

PREFATORY.

IN presenting to the public the Oakland Directory for 1874, the second volume of the work issued by the present compiler, he respectfully directs attention to the useful and interesting character of the different subjects embraced within its pages. The historical and statistical references comprise a mass of valuable information connected with the history of Oakland, including a statement of building improvements, and a review of the manufacturing enterprises since July, 1872. The articles on Land Titles, Population, and Finances are worthy of special attention. The Appendix contains the Charter of the City of Oakland, the Acts of the Legislature establishing the Board of Education and the Police Court, opening and improving the Public Streets, etc.; and the ordinances of the city with reference to Licences, Public Health, Nuisances, and City Wharf, with the different amendments to date, to which have been added abstracts of several important legal decisions affecting the same: the whole presenting a department of information concerning the laws of the City of Oakland, not to be found in any other publication. The Alameda division of the work contains, in addition to a list of residents, the Town Charter and a list of the officers of the local government; the officers of the different societies, churches, etc., and a variety of other interesting data of a local character.

The number of references contained in the Oakland Department of the present volume is 5,369, of which 4,561 are adult males. These figures, compared with those published in the Directory issued in August, 1872, 4,004 (Oakland 3,350, Brooklyn 654), exhibit an increase of 557, or about fourteen per cent. Population, January 1, 1874, estimated at 16,500. The number of references in the Alameda Directory is 358, of which 291 are adult males. The population of Alameda Township is estimated at about 2,000. Thorough and reliable statistics on these subjects will be found on page 26.

It was intended to include in the present volume, a map of the City of Oakland, but owing to the rapid growth of the city and the extension of its limits during the last year and the numerous changes incident thereto, it has been deemed advisable to omit the old map as being insufficient for present reference. A new map is now being compiled by official authority which will be published in the Directory for 1875.

The new system of numbering the buildings adopted during the past year, has greatly facilitated the labors of our canvassers, and will, when thoroughly carried into effect, prove a measure of great public convenience.

The compiler tenders his acknowledgments for the favors extended during the progress of his labors, to William D. Harwood, Esq., for valuable and interesting contributions to the Historical and General Review; to Dr. G. E. Sherman, for valuable mortuary statistics; and to the different officers of the City Government, especially to H. Hillebrand, Esq., City Clerk; to Captain F. B. Tarbett, and to Edward Hoskins, Esq., he is under obligations for valuable information: also, to the citizens of Oakland, for their uniform courtesy; and to the patrons of the work, for their substantial evidences of sympathy and good will.

OAKLAND, January 10, 1874.

Home Insurance Co. (Fire) of New York, BABER & ROFF, Agents, Broadway and Tenth, Oakland.