

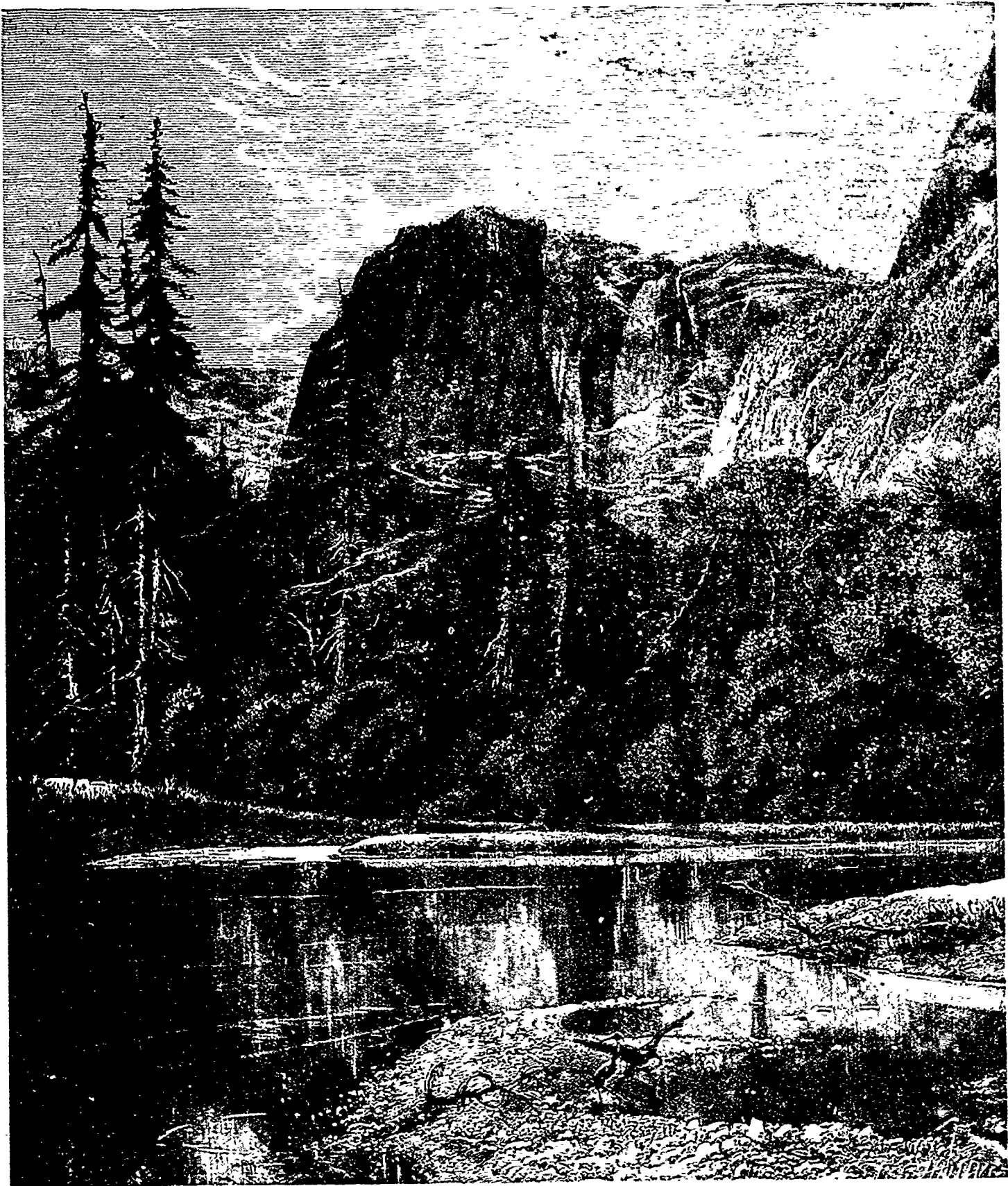
PLEASANT HOURS

PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK.

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[No. 17.



YOSEMITE VALLEY — "LA MERCED."

THE YOSEMITE VALLEY.

In the eastern part of the State of California, along the western side of the Sierra Nevada and on one of the tributaries of the San Joaquin river, is a valley about ten miles long and one mile wide, known as the Yosemite Valley. California is rich in beautiful scenery, but nowhere else in the State is the scenery so lovely and at the same time so grand as in this valley. The river flowing through it is about forty yards

in breadth, and in some places the valley is almost filled with noble oak trees; in others it is open and displays grassy fields, while in still others, mountains covered with pine trees rise to the height of thirty-five hundred feet; in several places there are waterfalls which take a leap of nearly one thousand feet over perpendicular rocks and make the scene one which can never be forgotten by the one who views it.

In the picture we have a view of one lit-

tle spot in the Yosemite known as La Merced, which is a lovely little bit of water nestling at the foot of one of the mountains which border the valley. The scene, with the clouds floating around the tops of the mountains, the pine trees towering beside it, and the luxuriant undergrowth forming a fringe to the little lake which repeats the scene on its smooth surface, is lovely in the extreme, and speaks to us of the loving-kindness of our heavenly Father

in preparing such a feast for the eyes of his children.

"How wonderful are thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast thou made them all, the earth is full of thy riches."

Suppose a strange young man in your village wants to spend an evening in a social way. Is any other door open to him than the door of the saloon?