NEWS CONDENSED.

Concise Record of the Week.

EASTERN.

The extensive sewerage system which Boston has been several years in constructing is at last finished, at a cost of $4,500,000.

The property of the New York and New England road has gone into the hands of a receiver. Its indebtedness is over $1,250,000.

The Art Loan exposition in favor of the Bartholdi statue pedestal fund, New York, realized net receipts of $12,000.

At a point on the river nine miles from Pittsburgh, the tug-boat I. N. Bunton was set on fire by a collision with her tow. Most of the crew sprang overboard, and three are still missing. She soon sank in shallow water, as did three coal-boats. The total loss is $50,000.

WESTERN.

Ten thousand men, women and children gathered at Nevada, Mo., to witness the public execution of William Fox for the murder of Thomas Howard.

Petersburg, Ind., at a public meeting attended by the best citizens of the place, resolved that the lynching of Harvey was the proper thing in the proper place.

During the last year 848 new business houses have been established at Minneapolis, Minn. The population of that city is now claimed to be 100,000, an increase of 18,000 during the year.

Two condemned murderers at Walla Walla, Washington Territory, knocked the Sheriff and Jailer senseless with bricks, and when the latter became conscious they cut him to pieces with a knife and then escaped.

A Commissioner of Potter county, Dakota, has made affidavit that Gov. Ordway accepted a bribe of $5,000 for the appointment of a fellow-Commissioner.

Salt Lake erected 9,000 buildings during the year, and claims a population of 28,000.

Ernest Dix, of Bloomington, Ill., died of trichiniasis the other day. His is the second fatal case out of a party of nine who ate uncooked sausage, and others are yet suffering.

The recent terrible tragedy at Jackson, Mich., has been reopened by the suicide of Mrs. Devid Holcomb, the eldest daughter of Jacob D. Crouch. She has been nearly insane since the slaughter of her father and sister, and finally destroyed herself with poison.

A serious railway accident happened on the Iowa division of the Illinois Central, near Fort Dodge. Three passenger-cars went down a fifteen-foot embankment. Mrs. J. H. Smith, of Bureau county, Ill., was instantly killed, her infant escaping all injury. Seven passengers were wounded, some of them very seriously.

The dam at the Huron mine, near Hancock, Mich., burst the other evening, demolishing two houses and a portion of a foundry, and killing six persons.

The trial of Montgomery, Pettis, and Clementi, for criminal assault upon Miss Emma Bond, was brought to a conclusion at Hillsboro, Ill., on the 2d inst., the jury rendering a verdict of not guilty, after several hours' deliberation. There was a good deal of dissatisfaction over the verdict in Christian county, particularly in the neighborhood where the Bond family live, and some talk of organizing a mob to lynch the acquitted parties was indulged in. Mr. A. D. Bond, an uncle of the unfortunate girl, having lost his reason by the outrage and the prolonged excitement, hanged himself just before the conclusion of the trial. He was a highly respected citizen, and the event added greatly to the feeling against the prisoners.

In the United States court at Kansas City, Judge Krekel ordered that Frank James be given to his bondsmen in the Blue-cut robbery case, the State tribunal having first gained possession of the prisoner.

SOUTHERN.

Two negroes, accused of shooting white men, were taken from jail at Brooksville, Fla., and shot dead.

A gambler named Burns killed the night watchman at the end of the track on the Mexican Central road, near El Paso, Tex. Burns was hanged to a box-car by a mob.

Four colored children on a plantation at Summerton, S. C., in the absence of their mother built a fire, which consumed the house and cremated themselves.

A mob composed of 200 armed men marched through the streets to the jail at Yazoo, Miss., demanded and received from the jailer the keys to the prison. The object of their visit was to inflict summary punishment upon four negroes confined therein for the murder of Joseph Nichols and the Posey brothers a few days previous, and they did their work promptly and effectually. The mob first proceeded to the cell of W. H. Foote. The door was forced open, and as one of the crowd entered he was struck with a hand-iron from the fire-place wrapped in a towel, and knocked down. At this moment firing commenced and the prisoner was instantly killed, being riddled by more than a dozen shots. Robert Swaysee, another of the murderers, was taken from his cell, a rope placed around his neck and thrown over the fence, and he was thus hanged. They then proceeded to the cell in which Richard Gibbs was incarcerated, but could not open the doors with the keys. Gibbs appeared at the grating of his cell, and on being perceived was riddled with shot. A rope was passed into his cell, which was placed around him by his cell-mate, and he was then dragged out and hanged from the outside of the building. The mob then went up-stairs to Micajah Parker's cell. He was taken out, a rope placed around his neck, and in the balcony of the middle corridor of the jail he was hanged, the body dangling over the balcony. After this the crowd quietly dispersed. The victims were all negroes, and Foote was Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for the district. The lynchers were young white men from the surrounding country. No effort was made to hinder them.

