

Square stone blocks are coming into very general use in this city, for paving the most crowded thoroughfares and streets subjected to the wear produced by the heaviest loads. This material gives better satisfaction than any other yet experimented with. The amount of street improvements during 1876 is largely in excess of any previous year, and the character of the work generally superior.

MUNICIPAL LICENCES.—During the last fiscal year Municipal Licenses were issued as follows:

Merchandise.....	19,260	producing.....	\$127,830
Banks and Brokers.....	1,030	"	48,692
Billiard Tables.....	509	"	4,230
Auctioneers.....	114	"	6,072
Bowling Alleys.....	40	"	440
Pawn Brokers.....	105	"	3,150
Intelligence Offices.....	70	"	1,050
Innkeepers and Bars.....	7,776	"	116,640
Circuses.....	22	1 day	220
Theatrea.....	306	1 day, 1 month, 3 months, 1 year,	8,935
Miscellaneous			63,459

\$380,718

As the licenses in the above list are taken out for quarterly periods, it follows that each of the above numbers represent four times the average number of persons engaged in each occupation. Thus the city has 4,815 merchants, 257 banks and brokers, 129 billiard tables, 29 auctioneers, 10 bowling alleys, 26 pawn brokers, 18 intelligence offices, 1,944 innkeepers or bar-rooms, and many thousands engaged in occupations not classified.

During the year 34,439 persons paid poll-tax at two dollars per head, 7,989 persons paid at three dollars per head, and twenty-one persons at four dollars.

There were 1,566 certificates of citizenship issued, being an increase of 1,222 over the previous year.

The number of marriage licenses issued was 2,464, an increase of 201 over the previous year.

The number of deeds placed upon record in the office of the Recorder is 6,484, of mortgages, 2,706, and of releases, 1,778.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The large number of commodious school buildings erected during the year 1875 supplied to so great an extent the needs of the department for accommodations that comparatively little additional was required during the past year. The Department at the present writing owns sixty buildings, of which fifty-six are in use. It is also found necessary to secure the use of twenty-six rooms, by temporary rental at a cost of \$11,097 per annum. The cost of construction for the year was \$133,422 40.

The number of children under the age of 17, as returned by the school census, was on		
June 1st, 1874.....		60,552
June 1st, 1875.....		64,909
June 1st, 1876.....		71,436
Increase during the year.....		6,527
The number of children between the ages of 5 and 17 entitled to draw public monies is.....		46,238
Increase during the year.....		5,209
The number between 6 and 17 entitled to attend the public Schools is.....		42,287
Increase during the year.....		4,704
The number between the ages of 5 and 6.....		3,951
The total number enrolled is, Boys.....		17,995
" " " Girls.....		16,033
		34,029
Increase.....		2,901
The number of children attending private and church schools is.....		6,655
Increase during the year.....		561
The number of children between the ages of 5 and 17 attending public and private schools is.....		35,289
Increase during the year.....		2,984
The number of children between the ages of 5 and 17 who have not attended school at any time during the year is.....		10,949
The number of teachers is, Male.....		67
" " " Female.....		507— 574