NINETEENTH CENTURY NOTES

Newsletter of the Nineteenth Century Committee Society for American Baseball Research

December 1991

Frederick Ivor-Campbell, compiler

CIVIL WAR PARTICIPANTS IN THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Compiled by Richard A. Puff

THOMAS HENRY "TOM" BERRY. Born Dec. 31, 1842, Chester Pa.; died Jan 6, 1915, Chester, Pa. Played one game with 1871 Athletics.

HENRY W. "HARRY" BERTHRONG. Born Jan 1, 1844, Mumford, N.Y.; died Apr. 28, 1928, Chelsea, Mass. Played 17 games for 1871 Olympics.

OSCAR BIELASKI. Born Mar. 21, 1847, Washington, D.C.; died Nov. 8, 1911, Washington, D.C. Played 1872-75, NA; 1876 Chicago, NL. Served with 11th N.Y. Cavalry; discharged Sep. 1864.

WILLIAM H. "BILL" CRAVER. Born 1844, Trov. N.Y.; died Jun. 17, 1901, Troy, N.Y. Played 1871-75, NA; 1876, New York, NL; 1877, Louisville, NL; banned from baseball 1877. Enlisted Jan. 21, 1864 with Co. K, 13th Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery, as a private. Honorably discharged Jun. 28, 1865, at Norfolk, Va.

CHARLES JOHN "CHICK" FULMER. Born Feb. 12, 1851, Philadelphia, Pa.; died Feb. 15, 1940, Philadelphia, Pa. Played 1871-75, NA; 1876, Louisville, NL; 1879-80, Buffalo, NL; 1882-84, Cincinnati, AA; 1884, St. Louis, AA. Drummer boy with a Philadelphia unit.

WINFIELD SCOTT "SCOTT" HASTINGS. Born Aug. 10, 1846, Hillsboro, Ohio; died Aug. 14, 1907, Sawtelle, Calif. Played 1871-75 NA; 1876, Louisville, NL; 1877 Cincinnati, NL. Co. B, 145th Illinois Volunteers.

NATHANIEL WOODHULL HICKS. Born Apr. 19, 1845, Hempstead, N.Y.; died Apr. 21, 1907, Hoboken. N.J. Played 1872-75, NA; 1876, New York, NL; 1877, Cincinnati, NL. In Army (?) 1861-65.

CALEB CLARK JOHNSON. Born May 23, 1844, Fulton, Ill.; died Mar. 7, 1925, Sterling, Ill. Played 1871, Cleveland.

ALPHONSE CASE "PHONNEY" MARTIN. Born Aug. 4, 1845, New York, N.Y.; died May 24, 1933, Hollis, N.Y. Played 1872, Troy and Eckford; 1873, Mutual. Served with Zouaves.

ALBERT GEORGE PRATT. Born Nov. 19, 1848, Allegheny, Pa.; died Nov. 21, 1937, Pittsburgh, Pa. Played 1871-72, Cleveland.

NICHOLAS E. "NICK" YOUNG. NL secretary-treasurer 1876-1902; fourth NL president 1884-1902; cofounder of NA, secretary NA, 1871-75; manager, Olympic and Washington, NA. Served with the 3rd Army, New York regiment.

GEORGE ZETTLEIN. Born Jul. 18, 1844, Brooklyn, N.Y.; died May 23, 1905, Patchogue, N.Y. Played 1871-75, NA; 1876 Athletic, NL. Served with Farragut in New Orleans.

NEWS BRIEFS

PROGRESS REPORTED IN NA BOX SCORE PROJECT

BOB TIEMANN HAS COMPLETED all but a few 1872 box scores, and Bob Richardson has completed all but a handful of 1873 boxes. Compilation of the season statistics will begin soon, although final results will wait until box scores have been located for the following 1872 games for which Stagno could not find boxes:

at Washington: May 25, National vs. Mansfield at Middletown: June 19, Mansfield vs. Baltimore

June 22, Mansfield vs. Eckford

at Brooklyn:

Sep. 25, Atlantic vs. Eckford

Oct. 5, Eckford vs. Mutual

STARS SEQUEL UNDER WAY

BY MID-DECEMBER, more than forty SABRites had offered their services to the Nineteenth Century Committee project that will produce a sequel to SABR's acclaimed 1989 publication, Nineteenth Century Stars. Among the stars to be featured in this new volume of brief biographies (which has been given the working title More Nineteenth Century Stars), are all thirty-nine nineteenth century Hall of Famers. For some of the old-time stars, though, the five hundred words devoted to them in MNCS may be the most that has been written about them in this century.

