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*Officers for 1863-64*—President: H. L. Chamberlain; Vice-Presidents: J. T. Bowers, M. B. French, C. W. Armes, R. G. Davison; Recording Secretary: J. M. Philbrook; Corresponding Secretary: Elijah Clough; Treasurer: R. C. Harrison; Librarian: J. L. Cogswell; Board of Managers: C. J. King, J. H. Purdy, A. Cameron, J. Lowry, W. F. Kellett, G. L. Plympton, A. P. Wade, J. F. Bacon, Wm. M. Cubery, John Kiloh, Wm. Krug, J. P. Stewart, Chas. Spencer; Registrar: Thaddeus Hanford.

The Young Men's Christian Association was established with a view to the moral, social, and intellectual improvement of young men of all denominations, by means of a Reading Room supplied with all the leading religious and secular papers, magazines, and periodicals, domestic and foreign, together with a well-selected library of more than 2,000 volumes.

The Association meets on the third Monday evening of each month for the transaction of ordinary business, etc., when a Literary Essay—of a moral or religious character—is generally read by a member of the Association, and the subject then thrown open to the meeting for general discussion. A Social Prayer Meeting, to which all of every denomination are welcome, is held at the rooms every Saturday evening from 8 to 9 o'clock. Also a Daily Prayer Meeting is held every day from 12 to 1 o'clock P. M.

There is also a Literary Society conducted under the auspices of the Association (see page 514), which meets at the Rooms every Thursday evening.

The Library contains upwards of 2,000 volumes, embracing nearly every branch of general literature. Of these, about six hundred and thirty-two are Religious, sixty-five Poetical, two hundred and twenty-two Biographical, two hundred and twenty Historical, one hundred and forty-three Travels, and seven hundred and sixty-one Miscellaneous—as Essays, Sermons, Classics, Fiction, Drama, Law, Philosophy, Science, and Art, Standard Works, Bound Magazines and Periodicals, Commentaries, Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, and Reference Books, Public Documents, etc. The average number of books taken out monthly is one hundred and twenty-five.

The Association numbers about three hundred members. Of these, six are Honorary, sixty-one Life, one hundred and nineteen Active, and one hundred and fourteen Associate. To become a member, the name of the applicant must first be proposed for membership at a regular monthly meeting by a member of the Association, which proposal will be acted upon at the next regular meeting. If elected, the candidate at once becomes a member by signing the constitution and paying his dues, which in the case of an active member are five dollars, and that of an associate three dollars per annum. No initiation fees are exacted. Members of evangelical churches in good standing only may become active members. Life members are constituted by the payment of twenty-five dollars at any one time. Only active and life members are qualified to vote, and eligible to office.

The Rooms of the Association are at 629 (old No. 172½) Washington Street, nearly opposite the Opera House, which are open to the public the year round from 8 A. M. to 10 P. M. The Library is open every day (Sundays excepted) from 3 to 10 P. M.

#### ORPHAN ASYLUM (PROTESTANT).

This benevolent and praiseworthy institution was organized January 31st, 1851, and incorporated by

act of the Legislature on the tenth of the ensuing month, and was inaugurated under the management of the following officers: President: M. S. Albert Williams; Vice-President: Mrs. S. H. Willey; Secretary: Mrs. E. A. Warren; Treasurer: Mrs. Boring; Managers: Mrs. R. H. Waller, Mrs. C. V. Gillespie, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Ver Mehr, Mrs. E. V. Joice, and Mrs. O. C. Wheeler; Trustees: Charles Gilmore, L. Ross, and S. Franklin.

The Asylum was first located on the corner of Folsom and Second streets in a building owned by H. W. Halleck, from whence it was removed in March, 1854, to the present building, a commodious and elegant stone structure, which was finished at an expense of \$30,000.

Finding this building entirely inadequate to the increasing wants of the institution, the Managers have, during the past year, erected an extensive addition, which has recently been completed at a cost of about \$25,000, under the name of the Sansome Wing, in honor of the Sansome Hook and Ladder Company, who when they disbanded generously donated their house on Montgomery Street to the Asylum, a tablet inscribed with the name of the addition being conspicuously displayed in its front.

The benefits of the increase of room and the conveniences so indispensable to the successful management of an institution of this kind cannot be overestimated.

The establishment is roomy and adequate to the wants of the class for whose benefit it has been founded. Dependent mainly upon private benevolence for support, the institution is one of the proudest monuments of the liberality of the people of San Francisco. In the construction of the building, two important matters have been carefully kept in view, which are too often lost sight of in the planning of many public structures of the present day: ventilation and light. To the abundant supply of fresh air introduced into every portion of the building, combined with the abundant and substantial supply of food furnished the children and the daily exercise allowed them, may be attributed the unexampled health of the inmates. Among the large number of children now domiciled in the Asylum, there is not a single case of sickness, and there has not been for some time past. The number of children who have found a home in this institution during the past year, as we learn from the report of the Managers, is one hundred and twenty-six, in which but one death occurred—the case being that of an infant of eighteen months, which having been neglected and finally abandoned by its mother, was ill when admitted. This fact speaks volumes in favor of the locality and sanitary management of the Asylum. Every department is thorough and complete, clean, orderly, and well kept: the dormitories are spacious and airy, with everything neat and comfortable; large play-rooms are provided for the exercise of the children, when confined in-doors by the weather; the school-room, dining-room, kitchen, laundry, wash and bath rooms are all upon a scale commensurate with the wants of the institution, and everything connected with each is arranged and conducted in the most admirable manner. In the school, which is under the charge of Mrs. Mary E. Hodges, the children are taught the solid branches, with the addition of drawing and exercises in singing, and in point of aptness and proficiency the pupils will compare favorably with any of the Public schools of the city. The prompt and efficient discipline exhibited in this department, forcibly reminded us of its importance, for it is here that the infant mind receives those impressions which mold it for the future. There are ninety children at present in the Asylum ranging from one and a half to fifteen years. Sixteen of these of tender years, two of whom are twins, are in the nursery, which is well managed by Mrs. Masterson; Mrs. H. B. Willard, the Matron, having the entire supervision of all the arrangements which