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## EVENINGS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

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The President and family receive informally in the evening, sometimes in the red room and sometimes in the library. These visits, however, are only made by intimate personal friends, or by those warranted through their acquaintance to call in a social manner. The evenings in the library are very chaeming. Brilliant and cultivated men and women gather in little knots in different parts of the spacious and cheerful apartment, and wit sparkles and anecdote enlivens conversation. The President frequently disappears. He has a private library, where he retires when any gentleman present wishes to speak with him on matters of policy or politics, but he soon returns, to all appearances as unruffled as if the great sea of public cominous as unruffled as if the great sea of public cominous entertains her visitors in an easy, courteous, cortial manner, moving among them with stately grace and scattering pleasant words. Great gentleniess and seventness pervade the whole domestic life of the Prosident's family. Little Pannie, the only daughter, a bright child of nine years, the pet and favorite of all who know her, is never visible at dinner or to evening visitors. "I am obliged to compromise with my little lady," remarked Mrs. Hayes, with a smile, "as I found her growing old too fast for her years. We serve her dinner in her room, which she esteems a high compliment." The private dinning room of the President's family is the only one of their private apartments which is on the great main floor of the White House. The meals are breakfast, lumb and dinner, instead of breakfast, dinner and teap the private of the dinner of the private who may chance to be calling at the specimen boar, and not infrequently accepted. March.

Chat. Propocerios.—The coal production of of the world has enormously increased during of the world has enormously increased during

Marcha J. Leinis, in Harpor's Magnizine for March.

Coal. Production.—The soal production of of the world has enormously increased during the last 30 years. The six principal coal producing countries are Great Britan, Belgium, the United States, France, Prussia and Austria, including Hungary. These countries produced in 1845 an aggregate of 49,211,400 tons of coal, this aggregate being made up as follows: Great Britain, 31,500,000 tons; Belgium, 4,960,077 tons; the United States, 4,400,000 tons; France, 4,141,617 tons; Prussia, 3,500,000 tons; Creat Britain, 31,500,000 tons; Belgium, 14,660,000 tons the United States, 24,243,900 tons; France, 16,349,000 tons; Creat Britain produced nearly one-half, it will be seen, of the whole coal extraction effected by the various mations under review. The immense supremacy of Great Britain over her neighbors in the matter of coal mining is reflected in the fact that in 1874 this country raised 30 tons per head of the population, the corresponding propertion in the case of Belgium being 28 tons, in the case of France 47 tons, in the case of Prussia 17 tons, and in the case of Austria 33 tons. The coal extraction of great Britain in 1874 was 10 times as large as the corresponding propertion in the States, three times as large as that of the United States (by tons, in the case of France 47 tons, and in the case of Austria 33 tons. The coal extraction of great Britain in 1874 was 10 times as large as that of the United States, three times as large as that of Prussia, eight times as large as that of Austria. The coal production per bead of the population of Belgium in 1874 appreached more marly to that of the United States, three times as large as that of Prussia, eight times as large as that of Austria. The coal production per bead of the population of Belgium in 1874 appreached more marly to that of the United States, three times as

that of the United Kingdom than that of any other country. The Engineer.

A Norm row Bism Dunnama. A general impression prevails that "ignorance is biss." In this says the Medical Entanier, manifestly depends on the nature of the ignorance and the pattern of the biss of example, it surely can be not be a bissful state to be acquainted with the following preparations that are advertised, and, I we presume, used by town and country brewers: "Bayarian bitter, one pound equals of pounds of logs. For adding to copper, or when racked." "Bissilphite of lime, for the prevention of acctous formentation of beer." "Thouble Humaini (around, for flavoring mild-like pale ales, one pound equal to 32 pounds of hops." "Hisridiphite of lime, for the prevention of acctous formentation of beer." "Thouble Humaini (around, for flavoring mild-like pale ales, one pound equal to 32 pounds of hops." "Hisridiphite of lime, for the prevention of acctous formentation at the part of the prevention of acctous formentation at the prevention of acctous the prevention of a prevention of acctous the prevention of account of a prevention of acctous the p

AUSTRALIAN OPINIONS OF THE AMER-

THE MATHEMATICS OF STRIKES.

AUSTRALIAN OPINIONS OF THE AMERICAN RAILWAY SYSTEM.

