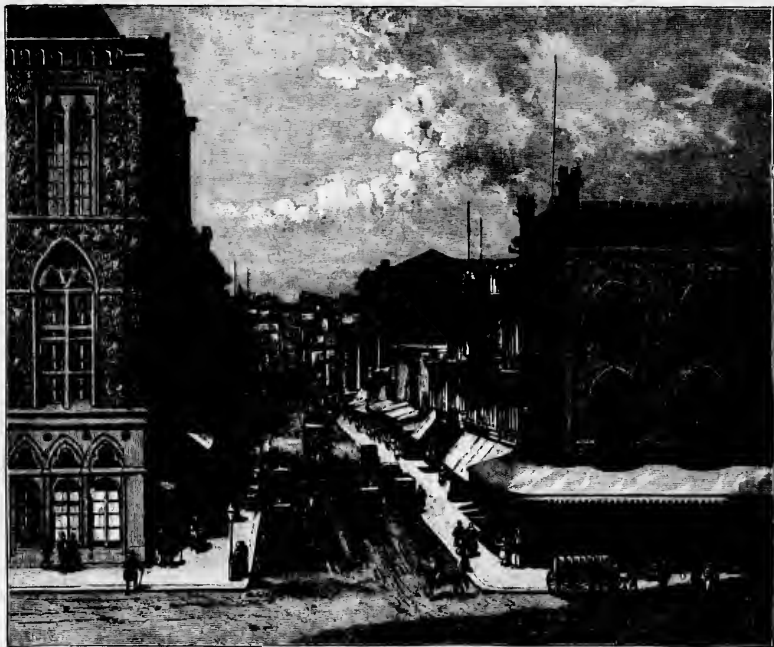


mining industry; by new and strange inventions; by the washing down of mountains; by filling the rivers of the Sacramento basin with thick mud throughout the year; by lifting a hundred mountains from their beds; by thousands of miles of mining ditches; by aqueducts, less durable, but scarcely less wonderful, than those of ancient Rome; by silver mines that promise to rival those of Peru; by quicksilver mines surpassing



A STREET IN SAN FRANCISCO.

those of Spain; by great deposits of sulphur and asphaltum; by lakes of borax; by mud volcanoes, geysers, and natural bridges; by a valley of romantic and sublime beauty, shut in by walls nearly perpendicular, and more than three-quarters of a mile high, with half a dozen great casades, in one of which the water at two leaps falls more than a third of a mile [the Yosemite Valley]; by a climate the most conducive to health, and the most favourable to mental and physical exertion—so temperate on the middle coast that ice is never seen, and thin summer clothing never worn, and that January differs in average temperature only eight degrees of Fahrenheit from July; by