

it at reasonable rates the use of a moderate capital, upon giving good and sufficient security for the same. The affairs of this association have been managed with the utmost prudence and economy, and its business has been gradually increasing. Its success and healthy condition reflect the highest credit upon the management of the concern.

SAN FRANCISCO SAVINGS UNION.

The Legislature having passed an Act on the 11th of April, 1862, framed with a special view to the formation of savings societies, a few gentlemen of well-known character and standing in this community took advantage of it to incorporate themselves under the above name. To depositors it offers the security of a guarantee capital of \$100,000, to be increased as the business increases by a reserve fund of equal amount, which bears all losses, and neither of which can be withdrawn under any circumstances until every dollar deposited has been repaid to the depositors; in compensation for this guarantee, the stockholders receive a fair share of the net profits, and it is from this share, not from the profits of depositors, that the reserve fund is formed. To borrowers it offers the facility of repayment by easy installments, spread over from twelve to forty-eight months, (the law allows six years) according to the circumstances of the case. To men of small means seeking to obtain a homestead, experience has shown this facility to be invaluable.

THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING AND SAVINGS BANK

Was established by Mr. T. Mooney, in 1861, for the purpose of helping industrious persons to erect dwellings in the suburbs of the city and abate the heavy rents which they have been accustomed to pay. This society has been very successful, having begun with a few hundreds of capital; it has now in operation one million and a quarter of dollars, has purchased the Granite Building, opposite the Bank of California, in California Street, and is to all intents a flourishing bank. The company is formed on the plan of the Scotch Joint Stock Banks, has a Board of nine Directors, allows interest on deposits and makes loans on real estate in the city for improvements. Thomas Mooney, President.

FRENCH MUTUAL PROVIDENT SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY.

This institution was organized February 12th, 1860, and the same general remarks which we have made in reference to the other societies apply to this one. The names of its officers, which we subjoin afford a sufficient guarantee that the affairs of this society will be faithfully administered. Deposits and sinking fund, \$1,822,554.13. Office, 533 Commercial Street.

Officers—G. Drouaillet, President; C. Martin, Treasurer; G. Mahé, Director.

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' BANK OF SAVINGS.

This institution, with a capital of \$150,000, has recently commenced operations in this city. The gentlemen to whose care its business is confided is a sufficient guarantee of its permanence and success. Office, 225 Sanson Street.

Officers—N. C. Fassett, President; G. H. Wheeler, Cashier.

THE GERMAN SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY

(Deutsche Spar-und Leih-Bank) was incorporated on the 10th day of February 1863, with a guarantee capital of \$200,000, represented by 200 shares of \$1000 each, which are all owned by prominent and well-known German citizens. These \$200,000 form the capital stock of this society, and all losses, which said society may incur, must be borne by and paid

out of this capital stock, and out of the reserve fund, formed by the 5 per cent. of the net profits of the society, to be set aside semi-annually for that purpose, in accordance with the laws of the State of California, guaranteeing, in this way, to the depositors, under any and all circumstances, the full amount of their deposits and dividends.

It is thus impossible for a loss to occur to the depositors, and by a prudent management of the capital, and the reserve fund, which, of course, will be loaned out, as are the other moneys of the society, the depositors will enjoy the benefits of the very funds which go, at the same time, to form their security.

Deposits are received in the bank of the society in sums from \$2,00 and upwards, and dividends on such deposits are declared semi-annually in January and July of each year.

Though less than four months in operation on the 1st of July, this year, the society was enabled to declare on that day a dividend on ordinary or call deposits, which are payable after demand, of $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, and on term deposits, for the withdrawal of which six months previous notice has to be given, of 11-2-5 per cent. per annum.

The money of this society is loaned out on good real estate security, United States bonds and such other collateral securities as the Board of Directors may find proper, either for a term of from one to four years.

CALIFORNIA TRUST COMPANY.

This company, incorporated December 4th, 1867, with a capital of \$1,000,000, is established and conducted on the same principles as those of the Trust Company and the Safe Deposit Companies of New York, two of the most successful financial institutions in the country. It offers advantages not presented by any of our city associations, and its success thus far evinces a proper appreciation of its usefulness and safety.

Officers—Henry L. Davis, President; De Witt C. Thompson, Cashier; Thomas B. Ludlum, Auditor. Office, 421 California Street.

Banking Institutions.

Most of the banking operations in this city are conducted by private firms; that is to say, they are not incorporated. The business is carried on upon a coin basis, this being the currency of the State. No National Banks, as in the East, with a currency (greenback) issue, have yet been established in our midst. The principal incorporated institution is the Bank of California, which does the largest business on the coast. This establishment has paid a regular monthly dividend of one per cent. on its capital stock, amounting to \$50,000 during the past year.

Our various local incorporations, such as banks, insurance and mining companies, water and gas companies, etc., disburse about \$400,000 per month in dividends, to which must be added those of our savings and loan societies, which now hold over \$20,000,000 of deposits paying 10 per cent. per annum interest, which for the first nine months of 1868 will aggregate \$1,500,000, making altogether about \$5,000,000 paid out in dividends. Our City and County Treasury, at the close of business on the thirty-first of September, 1868, held a cash balance of \$678,892.

Among the foreign banks having branches in San Francisco, are the Bank of British North America, with a capital of £1,000,000, Messrs. J. G. Sheppard