The report of the Commissioners for Victoria to the American International Exhibition, says of American railroads: "The Americans are justly entitled to the highest rank in the mechanical acts and appliances. The simplest hint of a mechanical date is, by their native ingenity, perseverance and mechanical skill, worked out to proportions which any one who has not resided among them would scarcely conceive. Hence it is that the railroad system has been extended by means of the street tramway, one might almost say, to their very "frequency one of the interior traffic of their cities was much too tedious and slow for them. Whether time will not effect a change in this respect and whether they will afford, by means of really good roads for the interior traffic of their cities was further they will afford, by means of really good roads, an unimpeded traffic for all classes of vehicles, remains to be seen." This on the subject of railways.

"The Americans never tried to make a good common troad, and the railway system was introduced at the nick of time, and was quickly and universally adopted. It is the West which over most to railways, for in the Eastern States the rivers are open for seven months of every year, bringing cargo and passengers to the cities upon the ocast. Communication between the North and South, between New York, Boston or Philadelphia and New York, was conducted by a combination of boats plying hetween rivers and inland seas, and stage coaches. In the Kast the railways have only added to the facilities for locomotion. It is scarcely too much to say that they have called the West into existence. Grain and heavy produce find their way from Chicago to the sea by a long and tedious lake, canal navigation during the summer way and with the phase called the West into existence. Grain and heavy produce find their way from Chicago to the sea by a long and tedious lake, canal navigation during the summer way. In the phase called the West into existence of

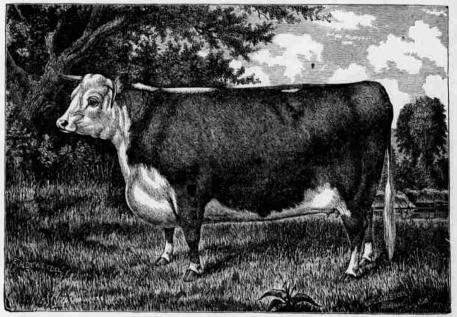
EXPORTS OF PETROLEUM.

EXPORTS OF PETROLEUM.

Six years ago our exports of crude and refined oil amounted to an aggregate of 90,000,000 gallons. This was in 1872. Three years later, the total had risen to 140,000,000 gallons. In 1877 the export was, in round numbers, 248,000,000 gallons in 1877 the export was, in round numbers, 248,000,000 gallons. The increase in the yields of the Penn-sylvania oil fields has kept pace with the demand abroad and at home—the average yield in 1870 having been about 13,000 barrels per day, while in 1877 it had risen to an average of more than 35,000 barrels daily. The growth of the trade in the foreign markets is a carious study. For example, the export to London in 1872 was 1,370,000 gallons, and in 1877 the was 16,000,000. Liverpool took 1,388,000 gallons in 1872 would not be 100,000,000 gallons. Sut these figures are entirely sclipsed by the statistics of our oil trade with Germany and the East. There were shipped to Brenen in 1877 more than 42,300,000 gallons of petroleum, against 11,800,000 in 1872 and 23,000,000 in 1876—an enormous increase, equal to about 100% in the past 12 months, and nearly 400% as compared with 1872. The shipments to the Dutch East Indies more than doubled in 1877 as compared with those of the perrious years, and China and the East Indies took 10,000,000 gallons and the East Indies took 10,000,000 gallons and the East Indies took 10,000,000 gallons fat year, against one-fifth that amount in 1876.—American Manufacturer.

## THE DUTCH IN HOLLAND.

The Department of State has received a report on the social and political condition of the Dutch, from the Minister of the United States to The Hague. As an illustration of the carefulness and steadiness of the Dutch, the Minister says that there has no been a bank dilure in Holland during the last 40 years, and that the paper money of the banks during that time has been equal to gold. In regard to fire insurance companies, there is no such thing as a failure on record, and, while the rate of insurance does not average more than half of one per cent, the companies are in the most flour-



THOROUGHBRED HEREFORD HEIFER.

or Philadelphia. The long, tedious and danger-ous journey across the plans from St. Louis or Chicago to San Francisco, when compared, with the facility with which the journey, if accom-plished by the Union Pacific and Central Pa-citic rallways, show the difficulties which would have attended the colonization of the Western pradries from the Atlantic seaboant if it had not been for the discoveries of Watt and Stophen-son. But for the introduction of railways Omaha would be practically further from Liver-pool than Melbourne actually is."

