

persons employed on sea and inland merchant vessels), who are obliged to prove their vocation at the Custom House. This hospital is not a public charity. The Government makes a direct tax upon the seamen who receive its benefits, which serves to defray a part of its expenses. Dr. E. Hebersmith is the surgeon in charge; office, U. S. Appraiser's Building, where permits for admission are issued. An ambulance leaves this office daily, carrying patients to the hospital.

ARMY, NAVY, ETC.—The Headquarters of the Military Division of the Pacific and the Department of California have been removed from the city to the Presidio Reservation. To accommodate these changes, important and extensive improvements were made. Two new barrack-houses, one story each, were erected on the north side of the parade ground, for headquarters uses, with buildings in the rear for the accommodation of the necessary clerical force; the cottages on the south side have been remodelled, and the building occupying the east side of the parade ground removed, making a material increase in the grounds. Another, and by far the most important, improvement has been the construction of a finely-graded road, nearly one mile in length, by the circuitous route enforced by the nature of the land, from the Barracks to Fort Point. Another road has been constructed leading to Central avenue, thus giving easy access to the city, and connection with the cable roads, terminating in the vicinity of Laurel Hill Cemetery. During the past year a large two-story brick building has been erected on the southwest corner of New Montgomery and Jessie streets, to be used as a Commissary and Quartermaster's Office, and storage for military supplies.

STATE BUILDINGS OR OFFICES.—Although several state officials necessarily have their offices in this city, the State has not yet provided any special building for their accommodation. The various Commissioners, Inspectors and Agents rent offices as convenient as possible to the respective locations of their several occupations. Should the reader have any special desire to know where these are he can easily ascertain by referring to the proper place in the general directory.

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.—Of these, the first to be noticed is the Old City Hall, standing on the southeast corner of Kearny and Washington streets. It was one of the first large buildings erected in the pioneer days of the city, and remains a standing monument of the illy-conceived structures of that date. During the years 1878 and 1879, most of the City and County Offices were removed to the new City Hall, and there now remains in the building only the offices of the Sheriff, County Clerk, Chief of Police, Police Commissioners, and Police Court, all located on the first floor. The second and third floors are used as Court Rooms for departments one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, and eight of the Superior Court.

NEW CITY HALL.—The legislation for management and construction of the new City Hall would make an interesting chapter in the political history of San Francisco. So suddenly did the city spring into existence, and so rapid was its growth, that it was almost impossible to provide the halls, court-rooms, offices, prisons, etc., necessary for its increasing business. The old adobes of Dupont, Clay and Washington streets, which sufficed for the Alcaldes, Mayors and Recorders of the "days of '49 and '50," were soon given up for the more commodious quarters on Kearny street and the plaza, and when the Jenny Lind Theater was purchased and adapted to the uses of the city the accommodations seemed complete. For a quarter of a century or more these buildings have comprised the City Hall, and as far as their capacity enabled them, have supplied the chief offices of the city. New courts established, crowded prisons, and increased business, necessitated a building designed and constructed for the special purpose, and the subject of a new City Hall was agitated. In the first survey of the city Larkin street was its western limit, and, at its junction with Market street, a large plot of ground was reserved as Yerba Buena Cemetery, extending three blocks north on Larkin, three east on McAllister, and crossed diagonally by Market to place of beginning. The "Western addition" was soon after surveyed and built upon, thus bringing the cemetery within the populous limits, and burials in it ceased. In 1869, Yerba Buena Cemetery was a neglected inclosure of bramble-covered sand-hills. Then it was proposed to devote it to the purposes of a City Hall. An Act of the Legislature, approved April 4, 1870, authorized the proceeding. The tombs were removed, the ground leveled, and the plot surveyed by running Park avenue parallel to and one hundred feet from Market street, and opening City Hall avenue, one hundred feet wide, connecting Market street with Park avenue. The portion fronting Market street was to be sold and the remainder reserved, on which to erect the building. The impression was that the sale of the lots would supply a sufficient fund for the erection of the necessary structure, but only about \$900,000 was received from the sale. Proposals to architects were made, limiting the cost to \$1,500,000. Several fine designs were offered, and one, by Augustus Laver, was accepted. Although other architects protested that this design would involve a cost greater than the amount to which they were limited, and therefore unfair to them, the appearance was so attractive—and with the assurance that its cost could be brought within the limit—it was accepted and the acceptance approved by the public. The plot of ground being triangular, required a building of peculiar form, but is neither triangular nor square. The main front on Park avenue is 800 feet, on Larkin street