

Another difficulty in compiling the work, and one that was impossible for us to entirely avoid, was the perverseness of some of our advertisers in refusing to follow the plan of the work, viz: the first page for the advertisement proper, and the second or opposite page for historical matter pertaining to the business of the house, but instead of co-operating with us in this particular, insisted on the privilege of displaying both pages with their advertisements alone. This in a manner destroyed the harmony of our plan as set forth in our prospectus, and our only object in alluding to these discrepancies is that our patrons may understand our position, rather than from any disposition to complain.

Although in the foregoing we have spoken only of matters disadvantageous to ourselves, yet we claim that the work presented possesses more than ordinary merits, both as regards the beautiful style of binding, and neat typographical appearance, together with the systematic classification and arrangement of the work throughout. In this respect the Mercantile Guide will claim superiority to most if not all that has preceded it.

The number of copies promised have been printed and will be distributed on the Ocean Steamers and in the principal hotels throughout the Pacific Coast as per agreement.

In conclusion we would tender our thanks to the officers of the Custom House and Post Office, the Secretaries of the different Libraries, Associations, Asylums, &c., for favors shown us in collating matter for the work.

With the knowledge and experience derived from our past labors, and with the confidence that our efforts have received your approbation, we shall publish next year the second edition of our Mercantile Guide with such alterations and improvements as in the judgment of our patrons and of ourselves shall be deemed proper and expedient.

B. F. STILWELL & CO.