Fritz Halder, County Treasurer at Yazoo, Miss., who was a peacemaker in the late tragedy, has expired from wounds received.

WASHINGTON.

Judge McCrary, of the United States Circuit court, has tendered his resignation, to take effect March 1, and will accept the post of general attorney for the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway.

Gen. A. A. Humphreys, who was retired in 1879, died suddenly in Washington last week. He was Major General of Volunteers, and afterward became a Brigadier in the regular army, serving as Chief Engineer for twelve years. He was an honorary member of several scientific societies in Europe and America.

Within the last three months seventy-six fourth-class Postmasters have been raised to the Presidential grade.

A strong pressure is being brought to bear to have the whisky bonded period extended two years. The petition is signed by whisky-men, bankers, and scorchauts, from Boston to Denver.

Mr. Morrison says he will be prepared to introduce his tariff bill in the House of Representatives about the 15th of January. Mr. Morrison says he has received letters from prominent business men of the East, saying that they are not alarmed at the prospects of a tariff revision, but they would like to have the revision made at once.

Congressman Browne, of Indiana, has received letters giving details of green frauds practiced by speculators in timber-lands on the Pacific. It is asserted that certain Senators and Representatives are interested in the profits.

At the White house reception the question was decided as to whether, in the absence of Mrs. President or Mrs. Vice President, the wife of the Speaker ranked the wives of the Secretary of State and Chief Justice as the first lady of the land. A precedent was established, for when the hour for the reception arrived Mrs Carlisle came in upon the President's arm and took her place on his right.

Following is the statement of the public debt, issued on the 1st inst.:

Interest-bearing debt.	
Four and one-half per cents	$ 250,000,000
Four per cents	737,632,750
Three per cents	274,937,350
Refunding certificates	315,150
Navy pension fund	14,000,000
Total interest-bearing debt	$1,276,885,150
Matured debt	$ 15,138,795
Legal-tender notes	346,739,6[illegible]6
Certificates of deposit	14,560,000
Gold and silver certificates	200,930,531
Fractional currency	6,989,428
Total without interest	$ 580,219,655
Total debt (principal)	$1,861,243,600
Total interest	12,172,323
Total cash in treasury	375,374,200
Debt, less cash in treasury	1,498,041,723
Decrease during December	11,743,337
Decrease of debt since June 30, 1883	58,049,483
Current liabilities—	
Interest due and unpaid	$ 1,930,221
Debt on which interest has ceased	15,138,794
Interest thereon	336,198
Gold and silver certificates	200,930,531
U. S. notes held for redemption of certificates of deposit	14,560,000
Total	$ 375,374,200
Available assets—	
Cash in treasury	$ 375,374,200
Bonds issued to Pacific railway companies, interest payable by United States—	
Principal outstanding	$ 64,623,512
Interest accrued, not yet paid	1,[illegible]8,705
Interest paid by United States	59,222,093
Interest repaid by companies—	
By transportation service	$ 17,631,893
By cash payments, 5 per cent. net earnings	655,198
Balance of interest paid by United States	40,935,000

The decrease in the public debt during December amounted to $11,743,337. The decrease since June 30, 1883, was $58,049,483.

A Washington telegram says: The House Commerce Committee, as it is constituted under the new order of things, will be devoted almost entirely to the subject of interstate commerce. This is a question with respect to which party lines will be drawn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Washington dispatch says the publication of the letters of C. P. Huntington, disclosing the movements of the railway kings in Washington in connection with the Southern and Texas Pacific land grants and the Thurman Funding bill, has attracted great attention there. There can be little doubt that this publication will have these results: First, there will be a searching investigation by one branch of Congress or the other into the various suggestions contained in the letters of undue influence; second, the publication will most unquestionably destroy whatever hopes or prospects the Southern Pacific magnates had of obtaining from Congress the ratification of the assignment of the unearned land grant of the Texas Pacific to the Southern Pacific.

The failures in the United States for the past year numbered 9,184, with liabilities of $172,000,000. The year 1878 developed 10,478 insolvents.

