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By D. D. HOCOTT.

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Origin of the Names of States.

Maine was called Marvoshen, but about 1738 took the name it now bears from Maine, a province in the western part of France. The name is originally derived from the Conomani and ancient Gaelic people.

New Hampshire was the name given to the territory granted by the Plymouth Company to Capt. John Mason, by patentee, who was Governor of Portsmouth, in Hampshire, England.

Vermont is from verb, green, and mount, mountain.

Massachusetts was named from a tribe of Indians in the vicinity of Boston. Roger Williams says the word signifies "blue hills."

Rhode Island was so called in 1644 in relation to the Island of Rhodes, in the Mediterranean.

New York was named in honor of the Duke of York, to whom the territory was granted.

Pennsylvania was called after William Penn.

In 1664 the Duke of York made a grant of what is now called the State of New Jersey to Lord Burklely and Sir George Carteret, and received its name in compliment to the latter, who had been Governor of the Island of Jersey.

Delaware was so called in 1702 after Lord Dela Ware.

Maryland was named in honor of Henrietta Maria, Queen of Charles I, in his patent to Lord Baltimore, June 3, 1632.

Virginia was called after the Virgin Queen of England, Elizabeth.

The Carolinas was named by the French in honor of Charles IX of France.

Georgia was called in 1635 after George II.

Louisiana was named after Louis IV of France.

Florida received its name from Prince de Leon, in 1512, while on his voyage in search of the fountain of youth. He discovered it on Easter Sunday—in Spanish, Pasque, Florida.

The States of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Arkansas and Missouri, are all named from their principal rivers, and the names are of Indian origin, excepting, perhaps, Kentucky, and their meanings involved in obscurity.

Tennessee is said to signify a curved spoon; Illinois, the Rivers of Men; Mississippi, the Whole River, or a river formed by the union of many.

Michigan was named from the lake on its borders.

Iowa is an Indian name, also Texas, signifying "Beautiful." California was thus named by the Spaniards at a very early day.

THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE.—Equipments for recruits are being sent forward every day, and Hood's force is already large enough to march triumphantly through Middle Tennessee, should the weather and roads prove favorable. The impression prevails that Nashville will be recaptured before Christmas, and that should Breckinridge's new campaign prove successful, Chattanooga and Knoxville will be evacuated much sooner. The attempt on the part of the Federal authorities to enforce the draft in Tennessee and Kentucky can have no other tendency than to increase Hood's army.

WHAT GRANT SAYS.—Grant, in his last visit to New York, in conversation, said: "The Southern Confederacy is a mere shell. I know it. I am sure of it. It is a hollow shell, and Sherman will prove it to you." In answer to a question whether, in his opinion, ninety days would bring the war to an end, he said, with a grim smile: "I am not a ninety day man, but we shall see what will happen in six months." Lieut. Gen. Dick Taylor is in Montgomery,

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WEDNESDAY MORNING DEC. 21.

Judge BATES, Attorney General, has left the Lincoln cabinet.

Brigadier General BRADLEY T. JOHNSON has arrived in Salisbury, N. C., and will assume command of that post.

General THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER is said by Northern papers to be at Nashville in active service.

On Friday last, the 9th, trains were withdrawn from the Mobile and Ohio Road below Meridian, and Yankees were said to be advancing in three columns. The lines were cut and there was no communication with Mobile.

The amount of interest on United States bonds falling due in January is \$9,300,000, and deducting the interest on the registered bonds, the coupons now paid by anticipation will amount to about \$7,000,000.

THE NEGROES AND THE YANKEES.—It is estimated that SHERMAN, in his raid through Georgia, succeeded in stealing and persuading about one out of every fifteen able-bodied negro men to go with him. Many of those who left have returned to their homes. Wherever he passed every negro who chose so to do, could leave his master, and yet only one out of fifteen went.

SITUATION AT MOBILE.—Dispatches received in Montgomery on Sunday, 11th, from Mobile, reported the enemy in force within twenty miles of Mobile. Gen. McCULLOUGH, of Missouri, was keeping them back as well as his limited numbers enabled him to do, but it was apprehended that his brigade was too weak to accomplish the defeat and turning back of the Yankees. Gov. WATTS promptly issued a proclamation calling upon the people of Alabama to hurry to the defence of Mobile.

