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THE PLACE-NAMES OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA

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Lee county lies in the southeastern corner of the state of Iowa, in the angle between the Des Moines and Mississippi rivers. It lies south of Henry and Des Moines counties and east of Van Buren County and the state of Missouri. Because of its situation Lee County is somewhat irregular in outline. It is approximately five sided, the Skunk, Mississippi, and Des Moines rivers marking the limits on three sides or more than three-fourths of the entire boundary of the county. For fifteen miles Lee County overlaps the state of Missouri and consequently it is the most southern of the counties of Iowa. The area is approximately 511 square miles. The length from north to south is 30 miles and from east to west 31 miles.

Lee County was created by an act of the First Legislative Assembly of Wisconsin Territory, approved December 7, 1836, with rather indefinite boundaries. The first election was held April 3, 1837. It was organized and the boundaries re-established by an act of the Second Legislative Assembly of Wisconsin Territory with the seat of justice at Fort Madison. The present boundaries were established by the First Legislative Assembly of Iowa Territory, by an act approved January 23, 1839.

In the January, 1841, meeting of the Board of County Commissioners most of the various townships were created and named and the boundaries established.

Settlement began in 1796 on the site of Montrose. The Indians relinquished possession in 1833 (June 1), prior to which there were few settlers but afterward immigration rapidly proceeded.

In the fall of 1836 the settlers of the unorganized district held a meeting on John Gaines' claim by the forks of the road six miles west of Keokuk. This meeting discussed the expediency of forming a new territory and proposed suitable names for the county. The names considered were Lee, Rapids, and Sprigg.¹

According to Dr. Isaac Galland, Lee County was named after

¹*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 9; *History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 333.

William E. Lee of the New York Land Company of Albany, New York. This company extensively operated in Lee County and Doctor Galland was the local agent. The claim has been made that the county was named for Lieutenant Robert E. Lee who surveyed the Des Moines Rapids, frequently given as in 1834, but according to Nicollet in 1838.² General Lee disclaimed any knowledge of the claim being true and it probably is not. During the Civil War the names of the counties of Iowa were discussed by the legislature and had it been known that any of them were supposedly unpatriotically named they would have been re-named. Albert M. Lea, also of the Confederate Army, after whom Albert Lea, Minnesota, was named, explored Iowa and published a book about the new country in 1836, claimed in after years that Lee County was named for him, the spelling being a clerical error. His claim, however, was disputed by General A. C. Dodge, Judge Edward Johnstone, and Hon. Daniel F. Miller, men who doubtless knew. Isaac Galland claimed that it was proposed to name the county after him but he waived the offer aside in favor of his New York friend. Albert M. Lea claimed he was present at the legislature when the bill was passed organizing the county and that the name was Lea in the original bill.³ The different claims may be reconciled or explained on the theory that the name of the person honored was not discussed and each member of the legislature who gave it any thought naturally supposed his particular friend was in mind. Also three different territorial legislatures, the first and second Wisconsin and the first Iowa, passed the organizing act with variations, thus adding to the confusion.

AH-WI-PE-TUK. A white man's approximation to the Sac and Fox Indian name for the commencement of the falls or cascades in the Mississippi River in the vicinity of Nashville. The Indian name means beginning of the falls, hence locally descriptive. The pioneer village at this place was for a time given the Indian name. Galland, in his *Iowa Emigrant*, 1840, p. 32, gives the name as Akwipetuk, possibly a typographical error.

ALLEN. The name of a rural school at the cross highways on the east side of section 7 of Des Moines Township, about a mile west of the village of Argyle. The school was named for W. S. Allen, a native of

²*Nicollet Report*, 1843, p. 24.

³*History of Lee County*, 1879, pp. 414-15.

Mason County, Kentucky, who came to Lee County, Iowa, in 1856 and became the owner of the land on which the schoolhouse was built. W. S. Allen died in the fall of 1865 and the farm passed to his son, William W. Allen, also a native of Mason County, Kentucky, born February 17, 1843.⁴

AMBROSE. The name of a rural school in the southern part of section 7 of Montrose Township, about four miles west of the village of Montrose. The schoolhouse was apparently named after the pioneer place Ambrosia situated at the crossroads about one-half mile west of the schoolhouse. The name of the school should be Ambrosia, not the present, corrupt form.