Commercial failures: C. A. Constant & Co., retail dry-goods, Chicago, liabilities, $125,000; Jeffords, Bailey & Co, lounge manufacturers, Jamestown, N. Y., liabilities $100,000; F. J. Conklin & Co., tobacco, Binghamton, N. Y.; William Carroll & Co., hats, New York city, liabilities $50,000; Ullman & Lamb, plantation supplies, Natchez, Miss., liabilities $20,000; Eager, Bartlett & Co., woolen goods, Boston, liabilities $80,000; Gillies & Bro., teas and spices, New York, liabilities $75,000; Delos & Pratt, furniture, Toledo, liabilities $30,000; A. M. Church, jeweler, Chicago, liabilities $10,000; J. A. Anderson, clothing, Atlanta, Ga., liabilities $25,000; John D. Leslie, grain, Elkhart, Ind., liabilities $30,000; Thomas S. Renard, notions, Cincinnati, liabilities $75,000; Reis Bros. & Co., fancy groceries, Cincinnati, liabilities $600,000; Isaac Reis, wholesale cigars, Cincinnati, liabilities $300,000; C. W. Savage & Sons, general merchants, Miles City, Montana, liabilities $100,000; Jacob Jocoles, fancy goods, Nashville, Tenn., liabilities $40,000; H. E. Dueming, hardware, Shelbyville, Ill., liabilities $10,000; J. E. Musselwhite, notions, Peoria, Ill., liabilities $20,000; Landrum & Butler, dry goods, Augusta, Ga., liabilities $38,000; Gillison & Donalson, hardware, Minneapolis, Minn., liabilities $15,000; A. J. Defossez, operatic manager, New Orleans, liabilities $75,000.

Recent deaths: Napoleon Joseph Perche, Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of New Orleans; Hon. John Proctor, one of the wealthiest citizens of New Hampshire; John M. Scully, of New York, a leading Irish Nationalist; Joseph Longworth, a prominent citizen of Cincinnati; George W. Lane, President of the New York Chamber of Commerce; Joseph D. Murphy, a well-known theatrical manager of Philadelphia; Rev. Francis Hawley, the aged father of Senator Hawley, of Connecticut.

A local train on the Grand Trunk road collided with a freight train when two miles outside of Toronto, Twenty-seven employes of the bolt works were killed or fatally injured, and a like number received serious wounds. George Barber, conductor of the freight train, has been arrested for running without orders.

Fire losses: Burbank's fine jewelry store and five other business houses at Saranac, Mich., loss $75,000; the Jackson saw mill, New Orleans, loss $35,000; a woolen mill at West Chelmsford, Mass., loss $200,000; six stores and many other structures at Orangeville, S. C., loss $45,000; a woolen mill at Seaforth, Ont., loss $55,000; the cooper-shop of the Dupont Powder company, Wilmington, Del., loss $75,000; a flouring mill at Lodi, Ohio, loss $15,000; Chism's store, Mariana, Ark., loss $15,000; Quick's furniture factory, Burlington, Iowa, loss $16,000; the Dakota house block, Jamestown, Dakota, loss $100,000; Lambert & Bishop's wire-fence manufactory, Joliet, Ill., loss $225,000; the Rye Beach hotel at Williams' Bridge, N. Y., loss $25,000; four stores at Oxford, Ala., loss $25,000; several business houses at Tiptonville, Tenn., loss $30,000; a hotel and fourteen stores at Whitesboro, Tex., loss $35,000; twenty-five buildings at Howard City, Mich., loss $75,000; a block of business structures at Breckinridge, Minn., loss $50,000; a portion of the Seipp block, on Van Buren street, Chicago, loss $50,000; the Ætna flour-mills, Akron, Ohio, loss $75,000; the upholstering shops of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad, at Sedalia, Mo., loss $50,000; several stores at Tower City, Dakota, loss $20,000; a cotton-mill at Thorndike, Mass., loss $56,000; the business part of the village of Middlebury, Vt.; the court-house and records at Brookhaven, Miss.; nine business houses at Jacksonville, Oregon, loss $80,000; two stores at Longview, Texas, loss $18,000; an extensive flouring mill near Newcomerstown, Ohio, loss $85,000; People's Hardware Store, Bismarck, Dakota, loss $10,000; two steamboats at St. Louis, Mo., loss $45,000; a hotel and railway depot at Bonville, Arizona, loss $30,000; a furniture store at Joliet, Ill., loss $10,000; Judge Webster's residence at Bay City, Mich., loss $10,000; a building on Monroe street, Chicago, occupied by Bradner, Smith & Co., paper dealers, the National Printing Co., and Shober & Carqueville, engravers, loss $500,000.

FOREIGN.

Report has it that O'Donnell, recently executed, was one of four notorious leaders of the Molly Maguires who have long been hiding from American justice.

At a consistory to be held at Rome in April, several Cardinals will be created, and the vacant sees in America will be filled. It is thought that Archbishop Gibbons, of Baltimore will be made a Cardinal.

The French lost thirty-six officers and nearly 1,000 men in the battle of Sontay, and found $2,000,000 in the city.

It is reported that the Salters' Company, one of the largest and most successful of the London guilds, has decided to dispose of its Irish lands, and is now offering them to tenants on twenty years' time.

Bett, the public hangman in Austria, who was found dead in bed, is believed to have been murdered.

Mass-meetings of Orangemen and Nationalists were held New Year's day at Dromore, Ireland, in full view of each other. 20,000 of the former turned out and about 2,000 of the latter. Several attempts at a collision were made, but the troops prevented bloodshed. Two men were wounded by bayonets.

