

discouragement of idleness and pauperism. I beg to renew the suggestion that the portion of the estate not required nor used by the corporation be sold.

From the Departments of Gas and Health no reports have been received.

SCHOOLS.

No report has been received from this Department. Councils are referred, for an account of their condition to the annual report. There are no public duties performed with more zeal, devotion and merit, than those connected with the direction of our Schools. The community has, however, had just reason for reproach and humiliation within the past year, over the fact that the salaries of the teachers have not been punctually paid; and that a class so eminently meritorious, have been subjected to unnecessary sacrifices and suffering.

Nothing can excuse such dereliction on the part of an affluent community. It is also to be deplored that, on account of a deficiency in the appropriation, the Night Schools, which have been eminently successful, were prematurely closed.

THE GIRARD ESTATE.

The income of this estate has not depreciated, its condition is satisfactory, and its management diligent and faithful. The dilapidation of years increases the expense of maintaining city property, and the expenditures incident to the repairs and renewals of the coming year may slightly affect the income. The coal lands of the city in Schuylkill county promise a large increase of income, as the period has arrived when they may be profitably presented to colliers. The necessary surveys, locations and openings are about to be made, in anticipation of their advertisement.

I have, upon a former occasion, recommended that such portions of the property of the city, which is unproductive in itself, and affords no benefit to the community, should be sold. A reference to the report of the Superintendent of City Property, will exhibit the fact, that the wealth of the city is a heavy tax upon the city. The proceeds of unoccupied halls and rentless houses would probably realize a million of dollars, which might, with advantage to our credit, be devoted to the sinking fund.

The Railroad Securities of the City, although they have hitherto paid interest, affect the credit of the city, as swelling the apparent amount of its debts. The Corporation is not a dealer in stocks. It subscribed to these roads to secure their construction. That object attained, it is the duty of the city to withdraw the money of her citizens, especially when the protection of her own credit demands the concentration of her resources. It would be unwise to do so suddenly, or in considerable amounts; but authority might, with propriety and prudence, be conferred, that would, under the supervision of the Committee of Finance, attain the result gradually, and without affecting the value of the stock.

One of the objects primarily sought in the Act of Consolidation, was to establish in every branch of Government a system of strict accountability. All the Boards and Departments should be rigidly held responsible, and no plea of necessity, much less of convenience, should be admitted, to excuse an unauthorized expenditure of the public funds. The Councils, as the taxing power, determine the appropriations; and no Department, upon any pretext, should be allowed to exceed the amount allotted it. The courtesy which sanctions such usurpations is itself an usurpation. The practice is evil and corrupt in itself, and unless checked at once will lead to evils and corruptions without limit.

The object of the Consolidation Act was to make the City and Districts an unit. The consolidation of its governments has not effected and cannot effect this. The only real consolidation, that which the people can realize, is a consolidation of the laws, ordinances, and rules by which they are governed. This duty is not only not fulfilled, but seems to be forgotten. Two years have elapsed since the act was passed, and with few exceptions the old lines of the Districts are, in regard to all those ordinances which affect the daily interests of life, as distinct as before. The government has, in this regard, effected little or nothing. The only result attained is that, in the confusion which exists in regard to the conflicting ordinances of the different Districts, none are regarded. The evil is real and serious; the remedy should be early and effective.

R. T. CONRAD, Mayor.

Mayor's Office, Philadelphia, Jan. 31, 1856.

* Arrests made during the year 1855.

Abduction,	2
Absconding Apprentice,	16
Adultery,	16
Arson,	31
Assault,	75
Assault and Battery,	2,970
Bail Piece,	4
Bastardy,	7
Bench Warrant,	3
Bigamy,	8
Breach of Ordinance,	198
Breach of Peace,	18,544
Breach of Promise,	1
Burglary,	46
Conspiracy,	14
Contempt,	2
Counterfeiting,	1
Desertion,	67
Disorderly House,	258
Extortion,	3
False Pretence,	7
Felony,	1
Forcible Entry,	
Forgery,	
Fornication,	8
Fornication and Bastardy,	39
Fraud,	14

Fugitive from Justice,	10
Gambling,	160
Highway Robbery,	18
Illegal Voting,	3
Incest,	1
Infanticide,	1
Insane,	55
Intoxication,	11,234
Kidnapping,	2
Larceny,	1,518
Malicious Mischief,	168
Misdemeanor,	982
Murder,	22
Passing Counterfeit Money,	113
Perjury,	3
Picking Pockets,	38
Rape,	10
Receiving Stolen Goods,	87
Riot,	259
Robbery,	64
Seduction,	4
Selling Liquor on Sunday,	184
" " to Inebriates,	21
" " to Minors,	41
" " without License,	81
" Lottery Policies,	26
Slander,	1
Sodomy,	1
Smuggling,	5
Swindling,	2
Trespass,	29
Trover and Conversion,	8
Vagrants,	1,325
Total,	38,651

Of the above there were from—

Ireland,	21,830
United States,	10,470
Germany,	2,452
England,	1,281
France,	121
Scotland,	110
Italy,	53
Spain,	11
Switzerland,	7
Prussia,	4
Sweeden,	7
Wales,	6
Portugal,	7
Jews,	7
Hungary,	3
Mexico,	1
China,	1
Bavaria,	1
West Indies,	1
Poland,	2
Russia,	1
Blacks,	2,281
Total,	38,657



City "fire plug"—
 Badge of the "Fireman's
 association" Insurance Co.
 S. W. cor. of North St. lateally
 and Fifth Street. - 1856-



SAMUEL SIMES,
 OPERATIVE AND DISPENSING CHEMIST,
 And Manufacturer of Pure Medicinal Cod Liver Oil,
 N. W. corner Chestnut and Twelfth Sts., Philad'a.