all therefore who go out of them, after having received the benefits of their course of instruction, are well prepared for the pursuits that await them in life.

A word must be said in relation to the general deportment of the young ladies composing the classes of the High Schools. The continued report of the committee in charge of the schools, and of the teachers, in this relation, is that the deportment of the pupils is commendable, and that but few occasions occur in which it is necessary to administer reproof or discipline, other than the usual marking by which the standard of scholastic character and deportment is ascertained.

In the year 1863 the Board, acting upon the recommendation of the committee in charge of the schools, ordered the organization of a "Fourth Year Class." This class is assigned for the use and benefit of such of the pupils of the school as desire to prepare for the avocation of the teacher. In the advantages afforded by the class the young ladies review and familiarize themselves with their former studies, and receive practical instruction in the art of teaching. In an institution in which there are so many teachers employed as are engaged in the service of our Public Schools, there must be frequent absences on account of sickness, and from other causes. The places of the teachers thus absent are supplied from the fourth year classes of the Female High Schools. A double service is rendered the schools by this arrangement. The classes of the Primary Schools are supplied with instructed teachers, and the young ladies are becoming all the better prepared by occasional actual experience for the performance of the responsible duties of the profession of their choice.

During the first year of the existence of this class, and while its objects were not fully understood and appreciated, the number of pupils was small, not exceeding twenty in both the High Schools. In the present year, however, the number has increased to over sixty. The increase indicates a better understanding of the purpose and value of the class and a higher appreciation of its services. There is no feature of the Female High Schools that promises a more enlarged benefit to our system than that of the fourth year class. The hope is entertained by the Board, that the class will continue to increase in number and improve in efficiency, until it shall be fully sufficient for the supply of well trained and experienced teachers for all our schools.

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

In relation to the Grammar Schools, we can say with confidence, that they are improving in character and advancing in importance and usefulness. It is in the Grammar Schools that by far the greater proportion of our pupils get all the education they obtain in their younger years. It is therefore a matter of the first consideration that these schools be placed in the best possible condition. The ability necessary for the management of such institutions is that which is attained by practical experience in the training of youth. With occasional exceptions, the Grammar Schools have always been supplied with competent and attentive teachers, and under their care and direction they have reached the standard of excellence they now possess.

The chief design of the Grammar Schools is not, as is generally supposed, the preparation of pupils for the High Schools, although this is a prominent feature of their usefulness. A duty of greater moment than that of preparation of pupils for the High Schools, is that of providing them with sufficient scholastic knowledge to enable them to pursue the way of matured life creditably and successfully. It is in this preparation for the duties of responsible life, that the pupils may attain the starting point of a more complete advancement, which they may reach by their own industry and application. Some of the best business men and most accomplished ladies of our community have secured their education in this way.

It would doubtless result in benefit to these, as well as to the schools of other grades, if the members of the City Council would visit them occasionally, and after ascertain-