

ing a system of public schools, the best in the State, has been well rewarded. Large tracts of land have been rendered accessible by street railroads. A cheap and well-appointed ferry between Oakland and San Francisco has grown up as a natural result, and we now have accommodations that are somewhat in advance of the present demands of the city. There is half-hourly communication during the busier parts of the day, and hourly communication during the time when travel is lightest. The Central Pacific Railroad Company has done well with the people of Oakland. Its policy has been to accelerate the growth of the city and increase its prosperity. As the favorite place for residences, the position of Oakland was long since assured.

More than twenty years ago, there were people in Oakland who had deliberately formed the opinion that whenever the transcontinental railroad should be built, its western terminus would be in this city, and that the place would become one of great commercial importance. This idea has been continuously cherished, and the hopes of the most earnest friends of Oakland are likely to be realized. The terminus of the overland railway is fixed here. The pier extending to Goat Island is a perishable structure, that can be used only three or four years more, and attention has for some time been given to preparations for a change of business to this mainland. The improvement of the San Antonio Creek, as a harbor for the largest sea-going vessels, is sure to be made. The change that will take place upon the completion of that work must inevitably be great and important, and it must result in transferring to the east side of the Bay a very large amount of commerce, that will build up many branches of business now unknown here, and in a measure alter the character of the city and render it to a greater extent self-sustaining. While Nature has dealt very liberally with Oakland, the people have not been inactive. They have evinced a determination to do for themselves everything that is possible. A partial improvement of the harbor is now in progress, and it is expected that this will soon be followed with work ordered by the Federal Government.

The more prominent events of the year are the annexation of Brooklyn and the removal of the county seat from San Leandro to a point in East Oakland, somewhat more accessible. Brooklyn has always been virtually a part of Oakland, advancing as it advanced, and suffering from any causes that tended to retard the progress of Oakland. The contemplated harbor improvement will be of incalculable benefit to that part of the city, doing for it, comparatively, more than for the Oakland peninsula. It is the site of some of the more important manufacturing establishments now in operation. In annexing themselves to Oakland, the people of Brooklyn acted with prudence and forethought. The removal of the county seat from San Leandro has been of material convenience to the public, saving much time and trouble and rendering unnecessary a journey of nine miles in order to reach the seat of justice of the county.

Have your Photograph taken by HOUSEWORTH, 12 Montgomery Street, opposite Lick House, S. F.