our pupils the seeds of knowledge and virtue; and although our school is not as flourishing as we desire, yet we feel that the scholars are improving, and that the influence exerted by the school is beneficial to those who attend.

Female Primary School No. 28, *Miss Anna M. German, Principal.*—Considering the disadvantages labored under, this school may be regarded as in an improved condition. Were it not for the number of pupils who annually leave, and most of them among the more advanced scholars, the interest of the school might be considerably promoted. Attendance not so good as I desire, owing principally to the poverty of many parents. The children are obliged to be frequently absent from school. The present condition of the school is far better than might be expected from the situation, and a change of location is earnestly asked for.

Female Primary School No. 30, *Miss Anna Rooney, Principal.*—This school has prospered during the past year, and notwithstanding the inconvenience of four large classes being obliged to recite lessons in one comparatively small room, the improvement of the pupils, morally and mentally, has been very encouraging. The increase in the average attendance is most gratifying; and the pernicious practice of parents detaining their children at home for trivial causes is rapidly yielding to the earnest entreaties of the little ones, "*not to be kept from school.*" The teachers are faithful to their trust.

VISIT AND REPORT OF A COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE.

When our report had reached this point in its progress of being printed, a committee was ordered by the House of Delegates of the State Legislature to visit and examine the Public Schools of our city, and report their condition to the House. The report of the committee has been presented and a copy received in time to have it embodied in this appendix. It is well that it should be placed upon the record of our labors, as it may become a matter of interest in the future history of our Public School system.

On Saturday evening we received notice of the intention of the committee to make their visit on Monday morning, allowing no time for communication with the teachers, who were taken by surprise at the entrance of so many gentlemen into their schools. A word of explanation satisfied them, and they were all highly pleased with the knowledge that no preparation whatever had been made for the reception of the committee.

The gentlemen of the legislative committee were accompanied by Messrs. Irelan, Ewalt, Moore, Valiant and Green, of the City Council, and Messrs. Plummer, Daniel, Hynes, Arthur, Pitt, Clarke and Sumwalt, of the School Board. All the gentlemen of the City Council and Board of School Commissioners were not present at all the schools.

The number of schools visited is sixteen, situated in different parts of the city, viz: The Western Female High School, No. 1 Male and Female Grammar, No. 15 Male and Female Grammar, and No. 1 Male and No. 15 Male and Female Primary, in the Western part of the city; the Eastern Female High School, and No. 2 Male and Female Grammar, No. 7 Male and Female Primary, in the Eastern, and No. 10 Male and Female Grammar School in the Southern; the Central High School in the centre of the city. The number of classes in these schools is seventy-five, taught by seventy-five teachers.