AMBROSIA. A pioneer place at the crossroads in the southwestern part of section 7 of Montrose Township. Ambrosia was the meeting place of the electors of Ambrosia Township where the first election was held in 1841. The place was still marked by *Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 84. Ambrosia is the feminine form of the Greek word *ambrosios*, lengthened form of *ambrotos*, meaning immortal, divine, by implication very beautiful; ambrosia in Greek and Roman mythology being the immortality-giving food of the gods. As a place-name Ambrosia is very rare if not unique. Saint Ambrose (340-397) was one of the celebrated fathers of the church.

The post office of Ambrosia, Iowa, was established August 15, 1840, with George W. Gee, postmaster, and discontinued April 13, 1842. It was re-established January 27, 1852, with John Darrah, postmaster, who was succeeded by John Denison, October 28, 1852. The office was finally discontinued May 21, 1857.

AMBROSIA. The name of a township which was created in January, 1841, by order of the Board of County Commissioners. It comprised the fractional part of township 66 north, ranges 4, 5, and 6 west. Ambrosia was named as the place for the first meeting of the electors. In July, 1841, the Board of County Commissioners divided Ambrosia Township with the creation of Montrose Township. On August 4, 1842, the county commissioners renamed the western half of old Ambrosia Township (which still bore the name Ambrosia) Des Moines, after the near-by river. Ambrosia Township received its name from its pioneer hamlet, Ambrosia.⁵

ARGYLE. A station on the Atchison, Topeka & Sante Fé Railway given on some maps as in the southern part of section 8 of Des Moines Township, at the cross highways. The correct location is at the cross highways on the western side of section 9. About ten places in the United States have the name Argyle, all of which directly or indirectly derive their names from the County Argyle on the west side of Scotland.

The post office of Argyle, Iowa, was established March 15, 1888, with

⁴*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 392.

⁵*History Lee County*, 1879, pp. 452-53.

the appointment of Thomas Moore, postmaster. His successors were Miss Clara Washburn, July 14, 1891; Joseph A. Silvers, October 22, 1891; Annie S. W. Pflitgerstofer, February 8, 1893; and Vandale Marsh, October 16, 1923, the present postmaster.

ASHLAND. The name of a rural school on the west side of section 25 of Montrose Township. The name apparently is for the native ash groves in the vicinity.

ATLEE. A station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad, in the northeastern part of section 12 of West Point Township. Later the name was changed to Edwards. The station was apparently named Atlee after John C. Atlee, a pioneer resident of Lee County. He came to Fort Madison in 1836, lived from 1841 to 1852 on a farm by Little Cedar Creek, Cedar Township, twenty-four miles from the city of Fort Madison. Returning to Fort Madison in 1852 he made his life work in the manufacture of lumber, in which he was very successful.⁶ He was also an active promoter of railroad construction. He was born in Maryland, March 22, 1816.⁷

AUGUSTA. The name of the bridge over Skunk River in the northeastern part of section 26 of Denmark Township, near the village of Augusta, Des Moines County, from which it receives its name. (See South Augusta.)

BALLINGER. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad near the southwestern corner of fractional section 30 (on the west bank of the Mississippi River) of Montrose Township. It was named for F. Ballinger, a pioneer resident and landowner of the vicinity, on whose farm the railway and station were located.⁸

BECK. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad on the south side of section 16 of Jefferson Township. It is also known as Beck Siding and Beck's Siding. The place was named for J. M. Beck who owned the southwest quarter of section 16, the site being in the southeastern corner of his farm.⁹ The United States soil map, 1916, locates the station on the north side of section 21. Joseph Marcus Beck was a native of Clermont County, Ohio, born April 21, 1823. He came to Lee County, Iowa, in 1847. He was a justice of the Supreme Court of Iowa, 1868-1891, and was four times chief justice, 1872-3, 1879, 1885, and 1891.¹⁰ He was president of the Fort Madison, Farmington & Western Railroad Company, active in its promotion, now a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system.

BELFAST. A station on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway (the old Des Moines Valley Railroad) by the Des Moines River, in the

⁶*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 221.

⁷*Biog. Review of Lee Co.*, 1905, p. 13.

⁸*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 84.

⁹*Ibid.*, p. 80.

