

versity, was originally located in San Francisco. It was started—and for some time sustained—through the exertions of the benevolent women of that city. The school was opened April 30, 1860, with three pupils. As the institution grew in numbers, State aid was obtained, and in 1865 it had increased to such a degree as to justify its entire organization under State auspices.

A law was passed March 3, 1866, “providing for a removal of the school from the limited and inconvenient quarters in San Francisco”—for enlarging the scope of its beneficence—for vesting in the State the title to all property held by the institution, and providing for a Board of Directors, under the Code, appointed by the Governor. Suitable appropriations were made to carry out the purpose of the Act.

After long and patient examinations, the Commissioners decided upon the present location. Plans drawn by Messrs. Wright & Sanders, of San Francisco, were adopted.

The ground was broken June 29, 1867, and the corner-stone was laid September 26, of the same year, and the new building was occupied for school purposes October 20, 1869.

The institution was built of stone, was three stories in height, having a total frontage of two hundred and sixty-four feet, a depth of one hundred and forty feet, and the height to the top of the spire was one hundred and sixty feet. It was admirably planned for the purpose of such an establishment.

The total cost of this structure, including grounds, furniture, etc., was \$180,000. During a tempestuous evening (January 17, 1875), this edifice was totally destroyed by fire. A temporary building was speedily erected, at a cost of \$27,000, but this was entirely insufficient to accommodate the inmates, and the Legislature was appealed to and an appropriation secured ample enough to erect two substantial brick buildings, three stories in height. Wright & Saunders were the architects; contractor, W. C. Boone; superintendent, N. R. Tucker. These buildings cost \$85,500. They were accepted by the State in March of the present year. The present number of pupils in the Institute is one hundred and four. The proportion of boys to girls is three to one.

The benefits of the institution are free to all resident deaf and dumb, or blind, persons, between the ages of six and twenty-five years, who are of sound mind, free from contagious or offensive diseases, and of correct moral habits.

Although there is a fair supply of pure and wholesome water for ordinary and culinary purposes, there is now being run into the hillside a tunnel, through which an ample supply of water for the future will be assured.

The present Directors are: J. Mora Moss, Judge John A. Stanly, Hon. H. H. Haight, E. J. Crane, and Thomas Yolland. Secretary, Henry A. Palmer. The Principal of the Institute is Warring Wilkinson. His assistant instructors are: C. T. Wilkinson, George B. Goodall, F. P. Fowler, Henry Frank, and Miss Annie Conly.

The general plan is to have four more buildings, as the wants of the institution require. They are all to be connected by covered corridors, in order to perfect the segregated plan. There are at present one hundred and four pupils in the old buildings, and quite a number of applicants who cannot be admitted until the new buildings are properly furnished. An important fact in regard to the execution of the contract by Mr. Boone is this: No change has been made in the original plan—not the slightest deviation from the specifications, and not one dollar of additional expense has the State been subjected to by the contractors