

Steam cars run regularly between the city and San Francisco, every half-hour, fare 15 cents; by commutation tickets much less. These cars run through the center of the city of Oakland, and *not* on the track used by the Overland train, until the long pier is reached below Oakland Point. When the road was first built, all trains run through the heart of the city, but subsequently a road was built on piles over the shoal water on the edge of the bay, skirting the city front, reaching the old track on the pier, half a mile below Oakland Point, and at *this time*, all Overland trains take that track.

Leaving East Oakland our train runs along over the water, affording a very good view of the bay on the left, and on the right, Oakland, and mountain to the back of it. Two miles further and the train stops at the station for

Oakland—the county seat of Alameda county, has a population of 40,000, and is the second city in size on the Pacific coast. Few cities in the world have ever increased, with as good, healthy, substantial growth, as has Oakland within the last seven or eight years. According to the census of 1870, the population was 11,104, an increase in *eight* years of nearly *thirty thousand*.

What Brooklyn, New York, is to New York City, so is Oakland to the city of San Francisco. The name of the city is significant of its surroundings, as it is situated in an extensive grove of evergreen oaks, with orchards, parks, gardens and vineyards on every side. Nestling amidst this forest of perpetual green, can be seen, peeping out here and there, the magnificent villa of the nabob, the substantial residence of the wealthy merchant, and the neat and tasteful cottage of the "well-to-do" mechanic, who have been attracted here by its grand scenery, mild climate, and quiet surroundings—being free from dust, noise, or the bustle of a large city devoted to business.

Oakland is lighted with gas; has broad, well-paved streets; is abundantly supplied with water; supports several horse railroads; three daily newspapers—the *Tribune*, *Times*, and the *Democrat*, and is provided with just a score of churches. The Masons, Odd Fellows, and many of the *other fellows* have halls and hold regular meetings.

Public and private schools are ample. The higher educational institutions com-

prise the University of California, the State University School, the Female College of the Pacific, the Oakland Military School, the Oakland Female Seminary, and the Convent of "Our Lady of the Sacred Heart." The University of California is at Berkley, four miles distant. It is constructed throughout of brick and iron—they say, earthquake and fire-proof.

Near the university, towards the bay, is located the State Asylum of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind. It is a massive stone building, three stories high, 300 feet above the bay, and commanding a very extensive view. Oakland, besides its attractions, as a place of residence, has become one of great importance as a manufacturing city. In the city and suburbs are located great numbers of all kinds of manufactories, some very extensive, giving employment to hundreds of people. We have it from the best authority, that there are \$4,350,000 invested in the manufacturing business, the annual product of which amounts to an enormous sum. The Central Pacific Railroad Company completed a road called the Berkley Branch, and opened it for business, January 9, 1878, which commences at the end of the pier at West Oakland, and runs north and eastward around mountains of the Contra Costa Range, and in full view of San Pablo Bay, to Martinez, 35 miles from San Francisco. The principal stations on this route are Berkley, 11.08 miles from San Francisco; San Pablo, 17.55 miles; Martinez, 35.55 miles. When the line from Martinez is completed via Benecia to Fairfield, as referred to on page 202, it is quite possible the Overland trains will be changed to this new route, making a saving in distance of 56 miles. (See map, page 201.)

The principal hotel at East Oakland is Tubbs'; at Oakland, the Grand Central. At Oakland Point, from which the long pier is built out into the bay, are located the extensive workshops of the Central Pacific. Their yard, and grounds occupy 120 acres of land.

Leaving Oakland, our train speeds along through the edge of the city for about half a mile, then gradually curves to the southward running out to meet the main Oakland pier, which it reaches, 1.4 miles from Oakland, 1.6 miles from the Oakland end of the pier, and 2.1 miles from the end of the pier to the westward. Down this long pier rolls our train, directly out into the bay, towards the *setting sun*, to the ferry-boat, which conveys passengers over the waters, 3.7