

## THE CITY OF OAKLAND.

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AGAIN it becomes the duty of the compiler to lay before the public, through the annual edition of the City Directory, such facts and figures as shall serve to some extent to illustrate the degree of prosperity which Oakland has enjoyed, and the advancement which she has made during another year of her history. While the statistical information given in the following pages does not show that wonderfully rapid growth which characterized several former years, evidence is given of a healthy progress and of many substantial gains. Oakland is so situated that so long as the State of California gives any sign of vitality she must share in its effect. The almost total cessation of immigration from the East for a long period has temporarily subjected one of Oakland's prime industries, that of the building interest, to comparative stagnation. Yet as our carefully prepared statistics show that not less than five hundred and twelve buildings were erected within the city limits during the year 1879, the assessed valuation of property increased from \$27,730,000 to \$28,348,000. Extensive improvements have been made and still greater are in progress and contemplated by the Central Pacific Railroad Company upon the west and south of the city. These improvements are such as to show that it is the fixed purpose of that corporation to concentrate within our borders an enormous shipping interest, one that cannot fail to perpetually augment the resources of the city, whose growth must be co-relative to that of the State, and in fact of the Coast. Further appropriations by Congress for harbor improvements, coupled with such conditions as can be accepted by all parties, also give new encouragement. Competing lines of railway are also in course of construction, with promise of early completion. Trade and travel both from northern and southern counties will ere long find its way here. The material growth of the city is evinced by the expenditure of over a million of dollars in improvements. Still better is the financial showing; no further indebtedness has been incurred, and the public school department has been maintained with increased efficiency. New manufacturing enterprises are being inaugurated with