As they did for the original volume, Bob Tiemann will provide year-by-year stats for all players, and Mark Rucker will design the book and select portraits of the biographees. Fred Ivor-Campbell serves as project editor.

LLOYD JOHNSON NEW SABR PRESIDENT

AFTER A COUPLE of false starts, SABR has elected a new president: Nineteenth Century Committee member Lloyd Johnson, an expert on Syracuse baseball. For More

Nineteenth Century Stars, Johnson will write the biography of the Syracuse Stars' star pitcher, Harry McCormick.

IVOR-CAMPBELL NAMED COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

FRED IVOR-CAMPBELL, a member of the Nineteenth Century Committee since its formation in 1983, has been appointed to share the committee chair with Bob Tiemann. He will prepare and distribute the committee newsletter, which he plans to issue three or four times per year.

LANSCHE BOOK NOMINATED FOR "CASEY"

GLORY FADES AWAY, SABRite Jerry Lansche's history of nineteenth century World Series, is one of ten finalists competing for Spitball magazine's 1991 Casey award, given to the author and publisher of the year's best baseball book. Glory Fades Away is this year's only Casey finalist with a nineteenth century focus. Last year's winner, Harold Seymour's Basehall: The People's Game, traces the history of non-professional baseball thematically from the game's earliest years to the 1940s. The winner of the 1991 award will be announced January 4.

LITTLE BARLOW AND HIS LITTLE BAT

Robert L. Tiemann

Diminutive Tom Barlow was the first great bunter of the National Association era. Using the smallest bat in the league, the speedy Barlow would tap the ball across the foul line and leg it to first safely. Once on safely, he was an accomplished baserunner. The box score below is of perhaps his best game. In it he had four bunt singles and was out trying for another. His stolen bases included a steal of home in the fifth inning, but it was his caught stealing that really caused some comment. With Jack Burdock on ahead of him at second, Barlow lit out from first and naturally drew a throw. But he was able to stay in the rundown long enough for Burdock to come all the way around to score.

Alas, the Stagno box scores do not have enough detail to produce accurate stolen base totals for the years 1872-1875, so we will not have career figures for Barlow's steals.

Wed., Aug. 7, 1872, Capitoline Grounds, Brooklyn

ATLANTIC

	ab	r	h	bi	bb	so	o	a	e
Remsen, cf	5	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	1
Burdock, ss	4	1	1	. 1	1	0	1	2	1
Barlow, c	5	2	4	0	0	0	3	0	0
Ferguson, 3b	5	1	3	0	0	0	3	2	2
Dehlman, 1b	5	1:	1 .	. 0	0	1	10	0	2
Britt, p	. 5	3	3	1	0	0	0	2	0
Bevans, 2b	4	1:	0.	1.	1	0	2	2	3
Thake, If				1		1	3		0
Brown, rf	5 .	0 .	0	0	0	O	1	0	0
Totals	43	10	13	. 4	2	2	27	8	9

BALTIMORE

			ab	I	h		bi	bb	so	o	a	e
Radcliffe, s	s		6	1	2		0	0	0	2	3	0
Craver, 2b			6	1	2		0	0	0	1	3	2
Higham, c			5	0	0		0	0	0	8	2	3
Pike, 3b			5	2	2	-	1	0	0	0	3	0
Fisher, rf			4	2	1		2	0	0	1	0	0
York, lf			4	1	0		0	0	0	3	0	0
Mills, 1b			5	1	1		1	0	0	11	1	1
Hall, cf			4	0	2		0	0	0	1	0	0
Mathews, p			4	0	1		1	0	0	0	2	1
Totals		•	43	8	11	į	5	0	0	27	14	7
Atlantic	1	0	1	l	0	1	3	3	3	0	1	=10
Baltimore	5	0	(0	0	1	() (9	2	0	= 8
		ip	ŀ	1	r-er		bŀ) SC	v	νp		
Britt (W)		9	8		8-2		0	. 0) - (Õ		
Mathews L)		9	13	3	10-4		2	2		2		
PB: Barlow, Higham												

