

COUNTY INFIRMARY.—For many years the county hospital was maintained in a rented building in Oakland. The plan was unnecessarily expensive. Many persons applied for admission who were fit subjects for an alms house, and a change being imperative, the Board of Supervisors availed itself of the privileges of the general State law and purchased a tract of land, 127 acres in extent, near the San Lorenzo Creek, in Eden township, for the purpose of a County Infirmary. It was designed to provide for the county poor as well as for the sick, and the large farm affords means for the useful employment of paupers and for the exercises of convalescents. The produce of the farm should make the expense of the institution fall lightly upon tax payers. The building is a wooden one and was erected at a cost of about \$5,000. It can accommodate about forty patients and has several times been filled to its fullest capacity. It is proper to state in this connection that a very large number of the patients are non residents of the county and have straggled from San Francisco and other cities, in the hope of bettering their condition. Orrin Hamlin is Steward of the Infirmary.

COUNTY COURT HOUSE.—The former brick Court House was almost totally destroyed by the great earthquake of 1868. The foundation walls, however, were not badly injured and it was decided by the Supervisors to continue the erection of the Recorder's office, which had then been commenced, and to build a wooden superstructure upon the foundation of the old building. The building is one story in height and affords sufficient accommodations for the county offices. The Recorder's office is one of the finest and best arranged in the State. The prison is large and secure, and although the building cannot lay any claim to elegance or architectural beauty, it fully answers the purposes for which it is intended.

The number of marriage licenses issued from the County Clerk's office during the year 1869, up to December 13, was one hundred and sixty. This speaks very well for Alameda county, and would indicate a rapid increase to our native population.

ELECTION RETURNS.—The total vote cast for the candidates for State Senator, last September, in the townships, will give an accurate idea of the voting population of the county:

Oakland Township.....	1,044
Alameda Township.....	155
Washington Township.....	282
Brooklyn Township.....	316
Eden Township.....	449
Murray Township.....	254
Total.....	2,502

At the Judicial election there were but 1,539 votes cast for the candidates for District Judge.

The completion of the Western Pacific Railroad has increased the population of the county, and upon the line of the road numerous new towns have been located and they are already becoming centers of population. These towns will be referred to separately in another part of the DIRECTORY.

Income Returns.

Classification of persons paying income tax in Alameda county, as assessed upon the annual list for 1869; also on the monthly list which are not included in the annual:

	First Class, \$20 or less.	Second Class, \$20 to \$50.	Third Class, \$50 to \$100.	Fourth Class, \$100 to \$500.	Fifth Class, \$500 or more.
Annual.....	108	156	100	129	27
Monthly.....	6	10	13	10	2
Total.....	174	166	113	139	29

It will be seen from the above that twenty-nine of our citizens belong to the highest class of income tax-payers.

Total assessed on incomes, special taxes, gross receipts, etc., in the county of Alameda for 1869.

Assessed upon Annual List.....	\$ 71,741 20
Assessed upon Monthly, to December 1st, 1869.....	35,117 23
Total.....	\$106,858 43

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

We are indebted to the County Superintendent of Public Schools, Mr. A. L. Fuller, for the very interesting information, and for the statistics which we present below. Mr. Fuller has been an unusually efficient officer, and under his administration the Public Schools of the county have attained to a degree of prosperity higher than were before enjoyed by them. The statistics show the growth of the department for the past three years: