

their generous support of the many organizations of a benevolent character in our midst, as well as their prompt and characteristic responses to the many appeals for assistance from abroad, have given them a reputation that any community may well be proud of.

Manufactures.

Manufacturing eventually becomes to a city what agriculture is to the country, its surest source of general prosperity and permanent wealth. In San Francisco especially, speculation and trade have usually proved so largely remunerative, and, consequently, so generally attractive, that manufacturing, with its relatively slow and small returns, has absorbed comparatively little capital. Within the past two years, however, a few capitalists of the heavier class, with a very considerable number of those controlling more moderate fortunes, have given increased attention to the establishment and encouragement of the more important manufactures at home. A brief review of the more prominent of these, including such statistical information as we can command, will sufficiently demonstrate to the reader the character, extent, and value of the most valuable of our home industries during the past year. By the most valuable, we mean those which employ the greatest number of operatives, and the annual aggregate of whose transactions exceeds \$100,000. For obvious convenience we present them in alphabetical order:

ARTIFICIAL STONE WORKS.—Of these, working under different patents, and making both stone and marble, the city has four. They employ between eighty and ninety men, and turn out finished products to the value of \$150,000 a year.

BILLIARD TABLES.—Six factories employ eighty men, make five hundred tables, worth \$220,000. There is probably as great a demand for billiard tables in San Francisco as in any other city of equal population in America. The players, both amateur and professional, will have the best, and are generally both able and willing to pay for them.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—This branch of industry is rapidly progressing, and fast displacing Eastern-made goods, the importation of which, in comparison with the rapidly-increasing demand, is steadily decreasing. In style and quality California-made boots and shoes surpass anything we can obtain from the East, and our home-made goods now find a ready market in all the adjoining and neighboring States and Territories, and were it not for the difference in currency we might successfully compete even with New England for the trade of the West. The support of this great local interest, the products of which are always trodden under foot, gives employment to nearly four thousand hands, including all classes, male and female, Eastern and Chinese workers, the value of whose productions amounts in the aggregate to very nearly, if not quite, \$4,000,000. One of the largest firms in the city, that of Messrs. Buckingham & Hecht, employed during 1874 three hundred and fifty white hands and two hundred and fifty Chinese, making a total of six hundred hands. The stock consumed by them was as follows: Sides of sole leather, thirty-seven thousand six hundred and eighty; sides of wax upper, eleven thousand six hundred and forty; sides of buff upper, fifteen thousand; kip, six thousand; domestic calfskin, eight thousand and four hundred; imported calfskin, twelve thousand, from which was manufactured three hundred and seventy-five thousand pairs of boots and shoes, an increase of forty thousand on the previous year. A dozen such establishments as this could scarcely supply the local and country trade.

BOXES.—Twenty-two companies and firms, making all kinds of boxes, wooden, metallic, and paper; plain, fancy, cigar, and treasure, employ three hundred and forty hands, whose annual work results in \$1,200,000 worth of finished goods.

BRASS FOUNDRIES.—Fourteen of these furnish employment to one hundred and seventy-five men and boys, and increase the aggregate annual value of manufactures of the city by \$385,000.

BREWERIES.—Lager Beer constitutes the principal brew of the city. The report of the brewers for 1874 shows a healthy increase of business. The number of barrels made was two hundred and five thousand. There are in the city about forty breweries, which give employment to three hundred and forty-two men. The total value of their annual production is \$1,725,000.

BROOMS, BROOM HANDLES, AND BRUSHES.—The making of these indispensable domestic utensils forms the business of no less than thirteen separate factories, furnishes employment to one hundred and twenty men and boys, and results in the annual placing upon the market of over one million brooms and brushes, worth \$210,000.

CANDLE FACTORIES.—In these days of gas and kerosene one would hardly believe that in the City of San Francisco alone over one hundred men find constant work in turning out one hundred and ten thousand boxes a year, worth upward of \$300,000. When they reflect, however, that the constantly-increasing army of miners, in all the darkness of their underground work, unable to depend upon gas or kerosene, must rely wholly upon candles, they will quickly discover the source of a very great and annually-increasing consumption which makes such a "cereus" item in the annual account of the city's manufactures.

CARRIAGE, CAR, AND WAGON FACTORIES.—Of these, including those of all capacities, there are nearly fifty in the city. They range from the vast establishment of the Kimball Manufacturing Co. to the small shop employing but a single man. They employ four hundred and fifty men, turned out over twelve hundred wagons and carriages in 1874, and added over \$600,000 to the total wealth of our manufactures.

CHEMICALS.—In a city and county in which so much of assaying and other metallurgical