

Steward. The average number of inmates during the past winter was forty-five.

STOCKTON WOOLEN MILLS.

The Stockton Woolen Mills were erected in 1870 and are situated on the south bank of Mormon Channel. The proprietors are Messrs. Lambert, Doughty and Patterson, the last named gentleman being Superintendent. About 200,000 pounds of wool are annually used in the manufacture of flannels and blankets. The annual product of the mills may be set down at 100,000 yards of flannel and 10,000 pairs of blankets. From twenty to twenty-five hands are employed. The manufactured goods are of a superior quality, and the enterprise has proven remunerative to the owners.

MERCANTILE BUSINESS.

Stockton is well supplied with mercantile houses of a first-class character. The various branches of trade are conducted for the most part by men of financial soundness and energetic business qualities. Country merchants in San Joaquin county and valley can purchase goods as advantageously in Stockton as in San Francisco, and in addition make a saving in cost of transportation. The Central Pacific Railroad Company, with commendable liberality, has ceased to discriminate against Stockton and in favor of San Francisco, in the matter of freight tariff, while the City Councilmen, discovering at last that they were living in the nineteenth instead of the eighteenth century, have wisely abolished the wharf revenue tax, which for years hung like an incubus over, and drove trade from the city. Notwithstanding the dullness of the times, the falling off in trade and the scarcity of money during the last two years, Stockton merchants have generally tided safely over the crisis and they commence the season of 1878 with flattering prospects.

BANKS.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY BANK—Incorporated February 27, 1858. Authorized capital, \$500,000. Place of business, south side of Main street, between Hunter and Eldorado. Archibald Stevenson, president. F. J. Higgins, Cashier.