That China desires peace is stated on the best authority by *The London Times*. If France will abstain from further hostile action on the Red river, a pacific agreement can easily be concluded. By the terms of the Burlingame treaty the United States is bound to offer its good offices whenever China makes the request.

After a battle, lasting ten hours, on the heights of Sholion, Pugn's forces were defeated by the Peruvian nationalists, under command of Col. Iglesias.

An extraordinary scene is reported from Vienna. A Jesuit preached the wickedness of the workingmen, and twenty of his congregation began bombarding the pulpit with stones, creating a panic, in which three people were killed.

Lord Rector Lowell has resigned his Lordship, finding some difficulty in holding such a title and at the same time serving as an Embassador of the United States. The officials of St. Andrew's university are said to greatly regret the resignation.

LATER NEWS ITEMS.

Robert Martin, aged 53, and James B. Graves, 65 years, were hanged at Newark, N. J., for murder. Martin's crime was the murder of his wife, being drunk at the time he committed the deed. Graves had always been regarded as a crank, and the little boys called him "Monkey Graves." He had frequent quarrels with Eddie Soden, aged 13 years, and repeatedly threatened to kill him. On the night of Dec. 20, 1881, Eddie started out to perform his duties as a lamplighter. Graves stealthily followed, and, while the boy was mounted on a lamp-post, shot him down from behind. He was convicted Jan. 19, 1882, of murder in the first degree. His defense was insanity. Dr. Spitka, the medical expert who testified for Guiteau, assisted by six other doctors, examined into Graves' case. They certified that he was insane. The Court of Pardons refused to commute the sentence. The autopsy, made by County Physician Hewlett, Dr. Spitka and twelve other doctors, showed that Graves was insane. Signs of insanity more numerous and intense than are found in lunatics who die in insane asylums were discovered. All the doctors were agreed that a lunatic had been hanged.

Clementi, one of the men acquitted of the Emma Bond outrage, went from the jail at Hillsboro to Irving, Ill., where the citizens gave him ten minutes to leave.

Charles Deitzler, a barber, shot and killed a saloon-keeper at Weiser City, Idaho, for which he was hanged to a tree by a mob.

Jacmel, Hayti, has surrendered, and the rebellion has been crushed.

Currieu, an Alsatian, who threatened to shoot Prime Minister Ferry at Paris, has been sentenced to imprisonment for three months.

The announcement comes from Paris that the present French ministry is considering the project of selling the railways owned by the republic. The price named is $84,000,000, and the bidders are the Rothschilds.

In the Dublin *Weekly News* A. M. Sullivan pays a tribute to Susan Gallagher, the woman who was with O'Donnell when he killed Carey, because of her love for truth in not swearing that Carey had a pistol, which would have been a great point in O'Donnell's favor. Mr. Sullivan dubs her the "Irish Jeannie Deans."

Friends of the measure express confidence in the speedy passage of a bill extending the bonded period on whisky.

The Attorney General has ruled that a Postmaster cannot take from the money order fund of his office sufficient to pay a clerk for issuing the orders.

James A. Wallace, cashier of the Bank of Hopkinsville, in Kentucky, has absconded, leaving a defalcation of $40,000 to $50,000.

In the mountains in Arkansas, bear, deer, and wild turkey are exceedingly plentiful. A hunter in Searcy county recently had a desperate fight with a bear weighing 700 pounds, and came near losing his life.

In a free fight in a saloon at Denver, Slade, the pugilist, struck an officer, and was placed in the station-house. John L. Sullivan undertook to take a revolver from a hotel proprietor, but was chased out of the building.

In the Ottumwa (Iowa) City jail, a person named Williams shot and killed a turnkey and escaped. He also fired at the Sheriff's wife, who endeavored to stop him, but missed her.

At Winnipeg last week the thermometer registered 45 degrees below zero.

No work having been done within the prescribed time, the Mexican government has forfeited the concession made to Gen. Grant for a submarine cable connecting the two republics.

Gov. Hamilton, in his message to the Legislature of Maryland, vigorously denounces the practice of bribery at elections, which he declares has reached the proportions of a State disgrace.

THE MARKET.