THE TRIBUNE PAYS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO ENGLAND.—The "Tribune," referring editorially to Seward's late letter to Yankee Minister ADAMS, soars away upon the American eagle's wings in this wise:

We know that we possess the power, without taking away a single soldier now facing the rebels, to brush away Canada like a goose, and without taking a single vessel from our blockade, to sink every ship in the British navy as if they were but cockle shells. Yet it would be idle or no trouble to us England and Englishmen on their better behavior. Whatever does not seriously damage us we let pass with but a scornful word or two. Whatever does seriously damage us, we quietly reserve for future settlement.

INTERESTING FROM THE SAVANNAH RIVER.—The Charleston Mercury of yesterday says: We have nothing specially new or striking from Savannah. Of course, we are quite in the dark as to SHERMAN'S operations south of the city. We do know, however, that the enemy holds Argyle Island, as well as the west bank of the Savannah River, from the railroad trestle-work to "Potter's Mill." The Yankees are busily engaged preparing the rice crop in that neighborhood, threshing and pounding it for their own use.

The enemy has constructed a battery of Parrot guns at POTTER'S mill, with which they control the navigation of the stream, as well as portions of the Carolina shore, stretching back for the distance of nearly a mile. Their sharpshooters also annoy our pickets daily, and have occasioned some few casualties amongst our men and horses. The Yankee scouts have of late repeatedly made raids on the Carolina shore for the purposes of pillage. On Wednesday last they burned Mrs. MOUNMULLEN'S settlement, near the railroad trestle-work. This extensive and important trestle-work has now been almost totally destroyed—on the Georgia side of the river by SLOCUM'S corps, and on our side by the gunboat Macon.

A rumor is afloat and believed in many quarters, that SLOCUM'S corps is massing on Argyle Island with a view to make an attempt to cut off communication between Savannah and Hardeeville via Screven's Ferry.

We sincerely regret to learn that portions of our mounted troops have behaved shamefully to our own people at and near Hardeeville, robbing them, without the slightest ceremony, of their horses, mules, corn, fodder, etc. Surely their commanders ought to enforce the restraints of discipline so as to reach such outlaws.

The rank of the gallant officer who commanded the Argyle Island expedition, noticed yesterday, was Brigadier General (not Colonel) YOUNG.

Eight months of fighting (says the Charlottesville Chronicle) and we are not done yet. The flames burst out afresh. The land trembles again under moving armies. Here the war-torrent ploughs its way through a State—to the sea. There the clouds have met—and we know not which was the stronger. Here, after a slight lull, the thunder rolls angrily across the sky again—the prelude to a crash. Fighting in Georgia—fighting in Tennessee—an attack menaced at Richmond—the spoiler sweeping through Northern Virginia—this does not look like the close of a campaign. May God protect our brave armies! Surely they have had a year of it! Let us at this moment turn our thoughts to Him. Do we not feel that He quingles in this contest? Are we not now conscious—however incredulous before—that He does in truth intervene in human affairs? We aim at a practical result—we have endeavored to impress this sentiment before; we would have the people vividly realize that there is a foreign intervention—of a mean potentate—within their reach. He preserves the balance of power—He puts himself forward in others' quarrels without explanations and without ceremony—He commands the peace when peace is desirable—He adjusts international disputes—He lays His hand on the thunder-bolt of war, and quenches the lurid flames of the belching artillery. We have indulged dreams of other intervention; we have nursed the wildest fancies of European embroilments—we will not cherish this—we will not in the desperate ungodliness of the human heart, accept this thought—that God is indeed an actual power, and a veritable actor in these occurrences. To do so were to take the first great step in securing the exertion of that power in our interest; we never will impress it into our cause, until we genuinely and operatively believe in its reality. National infidelity feeds the flames of the war—causes them to burst forth with ever renewed fierceness in one quarter and another—gives volume to the thunders and vividness to the lightnings. There is a subtle power lack of all material agencies—back of the impalpable elements of light, heat, electricity, magnetism, and momentum—what scientific men denominate the principle of force—that unnameable quality of spirit—which mocks at all physical combinations, and smites with impotency the devices and contrivances of man. Man—in his mysterious existence—has access to even this, and lays it under requisitions which gives him a power that flows from the fountain of power itself. "If ye had faith even as a grain of mustard seed, ye should say to yonder mountain, be thou removed, and be thou cast into the depths of the sea, and it should obey you." Was this an idle transcendentalism—an unmeaning fancy of the author of Christianity? The fervent, determined prayer of the Christians of this day—of eternity would burst the very gates of Heaven, and call down upon our foes such a storm as would tear up their fortifications, as the match pours its currents into the mine which rends the solid framework of the earth.

