

UNIVERSITY MOUND COLLEGE, located west of the San Bruno Road, near the county line, is conducted under a charter issued in 1863. Besides the elementary and business departments, in which the usual preparatory branches are taught, there are well arranged courses in Ancient and Modern Languages, Mathematics, Natural and Physical Science, Literature, Logic, and Political Economy. The college has at all times had the confidence and patronage of our best citizens, and its students have been singularly successful in the great colleges of the East. The institution will soon be removed to Litton Springs, Sonoma County. Three hundred acres of land and the mineral springs have been purchased, and the necessary buildings are now being erected. The principal is John Gamble, B. A., who is assisted by a competent corps of teachers.

BUSINESS COLLEGES.—Of these there are three, located as follows: Pacific, 320 Post street, Heald's, 24 Post street; and Barnard's, 120 Sutter street. These institutions enjoy a high reputation, as is attested by the large number of students in attendance, both from the city and interior. The course of studies embrace bookkeeping, penmanship, mathematics, telegraphy, and others calculated to prepare the student for commercial pursuits.

In addition to the institutions enumerated above, are many private schools of excellent reputation; the most prominent of these are the University School, Trinity School, Urban Academy, Zeitska's Institute, Home Institute, Clarke Institute, Mefret's French and English Institute, Academy of Notre Dame, St. Rose Academy, and St. Vincent School.

Libraries.

While other large cities of the United States boasted their great public libraries, where every citizen, rich or poor, might have access to books and papers of every kind and quality, the people of San Francisco have depended solely upon associations or private corporations, or upon the means which enabled them to supply their own desires. Few young cities, however, contained better libraries than the Mechanics', Mercantile, or Odd Fellows', which, with others of less magnitude, contain an aggregate of near 200,000 volumes accessible to the public. These were established early in the history of the city, and have been the pride of the people. In the flush business times they were liberally patronized, and appeared to satisfy the demand. But they were beyond the reach of many, and upon all who availed themselves of their privileges entailed a considerable expense.

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY was organized in 1879. The spirit of the age demands free education, and with free education advances the idea of free reading. San Francisco was without a free library, while maintaining one of the noblest systems of free schools in the world. To supply this want, a number of public-spirited citizens, after studying the matter and corresponding with librarians and educators of Eastern cities, presented the subject to the Legislature of 1878, and an Act was passed authorizing the levying of a tax of one mill on the dollar for the support of a free public library whenever the people of a town or city might so elect. The bill was drafted for San Francisco; but many other places desiring to enjoy its benefits, it was made general. Messrs. Henry George, A. S. Halladie, George H. Rogers, John H. Wise, John S. Hager, C. C. Terrell, E. D. Sawyer, Louis Sloss, I. M. Scott, R. J. Tobin, and A. J. Moulder were made Trustees under the Act to establish the Free Public Library of San Francisco. The tax levy of 1878-79 provided a sum of \$24,000 for the use of the Library; but that was not available until near the close of the fiscal year. Pacific Hall, on Bush street, between Kearny and Dupont, was selected for the Library; Albert Hart was made Librarian; \$9,456 worth of books purchased, and others donated, and on the evening of June 7, 1879, the Library was formally opened. At that time the Library contained 6,162 volumes—magazines and periodicals not included—with a newspaper department embracing papers from every county of the State, and from all the States and Territories of the Pacific Coast. The hall is well supplied with tables and chairs, capable of seating several hundred people, and in the gallery are the reading stands holding newspapers. The report of the Librarian for the six months ending December 31, gives the following statistics: Books on the shelves in use, 11,892; in transit from England, 1,118; in transit from Germany, 741. Of the number of volumes in the Library, 2,300 are works of fiction, which includes 450 juvenile works. There is not a useless book in the Library, and the Library itself, making allowance for difference in size, is the peer of any free library in the world, and much superior to the average. During the period of 198 days which the report comprehends, the attendance was 132,684, which includes 3,927 ladies, being a daily average of 740, of which fully 10 per cent. visit the Library regularly. There has been 119,873 books given out since the Library opened. The newspaper department is separate from the library, having a distinct entrance. There are 136 daily and weekly papers, home and foreign, on the files, and the attendance has been fully one-third of that upon the library, making the total number of visitors over 175,000. The work of preparing to open the Library as a free-circulating library is rapidly progressing, and will be brought to a conclusion without necessitating the closing of the Library for a day. It is expected that everything will be in readiness by the first of March. The Secretary makes the following statement of expenditures for the period ending December

Dixon & Bernstein, Show Case Manuf's, 250 Market St.