

Steinway Hall, GRAY'S MUSIC STORE, 117 Post St.

fit of the prisoners. A large number of newspapers, pictorials and magazines, from all parts of the world, are found in its reading rooms, as well as charts, maps, globes, etc. The membership is near 1,800. The terms of membership are one dollar entrance fee and one dollar and a half per quarter. The financial condition of the Institute is very favorable, it being entirely free from debt, or having money in its treasury more than sufficient to meet all liabilities, giving its property a net value of \$230,000, including the library building and lot, books, furniture, the Mechanics' Pavilion, machinery, etc. The Mechanics' Institute building is a fine three-story brick, situated on the south side of Post street, between Montgomery and Kearny, having seventy-five feet front. The lower story contains three stores and the main entrance hall. In the upper stories are the library, reading rooms, chess room, offices and a hall capable of seating 500 persons. The Library has been greatly assisted by the Industrial Fairs held annually by the Institute, which constitute one of the most attractive and popular entertainments given in this city, as is proven by the large attendance and profitable results. These fairs are held in the Mechanics' Pavilion, a large building having a frontage of 200 feet on Mission street and the same on Market street, by 550 feet in depth. It has a grand central nave 100 feet wide by 450 feet in length, and surrounded by a spacious gallery 50 feet in width. This is the most capacious building in the city, and was designed especially for the purpose of holding fairs, but it is admirably adapted for other exhibitions, and frequently is so used, adding greatly to the revenue of the Institute. The Fourteenth Annual Exhibition was held in 1879, commencing August 5th, and closing September 13th. The total receipts from this Exhibition was \$40,040 36; expenses, \$22,933 24, leaving a net profit to the Institute of \$17,107 12. By such aid is the Library enabled to establish itself and prosper with but a slight tax upon those who avail themselves of its privileges. Horace Wilson is the Librarian.

THE LAW LIBRARY was organized in 1865, location, Montgomery Block, corner of Washington and Montgomery streets. It contains about twenty thousand volumes of standard legal authorities, decisions, reports, biographical, historical, and miscellaneous works. The Library derives its support from a monthly levy upon its members of \$2 50, and a docket of \$1 from every case begun in the District (or Superior) Courts of this city. From this last source there was received \$4,575 the last year. The library is open every day from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. to members, and to State, Federal, and Municipal officers.

THE WORKINGMEN'S FREE LIBRARY was formally organized on the 9th of February, 1879, under the auspices of the Workingmen's Party of California, and occupies rooms at 1235 Market street. By donation and purchase it has 1,000 volumes, with many newspapers and magazines.

THE PIONEERS' LIBRARY contains about 3,000 volumes, and numerous magazines, newspapers, and pictorials. The pleasant reading-room of the Pioneers is in the building of the Society, 808 Montgomery street, and is accessible to all members.

THE FRENCH PUBLIC LIBRARY was established by the Ligue Nationale Française, in August, 1871, and contains a collection of over 10,000 volumes of French books, being the most valuable library of works in that language in the United States. It is open every afternoon and evening, except Sunday. Any person acceptable to the Board of Trustees can have access to the reading-room by paying a monthly fee of \$2 50.

THE SAN FRANCISCO VEREIN is a German Social Club occupying rooms on the corner of Sutter and Dupont streets. The Club maintains a large and well selected library of 20,000 volumes, embracing the works of the most eminent German writers.

THE MILITARY LIBRARY was organized in January, 1873, for the purpose of acquiring, preserving, and conducting a public library composed of books and periodicals of a military character. This institution derives its support from the sales of shares at \$5 each. Members may use as many books at a time as they hold shares. There are no dues, but the Trustees have power to call for \$5 additional upon each share when they deem it necessary.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARIES of the Public Schools number 42, with an aggregate of 12,717 volumes, value, \$9,302. These are accessible to all pupils, and supply a fund of reading matter of the most valuable class, and are located at convenient points throughout the city. The Academy of Sciences, Territorial Pioneers, B'nai B'rith the Young Men's Christian Association, and numerous private schools and societies have libraries aggregating many thousands of volumes.

Health of the City.

The conditions of location and climate insure to San Francisco a higher degree of health and exemption from known epidemics than is vouchsafed to most other large cities of the world. Situated upon a narrow, rocky, and hilly peninsula, with the broad Pacific on the west, and the capacious bay and straits of Golden Gate on the east and north, with their swiftly flowing tides, keep its surroundings washed and pure, while the prevailing winds, through the warm, dry summer pour freely upon it, from their long sweep over the ocean where it has gathered the elements of health, uncontaminated by the malaria of dying vegeta-