

## PREFATORY.

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In presenting the Seventeenth Volume of the San Francisco Directory to the public, the compiler directs attention to the important and numerous evidences contained therein, of the continued prosperous growth of the City. A comparison of its advancement during the past twelve months, and its present condition, will show a greater degree of prosperity than that of any similar period of its history.

The number of references contained in the present volume is one hundred and forty-five thousand two hundred and seventy, viz: Register of names, one hundred thousand two hundred and seventy (of which ninety thousand six hundred and thirty-three are names of resident males). Business Directory, twenty-seven thousand. Appendix, eighteen thousand. The number of names of male residents in 1874, is sixty-five thousand and ninety-two; 1875, seventy-seven thousand two hundred and six; 1876, ninety thousand six hundred and thirty-three. Increase since March 1, 1875, thirteen thousand four hundred and twenty-seven, or nearly eighteen per cent. The population of this city is estimated, March 1, 1876, at two hundred and seventy-two thousand three hundred and forty-five. March 1, 1875, two hundred and thirty thousand one hundred and thirty-two. A gain of forty-two thousand two hundred and thirteen, or over eighteen per cent. At this rate the population in 1880 will be five hundred and twenty-eight thousand. Estimating the population on the basis of the number of names in the present volume—ninety thousand six hundred and thirty-three—and assuming that each name represents three in population, it would give two hundred and seventy-one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine as the result. In Chicago, three and one-half are taken as a basis; in St. Louis, four, and in New York, five. These figures may answer for the localities to which they refer, but for this City, where so many peculiarities surround the different elements which compose our population, they would be undoubtedly too high. The article on population, on page 50, contains valuable data on this subject, to which attention is respectfully invited.

The number of buildings erected during the year ending February 29, 1876, is one thousand eight hundred and forty, of which forty-four are of brick, at an aggregate cost of \$12,500,000. If the amounts disbursed in improving the water front and public streets and in beautifying our parks and private residences be added, the aggregate amount for improvements of all kinds for 1875-6, will exceed \$13,000,000. In addition to several extensive blocks for business purposes completed during the year, an unusual number of elegant and commodious private residences have been erected that greatly exceed in beauty and cost those of former years. The total number of buildings comprised within the city limits is twenty-five thousand five hundred, of which four thousand three hundred and fifty are brick.

The expense of maintaining the Municipal Government for the year ending June 30, 1875, is \$4,435,253, including the expenses of the Street Department. The Bonded Debt of the city, March 10, 1875, is \$3,732,500, exclusive of the Montgomery Avenue Bonds, \$1,500,000.

The Introductory and General Review present a diary of interesting local events of the year, brief notices of Schools, public and private, descriptions of Public Buildings, Hotels, Public Parks, and the operations of the different Railroads and Steamship Lines, together with references to several other subjects worthy of special mention, and historical data of present interest, well calculated to make the book a valuable work of reference to future generations. But the most interesting features of this department are valuable contributions on the Population of the City; Meteorology and Climate of San Francisco from 1851 to 1876, by Henry Gibbons, M.D.; the Current History and Progress of the City; a Review of its Manufacturing interests, and operations of the Public Schools, 1875-6; Hospitals, public and private, by Henry Gibbons, Jr. M.D.; and a statement of the cost and number of buildings erected during the past year and the aggregate number within the city limits.

The Appendix contains a variety of valuable information connected with the history of the city, and the Consolidation Act with the amendments thereto, to which are added a number of important laws adopted by the Legislature of the State (Session 1875-6), including those organizing the City Criminal Court, providing and maintaining Public Water Works, establishing water rates, providing for the completion of the New City Hall, authorizing the widening of Dupont Street, etc., each of which is arranged under its appropriate head, to which has been added an Analytical Index of the whole, which will facilitate reference thereto. There will be also found in this department of the work a large number of references to the different organizations in this city, embracing lists of the Federal, State, and Municipal Officers, notices of local Societies and Associations, Churches, Military Organizations, Incorporations, etc. Attention is invited to a new and corrected Map of the City and County of San Francisco, which for reliability and beauty of execution has never been equalled on this coast, and a revised Street Directory, including the new system of numbering the buildings, thoroughly revised, and carefully compared with each street and locality named therein.

The present volume of THE SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY has been printed from new material, cast expressly for the purpose, by Miller & Richard, Edinburgh, and supplied through their agent in this city, Mr. Ellis Read. A simple glance through its pages is only necessary to direct attention to a style of type which for beauty and symmetry it would be difficult to excel.

The compiler respectfully tenders his acknowledgments for many favors extended by the different public officers, and other gentlemen who have been applied to for information for the work. To his numerous friends for their liberal patronage, and to Messrs. Francis & Valentine by whom the typographical department was executed, he would especially tender his thanks. The eighteenth volume of THE SAN FRANCISCO DIRECTORY will be issued in March, 1877.