

HOME MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

The above company was organized in September, 1864, with a capital of \$1,000,000—amount paid in \$350,000—and is prepared to issue fire, life and marine policies of insurance upon all insurable property, lives, etc. There are five committees—one on Finance and Loans, one on Insurance, one on Claims and Losses, one Auditing, and one Executive. The Directors are selected from nearly all branches of trade, the industrial classes being particularly well represented. A company of this kind is destined to win its way to public favor, and its business soon placed upon an unshaken foundation. The office is at No. 410 California Street.

Officers—Geo. S. Mann, President; William H. Stevens, Secretary; A. R. Gumison, General Agent.

FIREMAN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY.

Organized May 1st, 1863; capital, \$500,000, fully paid in gold coin. Having become established on a firm basis, the company solicits a share of public patronage, and guarantees that all its losses shall be paid in United States gold coin. Office, S. W. corner Sanson and California. Both fire and marine risks are included in their business.

Officers—D. J. Staples, President; C. R. Bond, Secretary.

UNION INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated April, 1865; capital paid up, \$750,000 (coin). This company, although recently organized, has attained a position equal to any of the home companies. Its affairs are managed with energetic ability, and from the well-known character of its officers, the amplest security is offered to those who desire the protection of the company. The California Lloyds has been recently merged in this company, and marine risks are now included in their business.

Officers—Gnstave Touchard, President; Charles D. Haven, Secretary; George T. Bohen, Surveyor. Office, 416 California Street.

OCCIDENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated January, 1865; capital, \$300,000. This company has been but a short time in existence, and it has already accumulated a large amount of business. The Directors comprise some of our most active and responsible business men, which cannot fail to secure for its future a reputation for promptness and liberality.

Officers—Chr. Christiansen, President; John W. Haynes, Surveyor; B. Rothchild, Secretary. Office, southwest corner California and Montgomery Streets.

MERCHANTS' MUTUAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Organized April 2d, 1863; capital, \$500,000. This company, engaged exclusively in marine insurance, may be considered in successful and vigorous operation. It offers to the business community a local institution conducted on liberal principles, prompt and energetic in its administration, and offering in its list of stockholders, composed of many of our most reliable merchants, the amplest security to its customers. Its business is conducted entirely on a gold basis, and all losses are paid promptly in United States gold coin.

Officers—C. L. Taylor, President; J. Howes, Vice President; J. B. Scotchler, Secretary. Office, 406 California Street.

CALIFORNIA INSURANCE COMPANY.

This company was incorporated February, 1861, with a subscribed capital of \$200,000, divided into

twenty shares of \$10,000 each. It is the pioneer of all the insurance corporations in our city, and the gentlemen owning its stock were the first who had the courage to assume the personal liabilities imposed by our State Constitution on stockholders, in a business supposed to be preëminently hazardous. For the mutual protection of each other and of the insured, with reference to this liability, unusual care was taken to admit only such stockholders as were of undoubted responsibility; and to prevent sales of stock to irresponsible parties, all the receipts of the company, less taxes, expenses, and losses, are retained on hand, and no dividend can be declared until the entire original capital has been earned from the proceeds of the business. The company has thus far prospered. Its officers are well known and experienced underwriters, and they have won for the office a character for prudence in taking risks and liberality in paying losses. Owing to the substantial character of its stockholders, the peculiarities of our State laws, and of the by-laws of the company, the California Mutual is probably the strongest marine office in the United States; for not only are its capital and accumulations subject to the claims of creditors and the control of State officers, but after these are exhausted the stockholders remain personally liable for the excess in the same manner as if they had each signed the policy on the plan of the Lloyds of London.

The company divides ten per cent. of its profits on open policies, among the holders of such policies, on the second Monday of January in each year, in lieu of the scrip returns of Eastern marine companies. All its transactions are made only in gold coin. Office, 318 California Street. C. T. Hopkins, President; H. B. Tichenor, Vice President; Z. Crowell, Secretary.

NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

This company, which was organized December 29, 1865, with a capital of \$1,000,000, fully paid up, has already secured a considerable amount of business both in fire and marine risks. The Board of Directors includes many of our leading business men, and the reputation of the officers in charge of its affairs must command a fair share of the insurance risks of the City and State.

Officers—George W. Beaver, President; W. W. Wiggins, Secretary; Amos Noyes, Marine Officer; Erastus N. Torrey, Surveyor.

BUILDERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

Organized 1866. Capital, \$50,000, including assets, \$90,000. This company has been in operation only ten months, and has secured already a considerable amount of the fire and marine risks of the city and State. The Board of Directors are competent and responsible, and the officers in charge of its affairs exhibit an amount of energy and tact that must insure for the company a continuance of its present prosperity.

Officers—Thomas Mooney, President; H. Herbert, Secretary; John Fowler, Actuary.

Libraries.

It may be set down as a fixed fact that there is no surer indication of the progression and prosperity of a community than the number and condition of its libraries. In this department San Francisco may safely challenge competition with any city of its age in the range of civilization. The Public Libraries are numerous and respectable, and notwithstanding the activity and energy exhibited by her citizens in every department of life, the statistics of these institutions prove beyond controversy that they are at