LOB: Atlantic 8, Baltimore 8

DP: Bevans-Dehlman [Higham GIDP]

Base on Error: Atlantic 4 (Ferguson, Dehlman, Bevans, Remsen); Baltimore 8 (Radcliffe 2, Craver, Pike, Fisher,

York 2, Hall)

2B: Radcliffe, Pike, Thake

3B: Pike

SB: Barlow 2, Craver

CS: Barlow. Picked Off: Hall

Time: 2:05 Attendance: 750 Umpire: Charles Mills

STOLEN BASES IN THE 19TH CENTURY **RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS**

By Robert L. Tiemann

Like many other baseball statistics, the stolen base stat was invented to measure a tactic that had been used widely on the field for some time. Stolen bases were a part of offensive strategy by the end of the 1860s, but they were not tabulated until 1886, so we will probably never get a true statistical picture of the stealing propensities of early base-running stars like Jim O'Rourke and George Gore, who were great basestealers early in their careers but had slowed down considerably by 1886, get shortchanged in the analysis of the numbers at hand.

Equally vexing is the lack of uniformity in crediting steals during the pre-1900 era. This article will briefly discuss the scoring rules used during the era and some of the major discrepancies in season totals that resulted.

The first rule on stolen bases, adopted by the American Association in 1886 and picked up by the National League the following year, read: "bases stolen . . . shall include every base made after first base . . . by a base runner,

except those made by reason of, or with the aid of a battery error, or by batting, balks or by being forced off. In short, all bases made by a 'clean steal' . . ."

This was generally interpreted to mean that if the pitch got away from the catcher, there would be no stolen base credited, even if the runner had already started to steal. So the next year the rule was expanded to specifically give the runner a steal if he had started for a base and there was a battery error or an error on the throw to head him off. This 1888 rule also gave the runner credit for a steal even if he was put out overrunning the base.

Most steals of the time were of the same type as today, i. e. a base advanced on a pitch that the batter did not hit. But by using the "by batting" clause, there were some scorers who gave steals on extra bases advanced on hits. Thus, some men would get a stolen base by going from first to third on a single. Runners would not be credited with a steal for this advance in every instance, since it still had to be a "clean steal," so only the more daring advances were credited. This leeway was very unevenly applied, however. For instance, the official American Association statistics for 1888 credit Harry Stovey of the Athletics with a whopping 156 stolen bases, the highest figure ever recorded. But the Information Concepts Incorporated project to produce the first Macmillan Baseball Encyclopedia, by relying on the scoring of Philadelphia newspapers, credits Stovey with only 87 steals. On the other hand, the official AA stats published for 1887 gave Hugh Nicol of Cincinnati 135 stolen bases, while the ICI researchers came up with a total of 138, most likely indicating that their favorite newspaper scorer also acted as official scorer in Cincy that year. The encyclopedias have accepted the official National League figures for the years 1887-1890 (with some exceptions and adjustments), but have thrown out all official AA figures.

The ambiguity about crediting extra bases advanced on hits was not officially addressed until 1893, when the scoring rules were amended to include the statement that a runner would get a stolen base by advancing an extra base on a hit or an out, "provided there is a possible chance or palpable attempt to retire him." This had little effect on the number of steals credited as a whole, since most scorers seem to have been using this criterion already. Although there are still many differences between the official league totals and the box score figures used in preparing the modern encyclopedias for the years 1893 through 1897, there aren't any differences as large as for the early AA stats.

Finally, in 1898, the rules were changed to abolish all steals for advancing an extra base on a hit or an infield out. However, some scorers continued to give credit for stolen bases if a runner made a daring advance after a fly out until 1904, when this door was specifically closed. And in 1909 the rule was further tightened to abolish the steal when a runner overslid the base and was put out or if he advanced on a double-steal attempt in which a teammate was put out.

