

Greatly increased accommodation in this respect is urgently needed. Many of these schools have several hundreds more in attendance than they can in any proper sense accommodate. Should all be provided with room, with proper reference to the laws of health and the best opportunities of instruction, should the space allotted to each pupil be equal to that which is given in some other cities, it is evident that we should have many more school edifices, and that this would only supply the present demand, without any reference to the increased attendance from year to year." Such is the importance attached to primary instruction in the City of New York. Nor can it be regarded as of less comparative importance here.

The largest average attendance in our schools during 1869, was in April and September, being in each month, 3,298. The average of these two months in the Junior Divisions was 1,563 pupils, and, in the Intermediate and Senior Divisions added together, 1,735; so that the pupils in our Junior Divisions if not, as in New York, more than one-half of the whole number in our schools, constitute a very large proportion of that number.

The accommodation at present provided for these Junior Divisions is unquestionably, in several instances, lamentably insufficient. All the newer rooms, indeed, which have been built for their especial use, are large enough for the accommodation of a reasonable number of children; namely, those in Louisa Street, erected in 1859; those in Elizabeth Street,