

employed. Owing to the hilly and rocky condition of the country the plant is a very expensive one.

As showing the condition of the public schools a brief summary of the monthly report for November, 1888, is appended: Total enrollment to date, 1,704; average attendance during November, 1,431; average daily attendance, 1,282; per cent. of attendance during the month, 89.5; per cent. of punctuality during the month, 99.1.

**BUTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

**B**UTTE has a well equipped fire department, consisting of the city department proper, and an organization known as the Butte Fire Bigade. Both, while on duty, are under the directions of the chief engineer. In addition to these a salvage corps is also maintained. The brigade owns the hose and apparatus it uses and is supported by a system of voluntary assessments of the members. A few months ago the city purchased a span of horses for the use of the department, and until better quarters can be secured the horses and hose carriage which they draw are kept at one of the livery stables.

The entire department is well equipped for effective service and, although a volunteer department, the morale is good and the members prompt to respond to the call of duty.

**THE M'DERMOTT HOTEL.**

**A**T LAST IT can be said that Butte has what it has always needed but has never had—a first-class hotel. Although the richest and most prosperous mining center in the world, Butte has been painfully deficient in hotel accommodations until the present, something which has, undeniably, been a serious detriment to the city. The agony is now, however, over and in a few short days the McDermott hotel, one of the finest hostleries in the West, will be open for business.

The building is the property of W. M. McDermott, who named it the Occidental, but the lessee, A. Fred Wey, decided upon a change of name and gave it its present name in honor of the builder.

The hotel is located on the southeast corner of Broadway and Wyoming streets and has a frontage of 36x132 feet. It is three stories high with a basement, and is built of brick and stone, with iron cornices and outside ornamentation of the same metal. Architecturally it is a handsome structure, and its interior arrangements the perfection of comfort and convenience. On the first floor are the office, dining room, saloon and barber shop, and in the basement the kitchen, pantries, store rooms, etc. The house has eighty magnificent rooms, arranged singly and en suite, all well ventilated and lighted. Bath rooms, water closets, and cold and hot water service are among the conveniences on each

floor. On the second floor are the parlor and sleeping apartments, the third story being devoted entirely to sleeping rooms. The house is heated throughout with steam and lighted with gas and incandescent electric lights. Electric return call bells are in each room connecting with an enunciator in the office, while speaking tubes run through the entire building. Improved fire escapes afford excellent means of escape in case of a fire in any part of the structure. Six large sample rooms have been provided for the benefit of commercial travelers.

The office and bar furniture were ordered especially for the house from the Brunswick-Balke company of Chicago. The main dining room is supplied with twelve eight-chair tables, while two extra dining rooms for the use of private parties, banquets, or similar occasions, have been set apart adjoining the main room. The silverware was made especially for the house by the Middletown, Connecticut, Plate company through its agents, Hight & Fairfield. The range and kitchenware were purchased from the Butte Hardware company. The furniture is all of hard wood, of the latest patterns, and was purchased of W. Pinkham and the J. C. Chauvin Furniture company. The carpets, bedding, linen, window shades, etc., were purchased from the Bonner Mercantile company, D. J. Hennessy & Co. and R. J. Boyer, Jr., & Co., and all are of the very finest quality.

The entire cost of furnishing the house will exceed \$11,000, and when opened Butte can say that it has as good an hotel as can be found in any city west of the Rockies.

The McDermott will be opened for the reception of guests January 15, 1889.

**THE PARROT MINE AND SMELTER.**

**T**HE Parrot mine, owned and operated by a company incorporated under the laws of Montana, is situated a short distance east of the city. This mine is one of the best dividend paying in Silver Bow county. It is worked through a 3-compartment shaft which has been sunk to a depth of 700 feet. There are at present employed in and about the mine 150 men. The daily output of this mine is in the neighborhood of 250 tons, and since the mine was started, seven years ago, about 600,000 tons of ore have been taken out, which is easily concentrated and carries its own flux.

The Parrot smelter, which is the second largest in Silver Bow, is located about one mile southeast of the city. In connection with the smelter there is a completely equipped machine shop, carpenter shop, grinding rooms, and all other necessary buildings. A thorough system of railroad tracks in and about the smelter, enables the greatest dispatch to be obtained in the hauling of wood, coke and other supplies. This smelter has