tartness must first be entirely removed, upon the proper accomplishment of which the quality of the product depends. A weak solution of lye is generally used for this purpose, after which the olives are put into a solution of salt in water and allowed to stand. If properly done they will thus keep for a year or more.

The process is essentially the same for making green as for making ripe pickles. The latter, however, are a food, while the former are a mere relish.

The olive tree has been cultivated for its fruit for thousands of years, and olive oil is a staple article of food in many of the Southern European countries, the poorer classes of the inhabitants of which, when transplanted to this country, furnish a market for the adulterated, cheap oil.

The olive branch is a symbol of peace, which we recognize in the well-known figure of speech, "extending the olive branch, etc." \*

—2—

A good work for the F. O. H. A. to prosecute would be the extermination of the ground squirrel.

## THE STORY OF MERCURY.

There was once a little boy by the name of Mercury.

One day his mother left him alone in their house. When his mother had gone away he slipped out of the door and went down to the river bank. As he was walking along he stumbled over a turtle. Angry at being stopped by this slow creature he picked it up and dashed it against a rock so hard that the turtle was killed. He then threw it into the water and watched the fish feed on its flesh.

When the empty shell drifted to the shore he was very sorry. "I will make this shell live forever," he said. He then took the shell and bored nine holes in each side, and taking the lacings out of his sandals he strung them through the holes. Drawing his hand across the strings there came a sweet sound. He was so delighted with it he hid it in the marshes by the river.

Another time he ran away he got into more mischief than before. He saw some of Apollo's cattle and chased them to the river. Being hungry, he seized the last one and tore it into pieces to eat it.

He then walked home trying to deceive anyone who would hunt him. But Apollo found him out. When Apollo saw him looking so innocent he could not think he did it. But after a while even his mother thought him guilty.

When Apollo came to take him away, Mercury took the turtle shell and breathed upon it. Apollo was so charmed with the melody that he could only say: "Give me that and I will not ask you for my stolen cattle."

That was just what Mercury wanted. He quickly handed him the turtle shell and was free.

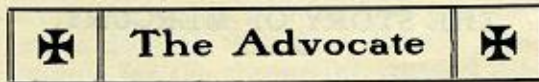
When Mercury was a little older Apollo chose him for his messenger. Apollo gave him a cap with a wing on either side, and a pair of winged sandals.

CLIVE EVERETT BAUGH.

—2—

Education is not only for to-day but for eternity.





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### EDITORIAL

The State Text Book Commission has appointed a committee of Native Sons to review the chapter on California that is to appear in the new school history. The State Superintendent says he wants the Native Sons to be satisfied with the matter to be published in the special chapter on California. He fails, however, to say why he wants to please the Native Sons, particularly, or why he wants to please anybody, in fact, so long as the truth is told. Is it supposed that the Native Sons have any means not available to everyone else for arriving at the truths respecting the bear flag incident and other early history happenings? If anything but the plain truth is necessary to the satisfaction of the Native Son appetite for history his appetite should remain unsatiated. And then there are Native Sons and Native Sons.

§ §

President Roosevelt is a good example of the sort of American citizen that gives us a national character and individuality. Hyphenated Americanism is undoubtedly as distasteful to him as the trait of character which values the dollar above manhood.

§ § -

The life of most value to the world may be the one spent in the obscurity of daily toil, "far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife." The bearing of education should be toward this useful, contented life.

In conversation with a keen observer and student of social tendencies, recently, he expressed the opinion that the tendency of higher education is to make educated men too critical—doubting Thomases, as it were. If this be a just criticism it is certainly a great weakness in our educational system. The men who do things are men who are not afraid to take a stand nor to stand alone, if necessary. They are positive in character rather than neutral, or negative.

§ §

Patrick Henry is said to have exclaimed: "We must educate! We must educate, or we shall perish by our own prosperity!" Yes, you were right, Patrick, and we are a-doin' of that same with a right smart chance of success.

§ §

The question of an adequate supply of water is the paramount one for Fair Oaks at the present time. While those now here can get along, after a fashion, with the present inadequate supply, there can be no growth until we have more water.

—§—

We have some new ads. this month. Do not fail to read them.

