

Mechanics' Pavilion, on Eighth Street, between Market and Mission. The entire building is two hundred feet wide by five hundred and fifty feet long. It has a grand central nave one hundred by four hundred and fifty feet, around which runs a spacious gallery fifty feet wide. It is a remarkably substantial, well-built, wooden structure, conveniently arranged and admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is designed. Cost, \$110,000. The Tenth Industrial Fair will open on the seventeenth day of August, 1875, and there is no doubt will prove a greater success than any which have preceded.

THE ODD FELLOWS' LIBRARY occupies a commodious, excellently-arranged hall at No. 325 Montgomery Street. The library contains twenty-six thousand, six hundred and fifty-seven volumes, in the various departments of literature, science, and art, and includes one of the most extensive collection of works on the early history of the Pacific Coast, as well as one of the most complete and valuable cabinets in the State. Organized, December 30, 1854.

SAN FRANCISCO LAW LIBRARY.—In 1865, a society was formed for the purpose of organizing and maintaining a Law Library, and its success is demonstrated by the fact that it now has some fifteen thousand volumes of standard legal, biographical, historical, and miscellaneous works upon its shelves. The library derives its support from a monthly levy upon its members of \$2.50; it also derives a revenue of \$2 from every case tried before the District Courts of the city.

THE MILITARY LIBRARY was organized in January, 1873, for the purpose of acquiring, preserving, and conducting a public library composed chiefly of books and periodicals of a military character. This institution derives its support from the sales of shares at \$5 each. Members may use as many books at a time as they hold shares. There are no dues, but the trustees have power to call for \$5 additional upon each share whenever they deem it necessary.

In addition to those already mentioned several of the literary associations and club rooms are provided with large and well-selected libraries and conveniently-furnished reading rooms, liberally supplied with the leading publications of the day; of these may be mentioned the California Pioneers, California Academy of Sciences, Young Men's Christian Association, San Francisco Verein, etc., etc. For details of the different Literary Associations *see* Appendix, page 994.

Our Public Schools.

In the various departments of public affairs the official chronology of San Francisco is as decidedly trinitarian as the most orthodox could desire. Its *calendar* year, like that of all nominally civilized and presumably Christian cities, begins upon the first of January; its *school* year upon the first of July, and its *municipal* year upon the first of December. Hence, the Directory's year, coinciding with the regular calendar, begins with the last half of one school year and ends with the first half of the next.

For convenience of correspondence or facility of comparison this is, obviously, one of the worst possible arrangements. Until remedied, however, he who attempts the record can only accept and act upon the troublesome fact, in accordance with the well-known and highly politic maxim, "When you *must*, you'd better."

GENERAL PROGRESS.—During 1874 the progress of the Public Schools, in numbers, organization, and general improvement, measurably approximated the material progress of the city, and this, as every old resident or observant visitor knows, far surpassed that of any previous year of her history. Never before have citizens generally manifested as marked an interest, and as willing a liberality in multiplying and improving all practicable facilities for the extension and elevation of popular education; never before have the public provided as *ample resources*; never before has the city undertaken the simultaneous erection of as many and as *costly school buildings*, and at no former period, even in the educational history of this proverbially liberal city, have teachers received as high salaries. Especially is this the case in regard to female assistants in Primary and Grammar Schools. Young girls, holders of the lowest-grade certificates, and with no previous experience in teaching, receive *six hundred dollars a year* for their crude apprenticeship work in experimenting upon hapless little ones while learning their business. This is the lowest salary paid, and of four hundred and seventy-five female teachers only twelve receive it. Seventeen others command six hundred and sixty dollars for their second year of apprenticeship, while the great majority draw from the public treasury salaries ranging from *eight hundred and ten to two thousand four hundred dollars a year, in gold*.

The *average annual salary* of the whole five hundred teachers now in the department, of whom *nineteen twentieths are females*, is *over one thousand and thirty-three dollars in gold*. As Superintendent Denman's last Annual Report truly says, the female "assistants in our Primary and Grammar Schools receive nearly *double the salaries* paid to teachers in similar positions in most of the eastern cities." And this, too, where the necessary *expenses of living are actually less*, and very considerably less, than in any eastern city of equal size. This makes San Francisco the female teachers' pecuniary paradise, and sufficiently accounts for their increasingly large immigration hither from the less-favored East. The activity of the matrimonial market "has nothing whatever to do with it," and any such report is a "mean, masculine slander," originated by "those horrid men."

RENTED ROOMS.—That the city did not enter a day too soon upon the erection of the new buildings already commenced, clearly appears from the fact that the Department has been renting, and still occupies, the larger part of, *eighty rooms*, in thirty-five different buildings and parts of