

which would be farther apart still. There are people on both sides of the Atlantic who delight in lavish living. When that Earl of Derby, who was called the "Rupert of debate," died; and his son, the new Earl, came into possession, it was found that the monthly bill for beer was £200 and that £250 per month was entered in the accounts for grain given to the game in the Knowsley preserves. Mr. Ward Macalister has explained how it is possible to live in a very expensive way in the city of New York if you are one of "the 400." We should, no doubt, be able to find examples of people who spend a great deal more than \$600, a fortnight in both the circles thus hinted at. On the other hand if we travel to India we should find Hindoos and Bengalese living at an expense of a few cents a week. Mr. M. J. Haney, C.E., who built one of the sections of the Canadian Pacific Railway—the Rocky Mountain section—told me that the allowance for the Chinese labourers employed upon that work was 50 lbs. of rice per month with a little pork and vegetable, to give variety.

There is more interest, however, for most people in information as to the living expenses of ordinary, average people, who, without being under the necessity of reducing their household *menage* to starvation point, are anxious to escape extravagance, if not to economise. During the severe winter of 1880-81 a correspondent of one of the most influential English newspapers explained with much preciseness how he had managed to exist with great comfort and gratification to himself on the small sum of 42 cents per week for food. And many years ago, during the potato famine in Ireland, a medical man who was afterwards well-known in the East of Scotland, set himself for several months to live on six or eight cents per diem and succeeded? His fare was bread, meal, and water.

But there is a feeling that such instances are not practically useful except as showing what can be done "if the worst comes to the worst." What we want to know from real statistics is how much it costs for people to live who belong to the vast army of the middle class. I happen to be able to give some figures on this subject which may be interesting. Here is the expenditure so far as food is concerned of an English family with which I was acquainted. The household consisted of the husband, who was a clerk; his wife, who was a particularly well-educated woman; five strapping boys, the eldest of whom was eleven and the youngest two years old; a "general" servant of twenty-five and a useful nurse-girl aged fourteen.

The following account details their expenditure for eating and drinking during seven weeks:

Meat (average price 20c. per lb.)	\$20.25
Bread (12c. per 4 lb. loaf)	8.71
Milk (8c. per quart)	6.64
Tea (42 cents per lb.)	4.67
Sugar (7 cents per lb.)	3.97
Butter (36 cents per lb.)	3.70
Potatoes	3.18
Beer (22c. per gallon)	3.09
Oatmeal (6c. per lb.)	2.97
Haricot beans, lentils and peas	1.41
Flour	1.12
Eggs	.48
Cheese	.36
Treacle	.42
Rice	.42
Green vegetables and fruit	1.00
Spirits	.36
Fish	.32
Mustard, pepper, etc.	.14
Vinegar	.12
Salt	.04
Total	\$63.37

This amount gives a weekly expenditure of \$9.05, or about \$1 per head or a daily expenditure per head of about 14 cents.

I lived with this English family for some months and I can give some details of their methods, which, to American readers, may seem to be odd. From my own experience of them I can say, however, that those methods were not destructive of "high thinking." For breakfast they took oatmeal porridge, bread-and-butter, and tea, with an occasional slice of bacon which is included, in the account, under the heading "meat." For dinner they had cold meat or cold meat cookeries—they never cut their joints hot—potatoes, bread and cheese, and beer; diversified by the periodical addition of soups, puddings, or pies. For the evening meal

they had bread-and-butter, toast, or bread-and-treacle. At about ten o'clock they had bread-and-cheese and beer, or haricot beans, lentils or the like cooked in various ways.

Interesting exhibits of family living expenses are made in the report of the Bureau of Labour statistics of Missouri for the year ending Nov. 5, 1890. This branch of inquiry was pursued very diligently and carefully kept accounts of income and outgo were obtained from 438 families embracing various trades and classes of work. One of them supplies the following statistics of the food and drink of a family of five for a year. The family consisted of the parents, a son aged ten years, and two daughters aged nine and four years. The earnings of the husband were \$840 a year. The following was the yearly expenditure in eatables and drinkables:

Meat	\$72.00
Bacon and ham	6.80
Lard	12.00
Flour	26.00
Bread	32.40
Butter	16.50
Milk	18.25
Cheese	14.00
Coffee	18.30
Tea	.60
Potatoes	7.00
Vegetables	19.75
Sauerkraut	2.60
Vinegar	2.40
Baking powder	1.35
Sugar	18.00
Ice	15.00
Beer	26.00
Miscellaneous	6.50

Total..... \$315.45

This gives a weekly expense per head of \$1.21. This family lived in St. Louis. The husband was a skilled workman.

The following is a tabular statement relating to a family consisting of a workman and his wife and three children living in Sheffield, England. Their means were very small as the husband only earned \$316 a year. This is what they spent on eating and drinking.

Sugar, tea, coffee, etc.	\$31.20
Butcher's meat	50.44
Potatoes and other vegetables	18.72
Bread	50.44
Beer	18.72

Total..... \$169.52

This gives a weekly expense for food and drink of 65 cents or thereabout per individual. I have a friend living in a Canadian city who has kindly analysed her housekeeping accounts for me. She finds that the expense for food and drink per head is \$1.42 per individual. She keeps an exceptionally good table. Taking the average of these four cases we find that they give \$1.07 as the weekly sum spent in food and beverage by ordinary people. I have examined the returns of institutions such as schools and asylums and the conclusion that I have arrived at is that about \$1.25 per individual is the average weekly expenditure on food and beverages by the mass of the people in England and on the North American continent.

In connection with this subject the following particulars of the yearly expenses of a German Government official whose income, derived from his salary and property of the value of 9,000 marks, was 5,450 marks per annum, will be found interesting. I took it from an interesting article in the New York Independent, one of a series on Germany. It will be remembered that a mark equals a quarter-dollar:

Lodging and lodging tax	1,225
Fuel	140
Light	45
Food (170 m. monthly)	2,040
Washing	45
Servant girl from one country	120
Insurance	6
Dress and shoes for wife	85.50
Dress for husband whose official clothing is free	17
Clothing for son	95
School fees for son	240
School books for son	24.75
Pocket money for son	12
Pocket money for wife, 10 m. monthly	120
Pocket money for husband, 15 m. monthly	180
Taxes and widow fund	254