

GENERAL REVIEW.

Education and Public Schools.

The following is a list of the officers of the School Department: James Denman, Superintendent of Common Schools; James G. Pearson, Superintendent's Clerk, and Secretary of the Board of Education.

Board of Education.—Wm. Pearson, President; R. O'Neil, School Director, 1st District; James H. Widber, 2d; Wm. M. Hixon, 3d; Wm. Bartling, 4th; J. H. Brewer, 5th; H. B. Jones, 6th; Wm. Pearson, 7th; George Cofran, 8th; J. O. Eldridge, 9th; C. C. Knowles, 10th; E. Judson, 11th; J. Shade Dungan, 12th. As we have given a brief history of our Public Schools in the previous volumes of this work, we propose now to briefly sketch the present condition and progress of the Schools during the last year.

It is with great pleasure that we congratulate the citizens of San Francisco, upon the prosperous condition of her educational institutions.

Our Public Schools have become permanent and valued institutions, strongly fixed in the hearts of every citizen who has any regard for the progress and prosperity of our city. Unlike the free Schools of many of the eastern cities, and European countries—in which only the indigent receive instructions—the Public Schools of San Francisco are attended by children of all classes of society. The rich, the influential, and the poor, alike strive to avail themselves of the superior training and instruction here imparted.

The Teachers in our Schools, are ladies and gentlemen of high attainments and character. Many of them are graduates of the best Normal Schools and Teachers' Institutes of the Eastern States. They have labored earnestly and successfully, as pioneers in the building up on these Pacific shores, institutions, of which we may all feel proud.

Our Public Schools will ever stand as a monument, to show to the world, that, while the great mass of our population may have been lured to our shores by the greedy thirst and glitter of gold, yet there were a few ladies and gentlemen actuated by higher motives and duties than the mere acquisition of v

THE CHILDREN.

The scholars attending our Public Schools will compare very favorably with those of the most favored institutions in our country.

The healthful and invigorating influence of our beautiful climate, makes them hearty and robust in appearance, and energetic and manly in their character. They are generally studious in their habits, and devoted to their Schools and studies, as every one must have observed, who has ever visited our Public Schools during the regular recitations of the term, or the more interesting exercises at the annual examinations.

RE-ORGANIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION.

During the last year, many important reforms and improvements have been introduced into our Public Schools, which, when fully carried out, will greatly increase their efficiency and usefulness.

Under the supervision of the present Superintendent, Mr. Denman, and the Board of Education, there have been almost an entire re-organization and classification of the Public Schools.

The Intermediate Department has been abolished, and the higher classes have been merged into the Grammar Departments, while the lowest class now forms the first class of the Primary Department.

This change will increase the efficiency of the Schools, by filling each class with pupils of the same grade of scholarship, so that the teachers can devote their whole time to classes containing only one division; while under the former classification, their time and attention were divided between two, and sometimes, three grades of scholars in the same class. The yearly expenses of the Department have also been reduced nearly \$9,000, by thus filling up the classes, and reducing the number of teachers.

The Superintendent has strongly urged the Board of Education, to consolidate the seven Grammar Departments now in the city, into four large Schools, properly located to meet the wants of the different parts of the city.

This recommendation, which we understand

fect as soon