

places, etc., are numerous and ample. In short, the architect and builders omitted no provision which could add to the comfort and satisfaction of its guests. The monthly rental of the various suits of rooms varies from \$150 to \$500, with board. The daily charge for single rooms and board is three dollars. The present lessees are G. S. Johnson & Co., and the favorable estimate unanimously placed upon their management by the guests of the house during the past four years is the best possible evidence of their ability to conduct so vast an establishment.

THE OCCIDENTAL HOTEL, on the east side of Montgomery Street, occupies the whole block between Bush and Sutter streets, and half of that stretching from Montgomery to Sansom. This well-known hotel, alike large in its material dimensions and in the hold which it has upon the public estimation, stands as one of the most substantial in construction, convenient in arrangement, and complete in appointment, of the really first-class houses of the city. Four full stories, besides a lower attic story; all the usual conditions of a fairly-appointed, first-class hotel; a large, beautifully-finished elevator, smoothly and swiftly run by hydraulic pressure, is among its chief conveniences. As one of the most celebrated hotels upon the Pacific Slope, it needs less extended and minute description than those houses of more recent establishment which have not such an immense army of former guests and transient boarders, every one of which becomes a traveling advertisement of its many excellencies.

THE COSMOPOLITAN stands upon the northeast corner of the same block as the Occidental. By later extensions its north front stretches along Bush Street, until it joins that of the Occidental, the two forming one of the finest architectural fronts in the city. In exterior finish it is somewhat more ornate than its great neighbor, while within, in point of general excellence of arrangement and richness, it is entitled to a conspicuous place in the front rank of the leading hotels of the city. Prominent among its fellows is the

LICK HOUSE, upon the west side of Montgomery Street. The eastern front occupies an entire block, extending from Sutter to Post streets, with a depth of from one hundred to two hundred feet. It is excellently finished, and luxuriously furnished throughout, while its cuisine, as attested by its numerous guests and patrons, is not excelled by any institution of its kind. While enjoying such an enviable reputation for its creature comforts, it is justly and widely celebrated for its elegantly elaborated, highly ornate, and most artistically-finished dining hall, which is the finest on this continent, and, it is said, is not surpassed by any in Europe. Among the many valuable and really beautiful results of the limner's art which adorn the walls are to be seen several most living and natural views of the wonderful Yosemite Valley, by eminent California artists.

THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL was completed and occupied near the close of the year. It was built by William Hood, of Sonoma, at a cost of about \$200,000, and is located at the junction of Montgomery Avenue, Kearny, and Pacific streets. It is of a triangular shape, having a frontage of one hundred and forty-eight feet on the avenue, one hundred and thirty-eight feet on Pacific, and thirty-five feet on Kearny street. It is first class in its appointments, and properly takes rank among the prominent hotels of San Francisco. Hornblower & Saxe, the former for many years landlord of the Orleans Hotel at Sacramento, have charge of the Commercial Hotel, and their reputation and full knowledge of this intricate business are a satisfactory guarantee of its excellence.

In point of numbers, size, and excellence of its hotels, San Francisco is not exceeded by any city in the Union, and very probably by none in the world. Aside from those already designated and partially described, may be mentioned the Russ House on the west side of Montgomery Street, between Sutter and Pine; the American Exchange, corner of Sansom and Halleck streets; the Brooklyn Hotel, on Bush Street, between Montgomery and Sansom; the International Hotel, on Jackson Street; the once-famous What Cheer House, on Sacramento Street, so long, well, and favorably known to all old Californians, as the point of departure either to the "States" or to the mines. These, with some sixty or seventy others, any one of which in its grade cannot be excelled, if equaled, in any city of the civilized world, go to make up the hotel accommodations of the city.

BOARDING AND LODGING HOUSES.—As a supplement (if any were required) to the large list of hotels, there are in the city about one thousand two hundred, occupied wholly or in part as boarding and lodging houses, or for the accommodation of both boarders and lodgers, in many of which, at less expense than in any other city in the United States, one may enjoy all the comforts of a home.

Theaters.

Worshippers at the Thespian shrine have ample opportunity to indulge their passion here, as theaters and other places of amusement are numerous and well patronized. The class of performances enacted at these houses, whether tragic, dramatic, comic, or tragi-comic, is generally of a high order. Indeed, so fastidious are the San Francisco public in this respect, and theater patrons and newspaper critics so hard to please, that the manager who is so rash as to produce anything that is not fully up to the standard is sure to lose money by the operation, while the actor or actress who cannot stand solely upon his or her own merits, independent of newspaper puffs and printers' ink, cannot achieve a success. Nowhere in the world will an actor or an actress sooner find his or her true level than in San Francisco. Some of the brightest