¹⁰*History Lee County*, 1879, pp. 279, 726; *Portrait and Biog. Album Lee Co.*, 1887, pp. 518-19.

southwestern part of the west section 1 of Des Moines Township, the site being located on the Walsh heirs' estate.¹¹ The place was doubtless directly or indirectly named for Belfast, in the County of Antrim, Ireland. The United States soil map, 1916, gives the station on the railway in the southeastern part of section 2. The name Belfast is probably from the Gaelic *Bel-feirsde*, the fort of the far sept (clan) or sand-bank. Belfast, county seat of Waldo county, Maine, is the most important place in the United States with this name. Other places are villages in Arkansas, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

The post office of Belfast, Iowa, was established June 17, 1858, with Joshua F. Hancock, postmaster. His successors were: Anthony Longer, October 30, 1863; and J. R. Cox, June 15, 1871, under whom the office was discontinued, April 28, 1873. The office was re-established, August 11, 1874, with Jesse M. Matthews, postmaster. His successors were: Albert A. Banta, January 17, 1883; Jesse W. Matthews, May 27, 1884; James P. Starr, August 25, 1892; Charles H. Davidson, January 31, 1894; Henry Rider, March 21, 1895; James P. Starr, May 5, 1898; Celona B. Monks, April 10, 1905; Henry Rider, November 24, 1906; Margaret B. Stanton, January 7, 1919; and George W. Schenk, April 17, 1922, under whom the office was discontinued, October 31, 1925.

BENBOW. A station on the Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in the center of section 7 of Washington Township. It was named for J. W. Benbow, a landowner, on whose farm the station was located. The platted village, however, is over the highway east from the farm.¹²

BENTON. The name of a rural school at the forks of the highway on the south side of section 2 of Jefferson Township, about three miles west of the city of Fort Madison. This and the following school were doubtless so named by admirers of Thomas Hart Benton (1782-1858), for many years (1821-1851) senator from Missouri, a man very prominent in political activities.

BENTON. The name of a rural school on the west side of section 8 of Harrison Township, about three miles northwest of Primrose.

BERLIN. The name of a rural school on the east side of section 20 of Harrison Township, two miles west of the village of Primrose. It was apparently so named as a compliment to the German settlers in the vicinity.

BIG BRIDGE. The locally descriptive name for a bridge over a little run in the southwest central part of section 21 of Montrose Township.¹³ The unusual size of the bridge suggested the name.

BIG DEVIL CREEK. The name given to the creek formed by the confluence of Sugar Creek and Little Devil Creek near the middle of section 15 of Jefferson Township, running southeast to the sloughs of the

¹¹*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 88.

¹²*Ibid.*, p. 44.

¹³*Ibid.*, p. 84.

Mississippi River in the southeast corner of section 23 of the same township. On some of the early maps the name is Manitou Creek. The name, as usually given, is derived from the Sac and Fox Indian name of the stream, Mon-i-tou-ke-suth, evil spirit. This was translated as Devil Creek and the prefix "Big" added by way of contradistinction to one of the branches named in the same way as Little Devil Creek.¹⁴ The Sac and Fox Indian name is also given as Che-wa-lis-ki Man-i-tou Se-po, Evil Spirit River, and the transition to Devil Creek is easy. "It takes its name of Manitou, or Devil Creek, from its impetuosity in freshet, and from its quicksands and rafts which render it frequently difficult of passage. It is very uneven in its supply of water, having almost no current in dry weather."¹⁵

BIG LAKE. The locally descriptive name to an oblong lake, the remnant of a river slough, on the eastern side of Green Bay Township, in sections 18, 25, and 24.¹⁶

BIG MOUND. An inland place at the common corner of sections 19, 20, 29, and 30 of Cedar Township. A store and post office were early established. The place was named after a big mound in the vicinity.¹⁷ The name, Big Mound, was given to the vicinity by the pioneers before there was a village projected.

The post office of Big Mound, Iowa, was established March 12, 1852, with Marcus Gill, postmaster. His successors with their appointments were: Eli H. Heaton, June 11, 1853; William Perdeu, July 25, 1854; John Riggs, March 8, 1855; Marcus Gill, June 27, 1855; C. B. Washburn, December 9, 1856; Iona Coffindoffer, April 24, 1857; Andrew Jackson Shaw, April 30, 1861; Johnson Davies, September 3, 1862; Jane Coffindoffer, September 12, 1863; John Sivil, April 24, 1866; Mary J. Montgomery, December 20, 1866; Charles F. Blair, April 20, 1868; Henry V. Evans, July 7, 1871; H. W. Wright, September 25, 1877; Helen M. Sivil, September 30, 1878; John Sivil, December 29, 1888. The office was discontinued March 31, 1903.

