

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The free public schools of San Francisco are the pride of the citizens, and their efficiency attract many families to reside in the city in order that their children may reap the advantages they offer. The first English school was established in April, 1847, with about thirty pupils, taught by a Mr. Marston, who is, therefore, the pioneer teacher of the city. Late in the same year the citizens organized a public school, and erected a building on the southwest corner of the Plaza, now Portsmouth Square. In April, 1849, the Common Council established a public school, and John C. Pelton and wife were employed as teachers, and this was the beginning of the system which has continued to the present time. During the fiscal year of 1882-1883 there were 61 schools, employing 687 teachers, and having an enrolled attendance of 40,722 pupils, of whom 21,474 were boys, and 19,248 girls. By the report of the School Census Marshal, June 30, 1883, the number of youth in the city under seventeen years of age is 78,513, being an increase for the year of 3,133. The number between five and seventeen who are entitled to draw school money is 57,287, an increase of 1,620 for the year. The number attending private and church schools only, during the year (not including Chinese) was 5,589, a decrease during the year of 142. The number between five and seventeen years of age (not including Chinese) who have not attended school at any time during the year was 14,806, an increase from the preceding year of 617. The last exhibit—of children not attending any school—is worthy of note. The enrollment at the different schools was as follows: High schools—Boys, 339; girls, 867; total, 1,206. Grammar schools, including some Primary grades—Boys, 6,456; girls, 7,007; total, 13,463. Primary schools, including some Grammar grades—Boys, 12,273; girls, 11,121; total, 23,394. Evening schools—Boys, 2,406; girls, 253; total, 2,659. The financial condition of the Department is represented as follows: The city tax for school purposes in the year 1882-83 was \$129 cents on each \$100. The total income, including cash on hand at the beginning of the year was \$821,045 00, an increase from last year of \$56,944 38. The expenditures were \$791,174 99; increase for the year \$55,700 38. Cost of instruction per pupil, based on the enrollment, and excluding expenditures for buildings, \$18 85. Cost of instruction per pupil, based on average daily attendance, and including expenditures for buildings, \$23 63. The amount paid teachers' salaries, \$638,637 53; an increase from the preceding year of \$15,269 08. The estimated value of school property is: School sites, \$1,930,000; buildings, \$975,000; school furniture, \$195,000; libraries, \$12,000; school apparatus, \$25,000. Total, \$3,137,000.

EVENING SCHOOLS.—Mr. Joseph O'Connor, Inspector of Evening Schools, reports the number of pupils enrolled during the year at 2,659. Average daily attendance, 924; average number belonging to Evening Schools, 1,054. The terms and holidays are the same as those of the day schools. The studies are reading, arithmetic, penmanship and composition or letter-writing, bookkeeping, industrial drawing, mathematics, etc. There are two Spanish classes of sixty pupils each, who receive lessons alternate evenings, from two teachers appointed for that purpose. The total number of classes now in the schools are twenty-eight. The highest number during the year having been thirty. The Evening Schools are held at the Lincoln, Mission and Washington Schools.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES.—The new Constitution brings numerous changes in the Public School system. It recognizes evening, technical and normal schools as properly belonging to the Common School system, and makes high schools and cosmopolitan schools practically independent of the State, but dependent upon the city for their establishment and support. The Board of Education (Section 7) will have control of the schools, selecting text-books, direct the examination of teachers, and, unless done by the Legislature, will prescribe the course of studies, which may include all the studies of the high schools. The changes in the examination of teachers and the selection of text-books are important.

SCHOOL HOUSES.—The total number of buildings used by the Department is 64, of which 63 are

owned by the city and 1 rented. Of those owned by the Department, 6 are of brick and 57 are of wood. The amount paid for rented rooms was \$3,571 70.

LOCATION OF SCHOOLS; NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED AND AVERAGE ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS IN THE SCHOOLS, MAY, 1881.

BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL.—Location, north side Sutter street, between Gough and Octavia. Pupils enrolled, 339; average attendance, 265.

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.—Location, north side Bush street, between Hyde and Larkin. Pupils enrolled, 867; average attendance, 750. Branch Girls' High School, east side Powell street, near Clay.

BROADWAY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, north side Broadway street, between Powell and Mason. Pupils enrolled, 798; average attendance, 667.

CLEMENT GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, Geary street, between Jones and Leavenworth. Pupils enrolled, 847; average attendance, 769.

COLUMBIA STREET GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, Columbia street, between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth. Pupils enrolled, 728; average attendance, 634.

DENMAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, northwest corner Bush and Taylor streets. Pupils enrolled, 1,015; average attendance, 877.

FRANKLIN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, east side Eighth street, between Harrison and Bryant. Pupils enrolled, 1,072; average attendance, 906.

HAIGHT GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, west side Mission street, between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth. Pupils enrolled, 709; average attendance, 592.

HAMILTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, south side Geary street, near Pierce. Pupils enrolled, 796; average attendance, 711.

HAYES VALLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, north side McAllister street, between Franklin and Gough. Pupils enrolled, 1,110; average attendance, 963.

LINCOLN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, east side Fifth street, near Market. Pupils enrolled, 1,554; average attendance, 1,168.

MISSION GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, Mission street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth. Pupils enrolled, 817; average attendance, 706.

NORTH COSMOPOLITAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, north side Filbert street, between Jones and Taylor. Pupils enrolled, 658; average attendance, 542.

RINCON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, Silver street, between Second and Third. Pupils enrolled, 695; average attendance, 566.

SOUTH COSMOPOLITAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, Eddy street, between Polk and Van Ness Avenue. Pupils enrolled, 1,145; average attendance, 1,049.

SPRING VALLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, south side Broadway street, between Larkin and Polk. Pupils enrolled, 873; average attendance, 748.

WASHINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Location, southwest corner Washington and Mason streets. Pupils enrolled, 646; average attendance, 562.

BERNAL HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Location, Cortland avenue, near Moultrie. Pupils enrolled, 190; average attendance, 143.

EIGHTH STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Location, east side Eighth street, between Harrison and Bryant. Pupils enrolled, 710; average attendance, 674.

EMERSON PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Location, northeast corner Pine and Scott streets. Pupils enrolled, 587; average attendance, 513.

EWING PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Location, north side Harrison street, between Fourth and Fifth. Pupils enrolled, 1,462; average attendance, 1,184.