

P R E F A T O R Y .

THE most abundant evidences of the continued and prosperous growth of the city are to be found throughout the pages of the present volume. Notwithstanding the rapid increase of former years it is believed that this city has made greater progress during the past twelve months than any similar period in its history.

The number of references contained in the present volume is 109,210, as follows: General Register, 75,210; Business Directory, 21,000; Appendix, 13,000. The population of the city is estimated at 200,770, a gain since March, 1873, of 12,447, or about seven per cent. The article on population, on page 13, contains valuable data on this subject to which attention is respectfully invited.

The number of buildings commenced and erected during the year ending March 1, 1874, is 671, of which 53 are of brick. In addition to numerous extensive buildings for business purposes, a number of elegant private residences have been erected that would ornament any city of the Union. The entire cost of these improvements is estimated at \$4,250,000. The number of buildings in the city and county is estimated at 22,600, of which 4,200 are of brick.

The expense of maintaining the Municipal Government for the year ending June 30, 1873, is \$3,780,000. The Bonded Debt, March 1, 1874, is \$3,237,000. Actual Debt, including floating, \$3,503,000. Total assessed real and personal property October 1, 1873, \$212,208,535.

The appendix contains a variety of valuable information connected with the Municipal Organization of the city, and the Consolidation Act, with the Amendments, and the important laws referring thereto, adopted by the Legislature of the State, Session 1873-74, including the Acts regulating the Fire Department, abolishing the City Hall Commissioners, regulating the levying and collection of taxes, Board of Health, providing for public Water Works, etc., each of which is arranged under its appropriate head, to which has been added an Analytical Index of the whole, 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 corrected Map of the City and County of San Francisco, and a revised Street Directory, including the new system of numbering the buildings, both of which have been compiled from official sources, thoroughly revised, 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, Mining and other Incorporations 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 most interesting features of this department are valuable contributions on the Population of the City; Meteorology and Climate of San Francisco from 1851 to 1874, by Henry Gibbons, Sen., M.D.; the Current History and progress of the City, 1873-74 by Thomas Magee, Esq.; Hospitals, public and private, by Henry Gibbons, Jr., M.D.; the Progress and Present condition of the Public Schools, by Prof. E. Knowlton, etc.; also, a statement of the operations of the Benevolent and other Societies of the city during the past year; a review of the manufacturing interests of the city, and a statement of the number of buildings within the city limits.

The compiler again respectfully tenders his acknowledgments for the prompt co-operation extended by the different public officers, and other gentlemen who have been applied to for information for the work. To his numerous friends for their liberal patronage, and to Messrs. Francis & Valentine, by whom the typographical department was executed, he would especially tender his thanks. The sixteenth volume of the SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY will be issued in March, 1875.