

while many parents are perhaps needlessly unwilling to send their healthy children, lest they should suffer from intercourse with others.

It is perhaps necessary that, as in former reports, I should again remark on the unfairness of those persons who, in dealing with our school statistics, lay undue stress on the comparison of our aggregate registered number of pupils with the number in daily average attendance. The aggregate number includes for the year 1865, 300 pupils, whose names have been entered on more than one school in the course of the year. It also includes many who left the city after but a few days attendance at school, several who have died, and others who entered when the year was nearly ended. The average registered monthly attendance and the average daily attendance may be properly and usefully compared; and if, for the year 1865, that comparison is not so favourable as for the year 1864, the probable cause of the disadvantage may be found in the wide spread sickness referred to above.

In the month of February, the Standing Committee on Sites and Buildings, under authority of the Board, completed the purchase of the four lots on Elizabeth and Sayer Streets, on which it was proposed to erect a school building, which, it was hoped, would effectually relieve the pressure that is still felt in the Louisa Street School. The impossibility of providing desk accommodation for the children in the Centre Street School, the more forward pupils from which must therefore be either allowed to wander on the streets, or transferred to other schools, the nearest of which, that at Louisa Street, is already overcrowded, renders the