

ALAMEDA.

THE CITY OF ALAMEDA (pronounced *ah-la-may-dah*) is about seven miles from San Francisco, and communicates therewith by two lines of railway, with their connecting ferries. The city occupies a peninsula four miles long by about a mile in width, formerly called the "Encinal de San Antonio," from the grove of live oaks by which it was covered. Enough of the oaks still remain to give a charming rural aspect to the city, though beneath their grateful shade stretch miles upon miles of macadamized streets and artificial stone sidewalks, and above their highest boughs hang myriad electric sparks that light the Alamedan to thousands of beautiful homes surrounded by verdant lawns and beds of flowers.

Alameda has about 12,500 inhabitants. In 1880 the population was 5,708, and in 1870, 1,557. In 1870 the number of schoolchildren was 159; in 1880, 1,525, and in 1890, 2,505. The expenditures for school purposes during the same years were respectively \$1,440, \$27,720, and \$43,705, and for this year \$77,381. Valuation of school property, \$3,190, \$60,600, \$101,000 and for 1892, \$125,000.

Public improvements of all kinds are being pushed with spirit and judgment. During the past two years about forty-three miles of streets have been macadamized, at an expense of \$267,501. About thirty-five miles of artificial stone sidewalk have also been laid during the same period, and forty-five miles of sewers to date.

The public schools are excellent and well supported.

Recently extensive additions and improvements have been made to the school property. A lot 150x240 at the corner of Everett street and Eagle avenue was purchased for \$7,200. A handsome eight-room schoolhouse, furnished with all the modern apparatus and appliances, has been erected at the corner of Santa Clara avenue and Bay street, at a cost of \$23,770. Also, a new school has been erected on Van Buren, between Court and Mound, at about the same cost.

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