

## STATE OF NEW YORK, 1858.

The Governor of this State in his recent message to the Legislature states that the amount of capital of the school fund is \$2,551,260 52, which shows an increase during the year of \$21,868 28.

The capital of the literature fund amounts to \$269,952 12. The amount received for revenue is \$16,111 01; which is annually to be distributed to academics, and used for the purchase of text books, maps and globes, and philosophical and chemical apparatus, for academics.

The capital of the United States deposit fund being the amount received from the United States, is \$1,014,520 71. The amount received for revenue is \$218,767 52; which is also appropriated for the annual support of academics, common schools, the State Normal School, the instruction of teachers' classes in academics, and for teachers' institutes.

The expenditures for the public schools of the state for the year 1857 are:—

For teachers' wages	\$2,372,113 86
" libraries and school apparatus,	136,597 80
" colored schools,	10,729 93
" school houses, sites and repairs,	765,528 59
" incidental expenses,	369,027 05
Amount remaining unexpended,	138,853 56
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,792,948 79</b>

The above amount expended for school purposes was raised as follows:—

Balance unexpended from the previous year,	\$140,142 40
From common school fund and state tax,	1,346,902 56
From Gospel and School lands,	17,449 02
School district tax,	1,816,542 71
" " rate bills,	390,515 50
All other sources,	51,396 60
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,792,948 79</b>

Numbers of school districts in the state,	11,617
" " houses,	11,566
" children between 4 and 21,	1,240,176
" attending the public schools,	812,137
" of teachers employed within the year (Males, 8,266; females, 17,887),	27,153

Three or four hundred of these hold the diploma of the State Normal School.

The total receipts of the public schools from the State, district taxes, rate bills, &c., during the year were \$3,792,198 79, about equally divided between cities and the rural districts.

The School Libraries contain 1,402,253.

The Superintendent says that by the provisions of the law granting \$6000 to Genesee College, there were issued to his predecessor a certificate of twenty scholarships to Genesee College and the Wesleyan Seminary connected therewith, admitting the persons who might be appointed under them to all the privileges and instructions in said institutions. He brings the subject before the public and the Legislature, to the end that the benefits sought to be secured may not continue inoperative through the want of applications for the existing vacancies.

By the law of 1851, which caused the raising of \$800,000 annually by general tax, the principle was established that "the property of the State should educate the children of the State." The law of 1856 extended and enlarged the appropriation by a three-fourth mill tax, which has increased the appropriation from that made by the law of 1851, to nearly \$1,200,000.

Under the management of the present Superintendent of Public Instruction, the School system of our State is acquiring, steadily but surely, a standing and reputation that will make it a model for others.

For special information in relation thereto, I refer you to the report of that officer, which, under the law of 1858, changing the close of "the school year" from 31st December to 30th September, will enable him to present the statistics pertaining to this important interest down to a period corresponding with the other departments of the State, and not attainable under previous statutes.

## POETRY.

## THE LAST GOOD NIGHT.

Close his eyelids, press them gently  
O'er the dead and faded eyes,  
For the soul that made them lovely  
Hath returned to the skies.  
Wipe the death-drops from his forehead,  
Sever one dear golden tress,  
Fold his icy hands all meekly,  
Smooth the little snowy dress:  
Scatter flower-seeds o'er his pillow—  
Gentle flowers, so pure and white—  
Lay the bud upon his bosom,  
There—now softly say, Good Night.

Though our tears flow fast and faster,  
Yet we would not call him back;  
We are glad his feet no longer  
Tread life's rough and thorny track;  
We are glad our heavenly Father  
Took him while his heart was pure,  
We are glad He did not leave him  
All life's trials to endure:  
We are glad—and yet the tear-drop  
Falleth; for, alas! we know  
That our fire side will be lonely,  
We shall miss our darling so.

While the twilight shadows gather,  
We shall wait in vain to feel  
Little arms all white and dimpled,  
Round our necks so softly steal;  
Our wet cheeks will miss the pressure  
Of sweet lips so warm and red,—  
And our bosom sadly, sadly,  
Miss that darling little head,  
Which was wont to rest there sweetly,  
And those golden eyes so bright,  
We shall miss their living glance,  
We shall miss their soft Good Night.

When the morrow's sun is shining,  
They will take this cherished form,  
They will bear it to the church-yard,  
And consign it to the worm;  
Well what matter? It is only  
The clay-dress our darling wore;  
God hath robed him as an angel,  
He hath need of this no more:  
Fold his hands, and o'er his pillow  
Scatter flowers pure and white,  
Kiss that marble brow, and whisper,  
Once again a last Good Night.