

Towanda, Pa., Wednesday, Nov. 16, 1881.

EDITORS.
S. W. ALVORD. NOBLE N. ALVORD

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State Names.

Hamilton B. Staples read a paper at the annual meeting of the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester on the 21st ult., in which he discussed the origin of the names of several States. His conclusions were as follows: New Hampshire, England. Massachusetts is derived from an Indian name, first given to the bay, signifying "near the great hills." Rhode Island has an obscure origin, the "Island of Rhodes," the "Island of Roads," and a Dutch origin, "Red Island," were mentioned, the first seeming to have the best historical support. Connecticut is an Indian name, signifying "land on a long tidal river." New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland were passed over. Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia have a royal origin. Maine was named from the fact that it was supposed to contain the "mayne portion" of New England. Vermont has no especial question, except that it is claimed to have first been an alias—New Connecticut, alias Vermont. Kentucky popularly signifies either a "dark and bloody ground" or "a bloody river," or "the long river." Tennessee comes from its river, the name being derived from the name of an Indian village on the river—"Tanasee." Ohio is named after an Indian name, signifying "something great," with an accent of admiration. Indiana comes from the name of an early land company. Illinois from the Indian—the name of a tribe. Michigan is claimed to mean "lake country," it probably came from the name of the lake, "Great Lake," which bore this name before the land adjacent was named. Louisiana is from the French. Arkansas and Missouri are Indian, the former being doubtful; the latter is claimed to mean in its original "muddy water," which describes the river. Iowa is also Indian, with doubtful meaning. Texas is popularly supposed to be Indian, but may be Spanish. Florida, Spanish, "a flowery land." Oregon has a conjectural origin. It is probably Indian, but a Spanish origin is claimed. California comes from a Spanish romance of 1510. Nevada takes its name from the mountains, who get theirs from a resemblance to the Nevadas of South America. Minnesota is Indian, "sky-tinted water." Nebraska is variously rendered "shallow water" and "flat country." Kansas from an Indian root, Kaw, corrupted by the French. Mississippi is "great water," or "whole river." Alabama is Indian, the name of a fortress and a tribe, signifying, as is claimed, "here we rest."—N. Y. Times.

Colonel Quay's Stratagem

Colonel Quay's declaration in yesterday's Press in favor of Grow and Caven for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor next year is susceptible of various interpretations. It may be the grim humor of a dry joker. It may be a decoy to draw the fire of the Republicans, who are already gunning for the next campaign. It may be an ingenious ruse to divide and distract the other side. Or it may be a frank concession to the independent and reform sentiment, which has shown that it must be regarded and respected.

But whatever the true explanation, it is valuable as a recognition of the current and force of public opinion. Colonel Quay is an astute and consummate politician, who has carried his waving plume through many campaigns, and who knows when it is time to fight and when it is time to parley and make terms. He

is full of pluck and is not a man to be stampeded; but he has penetration enough to see the irresistible drift of popular sentiment, and if he undertakes to stem its pressure, it will be not from lack of intelligence, but from wilful opposition. He held the reins of the last convention with a firm and resolute hand; but in the light of the elections he can see that he drove on the very edge of the precipice, and it may well be that he does not care to repeat the dangerous experiment.

At any rate the suggestion of Grow and Caven from such a source is something new in Pennsylvania politics. Grow and Caven may, or may not, be a ticket which would meet the spirit of the hour and prove acceptable to the whole Republican party; it is rather early to pass upon that question; but when Colonel Quay unfurls a banner bearing their names, whether altogether serious or not it is an acknowledgment of the power of a popular sentiment which cannot safely be disregarded. Ring up the curtain for the new drama of Quay and Reform!—Press.

A dispatch from Berlin states that in consequence of the desire of the Emperor Bismark will remain in office.

It is reported in Washington that the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury will be tendered to Hon. Geo. C. Gorham.

The President has accepted Attorney General MacVeagh's resignation. Solicitor General Phillips, for the present will act as Attorney General.

The United States steamer Ranger has been ordered to Cape St. Lucas, to protect the United States Vice-Consul there, who has been threatened with personal violence.

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THE REFORM of the Civil Service. Arrangements have been made for a series of able papers on this pressing political question.

POETRY and Poets in America. There will be studies of Longfellow, Whittier, Emerson, Lowell, and others by E. C. Steadman.

STORIES, Sketches, and Essays may be expected from Charles Dudley Warner, W. D. Howells, "Mark Twain," Edward Eggleston, Henry James, Jr., John Muir, Miss Gordon Cumming, "H. H.," George W. Cable, Joel Chandler Harris, A. C. Redwood, F. D. Millet, Noah Brooks, Frank R. Stockton, Constance F. Woolson, H. H. Boyesen, Albert Stickney, Washington Gladden, John Burroughs, Parkes Godwin, Thomas Salvioli, Henry King, Ernest Ingersoll, E. L. Godkin, E. B. Washburne, and many others.

One or two papers on "The Adventures of the Tlie Club," and an original Life of Borwick, the engraver, by Austin Dobson, are among other features to be later announced.

THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENTS throughout will be unusually complete, and "The World's Work" will be considerably enlarged.

The price of THE CENTURY MAGAZINE will remain at \$4.00 per year (35 cents a number). The portrait (size 21 x 27) of the late Dr. Holland, issued just before his death, photographed from a life-size drawing by Wyatt Eaton, will possess a new interest to the readers of this Magazine. It is of fine at \$5.00 retail, or together with THE CENTURY MAGAZINE for \$8.50. Subscriptions are taken by the publishers and by book-sellers and news-dealers everywhere.

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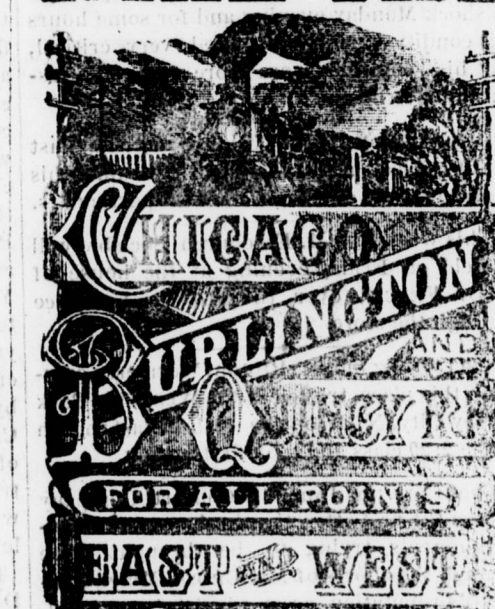
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