The bakery and ice cream parlor recently started in the building opposite the post office will be appreciated during the hot weather.

—§—

### School Report

The following is the combined report of the Fair Oaks schools for the four weeks ending April 10, 1903:

Number of boys enrolled .....	40.
Number of girls enrolled .....	37.
Whole number enrolled .....	77.
Average number belonging .....	74.8
Average daily attendance .....	70.
Per cent of attendance .....	94.
Number of tardiness .....	87.



## GRAMMAR EXAMINATIONS.

The examination for grammar school diplomas will begin on June 20th. The examinations are held under the direction of the County Board of Education, which consists of B. F. Howard, County Superintendent of School; Mrs. F. P. Osborn, W. L. Willis, Miss Nettie M. Hopley, O. W. Erlewine.

The questions are prepared by the Board and the diplomas are official, admitting, under the law passed by the last Legislature, the holders to any regularly organized high school in the State. The diplomas are thus of much value to those who may desire to enter a high school elsewhere in California. In addition, since the examinations are strict, to pass and be deemed worthy of a diploma is an honor to be coveted. The questions are upon all subjects studied in the grammar schools, including drawing, music and nature study.

## DREDGER BURNED.

*See p. 12 Feb. '03*  
The destruction of the dredger of the Ashburton Mining Company on the 20th inst., was a great financial loss to the company, as the value of the dredger and equipment was more than \$100,000. Besides this there are minor losses to the company as well as to the employes.

The fire started from the explosion of a gasoline torch, which caused a three-gallon can of the liquid to explode.

At this writing it is not known here whether the company will replace the dredger or not; but as there is a large area of valuable land to work on Sailor Bar, it is probable they will.

The property was insured for \$30,000.

## SCHOOL PICNIC.

The school, in conjunction with the Sunday Schools, will have a picnic on Friday, June 5th, at the lake in the eastern end of the colony.

It is the intention to make this an enjoyable outing for both old and

young, so it is the desire that everybody shall go, take a lunch, and enjoy a day of recreation. The location is an ideal one for a moderate-sized picnic, and is easy of access.

## WHAT WE READ.

Perhaps it is not so important "what we read," as that we read something; but we are not prepared to go to the extreme that it is better to read the dime novel than not to read anything. It may be that the boy who would be led away by such trash has not the mettle that would stand tempering; but he may be changed from a harmless, to a vicious, person by it.

That it is better to let the child read something that interests him rather than to force him to read what does not, is not questionable; but, on the other hand, it seems equally as unquestionable that the best thing to do is to put in his way that which you would have him read, and possibly he would be as interested in that as in something less desirable. And may it not be a fact that what the child reads is not a choice, but merely the result of having no opportunity to choose—nothing to choose from? He reads what he can get. The fact that the inhabitants of "Darkest Africa" live upon roots is no indication that they would not eat better food if it were procurable. So do not conclude that the child has a depraved taste until he has been given an opportunity to make choice.

All children like to read. It is essential, first, that this inherited tendency be fostered; and, second, that they be wisely guided in the choice of what to read—led, not forced.

Aside from professional reading, which is not under consideration, there are two main objects to be attained by reading, viz.: with children it should lead in the direction of a love of the highest class of literature, and it should give them an insight into the character and motives of men. We look at the face of the clock and note the time as indicated by the hands upon the dial. We seldom stop to inquire into, or even to think of, the mechanism hidden



away behind the dial by which the hands are made to indicate for us, accurately, the time. Our reading should lead us to this inquiry with respect to what is transpiring around us. It should lead us to weigh and balance, and search for causes. It should lead to analysis and, above all, to accurate observation—to draw just conclusions from observed phenomena.

The classic myths, written in a suitable style, are good to begin with. History is, of course, indispensable. And there are true history stories just as interesting as the most fascinating fiction ever invented.

The invention of printing revolutionized the world. We are superior to the savage chiefly on this account. The printing press has made and maintains us what we are; and it will do so so long as we let it.

—2—

### SCHOOL NOTES.

May baskets have been in order this month, and the pupils have shown a kindly spirit in their distribution.

The year's work is drawing to a close. While much has been left undone, much has also been accomplished. It is not so much what we have acquired in knowledge as in capacity to do, that counts.