BIG SLOUGH. A locally descriptive name for an arm or bayou of the Mississippi River in the southeastern part of Jefferson Township, running between Lower Castro and Nickerson islands.

BIG SLOUGH. A locally descriptive name for a bayou of the Mississippi River, on the east side of Green Bay Township, running from near the mouth of Skunk River southwestward about three miles to the Mississippi River.¹⁸

BIRCH. The name of a rural school in the southeastern part of section 27 of Charleston Township, about a mile and a half south of the village of Charleston. It was apparently so named from the grove of birch (*Betula nigra*) trees in the vicinity.

¹⁴*Ibid.*, p. 9.

¹⁵*Notes on Wisconsin Territory*, by A. N. Lea, 1836, p. 26.

¹⁶*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 36.

¹⁷*Ibid.*, p. 20; *History Lee Co.*, 1879, p. 405.

¹⁸*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 36.

BLONDEAU. The name of a street in the city of Keokuk. It was named for Maurice Blondeau, an early French settler in the vicinity.

BLOODY RUN. The name of a small creek emptying into the Mississippi River within the corporate limits of the city of Keokuk.¹⁹

BLUFF SIDING. A locally descriptive name for a station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in the northeastern corner of section 20 of Washington Township.

BOSTON. See New Boston.

BRIDGEPORT. The name of a bridge over Skunk River near the center of section 7 of Denmark Township. The name is locally descriptive.

BRICKER. A station on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fé Railway in or near section 29 of Jefferson Township. The place was apparently named for J. E. Bricker, an early and large landowner in the vicinity.

BROWN'S TAVERN. A pioneer inn on the divide and on the northeast side of the cross highways in the southeastern part of section 8 of Montrose Township. It was apparently named for C. Brown, the owner of the land.²⁰ The place is in the immediate vicinity of Mount Clara.

BRUSEAU CREEK. The name of a small stream near the upper side of the early village of Keokuk. It was named for Peter Bruseau, a Frenchman, who dwelt in a log cabin by the stream.²¹

BUENA VISTA. A place near the Des Moines River, on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway on the west side of section 34 of Jackson Township, immediately west of the environs of the city of Keokuk. The name is Spanish for beautiful view, and is locally descriptive.

BULLARD. A station on the old Chicago, Burlington & Kansas City Railroad (now a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system) in the northeast central part of section 12 of Jefferson Township. The name is also given as Bullards. The place was named after James Bullard who, with his father, Theophilus, was a pioneer and resident of the vicinity.²² The United States soil map, 1916, locates the station on the east side of section 11.

BUTTON BRANCH. A small stream rising in the northern part of section 23 of Harrison Township, runs southwest through the village of Primrose to a west branch of Sugar Creek, known as Little Sugar Creek, in the northern or northeastern part of section 27 of the same township.²³ The name is doubtless for the button-bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) which grows along the stream.

CAMARGO. The name of a pioneer post office established, January 15, 1852, later changed to Vincennes, which see. The name directly or indirectly derives from Camargo, a village in the province of Santander,

¹⁹*History of Lee Co.*, 1879, pp. 323-24, 335.

²⁰*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 84.

²¹*History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 498.

²²*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 412.

²³*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, pp. 64, 69.

lying on the north coast of Spain. A town with the name Camargo is near the Rio Grande in the northeastern part of Mexico. Villages or hamlets with the name occur in Illinois, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

CAMMACKVILLE. An early post office in the southwestern part of section 12 of Cedar Township.²⁴ Andreas spells the name with one "m." The office was named after a local resident. At least three landowners with the name Cammack lived in the near vicinity in sections 5 and 8 of Marion Township.²⁵

The post office of Cammackville, Iowa, was established November 8, 1869, with Moses A. Conklin, postmaster. He was succeeded by C. A. Wolf, April 7, 1875, the last postmaster. The name of the office was changed to White Lane, May 10, 1875, and discontinued, May 31, 1876.

CEDAR. This township lies in the northwest corner of Lee County, west of Marion and north of Harrison townships. It comprises congressional township 69 north, range 7 west. Settlement began about 1836. The township was sectionized in 1837 and the land placed on the market in 1838-39. It was named for the Little Cedar Creek which courses through the township. The township was created on petition by order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular meeting in July, 1844, as a partition of old Harrison Township.

