

trol, and the excellent condition of the charge is evidence of the care bestowed. As early as 1851, the gentle Sisters of Charity, as ever devoting their lives to the holy cause of doing good to others, founded the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum on Market street, and have continued it with the addition of schools and further extensions to the present. The Protestant Orphan Asylum founded by prominent ladies of this city in 1854, and on Laguna street near Market, have erected an elegant and commodious building, costing \$60,000. At the asylum are two hundred and forty children unfortunate in their orphanage, but most fortunate in having such a noble home and parental care as the benevolent ladies have prepared for them. During the past year our Hebrew citizens have organized the Pacific Hebrew Orphan Asylum, and have adopted measures for the speedy erection of a building that will meet the wants of that portion of our population.

But the ladies' charity does not end here. The San Francisco Female Hospital; the Lying-in and Foundling Asylum; the Magdalen Asylum; the St. Mary's Ladies Society and numerous others, attest the scope of their ministering care. The kind attention and the liberal expenditures by the ladies of San Francisco, without distinction of nationality, race, or religion, is most honorable and praiseworthy, and is a subject of just pride to every citizen of San Francisco.

The broad field of labor of the San Francisco Benevolent Association has been well filled, the members exercising a generous guardianship over the distress and wants of the City. No membership of other societies, nor any race or condition, forbid their action, but their compassion, like the cloak of charity, covers all. The Young Men's Christian Association occupies a noble position among the benevolent societies of San Francisco. Possessing a fine hall, with library, gymnasium, baths, etc., it is well enabled to extend the hand of charity to all, to guide the erring, and to give pleasure and instruction to its members and protégés.

The benevolent societies, composed of people of foreign birth, for the object of aiding their fellow-countrymen, are numerous and efficient. The English, Scotch, Welsh and Irish have their organizations divided into several classes and divisions, all with a large number of members. The British Benevolent Society exercises a supervision over the wants of the subjects of that empire. The Germans, French, Italians, Russians, Portuguese, Mexicans, Greeks, Scandinavians, Slavonians, Hebrews and Chinese, maintain organizations for the same purpose, showing a benevolence of the highest character, and most worthily occupying their appropriate field of usefulness. The German General Benevolent Society is a large and effective organization, having one thousand three hundred and forty-two members residing in the city, and four hundred and eighty in the interior. This generous society maintains a hospital worthy of its high character, and which would be an honor to any city or state.

The French Benevolent Society is an institution in keeping with the most noble of its class here, where the rank is of the highest grade. This society has one of the finest hospitals of the State, occupying a spacious block bounded by Fifth and Sixth streets, and south of Bryant Street. This is a spacious edifice of brick, with pleasant gardens and ornamented grounds surrounding it, making it a most desirable home to the invalid. Other nationalities maintain their hospitals and their homes, thus indicating the care taken of all, and the unbounded benevolence of all classes and peoples who have made San Francisco their abiding place.

The secret orders and societies are in great number and of high standing. Masonic, Odd Fellows, Druids, Red Men, etc., are bodies of great wealth and usefulness, and fill an important place in the

society of San Francisco. Several of these possess stately edifices, have extensive libraries, maintain banks, publish papers, and in various ways manifest their importance and perform their duties. Added to these are the Immigrant Aid Association, Prison Association, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and numerous others, showing the broad field occupied. The extent and character of these compare favorably with the Social and Benevolent societies of any other land, and are a matter of just pride to every citizen. Their maintenance usually depends upon voluntary contributions or exactions by the rules of membership. To some of these, efficient support could not be obtained in such a manner; and being of general benefit, aid from the State was obtained. Thus, in part, are the three Orphan Asylums, San Francisco Female Hospital, Foundling Hospital, Prison Commissions, Magdalen Asylum, Lying-in Hospital, and Ladies' Protection and Relief Society maintained.

The Appendix on page 832 contains a complete list of the different organizations, exhibiting in detail their operations during the past year and their present condition, to which attention is invited.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

This association, founded in 1853, has for its object the moral, mental, and social improvement of young men. It has, at its elegant building on Sutter Street, a fine reading room, library, gymnasium, lecture room, etc. It is also the design of the association to provide, so far as possible, employment, a place of social comfort and resort, and a local point of pleasant attraction for young men arriving in the city without other acquaintance than those made here. The library contains about four thousand volumes of well-selected and valuable works, embracing all branches of literature; and the reading-room is supplied with the best newspapers and leading periodicals of the country.

The regular meetings of the association are held on the third Monday evening of each month, when the usual business is transacted; and when there is not a pressure of business, literary and musical exercises are held.

The building of the association is on the north side of Sutter, between Kearny and Dupont streets; is built of brick, with a massive and ornate stone front, and is one hundred and twenty feet deep by fifty-four and a half feet wide. The basement and ground floors are occupied by stores, the second floor by the library, reading room, ladies' rooms, chess room, ante-rooms, and a hall for lectures, etc., which has a capacity for seating seven hundred and fifty persons. Beneath the lecture room is a gymnasium, and in the third story are committee rooms, hall for meetings of the association, and apartments for offices, etc., for rent. The edifice is well arranged with every convenience for comfort and for the purposes for which it was designed.

SAN FRANCISCO BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

Of all the benevolent institutions established in our city, none have been productive of more real, substantial and lasting good, in proportion to the means employed, than the San Francisco Benevolent Association. Although only seven years old, filling up, as it has done, a most important hiatus in the benevolent institutions of the day, this association has, in a quiet and unpretentious way, been productive of incalculable good.

The number of persons assisted since its organization is as follows: From April, 1865, to April, 1866, seven thousand six hundred and thirty-two; April, 1866, to April, 1867, seven thousand four hundred and five; April, 1867, to April, 1868, six thousand seven hundred and eighty-two; April, 1868, to April, 1869, seven thousand one hundred and forty-eight; April 1869, to April, 1870, seven