

## UNSEEMLY EXTRAVAGANCE.

The lavish expenditure and love of display which is becoming so prevalent among a portion of our people has called forth many remonstrances; and there are voices—not crying in the wilderness, but strong in their utterances, among men that cannot let the folly pass unrebuked. Nor should they. We reproduce herewith an article upon this subject which recently appeared in the *Evening Post*:—

“A man builds a marble stable on the rear of his lot, at a cost of eighty thousand dollars, and fits up a private theatre over it. Another pays eight thousand dollars for a pair of horses to drive on the road for his pleasure; and many give from fifteen hundred to three thousand dollars for the same object. Another provides a dinner for a dozen friends—rejecting the old superstition of the unlucky thirteenth—and this simple dinner costs one thousand dollars. A children’s party is given, in an up-town house, where every child is clad entirely in dresses imported from Paris. An American citizen purchases a house for over one hundred thousand dollars, and tears it down, to rebuild upon its site one yet more costly. These are signs of the times—are they not evidences of a state of things unhealthful, feverish, threatening to the honest simplicity of our political life; and threatening not less evil to the ideas and the principles of which that life has hitherto been a fair exponent? What business have Americans, at any time, with such vain show, such useless magnificence? But, especially, how can they justify it to themselves in this time of war? Some men have gained great fortunes during the last two or three years; but that does not excuse their ex-