

# A DIRECTORY

OF THE

# TOWN OF BROOKLYN,

JULY 1st, 1872.

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## HISTORICAL.

Brooklyn, like Oakland, was originally a part of the Peralta Ranch. The two towns started together, but from the first, Oakland led, although Brooklyn, at her San Antonio side, had the advantage of being the principal "Embarcadero." The settlement of Brooklyn by Americans dates from the 26th day of February, 1850, at which date three brothers, natives of the State of Maine, named Robert F. Patten, William Patten, and Edward C. Patten, arrived there and built a temporary residence. The ground was covered with wild oats, and wild cattle roamed at large. The Pattens found a companion in Moses Chase, who had been taken sick in a hunting expedition. At their invitation he joined them, and for several years shared their fortunes. With the exception of Edward C. Patten all are yet living. The first frame house, which was erected on what is now known as the Brannan property, near the Bag Factory, is still in existence on Jefferson street, and is used as the kitchen portion of Mr. Chase's residence. This new company of enterprising men leased from Antonio Peralta 480 acres of land for eight years, and commenced its cultivation, raising wheat, barley, oats and potatoes.

Two years afterwards, a firm of San Francisco lawyers — Messrs. Jones, Tompkins and Strode—undertook to lay out a town, and with this view purchased 6,200 acres of land, extending from Indian Gulch, near the residence of John B. Watson, to Sausal Creek, at Fruit Vale. The land leased by the Pattens was the most important part of this tract, and in order to avail themselves of it they made the occupants a present of one half of it in consideration of immediately giving up the other half. The Pattens and Chase entered heartily into the plans of the new company for laying out a town, and seconded all their efforts. They took another partner, named Strode, into their enterprise with them, after receiving half of the property. In 1853, Mr. H. A. Higby was employed to survey and lay out the new town, which was called Clinton. A line of cotton wood trees was planted along Washington street from Lake Peralta to San Antonio. A block was set aside for a plaza, and a flag-staff erected thereon. This with a flag, at that day, cost \$200.