MINERAL OIL IN a LAVA OF MOUNT EYNA.—
In the basaltic zone which reaches from the foot of Mount Erna, in a south-southeasterly direction, near the village of Paterna, there is a prehistoric doleritic lava, containing olivine, which surrounds the clay deposits of a much volcano, and which has been examined by Sig. Orazio Silvestri. Under the microscope the lava shows an augitic principal mass with a quantity of olivine and many white transparent crystals of labradorite. The lava contains numerous round or tregular cavities which are coated with arragonite, and which are filled with mineral oil. This oil of which there is about one per cent, by weight in the whole mass, was taken from one of the cavities at 24° C. At about 17° C. it begins to solidify, and is of yellowish green tint by transmitted light, while by reflected light it is opalescent and light green.

Modifications of the telephone have been brought to the nettice of the Academy of Sciences, Paris, by M. Brignet. A plate of thin aheet iron having a black lead ponel pressing slightly on the center is connected by wires with the two ends of the bobbin wire of a Bell telephone. Instead of the magnetic har, one of soft iron is used. In the circuit a battery of two Iselanche elements is placed, and the plate vibrated by the voice causes wibrations in the black lead, and so in the resistance of the circuit and the intensity of the permanent current. Thus attractions and non-attractions are produced in the electro-magnet of the receiving end, and the sound of the voice is made andible.

consequently, of everything they have to buy, until they meet again in February? An arbitration may be a less temperary evil than a strike, though I am by no means are of that as a general rule, and that is not saying much for them.

THE TELEPHONE IN THE ARMY.—The German Military Department, always on the watch to make use of the latest scientific discoveries, has naturally devoted its attention at once to the telephone. In the last number of Militair Weckenblate we notice a report on the practicability of its use in warfare for maintaining communication with pickets and outlying posts. The experiments were carried out at a temperature of 3° C., and during a violent wind, and abowed most conclusively its availability for the purposes in question. In this connection, we may mention that E. & F. N. Spon, of 446 Brosems street, New York, have just published in pamphlet form, a lecture, recently delivered by Prof. Bell in England, on the telephone. The pamphlet is fully illustrated, and is an important addition to the literature of this winning instrument. THE TELEPHONE IN THE ABBY, -The Ger-

To Day a Stinat.—M. Devrine proceeds as follows: In order to prevent bending, etc., which often occurs in drying a spiral between two rags or with a brush, he reduces a dry crust of bread to a very fine powder with a hammer, afterwards placing the powder in a small box, into which he transfers the spiral on remeving it from the water or alcohol, and leaves it there two or three minutes; then, having well shaken the box, the spiral in taken out It always comes out perfectly clean.

Zive is Asalttical Chemistry.—At the recent meeting of the American Institute of Engineers, Dr. Thomas M. Drown read a brief paper on the employment of pulerrized sine in analytical chemistry, especially in iron analysis. He showed that by the very simple and direct sine method results were obtained within one-tenth of one per cent, in quantitative determinations of tron in cres, of those reached with the hydrogen method.

ishing condition, realizing 12% to 16% per annum. First class railroad travel is only one cent per mile, and yet the roads pay good dividents. Filfering officials are scarcely ever heard of, and when they shock the nation by turning up, they are severely punished and forever disgraced. No free passes are granted, and managers and directors have no power to pass anybody over the roads free. All must pay the public rates. Dishonesty of any kind, or failure in business, means public dishonor, and utterly hars the dishonest from any future public consideration. Four millions of people live within an area of 20,000 square miles, a fact unprecedented in any other country; and all appear to be happy, prosperous and contented. The secret of this prosperity lies in the fact that all live within their income, and that industry and honesty are principles so firmly established, that their violation is looked upon as an outrage on the national characteristics.

## A HEREFORD HEIFER.

In a former issue we gave our readers a porrait of the Hereford bull "Success," a Centennial-prenium animal, owned by the leading breeder of Herefords in this country, Mr. T. I. Miller, of Hicker, Illinois. The heifer shown on this page is a daughter of "Success," and if our readers will compare the two portraits, they will see how fully the grand old sire transmits his characteristic form and markings. We are glad also to show the breed because it is coming into prominence among grazers in this country and has many qualities to claim attention.

At a public sale of those cattle in England, a short time since, the auctioneer claimed that fire could be grazed or fed at same cost as four Short Horna. This statement has led to some discussion in this and the old country. The Kentucky Lire Stock Record admitted the statement so far as three-year-olds were concerned, but claimed it was not true as regards two-year-olds. And the Kentucky writer went begond this and stated that Hereford beef from three-year-olds and over was always worth more in the London market than that from Short Horna.