

From the well known skill of Mr. Boyd in working California laurel, it is believed that the car will attract great attention in the Atlantic States, and thereby be the means of bringing the excellence of the wood for cabinet purposes prominently before the Eastern public.

**PATENT SPONGE.**—The American Patent Sponge Company received their letters patent November 16th, 1866, since which time the business has assumed large proportions until it has reached nearly or quite a million dollars a year. The Pacific branch was organized and commenced operations in this city in April, 1868, and its business has so increased that at this present date it amounts to thousands of dollars per month and is constantly increasing. The company claim for the Elastic Sponge a superiority over any other material in the following particulars: 1st. Durability excepting feathers, and equal to them. 2d. Cleanliness. 3d. Freedom from all insects. 4th. Healthiness, sick persons being able to lay on it longer and with more comfort than upon any other bed.

**CIGARS.**—The manufacture of cigars in San Francisco is very extensive, the aggregate footing up several millions monthly. The quality of the cigars made is superior, large amounts of Havana or Cuba tobacco being imported to make the best grades. The largest manufacturing firms are B. C. Horn, Weil & Co., Mayrisch & Co., and Kullman & Arn.

**CLOTHING.**—The manufacture of clothing in this city is steadily increasing, the larger portion of the products of our local woolen mills, besides considerable quantities of imported cloths, etc., being used for the purpose. About seven hundred persons are employed by the several firms engaged in the trade. The firms of Weidenrich & Lehman, Simon Reinstein, Berliner & Co., are the most extensive.

**SHIRTS.**—Comparatively large quantities of white shirts are made in this city, although importers supply the great bulk of the demand. The largest manufacturers are G. F. Falkenstein & Brandt, M. Esberg & Co., and the Women's Coöperative Union, the shirts made by the latter being awarded the highest premium at the Mechanics' Fair.

**CARRIAGES.**—Carriages and other wheeled vehicles are manufactured largely in this city, and from the favor they meet from the public, promise soon to drive out importations. The principal firms engaged in the business are the Kimball Carriage and Car Manufacturing Company (incorporated during the past year), Black & Miller, Albert Folsom, and Saul & McArron. The first named company are making Kimball's patent wood springs and axles, which are considered superior to all others. The exhibition made by this company at the Mechanics' Fair was most extensive and meritorious, it being awarded the gold medal belonging to its class.

**SILVER PLATING AND ELECTROTYPING.**—Silver plating has during the past year become quite an important minor industry. The following named parties exhibited silver plating, in its various branches of excellent quality, at the late Mechanics' Fair, John Martel, silver plated coach materials, Wm. Lynch, national coat of arms; R. F. Rocciocioli, silver plated and gilded goods, O. B. Oakley, silver plating; and Pacific plate works, the latter receiving the premium for electro-plating and gilding. These works were commenced in May 1868, and now employ steadily fourteen operators, making all varieties of plated and gilded ware. The standard quality of its work is equal to the best imported, but it manufactures heavier plating to order as required. For beauty of design and perfect workmanship, the goods exhibited by Haynes & Lawton, agents, were said to be equal to any ever imported to this coast.

**CALIFORNIA BUSINESS UNIVERSITY.**—This school is different in its nature and plan of operation from any other mentioned. It is designed, as its name indicates, to impart instruction upon business matters; and is intended to supply the same facilities to those desiring to enter the mercantile profession as the medical college to the student of medicine. It is conducted upon what are termed "Actual Business Principles," each student becoming for the time being an actual bookkeeper, merchant or banker, and performing all the duties pertaining to those offices. This system gives a *practical* knowledge of the various branches taught, by means of which students are enabled to pass directly from the school-room to the counting-room. This institution was established by E. Heald, who first introduced the system upon this coast five years since. It is now located at the corner of Bush and Montgomery Streets, in the rooms lately occupied by the Mercantile Library Association. The yearly attendance at this school numbers about five hundred students, among whom are representatives from every county in this State, as well as many from Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Mexico and the Sandwich Islands. The branches taught include single and double entry bookkeeping, arithmetic, penmanship, correspondence, commercial law, political economy, banking, railroading, phonography, telegraphy and modern languages.

**The Fluctuations of Trade.**

The following table has been prepared for the purpose of showing the changeable character of our business community. Only the leading branches of trade have been included, but these may be regarded as a fair indication of the whole. The yearly changes among the small dealers will not fall short of forty per cent. per annum

OCCUPATIONS.	No. 1862.	No. 1863.	No. 1864.	No. 1866.	No. 1867.	Declined Business 1867	No. 1868.
Apothecaries.....	51	58	57	56	64	19	64
Assayers.....	6	14	13	11	12	3	12
Attorneys.....	328	343	371	376	410	44	473
Auctioneers.....	18	18	26	29	26	6	28
Bakeries.....	59	49	60	68	70	32	72
Bankers.....	18	19	19	19	16	1	15
Baths.....	15	16	16	21	19	4	22
Billiard table mak'rs	7	6	5	5	3		4
Boarding Houses...	444	447	428	544	520	225	614
Breweries.....	23	26	21	22	24	5	25
Brokers.....	216	350	319	337	261	78	323
Butchers & Markets	211	264	245	332	248	100	222
Cabinet Makers.....	31	28	21	43	24	8	36
Carpenters.....	53	79	91	84	117	69	104
Cigar Dealers, mk'rs	165	158	143	150	165	57	261
Clothing and Tailors	290	304	332	317	234	145	375
Dress Makers.....	53	59	120	111	123	71	221
Dry Goods.....	120	112	114	123	126	36	124
Fruits.....	122	117	127	163	152	95	168
Furniture.....	56	49	65	63	68	14	103
Groceries.....	453	460	490	523	558	196	613
Gunsmiths.....	13	11	11	15	5	5	15
Hair Dressers.....	96	115	72	107	135	45	153
Hardware.....	34	37	40	44	56	13	58
Hatters.....	24	25	27	29	32	6	47
Liquors, Etc.....	1,231	1,315	1,654	1,729	1,520	489	1,624
Lumber.....	38	32	35	41	44	3	55
Merchants, Commis	162	149	159	153	260	96	420
Milliners.....	51	96	86	85	112	48	89
Painters.....	67	90	89	92	94	46	83
Physicians.....	209	227	238	248	300	55	339
Printing Offices...	20	19	21	26	25	3	31
Produce.....	86	84	84	106	100	43	131
Restaurants.....	89	90	84	94	129	82	134
Stoves and Tinware.	76	60	56	58	66	16	69
Upholsterers.....	37	37	36	37	33	4	68
Watchm'rs & Jew'rs	160	161	173	180	181	40	140
Wood and Coal.....	88	84	86	92	100	41	143
Total.....	5,300	5,688	6,033	6,573	6,442	2,243	7,483