advantages to students, and the honors which by their industry and perseverance they may secure, shall be fully equal to those of the best colleges in the country. In the prosecution of this purpose the Board desires the aid of the City Council, in obtaining from the State Legislature authority to confer the usual scholastic honors upon deserving and talented students in the highest instructions of their system. There is no sufficient reason why the city of Baltimore should be in the rear of other large cities of the country, in these evidences of its appreciation of scholastic ability, and of its devotion to the cause of popular education.

The Central High School, in its association with our Female High Schools, is at the head of our Public School system, and we are in duty bound to preserve them in the form by which they may be rendered most attractive, and perform the greatest amount of service. It is on this account that we importune the City Council for the aid necessary to place the Central High School above its present difficulties.

FEMALE HIGH SCHOOLS.

The annual statements of the Principals of the Female High Schools accompany this report. They present, in detail, accounts of their operations, to which we would direct your especial attention, asking for the schools the continuation of your favorable regard and fostering concern. It is impossible that too much care and oversight can be bestowed upon these higher institutions of learning for the education of the daughters of our fellow-citizens. The preparation of these young ladies for the duties of responsible life is a matter of the most important consideration. In the present period of our country's history we need more than ever intelligent women. In the hands of our fair countrywomen is the momentous service of moulding the infantile and youthful mind. It is by them that the foundation is laid of the character that prepares the subject for good or evil through life. By their virtuous training the child matures for usefulness or honor. By their neglect, or uncultivation of virtuous

sentiment, the man or the woman comes forth from the child and the youth to work the way of coruption, and to do damage to society and to the country throughout all the years of their existence.

On the teachers of these schools, next to the parents, rests the weighty responsibility of forming the character of the young, and of implanting those principles, which shall be a guide to them through life. They are in part the guardians of the life minority and the agencies, through which, in a great degree, the disposition and habits of their pupils are formed. It is in their power to overrule the proper influence of the parent, and thereby work detriment to the pupil, the family, and the community; or, they can operate, to an enlarged extent, in reforming the character, the basis of which may have been laid in immorality. In view of these all-important relationships, the duty of selecting teachers for these schools is one that demands the knowledge of experience and the discretion of the soundest judgment. The Board is able to express congratulation relative to its discharge of this great obligation to itself, the City Council and the community. The teachers of our Female High Schools are gentlemen and ladies whom we believe to be well prepared, in all respects, for the labors assigned them, and conscientiously devoted to their profession. Under their superintendence and instruction the schools have prospered, and doubtless by their efforts a great amount of the best service has been rendered to all concerned within. From the schools, and from the anxious guardianship of the teachers, go forth annually a large number of young ladies, many of whom are graduates, to fill important places upon the arena of responsible life. Although they are not all of equal talent and proficiency, there is not one among them who does not possess the power of becoming distinguished in any relation of life in which she may be placed. The characters, as well as the qualifications of the young ladies who are admitted to the High Schools, are tested by their examinations for admission into them. None can enter them but such as have acquired the necessary attainments;