

I.

THE YORK STREET SCHOOL

Historical Note.

This school is one of the oldest in the city. The Dufferin, Old Howard, Ryerson, Wellesley and York Street School buildings all date from the decade, 1870-1880, while the Victoria Street School building is much older. All of these buildings have since been reconstructed or enlarged.

Mr. W. G. Frisby, the present principal, shortly after entering upon his duties, discovered a "log" of the school going back to its opening on February 17th, 1873, and giving a continuous record up to recent years. Mr. Frisby is continuing the account. When the volume is finished it should be sent to the Administration Building, to be placed in a fireproof vault, as it contains valuable historical material which should not be lost—a fate from which it has already had a very narrow escape. The record is of fascinating interest, containing as it does, not only statistics of attendance, but notes on discipline, prize-winners, public examinations attended by parents, and a thousand and one matters of great human interest. Mr. Frisby was kind enough to co-operate with the Bureau by making abstracts from the "log."

When the school began it was, in effect, two schools, a boys' and a girls', under a master and a mistress. The number of boys in attendance on the opening day was 111, and the number of girls 66. This record is signed by Mr J. W. Porter, then Inspector.

The school started with the following supplies:

- 2 maps of the Eastern Hemisphere,
- 2 " " " Western Hemisphere,
- 2 " " Europe,
- 2 " " Africa,
- 2 " " America,
- 2 " " the British Isles,
- 2 " " " United States,
- 4 blank timetables,
- 4 cards of the Decalogue,
- 4 Bibles,
- 4 daily registers,
- 2 general registers, and
- 2 diaries.

When the school closed for vacation in 1873, prizes were distributed. The record would tend to show that most of the children in attendance at that time were of English and Scottish ancestry, only one foreign name appearing in the list of prize-winners.