

are creditable in the highest degree to every one connected with the institution.

The elevated location of the Asylum commands a view of a great portion of the city and bay, with the opposite shore, and when further improvements are made to the grounds, which are very much needed, a more picturesque and beautiful spot cannot be any where found in the vicinity of the city. The Legislature of 1863 appropriated for the support of this institution \$6,000.

CATHOLIC ORPHAN ASYLUM.

This institution is located on Market Street near its junction with Kearny, on a lot donated for the purpose by Timothy Murphy of Marin County. The main building, which is a handsome edifice, fronts on Market Street—the school and infirmary buildings being located in the rear. The children, females,—the male Asylum of the Order being located on the property donated for this purpose by the same testator, at San Rafael, Marin County—number near three hundred. Every attention is paid to the mental and physical training of the children, who are truly healthy and happy. All the solid branches of education are taught in the school, with music and other accomplishments—the Asylum being provided with three pianos for the use of the orphans. The rooms are well ventilated, and every attention is paid to the health of the inmates. The play grounds are ample, and provided with every appliance for healthy exercise. Some of the teachers have been brought up and educated in the institution. Two of the finest globes, terrestrial and celestial, to be found on this coast belong to this institution. The Asylum is supported by the Order under which it was instituted, by donations and private contributions, and by appropriations from the State—the last Legislature having voted \$8,000 for this purpose, of which \$2,000 was for the male department at San Rafael, a gratuity well bestowed. The Asylum is under the charge of Sister Francis, who is truly a mother to the Orphans.

STATE DEAF AND DUMB AND BLIND INSTITUTION.

This admirable State institution, the wants of which began to be so much felt in California, was organized under an Act of the Legislature in 1860. The location is upon a large lot, affording ample room for the exercise of the pupils, on the corner of Mission and Fifteenth streets. In anticipation of measures being taken to raise adequate means to erect the main building fully adequate to the growing wants of our rapidly increasing population, two wings were erected to provide temporarily for the accommodation of the unfortunate class who need the cultivation and instruction afforded by institutions of this character. By an Act of the last Legislature, it was provided that the sum of \$75,000 should be raised by an impost levied upon the taxable property of the city and county, which was subject to the ratification of the qualified voters of the same at the annual election. To the credit of our citizens, be it said, the vote in favor of the measure was almost unanimous, and the proper steps will be taken to carry the provisions of the law into effect. By the combined contributions of our State, city, and private individuals, the institution has been brought to its present useful condition, and with the fund to be raised in the manner indicated, it will be placed upon a footing equal to most of those of the older States of the Union. The immediate control of the Institution is assigned to a Board of benevolent lady managers, who interest themselves actively in behalf of the work; the business management being conducted by a Board of five Trustees.

The number of pupils at present in the institution is fifty-three, of which twenty-nine are deaf mutes, and twenty-four blind. The former under the tuition of Mr. Azel S. Roe, who has had considerable

experience in similar institutions in the Atlantic States, and Mr. Henry Crandall, educated at the New York Institution, have made rapid progress in all the branches taught in ordinary schools, being quick and apt at learning, and writing and composing with great facility. The blind pupils who are under the immediate charge of Miss Elizabeth S. Cameron, are taught many of the most important branches of education compatible with the senses of hearing and touch, through which latter faculty they are enabled to read by means of the raised letters used for this purpose, and answer questions in geography from the dissected maps. They are also taught ornamental work and music, for which most of them evince great aptitude. The institution is provided with two pianos, one organ and a number of other musical instruments. This department is under the charge of Mr. Mueller, a competent musical instructor. The deaf mutes are instructed in drawing, by Mr. Hubert Burgess. The persons we have named comprising the entire list of teachers, the management being under the charge of Mrs. P. B. Clark, the active and indefatigable Principal. While the benefits of the institution are extended to all, those parents and guardians who have the ability are expected to contribute the sum of \$300 per annum, \$250 being allowed by the State for each pupil.

Officers—President: Mrs. P. B. Clark; Vice President: Mrs. J. P. Whitney; Secretary: Mrs. O. C. Pratt; Treasurer: Mrs. B. H. Randolph.

LADIES' PROTECTION AND RELIEF SOCIETY.

This Institution, organized August 4, 1853, by the benevolent ladies of San Francisco, and incorporated August 9th the year following, has been productive of a large amount of good in relieving the distress of sick and destitute women and children, and providing employment for females desirous of procuring work. To carry out this praiseworthy object, the Society has under its supervision a Home at No. 23 Tehama Street, between First and Second, where protection, aid, and information is cheerfully furnished to all residents and strangers included within the sphere of its praiseworthy operations. Among the other appropriations of the last Legislature in aid of the benevolent institutions of the State, this Association was allotted \$3,000, which well bestowed donation will materially aid its operations.

ST. MARY'S LADIES' SOCIETY.

This Society, which was originally founded in 1850 by the Sisters of Mercy for the dissemination of piety among the females of the Catholic Church, and afterwards converted into a Mutual Benevolent Association, holds its meetings in the Hall erected for that purpose adjoining the St. Mary's Hospital, to which its labors are mainly devoted, the officers being selected from the Sisters of Mercy. The Society numbers some five or six hundred members, whose labors in alleviating the condition of the sick and afflicted are untiring.

ST. JOSEPH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Like the foregoing, this Society is composed of the male members of the Roman Catholic Church, for the aid of those in distress and the consolation and relief of the afflicted. Although mainly devoted to attending to the sick, burying the dead, and relieving the families left in needy circumstances by its own members, its benevolent operations are not exclusively confined to its own limits, but administrators to the wants of all such afflicted as comes within its notice.

MAGDALEN ASYLUM.

This reformatory institution is located at Hayes Park, and is under the charge and direction of the Sisters of Mercy. The building is extensive and well adapted to the purposes for which it is designed, being eighty feet by thirty, and three stories high,