CENTER. A rural school at the cross highways in the northwest corner of section 22 of Cedar Township has this name. The name is locally descriptive as the schoolhouse is in the geographical center of the township, being three miles from each of the four sides.

CHARLESTON. This township lies in the west central part of Lee County, south of Franklin, west of Jefferson, north of Des Moines, and east of Van Buren townships. It comprises congressional township 67 north, range 6 west. Settlement began along Sugar Creek in 1834. The township was created on petition by the Board of County Commissioners at the regular session held in January, 1844, the east and west halves being partitions respectively from the original townships of Jefferson and Van Buren.²⁶ The township was probably named after Charleston, South Carolina. This southern city was formerly called Charles Town and was so named in honor of Charles II of England.

CHARLESTON. A village in the east central part of section 22 of Charleston Township on the old Keokuk & Northwestern (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad. It was laid out by Jacob Hupford, March 5, 1849, long before the advent of the railway. The village was doubtless named after the township in which it is situated, created in 1844.

The post office of Charleston, Iowa, was established under the name

²⁴*Ibid.*, p. 20.

²⁵*Ibid.*, p. 24.

²⁶*History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 453.

of Prairie House, a locally descriptive name, March 30, 1843, with Robert B. Robinson, postmaster. His successors were: Woodville M. Andrews, January 14, 1846; Godfrey Eichhom, August 10, 1848; and John Boreland, May 14, 1849. The name of the office was changed to Charleston, May 1, 1850, with the appointment of James T. Blair, postmaster. His successors were: John Crippin, April 18, 1853; Peter M. London, November 2, 1857; George W. Browning, April 20, 1861; Aaron Ball, October 12, 1866; Peter M. Lowdon, January 18, 1867; George W. Browning, January 12, 1869; Charles W. McHughe, March 22, 1869; J. D. Anderson, September 15, 1871; William M. Bassett, January 10, 1876; Archie Vermazen, December 31, 1885; William M. Bassett, March 28, 1889; Gawen R. Wolfenbarger, July 12, 1889; Archie Vermazen, July 25, 1893; and Louis A. Bassett, August 21, 1897, the present postmaster.

CLAY'S GROVE. A pioneer locality in Marion Township²⁷ where the first store for the township was kept by Mr. Harlan, opened as early as 1838. In 1879 the post office was in the southeastern part of section 29 with J. A. Williamson, storekeeper and postmaster.²⁸ A church and two or three farm dwellings still indicate the vicinity. The post office known as Clay's Grove was established January 6, 1857, with Wesley Harrison, postmaster. His successors were: Josiah R. Lunn, October 7, 1857; William W. Robertson, March 15, 1858; Edward Courtright, October 22, 1860; James Hallowell, December 2, 1861. The office was discontinued, March 18, 1863. It was re-established, January 20, 1868, with Berry Wilcoxson, and he was succeeded by John A. Williamson, January 5, 1872, who served until the office was finally discontinued, May 21, 1892.

COLUMBIA. The name of a rural school near the cross highways on the west side of section 13 of Van Buren Township, nearly half way between Croton and Donnellson.

CONNABLES. A station on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific (the old Des Moines Valley) Railway in the northeast corner of section 3 of Des Moines Township. It was named for Albert Lee Connable, a prominent landowner of the vicinity,²⁹ and a leading business man of Keokuk.³⁰ He was born in Massachusetts, August 10, 1811, came to Iowa in 1842, and to Lee County in 1849.³¹ He died April 15, 1894.

COTTONWOOD. A station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad, on the east side of section 10 of Cedar Township. It was doubtless named after a grove of cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) trees in the vicinity.

The post office of Cottonwood, Iowa, was established September 15, 1882, with John W. Middaugh, postmaster. His successors were: Jacob

²⁷*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 24.

²⁸*History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 805.

²⁹*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 88.

³⁰*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 427.

³¹*Biog. Review of Lee Co.*, 1905, p. 476.

R. Syphers, September 4, 1888; Frank Schubert, July 28, 1892; Joseph E. Freetly, July 6, 1898; Lizzie Freetly, April 27, 1901; Frank Schubert, March 31, 1903; and L. F. Gaibel, April 4, 1914, the present postmaster.