Affairs in Mississippi.

MERIDIAN, Dec 10.—Authentic information has been received that the advance of General Davidson's raiding column from Baton Rouge passed through Augusta, Perry County, Mississippi, yesterday, for Mobile. Scott and others are in the right place; warm work is expected on Monday or Tuesday next.

The following is a corps of an official despatch received at headquarters in Mobile: "On the first of December, Colonel Griffith engaged the enemy near Yazoo City, killing seventeen, wounding five and capturing a lieutenant and twenty men. Our loss one killed and seven wounded. The enemy was driven back to Yazoo City.

DOVER, YAZOO COUNTY, Dec 12.—The fight yesterday was at Concord Church, on the Yazoo City and Vicksburg Roads. The Yankee force was two regiments. They were completely routed. Eighteen dead counted besides wounded. Twenty-three prisoners were captured, including a lieutenant. They carried away most of their wounded. Their entire loss is between seventy-five and one hundred. Our loss one killed and six wounded. A large quantity of arms and equipments and several horses were captured.

Miss Millie Francis, late of the National theatre, Memphis, a danseuse, came to her death very suddenly at the National theatre, Cincinnati, a few nights since. She had been dancing, and in passing from the green room to the stage, in response to a second encore, drank a tumbler full of ice water, from the effects of which she dropped dead in full view of the audience. She was swelled past identification in a few minutes.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, December 16.—In the House, Mr. Turner offered a resolution requesting the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint thirteen commissioners of each State to tender to the Government of the United States a conference for negotiating an honorable peace; failing in this, to use all proper efforts for obtaining an immediate exchange of prisoners, and if possible, to such understanding with the enemy, in regard to the future conduct of the war, as may tend in some degree to mitigate its horrors and atrocities. Mr. Barksdale submitted a substitute, the preamble setting forth that the Government of the United States having repeatedly refused to listen to propositions for an honorable peace of mediation, have thus manifested a determination to continue the war. The first resolution says: "Whilst reiterating our readiness to enter upon negotiation for peace, whenever the enemy is so inclined, we will pursue, without faltering, the course deliberately chosen for the preservation of our liberties." The second resolution is as follows: "The mode prescribed by the Constitution of the Confederate States for making treaties of peace, affords ample means for attempts to that end, whenever the Government of the United States evince a willingness to enter upon negotiations for terminating the war." After the substitute was read, the hour having expired, the House resolved into committee of the whole, and resumed the consideration of the currency bill. Mr. Perkins offered a substitute, which was under consideration when the House adjourned.

Nothing important done in the Senate in open session.

LINCOLN ON "RELIGION."—Last week two ladies from Tennessee came before the President, asking the release of their husbands, held as prisoners of war on Johnson's Island. One of the ladies urged that her husband was a religious man, and when the President ordered the release of the prisoners, he said to this lady: "You say your husband is a religious man; tell him when you meet him that I say I am not much of a religionist, but in my opinion; the religion that sets up a rebel and fight against their Government—cause, as they think, that Government does not sufficiently help some men to eat their bread in the sweat of other men's faces, is no sort of religion upon which people can go to heaven."—Washington Paper.

Miss Annie Thomas, the authoress of "Victor's Choice," etc., will soon publish work of fiction, entitled "Barry O'Byrne."

Lawyers are like scissors, they never cut each other, but what is between them.

The Camden Bridge Company.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CAMDEN Bridge Company will be held in Camden on Monday the 28th. COLIN MACRAE, Secretary.

ROADS.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF ROADS FOR KERSHAW District will meet in Camden on the second Monday in January, at 11 o'clock. COLIN MACRAE, Clerk.

Negroes to Hire.

FIFTEEN LIKELY NEGROES—FIELD OR TURPENTINE hands—will be hired at the plantation of William Kirkland, deceased, on the first Monday in January next. Terms will be made known on day above mentioned. JOHN KIRKLAND.

Liverpool Salt.

FIFTY SACKS GENUINE LIVERPOOL SALT on Consignment and for sale by Dec. 11—10th. MATHEWSON & CO.

Notice.

ALL PARTIES HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST the Commissary Department for HIDEES will come forward and receive them. I am now prepared to settle all claims. Apply to J. F. SUTHERLAND, dec 14—3rd. 3w. Supt. C. S., at Magazine Hill.

For Sale.

A NO. 1 COOK WASHER AND IRONER. ALSO, another superior, if possible, to the other—she has one child. For particulars apply to December 16—1f D. D. HOCOTT.