

HOME MANUFACTURES.

IN presenting the First Edition of the "MERCANTILE GUIDE," we feel it due to our readers to make a few notes respecting that portion of our citizens who have by their energy, enterprise and perseverance, contributed so largely to the growth and prosperity of our State; and, as preliminary, would take occasion to remark, that no parallel instance is to be found in the history of commonwealths, where a State of no greater age than our own fair California, has made such rapid strides in all that goes to make a nation great and prosperous.

But a few years since, and within the memory of all, the rude wigwam of the savage constituted the proudest monument of architecture upon these shores, and the light canoe as it tossed upon the wave, or lay fastened to the stake, was the highest achievement that art had produced in navigating the waters of our beautiful bay; and here, where our city now stands, the grand Sachem—whose word was the oracle of his day, and whose nod was the law of his empire—gathered his warriors in council of war, or smoked the pipe of peace.

But how different now, the scene has changed as if by magic; the events of but yesterday, as it were, have passed before us in vivid transition, as if touched by the wand of enchantment; and instead of the rude habitations of the red man, magnificent edifices of churches, schools and dwellings now greet the eye.

In place of the birch canoe gliding noiselessly o'er the waters, proud ships now ride at anchor, laden with the productions of distant lands. The Indian no longer follows the war path, nor the solitudes of the forest wilds awaken to the echo's of the war-whoop; but instead thereof, the sound of the artisan is heard, and an intelligent and teeming population may be found cultivating the arts belonging to civilization, where but recently the wild savage in motley attire and with chanting song held carnival.

But our object in this connection is not to trace the progress