

Saturday evening, from eight to nine o'clock, and from half-past twelve to one P.M. each day is devoted to the same purpose. There is also a literary society conducted under the auspices of the association, which meets at the rooms every Tuesday evening. The association numbers about three hundred and fifty members; of these, five are honorary, seventy-five life, one hundred and thirty-nine active, and one hundred and thirty-one 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 monthly meeting; *provided*, said applicant has paid the yearly dues, which, for an active member, is five dollars, and for an associate, three. No initiation fee is charged. 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 526 California Street, nearly opposite the Mechanic's Institute, and are open to the public the year around from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M. The library is open every day (Sundays excepted) from 3 to 10 o'clock P.M.

LADIES' PROTECTION AND RELIEF SOCIETY.

This institution, organized August 4, 1863, 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 erected a Home on Franklin Street, between Post and Geary, where protection, aid, and information is cheerfully furnished to all residents and strangers included within the sphere of its benevolent operations. The Legislature of 1863-4, amongst other appropriations for the assistance of the benevolent institutions of the State, allotted this association \$6,000, which aided in paying for the Home. The officers of this association are elected yearly. We append those for the present year: President: Mrs. Nathaniel Gray; Vice President: Mrs. A. Coffin; Secretary: Miss M. C. Fessenden; Treasurer: Mrs. Jane H. Flint; Managers: Mrs. J. H. Applegate, Mrs. J. Archbold, Mrs. E. B. Babbitt, Mrs. A. Dam, Mrs. R. M. Goddard, Mrs. Dr. Mouser, Mrs. Cyrus Palmer, Mrs. John Reynolds, Mrs. W. Stringer, Mrs. John Taylor, Mrs. H. Watison, Mrs. M. Biggs, Mrs. J. W. Cox, Mrs. Isaac E. Davis, Mrs. J. B. Hoyt, Mrs. Dr. Ober, Mrs. M. Parker, Mrs. A. G. Stiles, Mrs. S. B. Stoddard, and Mrs. E. Thomas. Trustees: J. W. Clark, President; R. B. Swain, Secretary; J. B. Roberts, Treasurer; Nathaniel Gray, Rev. E. Thomas, G. W. Dam, and E. Bigelow.

ORPHAN ASYLUM (PROTESTANT).

This benevolent and praiseworthy institution was organized January 31st, 1851, and incorporated by act of the Legislature on the 10th of the ensuing month. To the almost unaided efforts of a few ladies we are indebted for this noble institution, which now stands as a monument to their charity and goodness of heart. The Asylum was first located on the corner of Folsom and Second streets, in a building owned by General 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. This building occupies the block bounded by Laguna, Octavia, Page, and Webster streets, and 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 buildings 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. 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 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 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 anywhere found in the vicinity of the city. The Legislature of 1864 appropriated \$15,000 for the support of this institution, and for the improvement of the orphan grounds.

STATE DEAF AND DUMB AND BLIND INSTITUTION.

This admirable institution was organized under the auspices of the State, under an Act of the Legislature of 1860, and under its fostering care is now one of the most flourishing institutions in the land. The buildings were erected upon a large lot at the corner of Mission and Fifteenth streets, and are ample for the accommodation of all the pupils that will be apt to be in attendance for years to come. The Legislature of 1863 passed an Act levying a special tax of one mill on each one hundred dollars, for the support of this institution, and the erection of other buildings. The immediate control of the institution was originally assigned to a board of benevolent ladies; but the last Legislature removed them, and passed a law placing the management under the control of a board of three trustees. At present there are sixty-two pupils, about equally divided. The pupils are under the charge of competent teachers, who instruct them in reading, writing, needle-work, etc.—the blind being also instructed in music. While this is a charitable institution, the benefits of which are denied to none, parents who are able are required to pay a small sum yearly for the care and attention bestowed upon their unfortunate children.

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 the purpose by the same testator, at San Rafael, Marin County—number upwards of 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