Here are lists of nineteenth century players who are officially listed as having had 100 or more steals in a

season, and of the league leaders as published in the official league statistics at the end of the year:

gue statis	tics at the end	of the	уеаг:		410 ()
Steals					Steals
(Official)	Player	Year	League	Club	(Ency)
156	Stovey	1888	AA	Ath	87
143	Stovey	1887	AA	Ath	74
142	Latham	1887	AA	StL	129
136	Stovey	1890	PL	Bos	97
135	Nicol	1887	AA	Cin	138
124	Latham	1888	AA	StL	109
122	Comiskey	1887	AA	StL	117
121	Browning	1887	AA	Lou	103
121	Welch	1888	AA	Ath	95
118	Lyons	1887	AA	Ath	73
117	Hamilton	1889	AA	KC	111
115	Stovey	1889	AA	Ath	63
115	Hamilton	1891	NL	Phi	111
111	Ward	1887	NL	NY	111
110	Brown	1891	AA	Bos	106
109	McCarthy	1888	AA	StL	93
104	Nicol	1888	AA	Cin	103
103	O'Brien	1889	ÁA	Bkn	91
102	Fogarty	1887	NL	Phi	102
102	Hamilton	1890	NL	Phi	. 102
100	Lange	1896	NL	Chi	84
	National Leap	gue Stole	n Base Lead	ers	
Year	Official Ldr	SB	Ency Ldr	•	SB
1886	Andrews, Phi	56	(no	listing)	
1887	Ward, NY	111	Ward, N	Y	111
1888	Hoy, Was	82	Hoy, Wa	8	82
1889	Fogarty, Phi	99	Fogarty,	Phi	99
1890	Hamilton, Phi	102	Hamilton	, Phi	102 🐇
1891	Hamilton, Phi	115	Hamilton	, Phi	111
1892	Ward, Bkn	94	Ward, Bl	in .	88 : -
1893	Ward, Bkn	72	Brown, L	.ou	66
1894	Hamilton, Phi	99	Hamilton	, Phi	98
1895	Hamilton, Phi	95	Hamilton		97
1896	Lange, Chi	100	Kelley, B	al	87
1897	Lange, Chi	8,3	Lange, C	hi	73
1000	A .				

Amercian Association Stolen Base Leaders

Delahanty, Phi 58

Sheckard, Bal

66

78

1898

1899

Clarke, Lou

Sheckard, Bal

1886	Stovey, Ath 96	(no listing)
1887	Stovey, Ath 143	Nicol, Cin 138
1888	Stovey, Ath 156	Latham, StL 109
1889	Hamilton, KC 117	Hamilton, KC 111
1890	Welch, Ath/Bal 95	McCarthy, StL 83
1891	Brown, Bos 110	Brown, Bos 106

PLEASE WRITE

IN ORDER TO CONSTRUCT a more perfect newsletter, your eager compiler of Nineteenth Century Notes begs every member of the Nineteenth Century Committee to respond to one or more of the following questions. The topics overlap somewhat, but that's OK. Just put your responses in the categories that seem to you to fit best.

1. What books, monographs and articles devoted wholly or substantially to nineteenth century baseball have you found especially useful for research? What books, etc. have most increased your understanding of the nineteenth century game? I'd like to compile an annotated bibliography titled something like, "The Publications All Re-

searchers of Nineteenth Century Baseball Should Have at Their Fingertips, and Why." Send your choices, and the reasons you choose them.

- 2. Do you have a book or article about nineteenth century baseball nearing publication? If so, send the title, publisher, expected date of publication, and a line about the book's contents. (I'd be happy to hear from editors and publishers as well as authors.) See "Watch For . . . " in the adjacent column.
- 3. Have you recently published—or read—a book or article about nineteenth century baseball that you fear might be overlooked by potential readers? Send in its title, the title of the magazine or journal (if it's an article), and a brief (very brief) description of its contents. It would be useful, I think, for NCN to provide a regular listing of recently published items that deal with nineteenth century baseball, perhaps called "Have You Read . . . ?" You could also include in this category any completed but unpublished research projects that you would be willing to photocopy and send to interested readers.
- 4. What nineteenth century projects are you pursuing (other than committee projects like the NA Box Score Project and *More Nineteenth Century Stars*)? I don't think I'm alone in my perpetual interest in what other committee members are working on.
- 5. Have you research needs that other committee members might be able to help you with? Send them in and NCN will list them. (See "Help Wanted" below.)
- 6. Do you have research materials pertinent to nineteenth century baseball that you would like to share with others? Duplicate copies of books, guides, etc. that you'd like to swap or give away? Let me know. (No sale or auction items, please, with one exception: if you have copies of your own writings to sell, I'll list your nineteenth century baseball items.)
- 7. What needs to be done? What neglected aspects of nineteenth century baseball most need to be studied and researched? What out-of-print nineteenth century sources would you like to see reprinted? Your suggestions might spur others to help fill the gaps.
 - 8. What else would you like to see in NCN?

