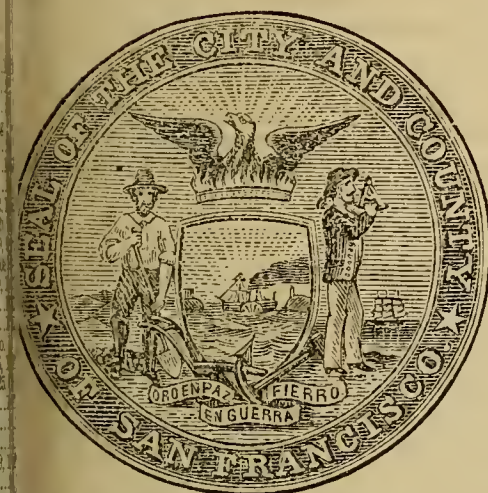


PROGRESS OF THE CITY

1876-77.

CURRENT HISTORY.



IN May, 1850, San Francisco was incorporated as a city. In July, 1856, the city and county governments were consolidated. The average width of the county, from bay to ocean, is four and a half miles by six and a half miles in length, from the Golden Gate to its southern line. Its entire area is 26,681 acres. The city occupies the northeast corner, and extends about three miles from east to west, by four miles from north to south. The peninsula on which the city is located is about thirty miles long by fifteen wide — the city and county occupying the northern end. The assessed value of property in the city and county, as shown by the Assessor's report, for 1876-7, is, real estate \$190,221,003; personal property \$70,041,340; total \$260,262,343. The expenditures for the City Government during the past fiscal year, ending June 30, 1876, was \$3,963,940.77. The assessed value of property for the fiscal year 1875-6 was, real estate and improvements,

169,944,327; personal, \$99,160,814. Total, \$269,105,141. The value of property owned by the city is \$10,740,000. The rate of taxation for State, county and city purposes, for 1875-6, was 1.60½ on the \$100. For 1876-7, 2.12½.

BONDED DEBT.—The bonds and coupons outstanding at the close of the fiscal year, June, 1876, were \$4,322,500.00, exclusive of the bonds issued for the improvement of Montgomery Avenue, amounting to \$1,500,000, for the payment of which the property directly benefited, valued at \$60,000,000, is pledged.

GENERAL PROGRESS.—The general progress of the city during the past year has not been so favorable as that of the preceding twelve months. There was a notable decrease in the number of buildings constructed, especially of the more costly character. The year 1876 was principally equalized by the completion of Baldwin's Hotel, at the junction of Market and Powell streets; the erection, by the San Francisco Stock Exchange, of an elegant four-story building on Pine Street, near Montgomery, and by the Real Estate Associates of a four-story edifice in the same neighborhood. Several large brick buildings have been erected on California and the adjacent streets, for commercial purposes, and in the vicinity of Market Street numerous extensive frame structures have been added to this already populous neighborhood.

Several palatial and costly residences have been erected on Clay Street Hill, and others are under course of construction. On the line of Market, as far out as Leavenworth, and on the streets south of Market, extending outwards, a superior class of buildings are noted. The growth of the southern portion of the city is especially noticeable. The block bounded by Cannan and Third streets is almost rebuilt, and with a better class of buildings than those destroyed by the conflagration of last fall. The majority of new buildings erected during the year 1876 are of more durable material than those of former years—brick and stone having come into more general use. The general architectural style and tone of the buildings are so greatly improved. Ancient "landmarks" are rapidly disappearing before the advance of the artisan and the mechanic.

Several of our street railroads have extended their tracks and added new rolling stock commensurate with the extension of the city and the increased rate of street-car travel. Two new lines are projected and additional extensions of old routes are contemplated. Many streets have been extended and new ones opened in remote but growing parts of the city. Our prominent parks have been improved and beautified, and new ones projected; Pioneer Park, on the summit of Telegraph Hill, which commands a view of the entire city, is now being laid out and improved, and in a few months will be one of the most attractive resorts of our rapidly growing city.