

States that of San Francisco takes rank as about the third or fourth in point of importance. This position is due, not only to the local business transacted, but also to the fact that the San Francisco office is the point of distribution for a great portion of the European open and closed mails in transit to Asia, Australia, etc. These mails are received per overland railroad, and depart hence, by American steamers, for the countries named, monthly and semi-monthly. One hundred and eleven persons are on the pay-roll of the Post-office here, of which number forty-two are indoor employes, thirty-three are postal clerks and railroad and stage route agents, and thirty-six are employed in the distribution and collection of written and printed mail matter throughout the city. The system of iron postal boxes placed at convenient distances all over the corporate limits of the city is of great benefit and public convenience, facilitating rapid delivery, and saving the journey heretofore necessary to the General Post-office. The city is indebted to Postmaster N. B. Stone and his predecessor Colonel Coey for the introduction of the public convenience referred to. The present able and efficient Postmaster (Mr. Stone), is also to be credited with the introduction of many needed reforms in our local postal administration since he has held the office. Among others, his persistent efforts have been the means of introducing a new style of post-office box and lock, which greatly increases the available space for such conveniences, and the number of boxes before in use, as well as adding a greater rental from the extra box-holders accommodated. These boxes are so constructed that the opening of any of them, by means of false keys, is impossible. There are now two thousand three hundred and sixty-five of these lock-boxes in our Post-office. The money-order system, adopted a few years since, has been found to work well, is of great public service, and is extensively availed of by all classes of our population. The sum of \$615,579.46 has, by this means, been sent to various portions of the world, through the San Francisco Post-office in 1873. This domestic and international method of sending money abroad has the tendency to direct and facilitate emigration hither, especially by the persons thus receiving the postal drafts. The money-orders issued from other post-offices in the United States during the same time, and payable here, amounted to \$591,484.40. The San Francisco Post-office is the depository for the money-order receipts of all the other post-offices of this coast under United States jurisdiction. These various offices deposited \$1,106,962 with the San Francisco Post-office during the year 1873.

The Central Pacific and other Railroads.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYÉS, THEIR PAY-ROLL, THEIR FREIGHT STATISTICS, ETC.—During the year 1873 the annexed railroads brought to, and carried away from, San Francisco the appended number of tons of freight of all kinds :

<i>Name of Company.</i>	<i>Received at S. F., tons.</i>	<i>Sent from S. F., tons.</i>
By Central Pacific R. R. Co.....	149,612	149,287
By Southern Pacific R. R. Co.....	91,944	37,862
By California Pacific R. R. and Steamers.....	51,516	53,140
Grand Totals.....	293,072	240,289

The above statement of the Central Pacific Railroad does not include freight received at and shipped from Oakland. The business of all our railroads is increasing very rapidly. The unfinished lines are not being extended as rapidly as could be wished, owing to the difficulty of negotiating railroad bonds in Europe. This difficulty was, in part, due to the late commercial and financial panic, and, in part, to the hostility of a portion of the press, and the recent unsuccessful efforts to reduce railroad fares and freights.

The Central Pacific Railroad Company now employs, in San Francisco, Oakland, and on the ferry steamers, eight hundred and sixty-six persons, in all capacities, whose aggregate monthly salaries amount to \$76,396, or about \$920,000 per year. The Southern Pacific Railroad Company employs two hundred and fifty men, whose monthly wages amounts to \$17,000, or about \$204,000 per year. The California Pacific Railroad employs on its steamers two hundred and eighty-seven men in San Francisco, whose aggregate monthly wages account is now \$9,220, or about \$110,500 per year. The other employes of that company, resident here, number twenty-four, whose monthly salaries amount to \$4,000, or a total of \$48,000 per year.