NEW YORK.		
BEEVES	$ 5.00	@ 7.00
HOGS	5.50	@ 6.00
FLOUR—Superfine	4.00	@ 6.75
WHEAT—No. 1 Duluth	1.20	@ 1.22
No. 2 Red	1.13	@ 1.16
CORN—No. 2	.66	@ .67
OATS—No. 2	.39	@ .41
PORK—Mess	14.50	@15.25
LARD	.09	@ .09½
CHICAGO.		
BEEVES—Good to Fancy Steers	6.00	@ 6.50
Common to Fair	5.50	@ 6.00
Medium to Fair	5.00	@ 5.50
HOGS	4.90	@ 6.07
FLOUR—Fancy White Winter Ex	5.25	@ 5.30
Good to Choice Spr'g Ex	5.00	@ 5.50
WHEAT—No. 2 Spring	.95	@ .96
No. 2 Red Winter	.99	@ 1.01
CORN—No. 2	.57	@ .60
OATS—No. 2	.33	@ .34½
RYE—No. 2	.59	@ .60
BARLEY—No 2	.66	@ .67
BUTTER—Choice Creamery	.32	@ .35
EGGS—Fresh	.27	@ .28
PORK—Mess	13.25	@13.75
LARD	.08¾	@ .09
MILWAUKEE.		
WHEAT—No. 2	1.03	@ 1.05
CORN—No. 2	.58	@ .60
OATS—No. 2	.32	@ .31
RYE—No. 2	.58	@ .59
BARLEY—No 2	.62	@ .63
PORK—Mess	13.50	@14.50
LARD	8.50	@ 9.00
ST. LOUIS.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	1.01	@ 1.02
CORN—Mixed	.48	@ .49
OATS—No. 2	.30	@ .32
RYE	.54	@ .55
PORK—Mess	14.25	@14.75
LARD	.08½	@ .09
CINCINNATI.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	1.03	@ 1.04
CORN	.48	@ .49
OATS	.33	@ .34
RYE	.60	@ .61
PORK—Mess	14.25	@15.00
LARD	.08½	@ .08¾
TOLEDO.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	.94	@ .96
CORN	.54	@ .55
OATS—No. 2	.33	@ .34
DETROIT.		
FLOUR	5.00	@ 6.50
WHEAT—No. 1 White	1.04½	@ 1.06½
CORN—No. 2	.63	@ .56
OATS—Mixed	.34	@ .36
PORK—Mess	13.25	@15.75
INDIANAPOLIS.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	.99	@ 1.01
CORN—No. 2	.53	@ .54
OATS—Mixed	.32	@ .33
EAST LIBERTY, PA.		
CATTLE—Best	6.00	@ 8.50
Fair	5.50	@ 7.00
Common	6.00	@ 6.50
HOGS	5.50	@ 6.50
SHEEP	4.00	@ 4.50

THE LITTLE FOLKS.

Hovey Explains.

"Oh, naughty little Hovey!"
Said mamma, "to try to bite
Your dearest friend! I'm very sure
You know it was not right.
What made you do it, darling?"
The baby-boy looked wise,
While a world of mischief sparkled in
His beautiful, black eyes.
And, "Me didn't mean to hurt him,
Oh! no, of course me couldn't,"
He answered, "but me loved him so
Me thought me'd eat him up, you k ow—
And then me thought me wouldn't."
—*Good Cheer.*

What Will You Be?

We see two boys standing side by side. Both are intelligent looking and kind looking; but one becomes an idle, shiftless fellow and the other an influential and useful man. Perhaps when they were boys no one could have seen much difference between them; when they were men the contrast was marked. One became dissolute, step by step; the other became virtuous step by step; as one went up the other went down.

It is a question of great moment—What will you be? One determines he will do right and improve his powers and opportunities to the utmost. He is industrious, learns his business, becomes a partner or proprietor, and is known as a man of influence and power. Another does not determine to be bad, but is lazy and neglects to improve his opportunities. He shirks work, he "fools around;" next he is seen with tobacco, and probably beer and whisky follow; his appearance shows he is unhealthy; he does not do his work well, he loses his position and becomes intemperate and probably a criminal.

There are many to-day who are standing at the parting place. You can take one path and you will go down as sure as the sun sets. If you prefer hanging around a saloon to reading good books at home, then you are on the road to ruin. If you do not obey your parents, if you run away from school, if you lie, if you swear, you will surely go down in life.

If a boy steadily improves his time, tries to learn his business, obeys his father and mother, is truthful and industrious, is respectful and pleasing toward others, he will succeed. No one can stop his doing well in life. He has determined that he will be a noble specimen of a man, and every good person will help him.—*Scholar's Companion.*

Berne and the Bears.

I have been in a city full of bears over here in Switzerland, children, and when I was there I thought I should have to write and tell you about it, for it was a queer old place. Although there were bears everywhere—in the stores, in the hotels, in the streets, on fountains, on clocks, in dens, on bridges and almost everywhere you looked, I was not one bit afraid. Shall I tell you why? Because most of them were made of stone, or wood, or porcelain, or ivory, or ginger-bread, or sugar-cake, and they could not hurt me; and the few fierce old fellows who were alive, like those which you have seen caged in some of our parks at home, or in a menagerie, were in dens, and, although they looked up at us with hungry eyes, and perhaps were wishing they could just get their teeth into our little children, and have a dainty little supper, they could not reach us, so we weren't afraid of them either.

