

Diagonally across that of the corner, at the junction of California and Taylor streets, Charles Crocker, another Central Pacific Director and President of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and a man of weight by whatever scale one may judge him, has purchased land whereon to found the last local habitation he will probably need.

Ex-Governor Milton S. Latham, President of the London and San Francisco Bank, has also bought a large lot southerly of these, on which to build his winter or city residence, in addition to his country seat, at Menlo Park, which cost considerably over a quarter of a million.

Opposite Crocker's, Gen. Colton owns and occupies a "White House," far more elegant than the President's at Washington. Among the other millionaire neighbors of the billionaire group which heads this poverty-stricken list, one may catalogue such names as those of Lloyd Tevis, Esq.; Jas. B. Haggin, Esq.; Senator J. P. Jones; Richard Tobin, Esq., and others.

On the western slope of this extensive Highland Terrace, at the northwest junction of Pine and Leavenworth streets, the most widely known of all the younger and more enterprising capitalists of the Pacific slope, the President of the Bank of California, the principal owner and builder of the Palace Hotel, William C. Ralston, Esq., has just completed his new city residence, whose notable architectural beauty, like that of his famous country seat at Belmont, is yet subordinated to the provision of a complete and perfect home.

These names by no means exhaust the list of those who have chosen sites within or near this Highland Terrace District or upon some of its bordering slopes. Nor are all the fine residences of the city concentrated here. In the Western Addition; along Van Ness Avenue; at the Mission; on Rincon Hill, as well as in other portions of the former, present, or prospective suburbs, stand elegant homes of wealth, already long known or just approaching completion. The city has evidently fairly entered upon its second stage, that in which prominent merchants and capitalists, conscious that their feet already stand upon the westerling slope of life, sensibly resolve to abate, if they do not wholly abandon, the exclusive pursuit of wealth and provide for themselves elegant homes while they have yet time to enjoy them. At this stage in the life of every city commences its true and permanent growth in architectural beauty and artistic attractions, and upon this era San Francisco may safely congratulate herself that she has now fairly entered.

New Buildings for the Year ending February 28, 1875.

The costly and palatial structures for both public and private purposes, already partially described or enumerated, by no means exhaust the list of notable new buildings erected during the year, or now in progress. Besides these several magnificent business blocks, or buildings, now rapidly approaching completion, are daily adding grandeur and beauty to the architectural attractions of our leading business thoroughfares, or favorite avenues of residence. The first of these in size, style, and cost, worthily standing nearest the city's financial center, is the

SAFE DEPOSIT CO.'S BUILDING, on the southeast corner of Montgomery and California streets. The land, alone, occupies one hundred and thirty-seven and a half feet on Montgomery, by sixty-eight and three quarters on California. Four lofty stories, above a high and airy basement, make up its imposing fronts. Iron below and Freestone above, with all the combinations and modifications which these admirable materials admit, together with the most ingenious and substantial auxiliaries which science and experience could construct or devise, give the structure a strength, a solidity, a unity, and a beauty far surpassing those of any business building of equal size yet erected upon this coast. If the utmost strength of iron, stone, and brick can make any building proof against earthquake as well as fire, this building may claim those qualities in a most eminent degree. Obviously, the most notable feature of this magnificent building, especially to the army of self-appointed inspectors who personally superintended its construction from day to day, is the immense fire and burglar-proof vault, sixty-eight and three quarters feet by sixty, which occupies nearly one half the basement. In size, this is by far the largest in the world, while in strength it is simply enormous. In capacity it equals four thousand six hundred safes, or treasure boxes of the ordinary size, while its strength incomparably surpasses theirs. This mammoth depository, literally a complete iron and steel building in itself, is constructed of heavy iron beams and girders, covered with thick iron and steel plates. The construction is under charge of Messrs. Diebold, Norris & Co., of Canton, Ohio. This vault alone will cost \$200,000. Besides this, there will be a large number of smaller vaults and safes in the building constructed by or from the manufactories of Urban & McNeal, and the Hall Safe and Lock Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio. Cost of land and building, \$1,000,000.

Upon the northwest corner of Montgomery and Pine streets Messrs. Flood & O'Brien are erecting a large, four-story building with basement, to be occupied for stores, banking offices, etc. This frontage on Montgomery Street is one hundred and twenty-five feet; that on Pine Street, one hundred and thirty-seven and a half. The foundation is of stone; the two fronts of the lower story of iron, and above this a happy blending of iron and brick form the three upper stories. This edifice, when completed, will rank among the most valuable additions to our first-class business buildings, and will reflect great credit upon the architect, Mr. David Farquharson, as well as upon the builder, Mr. John Cochran. The building will contain no dark rooms, being well lighted on three sides from Montgomery, Pine, and Summer streets, while the inner tiers of rooms receive light from an inclosed court or square. The different floors will be reached by means of one of Hinckle's Patent Hydraulic Elevators, made by Philip Hinkle, at his manufactory on Mission Street, between Beale and Fremont. These elevators, from the simplicity of

The Best and most Cleanly Family Baths in the City are at 113 Geary.