In the management of the school fund the most rigid economy is practised—supplies for the schools are furnished by contract in nearly every instance—the scholars are held accountable for all books and stationary issued to them; and although nothing is dealt out profusely, the use of these articles is not so limited as to interfere with the operations of the schools.

At an examination of all the schools, held by the commissioners previous to the Christmas holidays, the scholars generally gave such evidence of improvement as was gratifying to the board and highly creditable to the teachers.

The following list will show the number of scholars on the roll in all the schools: there is at this season of the year a thinner attendance than in the Fall and Spring.

High School.—Mr. Brooks, principal—Messrs. Gibson and McIntire, assistants,	108
Male School No. 1.—Mr. M. Connolly, principal—Mr. Meginney, assistant,	285
Male School No. 2.—Dr. Grammar, principal—Mr. Murphy, assistant,	252
Male School No. 3.—Mr. R. Connolly, principal—Mr. McCroden, assistant,	293
Male School No. 4.—Mr. Falconer, principal—Mr. Coulter, assistant,	233
Male School No. 5.—Mr. Robinson, principal—Mr. Charles, assistant,	171
Male School No. 6.—Mr. Reese, principal—Mr. Creary, assistant,	235
Male School No. 8.—Mr. Johnson, principal—Mr. McCann, assistant—not yet in operation.	
Male School No. 9.—Mr. Harshaw, principal—Mr. McNevin, assistant,	146
Female School No. 1.—Miss McConkey, principal—Mrs. Miller, assistant,	172
Female School No. 2.—Miss Mary McDermott, principal—Miss Margaret McDermott, assistant,	180
Female School No. 3.—Mrs. Ross, principal—Miss Brown, assistant,	182
Female School No. 4.—Mrs. King, Principal—Miss Jours, assistant,	165
Female School No. 5.—Miss Story, principal—Miss Simpson, assistant,	80
Female School No. 6.—Miss M. Godman, principal—Miss E. Godman, assistant,	130
Female School No. 7.—Miss Rice, principal,	37
Female School No. 8.—Miss H. E. King, principal—Miss Susan Johnston, assistant—not yet in operation.	

Night School No. 1.—Mr. Meginney, principal—Mr. Crimmen, assistant	68
Night School No. 2.—Dr. Grammar, principal—Mr. Murphy, assistant,	34
Night School No. 3.—Mr. McCroden, principal—Mr. Powel, assistant,	38
Night School No. 4.—Mr. Coulter, principal—Mr. McCann, assistant,	64
Night School No. 5.—Mr. Charles, principal—Mr. Logue, assistant,	49
Night School No. 6.—Mr. Reese, principal—Mr. Creary assistant,	64
Night School No. 9.—Mr. Harshaw, principal—Mr. McNevin, assistant,	57
Total,	3,043

The amount of tuition fees received this year is $9,725 13. From reports furnished by the teachers the present month we discover that the number of delinquents for tuition fees is inconsiderable—an effort will be made to collect all arrearages.

The Treasurer's account accompanying this report, will shew the sources from which the funds for the support of the schools have been obtained, and the objects to which they have been applied.

The Treasurer's account current with the commissioners is deposited in their office, subject to the examination of the City Council.

The estimates for the ensuing year are also annexed.

We cannot close this report without expressing a great desire, that the Mayor and City Council should visit the schools; it would give the commissioners pleasure to attend them in any examination they might please to make of these institutions. An occasional visit from the city authorities, would certainly have an important influence over the scholars,—it would be useful in shewing them that the representatives of the city were interested in the success of the schools and the improvement in knowledge of the rising generation.

An argument in favour of general education is not necessary, there is great harmony of opinion existing everywhere in relation to the subject; on every occasion when placed in the hands of the people it received the impression of popular favour; no limit was prescribed for it, every expression was in favour of its extension so that all might drink of the fountains of knowledge; but notwithstanding, a large number of children in our city are receiving no instruction; they should be provided for; and it is the bounden duty of those having the controul, to make suitable provision for their accommodation; the public good and public feeling demand this, and we respectfully and earnestly recommend it to your serious consideration.

We still have undiminished confidence in our system of Public Schools,—and congratulate you, gentlemen, upon the successful result