Do you know where Berne is? Look on your atlas, and you will find it the largest city in Switzerland, and Switzerland is a republic like America, you knew. And this city is the capital of it, where the President lives, and where the laws are made. If a Swiss marries a foreigner he is obliged to have the ceremony performed here in the capital, so there are a great many weddings in the hotels in Berne, and bridal parties coming and going quite often. The people vote for the President just as we do at home, which seems a strange thing over here, where nearly all the other countries are ruled by Kings, or Emperors, or Czars, or Queens. A queer way it was that the people named this town! Many, many years ago, when the place was a small hamlet amid dense woods, in which hunters found fine game, there were only a few persons there, and they sat down one day to talk over a name for the town. One man wanted one name, and another another, and they got to quarreling about it, for each man was determined to have his own way, so that finally they all agreed that to settle the dispute they would go hunting, and would name the town after the first animal that was killed that day. The first one killed was a bear, so they called the town Berne, which is the Swiss word for bear, and ever since his figure has been on the arms of the town, and the people have his image everywhere.

The city is beautifully situated, and is considered the handsomest in Switzerland. It is built on a high promontory nearly 2,000 feet above the sea, and the swift, broad river Aar surrounds it on three sides. The river flows between very high banks which slope gradually to the water's edge, and which are laid out in beautiful terraces, and flower-gardens, and shaded walks; while above, on the heights, is a promenade and a drive some miles in length, through avenues or great linden trees, which are as beautiful as our maples. Here the people, rich and poor, come at evening to walk, or to sit in pleasant arbors, taking their suppers, or to drive on the avenue, from which you have a fine view of the lovely Bernese Alps, which, when the sun is setting, and touching their snowy summits in roseate hues, is a delight to behold.

The city itself we should hardly call handsome, with its long streets of rows and rows of high, massive, stone, silent-looking houses, resting upon arcades, and all lined with shops, with roofs that project many feet beyond the houses. The covered walks under these arcades are pleasant when the sun is hot, or in rainy weather, but they make the shops dark and damp and gloomy. Certainly those houses do not compare with our avenues of beautiful homes, set apart from each other, bright and sunny, and away from the shops and the noise and traffic of the busy streets; but we see none such in Europe.

There are many fountains in the public squares of this old city of Berne. One of them is a bear in armor, with a sword, a belt and a banner; another has a bear as a crossbowman attending a squire, and another still is a large statue of an ugly old ogre, eating up little children. He has pockets full of them, and some are crouching down behind him, others on his shoulders, and one poor little mortal is just slipping down his throat. I should think the little folks would want to keep away from that street.

There is an old clock in one of the towers of the city, and when the hour is about to strike, a little bronze bear strikes it on a bell, and immediately a number of bears come from the interior of the clock, and each in succession bow to one who sits upon a throne with a scepter in his hand. It is amusing to watch them. At one end of the city there is a Bear's Ditch where a menagerie of bears are kept, which have been trained to dance, to fan themselves, and to perform many tricks which afford great entertainment for the children. At all hours of the day you see children, and grown people, too, leaning over the stone wall which surrounds this den, watching these creatures and feeding them. They tell the story that some years since two British officers who leaned over too far, lost their balance and fell into the den and were torn to pieces and devoured by the bears, but I cannot vouch for the truth of it.

I am sure you all would be amused to look into the shop windows there, and see bears painting Alpine scenes with an easel in one hand and brushes in the other, and quite an artist's pose to their heads as they look at their work; others playing on pianos, flutes, violins and guitars; others standing up in a church to be married; others carrying great baskets on their backs, or umbrellas, or parasols, or walking with canes, and in fact all sorts of attitudes, and fixed up like people everywhere. After seeing the city, you could never think of it without remembering the bears.—*Cor. Chicago Standard.*

Our Boarding House.

"Mrs. Gimps," said the law student, as the party seated themselves at the supper table, "I was born, raised and brought up in an orthodox Methdist family, and since I have became an inmate of your hashery I have sorely missed my table devotions. Why do you not have some one return thanks at your table?"

"I'd like to know what for," interposed the hungry freight clerk.

"Well, Mr. Bills," said the landlady, who was busily pouring tea, "if you want to say grace you can do it in any way or language that you please."

"Thank you, Mrs. Gimps, I will. *Padre nuestros, que estas en los cielos*—"

"Oh, say, now, Bills, what do you call that?" interrupted the grocery clerk.

"That's a Spanish prayer. What did you suppose it was—Choctaw?"

"Well, let up on it any way; don't you see you are frightening the young ladies?"

"Well, as I was going to say—"

"Please pass the butter," from the counter skipper.

"—It is manifestly proper to always say grace—"

"Grease, you mean," said the grocer's boy.

"—Before meat, and the memory of my holy childhood is too fresh—"

"Want some salt?"

"My friend, an old Italian proverb says: 'Give neither counsel nor salt until you are asked for it,' so please subside. As I was saying, the memory of my childhood clings to me still."

