

Private Educational Institutions.

While the foregoing facts and statistics exhibit abundant and indisputable evidence of the flourishing condition of our Public Schools, there is probably no city of the same number of inhabitants, in the whole American Union—and certainly no community of the same age in the world—that can boast the same number of well conducted Private Educational Institutions. These schools for the proper training of the youth of both sexes, are ample in number, thorough in the course of study pursued, provided with all the apparatus and appliances necessary for pursuing useful scientific investigation, and in every department keeping fully up with the rapid march of improvement characteristic of the age in which we live. While the mental training of pupils is of course the paramount object of these institutions, that physical development so essential to health, happiness, and usefulness in life, is never lost sight of; and, as is the case with the Public Schools, each private institution has its gymnasium, fitted up with all the appliances necessary for healthful exercise, and the highest degree of physical development, with ample room for free and unconstrained movement. Absorbed as the great mass of our citizens are with the cares attendant upon the daily routine of business, and the unceasing rush after "the almighty dollar," too little attention is paid to the examination of and noting the growth and improvement of our educational institutions, public and private. The servants of the people who have the training of the future citizen in the former, as well as the teachers engaged in the latter, are always pleased to receive the intelligent visitor, who can understand and appreciate their efforts, and give countenance and encouragement to the noble work in which they are engaged.

The whole number of private educational institutions in San Francisco is about seventy, with an aggregate attendance, including students at the different colleges, of four thousand two hundred and fifty. Of this number, twelve are under the control of the Catholic denomination, and the regular aggregate attendance upon the same is over three thousand four hundred.

Being governed in the order of our review by number and attendance, we commence our summary with Catholic Schools.

ST. IGNATIUS' COLLEGE.

This well known literary institution, located on Market Street, between Fourth and Fifth, which is conducted by the Fathers of the Society of Jesus, was first opened for the reception of students on the fifteenth day of October, 1855, and was incorporated under the law of the State on the thirtieth of April, 1859, and empowered to confer the usual degrees and academical honors. Since its commencement, this institution has been attended with the highest degree of prosperity and success. The course of instruction pursued is thorough, and comprises a complete classical, mathematical, and philosophical course of training calculated to prepare the pupil for entering upon the study of any of the professions,

or commencing any business vocation. The college is provided with an extensive laboratory, comprising all the necessary appliances for the assaying of metals and making chemical analysis, which is an important feature not generally found in institutions of this character: a spacious building has been erected for a photographic gallery, where all the departments of the Daguerrean Art will be practiced and taught. There is a telegraphic room, with an instrument in operation, connecting with a similar station at the Santa Clara College—the use of the California State Line having been granted for this purpose—where the business of operating is taught forming another novel and important educational feature.

The founders of this institution, foreseeing the rapid progress of the Queen City of the Pacific purchased some years since the property upon which the magnificent college edifice has since been erected. This lot has a frontage of two hundred and seventy-five feet on Market, and the same on Jessie Street, with a depth of three hundred and fifty feet. The college building at present consists of a centre and one wing: the former is one hundred and five by fifty-six feet, and the latter, in which is the college Hall—used temporarily as the church, until the building shall be erected in another portion of the grounds—is one hundred and seventy by sixty feet. The present building, the cost of which, independent of the lot, was \$120,000, although one of the finest architectural ornaments of the city, is only one-third of the extent contemplated. When the extensive additions are made, the entire structure will rival anything of the kind to be found in our portion of the country. The present building is admirably adapted to the purposes for which it was designed, being abundantly lighted and well ventilated in every portion; the ceilings are lofty, and spacious halls run through the building. A large playground is attached with a commodious shelter from the rain, affording ample means for the physical exercise of the pupils. In fact, nothing has been neglected which is at all conducive to mental and physical training. The number of students in the college at present is four hundred.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

This institution is situated near the county road to San José, at a distance of four miles and a half from this city. The college building covers a space of two hundred and eighty feet front by a depth of fifty feet, which, in the center, is increased to a depth of seventy feet; one hundred and ten feet of the building will be three stories high, and the remaining portion four stories high. The pension is exceedingly moderate, not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars or one hundred and sixty dollars a year for board and tuition, thus placing the advantages of the institution within the means of all.

Rev. Peter J. Gray, President.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

This school is exclusively for boys, and meets in the basement of St. Mary's Cathedral. It is under the direction of three Brothers of the Third Order of St. Francis and a secular gentleman. The number of children attending this school averages five hundred. The course of studies embraces reading, writing, English grammar, geography, with the use of the globe, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and the Spanish and Latin languages, if desired. There is a nominal charge of one dollar per month for each pupil able to pay; those not able being educated gratis. As this is a regulation common to all the Catholic parochial schools in the city, it will not be necessary to repeat it in referring to the others.

In the class-rooms Sunday School for boys is held from 9 to 11, A.M.