

School, for lessons in spelling, reading and arithmetic. Intelligent teachers and parents can easily judge of the merits of a system which can produce such results in so short a time.

The Training School is intended to prepare Teachers for conducting the exercises of the "Oswego System," and is admirably fitted to accomplish this result. It is divided into two sections, whose time is divided equally between learning and teaching. One section "recites" in the morning, and teaches in the practice school in the afternoon. The other section teaches in the morning, and recites in the afternoon. They are not permitted to give any lesson to the children until they have recited the same lesson themselves, and have written out a careful analysis of it.

The success of the system has been so marked that it is now about to be carried out on a more extensive scale. The City authorities have purchased a house and lot in the most improving section of the City; and are now making additions and alterations to prepare it for the accommodation of the largest Normal School in the United States. When finished, it will be handed over to the State as a gift; and the State undertakes to appropriate \$15,000 a year to its support. The building will accommodate about a thousand scholars; three hundred in the Normal Department proper, and seven hundred in the Model and Practice Schools.

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All of which is respectfully submitted,

M. A. NEWELL.

### III.—SCHOOL HOUSES.

No provision is made by law for erecting and furnishing School Houses. If done at all, it must be either by special appropriation of funds by the Board of Commissioners, or by the voluntary subscriptions of citizens interested in the School. The entire School money being needed to pay Teachers' salaries and incidental expenses, it is unreasonable to expect any improvement in our School accommodations unless there be some local tax, or our people are aroused to the importance of erecting comfortable houses. From every County we hear the same complaint—badly built houses, no furniture, no apparatus for instruction.

Something must be done, and speedily, to remedy the difficulty which now stands in the way of successful effort. A plan of district taxation must be provided, that suitable edifices may be erected with the least practicable delay. It concerns not only the efficiency of instruction, but the physical condition of the children. In many Schools the injury to the health of the young, by imperfect ventilation and uncomfortable seats, more than balances the benefit derived from what is taught as book learning. After visiting many portions of the State, and gathering information by conference and personal observation, I made the following statement of the condition of our "Temples of Science."

(*Extract from Preface to By-Laws.*) "Our School Houses, with few exceptions, are inconveniently located; badly built, out of repair.