"Ladies and gentlemen, as an ardent lover of athletic sports, I would propose a little diversion for this company," interposed the counter-skipper.

"What is it?" asked the milliner.

"Let us have some feats of strength between this butter and the codfish balls. Do you understand, Miss Giggs?"

"Suf-fish-ently well."

"Oh, spare us! spare us—this is worse by far than the hash!" groaned the grocer's boy.

"My friends," again ventured the law student, "by your ribald joking you have sought to throw me from the thread of my recital. I was about to say that though as a child I was surrounded by religious influences, my every wish was gratified, and I had everything I wanted."

"I saw a quotation the other day that will just fit your case, I think, Mr. Bills."

"What is it?"

"Here it is:"

"Give a child all he shall crave,
And a dog while his tail doth wave,
You shall have a fair dog and a foul knave."

"Ah, Mr. Scales, since you are so versed in—no thank you, Mrs. Gimps, not any more succotash—in poetical quotations, be kind enough, to explain the meaning of what Gloster says in Richard III.:

"Why, what a peevish fool was that of Crete,
Who taught his son the office of a fowl."

"Do you understand it, Mr. Scales?"

"Very well."

"What is it?"

"He wanted his son to be cock of the walk—that's all."

"When I read that," said the milliner, "I thought it had some reference to base ball. They have 'fouls' in base ball, don't they?"

"Yes," said the grocery clerk, looking at his crippled fingers. "Yes, Miss Giggs, they have some tough fouls in base ball."

"Any tougher than we have on this table occasionally?"

"No, not quite so tough."

"Gentlemen," angrily exclaimed the landlady, "this is scandalous! You insult me and my vittals right to my face. Now you've got to let up or pay what you owe."

"We'll let up."—*Fort Wayne Hoosier.*

Children's Magazines.

The subject of literary entertainment for the young, and especially for children, will be as prominent as any other in the discussion of holiday books, now already well upon us. It is matter of common remark, and has been any time these dozen years, how great attention is paid to the classes of juvenile readers, not only at this particular season, but all the year round, and every month and week in the year. We have found much to say in this respect, and the demands upon our consideration have grown with equal step in the development of magazine entertainment for the young and for the mature. But with continually increasing emphasis the question recurs whether this extra attention measures the real value of the provision thus made for children.

The great fault of the children's magazines is that they give the least possible quantity of sense to the greatest possible quantity of amusement. Now ti is well to be amused, and the lightening of the reading of childhood by the riches of various folklore, the invention of new fairy and fantasy, the infusion of poetic beauty, and the ornament of art—all these are most praiseworthy in due bounds. The objection is that there are no bounds; that trifles have the whole field to themselves, and in fact that the principal constituents of the child's paper or magazine are mush and molasses, cake and candy. Now, we do not feed our children after this sort at their home tables. We give them milk and bread and meat and fruit—the sweet stuff is a mere occasional luxury. Why should we allow their finer being, their mental quality, to be demoralized any more readily than their physical? We are now greatly improving in physical hygiene—why should we lower the intellectual conditions?

We shall not be suspected of the Gradgrind spirit if we declare that 75 per cent. of nonsense is too much to present our children in a month, and even 50 per cent., which we are persuaded is the modern average, is too great for their mental health.

We do not deny the value and the necessity of cultivating the imagination. The Arabian Nights needs succession and sustainment, and when so great an original genius as Frank Stockton appears, we scarcely desire to limit his appearance, for we shall seldom in a generation find his equal. The flood of American production is not in the fashion of Mr. Stockton—though he has imitators at a distance—but in the general line of fanciful trash and silly fiction. It really affords me a grave sense of comfort to open an English juvenile like the *Chatterbox*, with its honest dullness, its pragmatical moralizing and its plain old-style woodcuts.

The mention of wood-cuts leads to another consideration, and that perhaps the radical one. It is that our American child's magazines, papers and books, are written and illustrated too generally above the heads of their ostensible audience.—*Springfield Republican.*

GOSSIP FOR THE LADIES.

A Candid Proposal.

I love you, love you! love you!!—yet confess
A consciousness of trifling does come o'er me
When all the other shapes of loveliness
To whom I've said the same thing rise before me.
They were, you are, the idol of my heart;
An idol it must have—which must be kissed.
Hence,
That which was once but of my life a part
Is now my whole existence.

I see a scornful light grow in your eyes,
And yet they shine like stars half hid by mists—
Magnificent! You are the fairest prize
My errant heart e'er fought for in love's lists.
You see, I'm candid; you have bowled me over,
And now I drink, and dine, and bathe in love;
I puzzled half an hour just to discover
The perfume of your glove!

But now all empty was this heart of mine;
Some woman must be in it. With that rose,
Give me your-self, and walk into the shrine
Its sovereign goddess. In short, I propose—
My! Won't the Johnson-Mowbrays be enraged!
This summer's changed the lot of many a rover!
That you and I be genuinely engaged
Until the season's over!