COURTRIGHT. The name of a post office established March 28, 1881, later changed to Mount Hamill, which see. The name of the office was in honor of Archibald L. Courtright, a prominent citizen of Lee County and the former owner of the land on which the village of Hamill is situated.³²

CROTON. A village on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway, in the southwestern part of section 20 of Van Buren Township, on the Des Moines River, opposite Athens, Clark County, Missouri. It was laid out by Lewis Coon, July 3, 1849. The Iowa village was doubtless named for Croton River or the village, Croton Falls, Westchester County, New York, on its banks. Croton Falls was named for the river. The Croton River was named for an Indian chief whose name is variously given as Kenoton, Knoten, or Noton, meaning "the wind."

The post office of Croton, Iowa, was established January 15, 1852, with the appointment of Joseph B. Stewart, postmaster. His successors were: G. C. Beaman, September 6, 1852; Ensign B. Wells, March 20, 1854; Ellsworth B. Northrup, July 23, 1862; Samuel Saltzgaver, January 2, 1863; Minerva Briggs, August 29, 1870; Otto H. Saltzgaver, October 21, 1896; Adaline Harlan, July 11, 1901; Winfield Scott, May 5, 1910; Adaline Harlan, December 20, 1910; Viola A. Batten, April 6, 1912; Winfield Scott, December 13, 1915; and Adaline Saltzgaver, October 25, 1917, the present postmaster.

DEEDS. The name of a small creek which rises in the southeastern part of section 19 of Denmark Township and runs northeast to Skunk River in section 8. The stream was named for Epps Deeds who owned land along it.³³

DENMARK. This township lies on the northeast side of Lee County, south of the Skunk River, west of Green Bay, north of Washington, and east of Pleasant Ridge townships. It comprises the fractional part of congressional township 69 north, range 4 west, which lies south of the Skunk River. Settlement began in 1833 with John O. Smith, who settled in the vicinity of the site of Denmark, later becoming its postmaster. Apparently the township was named after its pioneer village, Denmark. The civil township was created by order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841. The original area of the township was fractional township 69 north, range 4 west, west of the north and south line dividing sections 33 and 34, and fractional township 69 north, range 5 west, thus including the area later known as Pleasant Ridge Township. At the regular meeting in January, 1843,

³²*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 20; *History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 732.

³³*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 37.

the Board of County Commissioners re-established the township with its present limits.

DENMARK. A pioneer, inland town, the site of which comprised about a section, laid out around the common corner of sections 28, 29, 32, and 33 of Denmark Township. The village site was platted in 1836 and was named by John Edwards who was on a visit from New Hampshire. The early settlers about the village were from New Hampshire, most of whom came in 1835-36. The present village is mostly confined to sections 28 and 29. The name is doubtless directly or indirectly for the kingdom in Europe.

The post office of Denmark, Iowa, was established, April 7, 1846, with the appointment of Reuben Brackett, postmaster. His successors were: Hartwell J. Taylor, March 31, 1849; Edwin Alvord, January 17, 1854; John D. Smith, December 10, 1857; Earl D. Alvord, December 6, 1858; Joseph E. Ingalls, November 14, 1859; Earl D. Alvord, January 23, 1860; Joseph E. Ingalls, May 10, 1861; John O. Smith, June 30, 1875; George L. Epps, March 19, 1880; Edward Whitmarsh, November 20, 1883; William H. Babcock, July 10, 1886; Joseph E. Ingalls, December 20, 1888; Cynthia A. Smith, July 25, 1893; William N. Blackinton, February 17, 1899; and Charles W. Flint, September 14, 1914, the present postmaster.

DENVER. The name given in *Andreas' Atlas of Iowa*, 1875, for the post office in the southeastern part of section 8 of Franklin Township. Apparently a typographical error for Dover, the correct name.

DES MOINES. This township lies on the southwest side of Lee County, south of Charleston and west of Montrose townships and east and north of the Des Moines River. It comprises the fractional part of congressional township 66 north, range 6 west, which lies east of the Des Moines River, with small additions on the south and west sides. The township was named after the Des Moines River which forms most of the boundary of the west and south sides. The township was given its present name on August 4, 1842, at a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. The previous name was Ambrosia.

DES MOINES. The Des Moines River forms the southwestern boundary of Lee County, separating it from the state of Missouri. It enters the Mississippi River at the southern point of the county, near the village of Buena Vista, about three miles southwest of the city of Keokuk.

