

themselves a house, another year to furnish it; when they would get married, when they would continue to pull together, one managing the income department, and the other the domestic, increasing in respectability and comfort, until, not unfrequently, the workman becomes a master on a small scale. Many who are now rich capitalists in Rhode Island, have risen from such a beginning as this.

"Only saw one pawnbroker's-shop in all Providence.

"The people appear generally to be more robust, ruddy, and healthy, than those of Boston and New York. The dryness of the sandy and gravelly soil, the excellence of the water for drinking, and the sheltered state of the town from bleak easterly winds, may all contribute to this; for the climate is more soft and more mild than it is in New England, generally, and neither the heats of summer nor the colds of winter are felt in such extremes at Providence as they are in the other cities of the north.

"Lowell is called the Manchester of America. Some thirty years ago, it was a desert; its forests echoed no sound but that of the cataract; and this Lowell now spins and manufactures forty thousand bales of cotton per annum. There is a concentrated water power, amounting to five thousand horse power, which equals one half of the water power of Great Britain."

These general statements might suffice to show that the general condition of the labouring-classes is far superior to that of the same class in this country. But we promised to show the relative value of wages, by showing what they will bring out of the market. The following data will perhaps enable the reader to form a sufficiently conclusive opinion on this head. It is the general, we might almost say the universal custom of the unmarried people, and very frequently of the married also, to live in boarding-houses. The following information on this subject, from Mr. Knight's "Guide" will be valuable:

"There are various rates of boarding in all places, but it would be useless here to refer to any but those which concern the working man, and, as the subject is of importance, it will be better to risk being charged with tediousness than deficiency of information. In any of the principal eastern cities he may meet with very good boarding for two dollars and a half, or 10s. 6d. sterling per week; but for three dollars or three dollars and a half, he can get first-rate fare at all the mechanics'-houses, which will suit him much better than those which have the reputation of being a step higher, and for which he would have to pay four or five dollars. At the higher class houses he would undoubtedly receive a greater share of attention, have better accommodation, and obtain some delicacies at table which it would be unreasonable to expect at the cheaper ones; but he certainly does not stand in need of the latter, and should remember he has to pay dearly for them. The medium-rate houses, therefore, are in every respect the best adapted for him; he will at those places get good substantial fare much better suited to him, and will, generally speaking, find just enough accommodation for his purposes.

"There are three meals in the day, and, at each meal, meats are provided—at least at mechanics' boarding-houses. Hot vegetables are also served up, as well for the first and last meals as at dinner. At breakfast, the meats of the previous day, if any be left, are hashed or rather minced together with the cold vegetables, and put on the table hot; pork or mutton chops, beef steaks, or sausages, occasionally salt mackerel, shad, and other fish, and that which is considered a great relish, if not a delicacy, by most native Americans—fried bullock's liver; new or rather smoking hot bread, and rolls and butter, with coffee, complete the service. At dinner, joints various, sometimes with fish, other times poultry; vegetables are in great variety, some of rather a novel kind to the foreigner, amongst which the most general and by no means the most inferior, so soon as accustomed to it, is the Carolina or sweet potatoe; also squash, a fruit-like vegetable, and boiled Indian corn, a downright delicacy when of proper growth; egg-plant, vegetable marrow, &c., the latter-named articles depending, of course, upon the summer season. Pies, puddings, and tarts of various kinds, are also invariably set on the table, and conclude the meal, and occasion-