

# P R E F A T O R Y.

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IN offering to the public the SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY for 1860-'61, the third issued by the present compiler, he would again refer, as being appropriate on the present occasion, to the introductory remarks contained in the first volume of the work: "In the preparation of the present volume, the compiler has aimed to arrange a Directory more comprehensive in its plan, and more systematic in its arrangement, than any publication of a similar character hitherto issued in California. He has endeavored to present a Manual of Reference so useful and valuable, that its successors may be deemed welcome annual visitors to every citizen. To this end he has devoted unremitting industry and the most vigilant care. How far he has given evidence of his ability to accomplish this, must be determined by the succeeding pages; and in referring thereto, he only asks that indulgence for any defects which may exist therein, which he has a right to expect, when the peculiarities of the undertaking are taken into consideration." There is, probably, no literary enterprise which is surrounded with so many obstacles to its successful prosecution, as the preparation of a work like the present; and especially in this city, where there is so much reluctance expressed by many persons to communicate the necessary information, and where the nature of the floating population is so peculiar. The compiler anticipates, however, that these difficulties will gradually disappear, and that the annoyances occasioned thereby will not, to any considerable extent, exist hereafter.

In directing attention to the contents of the present volume, the compiler refers with pleasure to the unmistakable evidences contained therein of the rapid progress of the city during the past year. The Register comprises over twenty-six thousand names, and the Business Directory nearly eight thousand; an increase, in the former, of over four thousand, and in the latter, of one thousand. The same encouraging indications will be observed in the other departments of the work, of the present and future greatness of our Commercial Metropolis.