The origin of the name of the river according to Nicollet is as follows: Marquette and Joliet found the settlements of Illinois Indians in the vicinity. The Indian name of the settlements was Mouin-gouinas, or Moingona, as usually designated on old maps. This name is a corruption of the Algonquian Mikonang, meaning "at the road." This was an allusion to the road between the head of the rapids of the Mississippi River and their settlements on the Des Moines River. This name Moingona was adopted by the French explorers who shortened it to

la rivière des Moins (the river of the Moins). *Aller chez les Moins*, to go to the Moins (people). Later the name was associated with the Trappist Monks (*Moines de la Trappe*) who dwelt on the Indian mounds of the American bottom. This caused *rivière des Moins* to be read *rivière des Moines* which in English became the Des Moines River.³⁴

"DES MOINES. This name was given to this stream by the French traders, and it is interpreted 'The Monks' River.' The [approximate Fox] Indian name, however, is 'Ke-o-shaw-quā;' the origin of which they account for, as follows, to wit: They say, that when their ancestors first explored this country, they found, residing on the bank of the river, an old man without family or human companion, and that his name was Ke-o-shaw-quā; hence they called it Keoshawquā's river. The French seem also to have had a view to the same circumstance, when regarding this lonely inhabitant as a recluse, they named it (*La rivière Des Moines*,) or 'The river of Monks'."³⁵

DES MOINES RAPIDS. The name given on Lea's map (1836) and Nicollet's map (1843) to the rapids in the Mississippi River by the site of Nashville, later known as Galland. The Sac and Fox Indian name of the falls was Ah-wi-pe-tuk. The Des Moines Rapids were so named because they are situated near the mouth of the Des Moines River, extending from Keokuk to Montrose, a distance of about eleven miles.

DEVIL CREEK. See Big Devil Creek and Little Devil Creek.

DOANTOWN. See Russellville.

DONNELSON. A village in the southwestern part of section 33 and extending into section 32 of Franklin Township, at the junction of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad with the old Keokuk & Northwestern (now also a part of the Burlington system). The fair grounds for Lee County were located in the vicinity in 1870 and adjoin the north side of the village site. The village was named for William A. Donnell, the leading citizen of the vicinity, who platted the village in 1871. He was born near Greensboro, Guilford County, North Carolina, March 21, 1816. He became a resident of Lee County in 1838 or 1839. In 1842 he was sergeant-at-arms of the Iowa Senate, later deputy sheriff of Lee County, and in 1872-1874 a member of the Board of County Supervisors.³⁶

The post office of Donnellson, Iowa, was established December 8, 1871, with William R. Donnell, postmaster. He was succeeded by Herman A. Eymann, December 12, 1876; John B. Weir, December 22, 1876; William P. Davis, November 14, 1881; George W. Mattern, January 8, 1883; Herman A. Eymann, March 15, 1883; Adam Wiegner, January 18, 1886; Lewis M. Walters, November 26, 1889; Lewis Walter, December 13, 1889; William E. Bell, December 7, 1893; Henry A. Wykoff, January 12,

³⁴Nicollet's Report, 1843, pp. 22-23.

³⁵Galland's Iowa Emigrant, 1840, p. 12.

³⁶Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co., 1887, p. 227; Biog. Review of Lee Co., 1905, p. 365.

1894; Lew Walter, December 31, 1897; Chris Haffner, August 17, 1914; and Clara Bentzinger, February 16, 1925, the present postmaster.

Andreas Atlas, 1874, p. 60, gives the early post office as Donnell, which name is apparently unofficial.

DOVER. A former rural post office in the southeast corner of section 8 of Franklin Township, at the crossroads. It was probably named for Dover, Delaware. Some of the early settlers were from New Jersey, near Dover.

The previous name of the post office was Tuscarora which was changed to Dover, January 6, 1853, with the appointment of Edward A. Dickey, postmaster. The successors were: Mrs. Barbara Dickey, appointed November 15, 1864; and Mary R. Dickey, June 1, 1896. The office was discontinued, August 15, 1903.

DRY CREEK. A small stream rising in section 29 of Washington Township, runs south through the western addition of Fort Madison to the Mississippi River, a short distance east of Shopton. The name is locally descriptive of the stream, there being no running water except during or shortly after rain.

