

under the superintendence of Mr. Samuel McCullough, and is on a plan of architecture similar to that of the United States Appraiser's Building. The walls are built of pressed brick laid on granite sills. The building was completed early in the Autumn of 1877, and was transferred to the Sub-Treasury Department October 8th of that year. The amount appropriated for its construction was \$107,000. The first floor is occupied by the Sub-Treasury; the second by the Register and Receiver of the General Land Office; the third and fourth by the United States Surveyor-General.

THE UNITED STATES APPRAISER'S BUILDING occupies the grounds bounded by Washington, Sansome, Jackson and Post Office Place. It is a solid and handsome four-story structure of two hundred and sixty-five and one-half feet on Sansome, by one hundred and twenty and one-half feet on Jackson and Washington. The building was constructed under the superintendence of Mr. Samuel McCullough, Superintendent of Construction of United States Buildings in California, and his successor, Mr. Thomas Holt. The total expenditures upon it to date has been about \$805,000. The first floor will be occupied by the Collector of Internal Revenue, the Superintending Surgeon of the Marine Hospital, Special Agents of the Treasury Department, the Naval Pay Office, the Secret Service Division, U. S. Revenue Marine, and Steamboat Inspectors, and one-half of the entire floor as a store-room for Appraiser's stores. All Appraiser's goods will be received from Post Office place. The second floor will be devoted to the Appraiser's Department, and the offices of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The third floor will be occupied by the United States Circuit and District Courts, United States Marshal, District Attorney and Law Library. The fourth floor is unfinished, and will probably be occupied by jury rooms, file rooms for the Treasury Department, and the United States Signal Service. The ceilings are all lathed with Dwight's patent iron lathing; standing water pipes run from basement to roof, and corporation hose in ample quantity is kept on the roof as a precaution against fires.

THE POST OFFICE occupies the first floor of the Government building situated on the east half of the block bounded by Washington, Battery, Jackson and Sansome streets, the entrance being on Washington street. Like the other public buildings built in the early days of the city, it has been left behind in our rapid development. For years it has been entirely inadequate to the service of the department, and shifting expedients, alterations and changes in its internal arrangements have been the standing rule. The only effectual relief accomplished, however, has been through the establishment of the various branch offices. Alterations have recently been effected in the old building, making an entire reconstruction of its working space. The entrance from Washington street now leads directly into the lobby, passing the Money Order Office at the entrance on the right, and the Postmaster's private office on the left. The lobby is in the heart of the building instead of on the outside, as formerly, and is entirely surrounded with the working departments of the office. While material improvements in the facilities of the office have been effected by the changes, they are still as before mere temporary expedients. The growing wants, as well as the dignity of our city, demand that a building suitable to and commensurate with the magnitude of our mail service shall no longer be withheld from us. The old U. S. Appraisers' Building is now being renovated for the use of the newspaper department and storage of foreign mails on the first floor, and office of the U. S. Railway Mail Service on the second.

The number of carriers employed is fifty-eight. Two hundred and fifty street letter boxes are conveniently distributed throughout the city, and are gradually growing into the confidence of those for whose benefit they were intended. The boxes are usually attached to street lamp-posts, and are uniformly painted green. They are fastened with the best possible lock, and bear a printed card indicating the time or times the contents are collected, which in every case is at least once per day. The branch offices are situated as follows: Station A at 1305 Polk street, and embraces the tract west of Taylor and north of Geary to Central avenue. Station B at the southwest corner of Seventh and Market; it embraces the tract south of Market from Third to Thirteenth, that west of Stockton and south of Geary to Cemetery avenue, the Potrero and South San Francisco. Station C at the northeast corner of Twentieth and Mission streets; it includes all the territory from Thirteenth to Twenty-sixth streets and that from the Potrero to Church street. A sub Post Office has also been established on Railroad avenue, between Eleventh and Twelfth avenues, South San Francisco, comprising all that portion of the city. Letters may be left at this office for registration and any requests for money orders will receive prompt attention. General James Coey is Postmaster, Mr. William C. Dougherty is his First Assistant Postmaster. They are ably supported by a staff—exclusive of lettercarriers—of seventy-two persons, six of the number being ladies.

THE UNITED STATES MARINE HOSPITAL is situated on the Presidio Reservation, near Mountain Lake. The nearest point to the hospital now reached by the street cars is First avenue, about three miles from Kearny street. It consists of three long, two-story wooden buildings, which are ample for the accommodation of one hundred and twenty-five patients. All the modern hospital improvements are found in this institution. It is maintained at a cost of about \$25,000 a year. The class of persons admitted here are merchant seamen (all