

opened in January, 1868; and those in Palace Street, opened in September, 1869. These, however, are but, six of our at present eighteen Junior Divisions; while in most of the others the space is utterly inadequate.

It was chiefly, though not altogether for this reason, that the half-day system was recommended to the Board and adopted only last summer, as a temporary expedient, until more ample and suitable accommodation can be provided for the many children who cannot be crowded at one time into our existing school-rooms. This system provides for the attendance at school of one-half of the pupils in our Junior Divisions in the forenoon, and of the other half in the afternoon. My own observation, and the general testimony of those of our teachers who have been directed to adopt it, have confirmed me in the conviction, previously entertained on the representations of others, that on both sanitary and educational grounds, it has worked beneficially both to pupils and teachers. It is, however, but just to state that many parents and guardians have strongly objected to it; while, on the other hand, several have expressed their decided approval of it, and some have requested that their little children may not be required to attend school for more than half the day. It has not been advocated or practised in this city as the best thing possible under any supposable circumstances, but rather as a measure to be resorted to under certain unfavourable circumstances; as, in other words, incomparably better than the over-crowding of children of tender age, to the great injury of their health and their habits;

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