

as they can erect the proper buildings, will still further reduce the expenses of the Schools, and increase the efficiency of their organization, by a more perfect classification.

SCHOOL PROPERTY.

Early in the settlement of San Francisco, valuable and commodious lots, in different parts of the City, were donated to the School Department by the Common Council. For nearly eight years, the Department has been trying in vain to get possession of this valuable property, which has been held by squatters.

We are happy to learn, however, that the present Board have taken prompt action to recover possession of them; and that, through the energy and perseverance of the Superintendent, and Mr. O'Neil, Chairman of the Committee on School Houses and Sites, all but two fifty-vara lots, which are now in litigation, have been recovered, and are now in the possession of the Board.

The School Buildings, now occupied by the Department, with the exception of four owned by the Board, are generally frail wooden tenements, temporarily rented, until the Board can erect better ones upon their own property.

In order to raise the necessary building fund, Mr. Denman, and a few friends of education, procured the passage of an Act, through the last session of the Legislature, authorizing the Board of Education to issue \$75,000 of School Bonds, for the purpose of erecting new school-houses.

These bonds have been advantageously disposed of, and a sufficient fund raised, to erect suitable buildings for nearly every School in the City.

Since the sale of these bonds, the Board have energetically commenced the erection of several new buildings.

High School Building.—The building which is now in course of erection for the High School, will, when completed, be an ornament to the city.

The main edifice is three stories high, with two wings, 17 feet 4 inches by 32 feet 8 inches deep, making two recitation-rooms on each floor. The whole building is 66 feet 8 inches, fronting on Powell Street, by 88 feet deep. The basement is divided into two large apartments, for gymnastic and calisthenic sports. In the second story, there is a large hall and session-room, 30 by 64 feet. There are, also, several rooms for the teachers' and girls' dressing apartments; the boys' hat and cap rooms; also, for a library

and laboratory. The whole cost of the building, including the furniture and lot, will amount to about \$28,000.

The Board have also received plans for erecting the following buildings: a fine house, for the Mission Dolores District; a large, two-story building, on the 100-vara lot corner of Harrison and Fourth streets, capable of accommodating 400 scholars, for the Grammar Department of the Rincon School; also, a two-story building, on the 50-vara lot in the centre of the block bounded by Second and Third, and Harrison and Bryant streets, capable of accommodating from 400 to 500 scholars, for the Primary Department of the Rincon School.

The Board also contemplate erecting, during the summer, a building for a Primary School, on the 100-vara lot corner of Market and Fifth streets, and a large two-story school-house, on the 50-vara lot corner of Mason and Washington streets, which will accommodate from 400 to 500 scholars of the Powell Street School.

These buildings, when completed, will prove an ornament to the City.

The following statistics of the School Department are carefully compiled from the records of the Superintendent of Common Schools:

Number of Scholars attending each School, and the average attendance during the last year:

| Name of School. | No. of Pupils | Daily av'ge attendance. |
|--|---------------|-------------------------|
| High School,..... | 133..... | 97 |
| Rincon Grammar,..... | 474..... | 243 |
| Denman "..... | 445..... | 225 |
| Powell St. "..... | 213..... | 96 |
| Union St. "..... | 228..... | 96 |
| Spring Valley "..... | 134..... | 68 |
| Market St. "..... | 260..... | 104 |
| Hyde St. "..... | 149..... | 70 |
| Mission "..... | 152..... | 80 |
| Powell St. Intermediate,... | 293..... | 135 |
| Sutter St. "..... | 268..... | 137 |
| Greenwich St. "..... | 88..... | 42 |
| Union St. "..... | 231..... | 94 |
| Rincon Primary,..... | 438..... | 227 |
| Market St. "..... | 229..... | 108 |
| Wash'n St. "..... | 361..... | 151 |
| Sutter St. "..... | 512..... | 179 |
| Gr'n'ch St. "..... | 253..... | 111 |
| Sp'g Valley "..... | 112..... | 58 |
| Union St. "..... | 478..... | 198 |
| Hyde St. "..... | 215..... | 95 |
| Mission St. "..... | 257..... | 92 |
| Colored School,..... | 100..... | 39 |
| Chinese "..... | 32..... | 21 |
| Evening "..... | 91..... | 39 |
| Foreign Evening School, .. | 49..... | 25½ |
| Whole number of Scholars attending Pub- lic Schools,..... | | 6,201 |
| Daily Average attendance,..... | | 2,830½ |