

# A BRIEF VACATION.

The Public Schools Will Be Closed  
Until January 2, 1894.

END OF THE FIRST HALF YEAR.

Interesting Exercises by the Pupils  
of the High School.

Owing to the Crowded Condition of All  
the Buildings the Half Day Plan of  
Attendance May Be Adopted—  
Other News of the City.

The first half of the school year closed yesterday and the schools of the city have all adjourned for the holidays. The youth of the city can now roam heart and fancy free from all of the cares of the school room until January 2, 1894, when the schools will reopen for the completion of the year's work.

The closing exercises of the high school in the afternoon was especially interesting. A very enjoyable literary programme had been arranged for the occasion and a number of the teachers from the other schools and some visitors were in attendance.

At the opening of the school for the new year the problem of arranging the accommodations for the largely increased attendance at the high school will come before the board for action, and just how to manage the matter is now proving a very perplexing problem to the members and the teachers. Several meetings have been held and the matter discussed quite freely, but no arrangement has yet been decided upon.

It is quite likely that the plan of arranging the work of the school on the half day plan will be adopted for the remainder of the year. With this arrangement the school would be divided into two classes and one half attend half of the day. The pupils would not be delayed in the work, nor would the teachers be diminished in any way. Another force of teachers will be required or some arrangement will have to be made so that the increased work can be done by the teachers already employed.

The board will probably amend the rules of the school governing promotions and advancement, so that pupils will not enter the high school except at the beginning of the year.

As it is now arranged they can enter twice in the year and the teachers are compelled to arrange the pupils at the beginning of each term. This has proven a great annoyance, so the teachers say, and the members of the board now are aware of the fact. The high school is very much cramped for room and the good work done is not effective in that high degree that is possible with better arrangements and more complete equipment. The board hopes to have a much better arrangement for the schools for the next year than it now has.

The attendance for the first half of the year has been very large. The enrollment has reached 4,500 from the city, an increase over the preceding year of over 700. Over 200 pupils have been or will be admitted to the high school during the present school year. This number is larger than the capacity of the high school department and as a result the rooms are very much overcrowded and with a large number of new pupils coming in next week the board has a knotty problem to handle in making the arrangements.

Stover Adjudged Insane.

Mr. John G. Stover, who was taken into