

The Postoffice Building, completed in 1895, is also an imposing structure, substantially built, and of modern architecture. It is built of gray stone from the Goodrich quarries, and cost \$140,696. It contains two stories and a basement, and has apartments not only for the postoffice and its officers, but for other government officials. One of its features is a handsome tower containing a clock with four dials.

In keeping with the spirit of enterprise and progress which characterizes our citizens, San Jose has been provided with a fire department equipped with the latest and most efficient appliances.

San Jose is peculiarly fortunate in regard to the facilities for obtaining an abundant water supply. The mountains which surround the valley abound with streams and springs, the water from which flows through the valley to the Bay of San Francisco. Some of it is used for power, some for irrigation, and some flows away unhindered to the sea. A portion follows down the rock strata which bend down and outward under the valley, to rise as life-giving streams of artesian water when the rock is pierced by the drills of the well-borer.

Water may be obtained anywhere in the city at a depth varying from ten to ninety feet, and in portions of the city, artesian water may be secured at depths varying from ninety five to four hundred feet. The water supplied by the San Jose Water Company, however, is brought from reservoirs in the Santa Cruz



SAN JOSE POST OFFICE.

Mountains. The first water company was organized in 1866, with a capital of \$100,000. Water was obtained from artesian wells for about two years, when, owing to the growth of population, it was found necessary to have a more abundant supply, and the right to use the waters of Los Gatos Creek was purchased. In 1868 a new company was organized, and the capital stock was increased to \$300,000. This company at once set to work to develop the system which now exists. The capital stock was subsequently increased to \$1,000,000, great reservoirs were built in the mountains, and other extensive and costly improvements were made.