

# A B O S T O N O F T H E P A C I F I C

1854 - 1869

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## WHAT THE BISHOP SAW

*Children of the next generation, to you we bequeath the contest. Living over our dust and inheriting the fruit of our labors, we pray you worthily to wage this warfare 'til you resign your weapons and join us in the land of spirits.*

— William I. Kip, First Episcopal Bishop of California

**C**ULTURALLY, SAN FRANCISCO could hardly have been called a “Boston of the Pacific,” as some claimed her to be, but in her commercial endeavors and outward appearance, the city of the 1850s would not have looked out of place among the towns of the Eastern seaboard. San Francisco certainly struck Bishop William Kip, the first Episcopal Bishop of California, as an interesting, cosmopolitan city when he arrived in 1853.

This was not the rough and ready Gold Rush town he expected to find, but rather a solid, stable-looking community. Blocks of sturdy warehouses and imposing business establishments had mushroomed up on the land-filled blocks east of Montgomery Street. Above these brick and granite buildings