

## FEMALE SEMINARIES.

Although women are admitted to all of the public educational institutions of the State, and to most, if not all, of the private colleges, a number of exclusively female schools are maintained. The Michigan Female Seminary, at Kalamazoo, is the only one of these that reports to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. This is a boarding school, modeled after Mount Holyoke Seminary, in Massachusetts, and is under Presbyterian auspices. Ten teachers are employed. Value of real estate, \$70,000. Yearly income from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Jeannette Fisher, principal.

## OTHER PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

The report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1874, page lxxxii., gives statistics obtained through the school superintendency, of private and denominational schools in the State. These reports are not full, but yet they have a value, and are entitled to a place in this work. The colleges and schools noted above are not included in these figures. The aggregates for the State are as follows:

Whole number of schools .....	121
Number of teachers employed .....	197
Number of pupils .....	6,450
Amount expended for support of schools .....	\$26,388

## XVI. STATE INSTITUTIONS.

## CHARITABLE, REFORMATORY, AND PENAL.

No State would cite as a recommendation to favor, the fact that she was under the necessity of maintaining institutions of a charitable, reformatory and penal character. But as there is no known civilized state where such necessity does not exist, an outline of the structural formation of the social life that did not recognize such necessity, would be incomplete. And the State itself would be incomplete in so far as it failed to make the best possible provision to meet such necessity.

## BOARD OF STATE COMMISSIONERS.

In conformity to an advanced public sentiment, which within the past few years has manifested itself in the United States and Europe, the Legislature of Michigan, in 1871, passed an act "to provide for the appointment of a Board of Commissioners for the General Supervision of Penal, Pauper, and Reformatory Institutions, and defining their duties and powers." The object of the act was the betterment of the condition of these institutions and of their inmates, through a reformed and more systematized management. The law gives to the Board of Commissioners supervision not only of State institutions, but of local poor houses,