

PREFATORY.

Number of references contained in the present volume of the San Francisco Directory is one hundred and fifty-eight thousand four hundred and fifty-four, viz. : Register of Names, one hundred and eight thousand four hundred and fifty-four; Business Directory, twenty-eight thousand (estimated); Appendix, twenty-two thousand (estimated). The population of the city, March 1st, 1877, is estimated at three hundred and one thousand and twenty; February 1st, 1878, three hundred and eight thousand two hundred and fifteen; April 1st, 1879, three hundred and five thousand—decrease during the past year, three thousand two hundred and fifteen. The number of names of the adult population contained in the present volume exhibits a slight decrease for the past year, but it is believed that the increase in the number of female adults and children will nearly make up the difference in the aggregate population when compared with that of the previous year.

The number of buildings erected during the year ending March 31st, 1879, is estimated at seven hundred and fifty, of which forty-one are of brick. Total number of buildings comprised within the city limits is also estimated at twenty-eight thousand seven hundred, of which four thousand four hundred and seventy are of brick.

The bonded debt of the city, June 30th, 1878, was \$4,219,500 (exclusive of the bonds for the improvement of Montgomery Avenue, \$1,579,000, and for the widening of Dupont Street, \$1,000,000), from which should be deducted the sinking fund on hand, \$911,374.

The expense of maintaining the municipal government for the year ending June 30th, 1878, was \$5,125,060; this amount includes the expenses of the Street Department. The aggregate amount expended in this department for the period named amounts to \$1,242,160, which includes the expenditures by owners of private property for street work during the same period.

The Introductory and General Review present a dairy 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 Meteorology and Climate of San Francisco from 1851 to 1879, 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, 1877-8; a Chronological History of the City for the year 1878; and a statement of the 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 different departments of the Municipal Government and the officers thereof. 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 equaled 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 compiler respectfully tenders his thanks to Gen. James Coey, Postmaster of this city, for his courteous assistance during the progress of this work through the press. By his kindness, over eleven thousand notices of new arrivals, removals, etc., received at the Post Office, have been incorporated with the returns of the regular canvass, thereby securing a degree of completeness and accuracy for the work considerably in advance of previous years. He would also express his acknowledgments for many favors extended by the different public officers, and other gentlemen who have been applied to for information, and to his numerous friends for their liberal patronage to the work.