

GENERAL REPORT.

TO THE CITIZENS OF VICTORIA :

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—Following the precedent established a year ago, the Board of Trustees has directed the publication of a report of the past year's administration and of the present condition of the public schools of the city.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure of the year was \$49,219.82, an increase over that of the previous year of \$3,592.38. Several circumstances contributed to this result. The difficulty in 1898 between the Board and the City Council over the appropriation made it necessary to limit the expenditure of that year to an amount very much less than ought to have been expended, thus throwing upon the administration of 1899 a burden that properly belonged to the previous year. Three additional teachers had to be appointed during the year to meet the requirements of the steadily increasing school population ; and some advances in salaries were considered necessary in order to more nearly equalize them with those paid to teachers of corresponding rank in other parts of the province.

The details of expenditure are to be found in another part of this report.

Repairs and Alterations to Buildings.

In addition to the petty expenditures under this head which are continually necessary, the condition of four of the school buildings demanded the outlay of considerable