

P R E F A T O R Y .

THE pages of this, the twelfth volume of the SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY, contain abundant evidence of the general prosperity and continued growth of this city. In almost every department of industry will be found an improvement over that of last year, and, notwithstanding the continued existence of business depression which affects almost every branch of trade, a decided improvement is manifested that augurs well for the future.

The population of this city, as returned by the Federal Census, is 150,361. From the investigations made during the progress of the canvass for the present volume, these figures are found to be nearly thirteen per cent. less than our estimate for the present year, 172,750. The data upon which this statement is made, together with the results of an examination of the Census rolls of a part of this city will be found contained in the article on population, on page 11, to which attention is respectfully invited.

The number of buildings erected during the year is nine hundred, of which eight hundred and sixty-seven are of wood. Total number in the city and county, nineteen thousand four hundred and fifty-nine. The value of improvements for the year ending June 30th, 1870, is estimated at three millions of dollars, exclusive of the amount expended by the Superintendent of Streets, one million two hundred and fifty 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, and several Acts of the Legislature connected therewith, to which has been added an analytical index which will facilitate reference thereto. There will be also 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 a new Map of the City and County of San Francisco, and the new Street Directory, including the correct system of numbering the buildings, both of which have been compiled from official sources, and carefully compared with each street and locality 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, Banks and Insurance Companies, and references to the different mechanical enterprises in operation at the present time in this city, together with other subjects worthy of special mention, and historical data of present interest, 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 a series of valuable Meteorological Observations of the Climate of this city, from 1850 to 1870, contributed by HENRY GIBBONS, M.D., and articles on the Railroads of the Pacific Coast, and the progress of Manufactures in this city during the past year, by MYRON ANGEL, Esq.; also a review of the improvements made from January to December, 1870, 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, particularly to JOHN HANNA, Esq., County Clerk, and other gentlemen 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 thirteenth volume of the SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY will be issued in April, 1872.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 15th, 1871.