

These statements taken in connection with the fact that several Free-schools have been opened in our immediate neighbourhood, appear to me to be satisfactory.

M. Duval, the French master, has discharged his duties conscientiously, and the boys are making great progress under him; Miss Gamble has been diligent and attentive, and her quiet manner has a beneficial influence in the school. We have had sixteen students in training, 7 in the senior, and 9 in the junior, department. The conduct of these young persons has been very praiseworthy; and many of them have shewn considerable ability as teachers.

I am able to report a marked improvement in the tone and discipline of the school. The boys take more interest in their work, and are less rough and noisy in the play-ground. By diligent personal enquiry after absentees, I have put a stop to truant-playing which prevailed at the commencement of the term to an extent that would hardly be credited. I discovered by calling upon his friends, that one boy had played truant for a fortnight. He had every evening made a pretence of learning his lessons, and every morning had taken his satchel and left home, as it was supposed, for school.

I believe the rule lately made, that *the children as far as possible shall purchase their own books*, to be a very excellent one. It has saved the Society some expense. The books have been purchased willingly; and, the boys do not value their books the less for knowing them to be their own.

The Lending Library is a valuable adjunct to the school. *The parents of the children, and the children themselves, take great interest in it.* I would recommend that this interest should be kept up by an occasional grant of new books.

Number of books in the Library,.....	240
“ “ purchased by the children,.....	30
“ “ given by a friend,.....	5
“ “ lost and worn out during the past year,.....	30 *
“ “ of children subscribing to the Library,	50

The monthly subscription is one penny. The books are changed every Thursday afternoon, a fine of a half-penny per day is paid, when a book is kept over time. Three books lately lost have been paid for by those who lost them and replaced.

* This is a large number. I can only say that I am blameless respecting it. The books were lost when I had not charge of the library; and I have spent much time, and have walked far, in trying to recover them.