

are popular among the business men of the whole country, and their graduates are numbered by thousands. The object of this school is principally to fit young men for business pursuits, yet its course of instruction is adapted to all professions and callings. In addition to the course of commercial studies, instruction is given in all the English branches; in French, German, and Spanish; in Telegraphy, Phonography, Higher Mathematics, etc. The plan of operation adopted is different from other schools on this coast. Actual practice in business affairs constitutes the main feature of the mercantile course. Instead of a dry and uninteresting study of mere theory, the pupil enters into business where he meets with the same transactions that he would in a real counting house or bank. He buys, sells, ships, consigns, and goes through all the routine of a merchant. He keeps his accounts with the bank, drawing his checks, discounting his notes, and dealing in all kinds of business forms and papers. By this process the pupil readily becomes familiar not only with the proper forms of bookkeeping but also with all the details of business. When ready to graduate he thus has a practical knowledge of the phases of merchandising, banking, railroading, commission, jobbing, importing, etc. The practicability of this method of instruction has been amply proved by the success of the numerous graduates of this school during the past twelve years. Its graduates are now to be found in most of the leading banks and mercantile houses of this city, and their services are in good demand. The telegraphic institute, under the immediate supervision of James Gamble, General Superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Co., is ably managed. It has been fitted up at great expense with all the instruments for teaching the art thoroughly, and is one of the most complete institutes of the kind in America. The graduates of this department find ready employment, and succeed in giving perfect satisfaction. Ladies are admitted into all the departments of the college, and their success both in the business and telegraphic departments has been most gratifying. They are quite generally availing themselves of the opportunity thus afforded for fitting themselves for useful and lucrative employment, and we regard it as a hopeful sign to see so many of them in the school. The College Faculty comprises the following well-known officers and teachers: E. P. Heald, President and General Manager; F. C. Woodbury, Secretary and Superintendent of Course of Instruction; A. B. Capp, Superintendent of Theory Department; H. M. Stearns, Superintendent of Practical Department; T. R. Southern, Superintendent English Department; W. H. H. Valentine, A. B. Capp, and Miss Clara Snell, Book-keeping and Accounts; F. Seregni, Penmanship; Mrs. N. Heald, Department of Telegraphy; Mrs. A. M. Hatch, Phonography; A. Vander Nailen, Surveying and Mechanical Drawing; Lloyd Baldwin, Mercantile Law; A. P. Du Bief, French; C. F. Morel, Spanish; George Jebens, German.

**PRIVATE SCHOOLS.**—The number of private schools and colleges in San Francisco is about one hundred and ten. In size and character these range through nearly every degree, from the little private, family or home school of half a dozen scholars, to the large flourishing college enrolling its pupils by hundreds. Of these the Catholics maintain about one fifth, while a considerable portion of the remainder either directly belong to or are managed in the especial interest of other religious denominations. The number of pupils attending private and church schools in June, 1875, as reported by the Census Marshals, was six thousand and ninety-four.

#### Health Department.

The excellent and comprehensive report of Henry Gibbons, Jr. M.D., Health Officer for the last fiscal year, makes an exceedingly favorable showing for San Francisco, its death rate being less than in any other large American city. This rate was 18.1 per thousand. Among the Chinese it was 23.8, and among all others, 17.5. The total number of decedents was four thousand one hundred and sixty-three. With the single exception of Philadelphia, San Francisco suffers less than any other American city of note from Zymotic diseases, a class of diseases largely prevented by good sewerage and drainage, pure air, and wholesome food.

The work of the Health Department has been carried on with zeal and intelligence, and its value is very great, though habitually underrated by the public. The careful compilation of mortuary statistics leads to the discovery of the true cause of many diseases, and points to the proper remedy. A reduction of the death rate, however slight, is a matter of large pecuniary importance to a community. It has been estimated that there are thirty-four cases of sickness to each death, and that the average duration of each case is twenty days. In any event the expenses of sickness are large, and in the case of male adults there is the additional loss of time, the equivalent of money. Every death, on this basis, is virtually the loss of about two years of the time of an individual, so that it is a measure of wise economy to deal liberally with a department of the municipal government that is capable of accomplishing such grand results.

#### Hospitals.

The hospitals of San Francisco will compare favorably with those of other cities of its size and population. The public institutions are ample in accommodation and appointment, while those of private character are to be found in all parts of the city. The Germans and French have for years had fine hospital buildings. The Sisters of Mercy own a large structure on Rincon Hill. The Italians have within a few years completed a commodious building, corner of Twenty-eighth and Noe streets, and the Episcopal societies have also erected a hospital on the cottage plan, beyond the Mission. The special purpose of these hospitals is to provide

LEELE'S Squirrel Poison is sold by all Druggists, Grocers, and General Dealers.