J. H. Cunningham has tendered his resignation as School Trustee. There is no more public-spirited man in the community than Mr. Cunningham, and his efforts in behalf of the schools have been untiring. It was with regret that we learned that the state of his health had constrained him to resign.

Athletic affairs remain in statu quo. It is impossible for a small school to compete with large ones on anything like an even footing in athletics, and without the stimulus of rivalry such as comes from the annual contests between different schools it is next to impossible to maintain an interest in track athletics. Football is out of the question with limited material to select from.

There was an exodus to Sacramento on the day of the floral parade in carnival week. Fewer than half of the pupils were in their places on that day.

Trustee C. H. Slocum went East for a month's stay the first of May.

All of the trees set in and around the schoolyard this spring are doing well.

As Decoration Day falls upon Saturday this year the pupils lose a holiday. Continuing the sessions until 4 o'clock as we do, Fair Oaks gets more hours of actual teaching in a nine months' term than Sacramento does in ten months, since they dismiss at 3 o'clock.

School will have closed ere another issue of the "Advocate" appears. We shall get out the June number, however, as ten numbers were promised, and that obligation must be met.

The life of Booker T. Washington has been read by many of the students, and several have written a review of the book in the prize contest. We hope to be able to announce the winner in the June "Advocate" and possibly to publish the successful essays.

—2—

### LOCAL.

A two weeks' series of revival services were held at the M. E. Church the latter part of April and the first of May. Rev. Van Norman of Folsom assisted the pastor.

W. R. Gore has been appointed School Trustee, vice J. H. Cunningham, resigned.

The election of two school Trustees will take place at the school house on June 5. Polls open from 12 to 6 o'clock.

Messrs. Strickland and Mack gave a good account of themselves in the tennis tournament during carnival week.

If Fair Oaks intends to celebrate on the Fourth of July some steps in that direction should be taken at once.

There will be a tennis tournament at the Strickland court on Decoration Day.

The Women's Club, of Fair Oaks, entertained the Sacramento Tuesday Club at a picnic on Thursday, May 14th. Ten tables, each seating ten ladies, were spread under the oaks and a sumptuous luncheon was served. A literary program formed a part of the day's entertainment.



Rev. and Mrs. Whitaker went to San Jose on the 19th instant. Mrs. Whitaker will remain in San Jose for an extended visit with relatives.

The mother and sister of Mrs. Geo. E. King are visiting the latter from the East.

Judge and Mrs. Peter J. Shields have been rusticated in Fair Oaks for a month. This nick o' the woods is full of the Judge's friends, and they are glad to have him with them, even if only o' nights.

The ladies of the Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church gave an ice cream festival at San Juan Hall on Friday evening, May 15th. It was well patronized.

A profusion of roses, air redolent of orange blossoms, grassy hillsides and balmy days, with all nature reveling in the new life that is coming into being all about us—that has been the portion of Fair Oaks since early in April.

The indications are that there will be a very heavy crop of olives this season.

Clive Baugh fell while at play on the school grounds on the 26th instant and dislocated the bones of the arm at the elbow.

Mrs. Williams' Sunday-school class went out to the lake in the east end of the colony for a picnic on the 9th inst.

Attention is called to the advertisement of the Fair Oaks blacksmith shop and barber shop in this issue.

Picnics have been in order for some time in Fair Oaks. The first of the season was the Grangers', on May 2d, which was attended by a multitude of people.

Go to Mrs. Creideweiss for hair cutting and shaving.

Mrs. Creideweiss, tonsorial artist.

Mr. Horton and family of Nebraska have been visiting the family of J. H. Lawrence.

School closes on June 5th, that being the end of the ninth month.

The store of Beaton & Cozzens has been purchased by W. Stitt, from Point Richmond, who formerly kept a grocery store here.

Remember that Mrs. Creideweiss does barber work.

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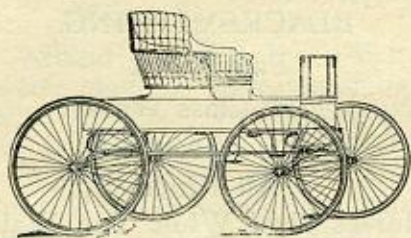
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527 K

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