

CHURCHES.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—This was the first church, of any denomination, organized in Oakland, services having been commenced by Rev. S. B. Bell, its first pastor, in the winter of 1852. The building now occupied is on the southeast corner of Broadway and Thirteenth street. The church owns a fine building site adjacent to the City Hall property, on Fourteenth street, between Clay and Washington. The Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Poor is pastor. The Elders of the church are: Samuel Percy, Elijah Bigelow, James J. Gardiner, Wm. C. Dodge and G. W. Ames. The Deacon is Wm. H. Miller. The church has eighty members.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—The Independent Presbyterian Church, is the only church of a similar organization in California, or perhaps in the United States. The pastor is Rev. L. Hamilton, formerly pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. For opinions expressed by him he was, during the year, tried before the Presbytery, and subsequently before the Synod, and it was the decision of those ecclesiastical bodies that he should be deposed from the Christian ministry, by a resolution adopted February 24th, 1869. Mr. Hamilton had the moral support of a large portion of the congregation, and as soon as the Presbytery took final action, deemed by them to be arbitrary, unjust and unchristian, they determined to establish a new church, which would be free from outside interference, but be strictly orthodox, and differ but in name from the parent church. A Society was formed, and articles of faith drawn from the New Testament, were adopted as a basis, and the Rev. L. Hamilton was called to be pastor of the newly formed church. Mr. Hamilton first preached in Brayton Hall on February 28th, 1869, to a large and intelligent audience, and he has continued to hold services there each Sabbath, the attendance being large. The Church Society numbers one hundred persons, and there are forty-one communicants. The Society owns a fine building lot on the east side of Jefferson street, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, and a chapel is in process of erection. The land is paid for, and land and moneys pledged amount to \$20,000. The

Trustees are: Rev. Henry Durant, Rev. D. McClure, C. W. Howard, George C. Potter, J. S. Emery, A. J. Coffee, S. B. McKee and John R. Glascock.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—This church was organized December 9th, 1860, with a membership of seventeen persons. Rev. Dr. Mooar, the present pastor of the church, has occupied this position since May 6th, 1861. The church contains one hundred and ninety-five members, and owns the magnificent block bounded by Broadway, Washington, Tenth and Eleventh streets. The Deacons are: T. B. Bigelow, E. P. Flint, R. E. Cole and T. L. Walker. The Trustees of the Church Society are: R. E. Cole, E. P. Flint, E. P. Sanford, Israel W. Knox, F. K. Shattuck and L. P. Fisher. The church property is valued at \$60,000, which is a low estimate.

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The Second Congregational Church was organized May 31st, 1868, and is located at the Oakland Point, Rev. Eli Corwin, pastor. B. P. Fisher is Deacon, and H. A. Palmer is Clerk and Treasurer. There are twenty-four members, and the Society connected with the church, numbers one hundred persons. During the year a new organ and a fine church bell have been purchased, and the church property is valued at \$4,500.

MISSION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—This church grew from a Mission Sabbath School established in the lower part of the city, by the Trustees of the First Congregational Church, in the summer of 1868. A building worth about \$1,500 has been erected on Second street, between Broadway and Washington street, and the Rev. John Kimball has been called to labor as a City Missionary. There is no formal church organization, though there are services each Sabbath. W. H. Jordan is Superintendent of the Sunday School, which has one hundred and twenty-five scholars, and a library containing one hundred and fifty volumes of choice works.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.—On the first Sabbath in January, 1868, the Rev. B. T. Martin, pastor of this church, preached a sermon of considerable historical interest, but we cannot, for want of space here, give a synopsis, which we had de-