year; the intention being that the greatest completeness possible be given to the education of those who leave at the end of any year, without having gone over the entire curriculum. This plan of study has been extended to cover five years, without, however, interfering with the four years' course in any way. Those students who have successfully prosecuted their studies will, at the end of four years, receive the certificate of the Central High School, as heretofore, and the distribution of the Peabody prizes will not be interrupted; but those who desire to do so will be permitted to continue one year longer, during which they will be employed in increasing their knowledge of the classical and modern languages, the higher mathematics and physics, history and English literature, with mental, moral and political philosophy, and will receive such other instruction as will qualify them to enter with advantage at once upon professional study or the practice of teaching. If this legislation is followed up by improving the qualifications of those transferred to us from the Grammar Schools, the students who graduate upon the five years' course will be fully equal to the graduates of our best colleges, and worthy of college honors and distinctions. I therefore ask that you take such steps as may be necessary to secure to the Principal, Faculty and Committee of the School the rights and powers which pertain to the Presidents, Faculties and Boards of incorporated colleges, so that we may confer upon deserving young men, our alumni, all the literary honors usually granted by American institutions of learning.

The examination of candidates for admission was held in this building on the 12th day of July, at which one hundred and thirty-nine were present. As the result, one hundred and fourteen were admitted and entered upon our roll. Of the scholars already belonging to the school, one hundred and thirteen returned after the summer vacation. Our total number, therefore, in September, was two hundred and twenty-seven. This number is not quite, but very nearly, as many as can be accommodated in these rooms.

In my last report I suggested a change in the mode of conducting the examination of candidates for admission. I proposed to drop the theoretical questions in Arithmetic and Algebra, and to increase considerably the number of practical examples. Further reflection and experience has only confirmed me in the conviction that such a change would be productive of more satisfactory results. I therefore repeat this recommendation.

Touching the wants of this school, they are all summed up in one word — the new building; and of it, I have this only to report: *Non cœptæ assurgunt turres — pendent opera interrupta.*

The school is in good condition; the attendance of both teachers and students regular; the moral tone, as far as I can judge, very good; industry in study about the usual average; the departments of study well organized; the course of study well arranged and excellent; the faculty full; the Professors constant and attentive to their duties; and, in a word, the total result for the year all that, under our circumstances, and with our advantages and appliances, could reasonably be expected.

I desire to make my compliments to the committee, and to acknowledge their readiness, at all times, to contribute to the advantage of the school.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS D. BAIRD.