

P R E F A T O R Y .

THE evidences of the progress of this city for the past twelve months as presented in this, the tenth volume of the SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY issued by its present proprietor, exhibit a condition more prosperous than at any other period of its history. In all the different elements composing its population and commercial wealth, an unusual degree of confidence exists, while the near approach of the completion of the Pacific Railroad promises for its future a prominent position among the first commercial cities of the world.

The number of references in the present issue is nearly sixty thousand, of which over fifty-three thousand are males over twenty-one years of age. These figures indicate an increase over those of 1867 of thirteen per cent., and over those contained in our issue of 1864 of nearly forty per cent. The Business Directory contains nearly eighteen thousand business firms arranged and classified so as to be of easy reference.

The population of San Francisco, July, 1868, is estimated at one hundred and forty-seven thousand nine hundred and fifty, of which forty-five thousand are whites, male and female, under the ages of twenty-one and eighteen respectively. The females over eighteen are estimated at thirty thousand. These figures are based upon the most reliable data, and they may be regarded as a fair approximation in the absence of an official canvass.

The number of buildings erected during the year ending June 30th, 1868, is estimated at nine hundred and seventy-five, of which two hundred and forty are of brick—total number in the city and county, eighteen thousand and nine. In addition to these figures, there are a number of costly buildings commenced in 1867 and completed during the past year. The value of improvements for the year ending June 30th, 1868, is estimated at over ten millions of dollars, exclusive of the amount expended by the Department of Streets and Highways of one million five hundred thousand dollars.

The Appendix contains a variety of information connected with our municipal organization. The Consolidation Act with its amendments arranged under each appropriate head, Acts of the Legislature Changing the Time for Holding the Municipal Election, Organization of the Paid Fire Department, Improvements and Grades of Streets, Reorganizing Justices' Courts, Registry Act, Maintaining an Alms-House and Establishing a Quarantine, etc. There will also be found in this department of the work a large number of references to the different organizations in this city, embracing lists of the Federal, State and Municipal Officers, notices of Local Societies and Associations, Churches, Military Organizations, Incorporations, etc. Attention is invited to the new Street Directory, including the new system of numbering the buildings, which has been compiled from official sources and compared with each street named therein.

The Introductory and General Review present a diary of the interesting local events of the year, brief notices of Schools—public and private—Benevolent Associations, Cemeteries, Railroads, Banks and Insurance Companies, and an extensive description of the different mechanical enterprises in operation at the present time in this city, together with other subjects worthy of special mention, with historical data of present interest, and well calculated to make the book a valuable work of reference to future generations. But the particular features of this department of the work, are the tables presenting a correct census of the city and county for 1860, 1861, 1863 and 1868, a review of the improvements made during the year ending June 30th, 1868, and a statement of the number of buildings within the city limits.

The compiler would respectfully tender his thanks for the prompt coöperation extended by public officers and others, who have been applied to for information for the work. To his numerous patrons for their substantial evidences of good will, and to MESSRS. BACON & COMPANY, to whom the typographical department was intrusted, he would especially offer his thanks.

The eleventh volume of the SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY will be issued early in the autumn of 1869.
SAN FRANCISCO, October 20th, 1868.