

charter limits of Oakland are unsurpassed anywhere in California. The natural grade is almost perfect, and a complete system of sewerage can be established at the smallest possible expense. At an average depth of five feet from the surface of the ground, there is a thick stratum of sandy cement which affords as firm a foundation for buildings as could possibly be required, being as solid as a bed of rock. This formation extends to the west far out into the Bay, and when the overflowed lands of that portion of the city are made available, none of the disadvantages will be found, which in San Francisco, render it dangerous to erect heavy brick or stone structures upon the made ground. The supply of water to be obtained in the mountains, but a few miles distant, is very great. Artesian wells of a moderate depth have been sunk in various parts of the city, and it is evident that from the subterraneous springs can be drawn inexhaustible supplies of pure, wholesome water. Several quarries of superior building stone have been opened but a short distance from the city. It will never be necessary to go abroad to obtain what building material we may require. The supply of clean, sharp stone to be obtained in the vicinity of Oakland is sufficient for the building of a large city. At no distant day, railroad communication will place us in close proximity to the coal mines of Monte Diablo, and the cost of fuel will always be moderate, depending directly upon the price of labor in obtaining it from the mines.

Oakland is certain to be a city of great prosperity and importance, in spite of any agency under human control which could be directed against it. The present population has been drawn here on account of the pleasantness of its location. The business of the city has thus far been confined to supplying the wants of its own people, and it is hardly possible that it could diminish. On account of their own intrinsic excellence, the number in attendance at our educational institutions is continually increasing; and as San Francisco increases in wealth and prosperity, greater numbers of her business men will provide