Surely there are enough stimuli here to jangle your letter-to-the-compiler fingers into action. But if not, I have one more question:

9. What do you think of this issue of NCN, and how would you improve it if you were compiler?

-Fred Ivor-Campbell

(Overwhelm me with mail at 21 Martin Street, Warren, RI 02885.)

HELP WANTED

RICH PUFF IS ASSEMBLING pre-1871 team rosters, and wants to hear from others who would be interested in working with him on the project.

He is also seeking additional information on the Civil War records (company, regiment, etc.) of the men listed in his article (page 1), plus information about other National Association players who fought in the war.

WATCH FOR . . .

FRANK J. WILLIAMS'S ARTICLE on Boston's 1891 Red Stockings, the American Association pennant winners, in Grandstand Baseball Annual 1991. This stat-laden piece will complement Williams's article on Boston's 1890 Reds (then in the Players' League) which appeared in GBA 1990. The Reds were one of only two teams in baseball history to win back-to-back pennants in different major leagues, and they did it in their only two seasons of existence!

Both Williams and Grandstand Baseball Annual's editor/publisher, Joseph M. Wayman, are members of SABR. GBAcan be ordered from P.O. Box 4203, Downey, CA 90241-1203.

THE ANCIENT HISTORY OF BASE BALL

[This erudite effort to trace baseball's lineage appeared on the editorial page of the seventh issue of Henry Chadwick's short-lived sports weekly, The Ball Players' Chronicle, July 18, 1867. Unsigned, it may have been written by Chadwick himself. But its prose is leaner than Chadwick's customary fare, and more scholarly in its employment of historical and literary reference. The viewpoint is Chadwick's, however, and if he didn't write the piece, he surely applauded its content.]

In the old days of the gallant Edward the Third, in the first half of the fourteenth century, there came into fashion, among the youths and children of England, a game called "barres," or bars, which consisted in running from one bar or barrier to another. It grew to be so popular that it at last became a nuisance, so that the barons of England, as they went to the Parliament House, were annoyed by the bands of children engaged in playing it. They were at last obliged to pass an act of Parliament which declared, in the quaint Norman French of the period, that nul entaunt ne autres ne jue a barres in the avenues which led to Westminster Palace. The name of this game was subsequently corrupted to "base," and two hundred years after Edward's day, Spenser, in his "Faery Queen," alluded to it as follows:

"So can they all as they had been at bace, They being chased that did others chace."

And Shakespeare, in his "Cymbeline," shows that he was familiar with its character, for he makes one of his characters say:

"He with two stripling lads more like to run
The country base, than to omit such slaughter."

Even now men frequently indulge in this pastime, and so late as 1770 there was a celebrated game of "bars" or "base" played in London, in the field behind Montague House, which has since been transformed into the British Museum. It was played between a select party of persons from Derbyshire and another from Cheshire, and was witnessed by all London. Derbyshire won, and a great quantity of money changed hands on the occasion. In the process of time, from a peculiarity in the method of playing

it, and to distinguish it from other games which had sprung out of it, it was called "prisoner's base," and as such still affords amusement to the children of England and America.

The skill in this game consisted simply in running with agility and swiftness, in such a way as not to be caught by the opposing party, from one "bar" or "base" to another. After a while somebody thought of uniting with it the game of ball, and thus formed the game of "rounders," "round ball," or "base ball." "Rounders" took its name from the fact that the players were obliged to run round a sort of circle of bases. The method of playing it is thus described in an English work:

"The game is played by first fixing five spots, called 'bases,' at equal distances of fifteen or twenty yards, forming a pentagon, and marked by a stone or hole. In the centre of this is another place (6),