Why She Went with Charley.

"I have got two invitations for to-morrow," said Clara. "Charley wants me to go with him, and Fred also sent me an invitation. I hate Fred, and the place he's going to I don't like one bit. "Then you will go with Charley?" suggested her friend. "No; I shall go with Fred. The tickets to his excursion are $1 apiece, while the tickets to Charley's are only 75 cents."

She Was Not Mistaken.

He was a masher holding up the corner, and as a very pretty girl came along he spotted her, and made a break to mash her. "Ah," he said, with a greasy smile, tipping his hat, "I beg your pardon, but are you not Miss ——?" But before he could continue she interrupted with: "Not mis-taken in thinking you are a fool? No, I don't think I am," and she sailed past, while he fell up against a lamp-post and gasped as the crowd standing around gave him the laugh till it made him sick in fourteen languages.

The Woman Question in Sweden.

Before the entensive use of steamboats on the waterways around Stockholm the Dalecarlian girls were accustomed to come to the capital in great numbers each season to row the passenger boats from point to point in the neighborhood of the city. This custom still exists to some extent, and the visitor may be rowed by a buxom peasant girl to an island restaurant, or across an arm of the lake. The girls have lost none of the moral independence and the remarkable physical strength which have since the beginning of Swedish history distinguished their ancestors. In the large cities they are found to-day mixing mortar, carrying burdens and rowing boats quite as easily as the men, and quite as acceptably to the employers. The most famous boatwomen are the girls of the parish of Rattvik, whither we had rambled in the search of the mythical mid-summer dance.—*Frank D. Millet, in Harper's.*

Singing as a Profession.

Mrs. Imogen Brown, the leading soprano of St. Bartholomew's church, has a salary of $1,000 a year, and, it is said, a further emolument of $2,000 a year provided for her by subscription. Miss Thursby, when the leading soprano of the Broadway Tabernacle church, received, it is said, similar rewards. But such instances are exceptional. The average pay of the soprano of a church quartet choir is not more than $600 a year, and $350 is considered a very fair remuneration. Her duties are to sing one rehearsal night a week, and at two services on Sunday, and she must be a cultivated person with a good voice, and accustomed to the service she performs. If her voice is unusually good, and has had some intelligent training, she may begin at $200 or $300 a year, without the preliminary experience. A young woman with such a voice obtained such a position a short time ago, and within a few days after signing her agreement received three similar offers at increased prices. In two years she will probably command $600, $800, perhaps $1,000 per annum.

The position, too, has certain perquisites. It brings to her side the social influence that will exert for her its own valuable kind offices. It leads to other engagements—for instance, to engagements to sing at private entertainments—a practice much in vogue nowadays, during the fashionable season. The fee on such occasions is usually $25; but singers like Miss Beebe receive more, and an entertainer like Mr. Vanderbilt might give a check for almost any amount. Social influence can secure for our young artist engagements in the concert hall, where she will be in the receipt of from $25 to $100 a performance. Mr. Theodore Thomas usually pays his vocal soloists $100, but these are almost always professionals, amateurs getting no pay save the honor of having been invited to sing. By a professional is meant a singer who has been before the public for some time, and who makes singing, or the teaching, her entire business. By an amateur is meant—almost anybody.

But if our young artist asks what annual income she can depend upon, what moneys she may be sure of receiving month by month, the answer is that she can be sure of nothing at all. An engagement in a church choir may be depended upon while it lasts, and so may a series of paying pupils, if one has them. But opportunities to sing at private parties and in the concert-hall come and go like the birds of passage that they are. There are so many singers, so many teachers, that the mass are left out in the cold.

Opera is a different field altogether—different in its social aspects; for while in the church choir, the private party, and the concert hall our young singer is among her friends and among Americans who will protect her, in the opera house her associates are for the most part foreigners, some of whom have little regard for a woman's character or reputation. Yet a great many of our best singers and truest women have reached the heights of their present positions through the chorus of the opera. Only, where the danger is greater our young artist will exercise the greater care. A chorus singer in English opera receives about $15 a week; in Italian opera, from $15 to $20 a week. Her costume in English opera she usually pays for herself; in Italian opera the manager usually pays for them. A leading singer in Italian opera receives from $100 to $400 a month for the lighter parts; for the principal parts, from $500 a month to $2,000 a night. Madame Patti's salary last winter of $4,500 a night—and next winter of $5,500 a night—is, of course, beyond all generalization, and stands apart. Madame Gerster received about $4,000 a month when under Strakosch; Madame Lucca about the same. Miss Cary's terms were $500 a night. The scale is very sliding, and the great prime donne command almost as much as they ask.—*Harper's Bazar.*

A SMART "Aleck" on