important public buildings are the new custom-house and post-office, erected at a cost of over $5,000,000 ; the mer­chants’ exchange, which contains a grand hall 221 feet 10 inches in length by 62 feet 10 inches in width and 60 feet in height; the court-house, where the civil courts hold their sessions; the four courts and jail, in which building are the headquarters of the police department and the chambers of the criminal courts; the cotton exchange; the new ex­position and music-hall building on Olive Street, erected by public subscription; and the Crow Museum of Fine Arts. The present city-hall is a large but hardly orna­mental edifice. The mercantile library, on Fifth and Locust Streets, contains nearly 65,000 volumes and also a valuable art collection. The public school library in the polytechnic building has about 55,000 volumes. There are six handsome theatres and various other smaller places of amusement. The public school system of St Louis includes the kindergarten (for which St Louis has become somewhat celebrated), the grammar-schools (including eight grades, of a year each), and a high school, besides the normal school and a school for deaf mutes. The public schools naturally absorb much the largest number of pupils; but the parochial schools and the private schools gathered about the Washington university are also much frequented. The number of pupils in 1883-84 was in the normal school 64, high school 783, grammar-schools 52,280, total in day schools 53,127 ; total in day and evening schools 56,366. The total number of public school buildings is 104, and the value of property used for school purposes $3,229,148; all the school edifices are substantial and convenient, and many architecturally attractive. The receipts of the public school system for 1884 were $941,332, and the total ex­penditure $934,609, the amount paid to teachers being $632,873. Of parochial schools there are about 75. The Washington and St Louis universities are old and well- established institutions. There are also the Mary Institute and the manual training school, both connected with Wash­ington university, the college of the Christian Brothers, convent seminaries, and numerous medical colleges. In addition there are art schools, singing and gymnastic societies, and other similar organizations and establishments. There are published in St Louis four daily news­papers in English and four in German, and also a number of weekly publications.

There are 16 Baptist churches, 8 Congregational, 13 Episcopal, 25 German Evangelical and Lutheran, 6 Hebrew congregations, 18 Methodist Episcopal, 8 Methodist Episcopal Church (South), 25 Presbyterian, 45 Roman Catholic, and 3 Unitarian. Many of the buildings are of imposing proportions, built of stone, massive in character, and with lofty spires. The Roman Catholic cathedral, built in 1830, is the oldest church now in use. On the high ground in the central-western portion of the city (Stoddard’s Addition) will be found most of the costly church build­ings, whilst in the northern and southern portions of the city there are very few indeed.

The parks and squares of St Louis number 19, covering nearly 2100 acres. Tower Grove Park, in the south-western suburbs, containing about 266 acres, was presented by Mr Henry Shaw. The smaller parks are situated to the east of Grand Avenue, and the driving parks in the suburbs, —O’Fallon Park (158 acres) at the northern extremity of the city, Forest Park (1372 acres) west of the central portion, Tower Grove in the south-west, and Carondelet (180 acres) in the south. In the immediate vicinity of Tower Grove Park are the Missouri Botanical Gardens, established by Mr Henry Shaw, and containing the most extensive botanical collection in the United States. In addition to the parks, the Fair Grounds in the north-west should be mentioned, where the annual fair is held, and

where there is a permanent zoological department. An amphitheatre, capable of seating between 20,000 and 30,000 spectators, and a race-course with a most elabo­rate grand stand, are among the other features. There are various beer-gardens in the city, largely frequented as pleasure-resorts. There are about 120 miles of street rail­ways in operation.

The following table shows the population of St Louis at different periods :—

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1799 | 925 | 1856 | 125,200 |
| 1810 | 1,400 | 1866 | 204,327 |
| 1820 | 4,928 | 1870 (United States |
| 1830 | 5,862 | census) | 310,864 |
| 1840 | 16,469 | 1880 | 350,518 |
| 1850 | 74,439 |  |

The figures of the United States census are strictly con­fined to municipal limits, and do not include the residents of East St Louis and of various suburban localities, pro­perly a part of the city population. In 1880 the popula­tion (179,520 males, 170,998 females) was divided as follows:—native, 245,505; foreign-born, 105,013. Of the latter 36,309 came from Great Britain (28,536 Irish) and 54,901 from Germany. The death-rate per thousand in 1882 was 19·6, in 1883 it was 20·4, and in 1885 (population being estimated at 400,000) it was 19·7.

The police force, including detectives and employes, numbers about 500 men. The fire brigade numbers 250 men, with 22 engine- houses. The city has three public hospitals, an asylum for the insane, a poorhouse, a workhouse for the confinement and employment of prisoners charged with petty offences, and a house of refuse which is a reformatory institution for juvenile offenders and for the education of children thrown upon the care of the city by abandonment or otherwise. The number of asylums, hospitals, and other institutions supported by private charity is very large.

*Government and Finance.—*St Louis is not included in any county of the State, but exists as a separate municipality. It was formerly embraced in St Louis county, and was within the jurisdiction anil taxing power of a city and county government. The State con­stitution was revised in 1875 and two years later the separation of the city and the county government was effected, the former being reorganized under the present charter. The city levies and collects municipal and State revenues within its limits, and manages its own affairs, free from all outside control, except that of the legis­lature of the State. The voters of the city have the right to amend the charter at intervals of two years at a general or special election, —provided the proposed amendments have been duly sanctioned and submitted to

the people by the

municipal assem-

bly. The legisla-

tive power of the

city is in the

hands of a council

and a house of

delegates, styled

collectively the

municipal assem­

bly. The council

is composed of

thirteen mem­

bers, elected for

four years by

the voters of the

city generally,

and the house of

delegates con­

sists of one mem­

ber from each of

the twenty-eight

wards, elected for

two years. The

following officers

are elected for

a term of four

years : — mayor,

comptroller, au­

ditor, treasurer,

registrar, col­

lector, recorder

of deeds, inspector of weights and measures, sheriff, coroner, marshal, public administrator, president of the board of assessors, and pre-