.2 .5

called the seat,' where the 'feeder' stands to give or toss the ball to the one who has the bat, and who stands at (1) in diagram, called the 'home,' or house.' Two sides are chosen as in football, one of which goes in while the other is out, this being decided by tossing up the ball and scrambling for it, or by heads and tails, or any other fair mode. There should not be less than ten or twelve players in all, and twentyfour or thirty are not too many. The in-side begin by standing at the 'home,' one of them taking the bat, while the feeder, who is one of the out party, standing at his seat,' tosses (not throws) a ball at his knees, or thereabouts, after calling play. The rest of the out party are distributed over the field, round the outside of the pentagon. When the ball is thus given, the batsman's object is to hit it far and low over the field; and he is put out at once-first, if he fails to strike it; secondly, if he tips it and it falls behind him; thirdly, if it is caught before it falls to the ground, or after a single trap or rebound; or fourthly, if he is struck on the body after leaving the base, and while not standing at another base. The inplayer may refuse to strike for three balls consecutively; but if he attempts and fails, or if he does not strike at the fourth ball, he is out. The score is made by the in party as follows: Each player, after striking the ball, runs from his base to another, or to a second, third, fourth, or even all around, according to the distance he has hit the ball, and scores one for each base he touches; and if while running between the bases he is hit by the ball, he is put out. If the ball falls among nettles or other cover of the same kind, 'lost ball' may be cried by the out party, and four only can be scored. After one of the in party has hit the ball and dropped the bat, another takes his place, and, on receiving the ball as before, he strikes it or fails as the case may be. If the latter, he is put out: but the previous striker or strikers, if they are standing at their bases, are not affected by his failure. If the latter [he means "former"], he drops the bat like his predecessor, and runs round the pentagon also like him, being preceded by the previous strikers, and all being liable to be put out by a blow from the ball. The feeder is allowed to feign a toss of the ball, in the hope of touching some one of the players, who are very apt to leave their bases before the hit, in the hope of scoring an extra one by the manoeuvre. When only one of the sides is left in, the others being all put out, he may call for 'three fair hits for the rounder,' which are intended to give him and his side another innings if he can effect the following feat: The outs, with the feeder, stand as usual, the rest of the striker's side besides himself taking no part. The feeder then tosses the ball as usual, which the striker may refuse as often as he pleases; but if he strikes at it, he must endeavor to run completely round the pentagon once out of three times, he being allowed three attempts to do it in. If he is struck on the body, or caught, or if he falls in getting around, he and his party are finally out, and the other side go in again for another innings, but have not afterwards another such chance of

redeeming their play. The out field are disposed on the same principle as at cricket, part for slight trips, and the remainder for long balls, and catch, stop or return them just as in that game.*

This game of rounders first began to be played in England in the seventeenth century, and was the favorite ball game in the provinces until it was generally superseded by cricket at the close of the last century. It is still, however, occasionally practiced in remote localities. It was brought to our country by the early emigrants, and was called here "base ball" or "round ball." Sometimes the name of "town ball" was given to it, because matches were often played by parties representing different towns. But, so far as we know, the old English title of "rounders" was never used in America. The reason of this is that so many of our old New England settlers came from the eastern counties of England, where the term "rounders" appears never to have been used. In Moor's "Suffolk Words" he mentions among the ball games "base ball," while in the dialect glossaries of the northern and western counties no such word is to be found. English "base ball," or "rounders," was a mild and simple amusement compared with the American sport which has grown out of it. Even the hardy girls and women of England sometimes played it. Blaine, an English writer, says: "There are few of us, of either sex, but have engaged in base ball since our majority." Think of American ladies playing base ball! Yet the English "rounders" contained all the elements of our National game. All that it needed was systematizing and an authoritative code of rules. This it did not obtain until after 1840-and not completely until 1845. Previous to that date base ball was played with great differences in various parts of the country. Sometimes as many as six or seven bases were used; and very frequently lengthy disputes arose among the players as to the right method of conducting the game. It is a little noticeable that in laying down rules for base ball there is not one technical term that has been borrowed from cricket--a game long since reduced to a science. Of course the two sports, being both games of ball, necessarily have many terms in common, but there is not a base ball phrase which can be recognized as originating among cricketers. On the other hand, it is quite probable that cricket owed many of its peculiar words, such as "field," "fieldsman," "run," and "bat," to the older "rounders." In relation to the word "base," we may say that, in addition to the origin which we have givennamely, that it comes from a corruption of "bars" in the game styled "prison bars," or "prisoners' bars"-there is another somewhat plausible derivation. It has been suggested that as the object of each side in the game of "bars". was to keep the other party at bay, the places where they were so kept, that is the "bases," were styled "bays," of which "base" is a corruption. But this whole subject needs elucidation, and a careful study of the rural sports of the mother country would undoubtedly throw much light upon the history of base ball.

AN INVITATION: Submit your brief research article for possible publication in a forthcoming issue of Nineteenth Century Notes.

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