DUPONT POWDER WORKS. These works are located in or near the northwestern part of section 16 of Jackson Township, about four miles northwest of the city of Keokuk, and connected by a spur with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. The name is for the company which owns the property.

EAST CEDAR. The name of a rural school at the cross highways in the southwest corner of section 3 of Cedar Township. The name is locally descriptive as the school is in Cedar Township and east of Little Cedar Creek. The school is also at the headwaters of the east branch of Little Cedar Creek.

EDWARDS. A station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad, in the northeastern part of section 12 of West Point Township. It was apparently named for Joseph Edwards, a landowner in the vicinity.³⁷ An older name of the place was Atlee.

FAIRVIEW. The name of a rural school in the northwestern part of section 21 of Montrose Township. As the school is out of the woods and on the open prairie the name is locally descriptive.

FAIRVIEW. A locally descriptive name for a rural school on the east side of section 2 of Harrison Township, about three miles northeast of Primrose. As the school is on the high ground of the prairie the name is appropriate.

FORT DES MOINES. A fort erected in 1834 on the Mississippi River on or near the site of Montrose and in the vicinity of the Des Moines Rapids, presumably after which it was named. Lea's *Notes*, 1836,

³⁷*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 56.

p. 35, says: "Fort Des Moines. There is good landing here, a fine site for a town, and some good farming lands around. Being situated just at the head of the rapids, it is the most convenient place for the larger boats to change their freight to and from the smaller boats that take it over the rapids. It is said to have been the site of an old French village; and there are some remains of such a settlement. This spot is at present occupied by a detachment of the United States Dragoons; but it is probable that the post will soon be abandoned; and then it will be subject to occupation, as are other Half-breed lands." His map marks the place as "Fort des Moines."

FORT MADISON. This city, one of the county seats of Lee County, is situated on the western (locally the northern) bank of the Mississippi River, covering the eastern portion of Madison Township. In 1805 the United States government sent Lieutenant Z. M. Pike with troops to protect the country and to erect a fort. Most of his work was reconnoissance. In 1808 Zachary Taylor, afterwards president of the United States, established a military post by constructing a fort in the eastern part of the site of the present city. The post was named Fort Madison in honor of James Madison (1751-1836), then secretary of state and shortly afterwards president (1809-1817) of the United States. In 1813 the fort was abandoned and it was subsequently burned by the Indians. A chimney remained standing for many years and was known to trappers and navigators as the Lone Chimney. The approximate Sac and Fox Indian name (usually given) was Po-to-won-ock, meaning the place of fire. The city of Fort Madison began in the fall of 1832 with Peter Williams, a botanic physician, the first settler. Many settlers came in 1835 and 1836. The city was laid off and incorporated as a town, March 3, 1837, under an act of Congress of July 2, 1836. It is claimed that a post office was established in 1836 with James Douglass as postmaster. This office must have been an unofficial one, not uncommon with the early pioneers, or else with another name, as the post office of Fort Madison was not established until 1838 with J. L. Pheres, postmaster. The city of Fort Madison derives its name from the early military post established on its site.³⁸ Lea, *Notes*, 1836, p. 35 and map, gives the name Madison only to the place. On page 36 he says, "This place was laid out in lots in November, 1835; the lots were immediately sold out, and building is now rapidly progressing."

The post office of Fort Madison, Iowa, was established October 18, 1838, with the appointment of Johnston I. Pheres, postmaster. His successors were: Peter Miller, July 27, 1839; Robert A. Russell, July 20, 1841; Thomas A. Walker, December 3, 1845; William Sample, April 14, 1849; Henry M. Salmon, April 14, 1853; Benedict Hugel, March 25, 1861; William C. Hershberger, November 6, 1866; Rebecca Adams, April 3, 1867; Rebecca Fraley, January 8, 1873; James W. Frow,

³⁸*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 12.

December 17, 1874; C. A. Lisle, February 5, 1883; Charles Doerr, October 6, 1885; James H. Duffus, December 21, 1889; Nelson C. Roberts, May 18, 1893; Ethan L. Trevitt, July 27, 1897; Thomas P. Hollowell, February 19, 1906; Nelson C. Roberts, March 28, 1914; Gilbert Lee, January 1, 1922; and Dell P. Glazier, August 12, 1922, the present postmaster.

FRANKLIN. This township lies in the west central part of Lee County, south of Marion, west of West Point, north of Charleston, and east of Harrison townships. It comprises congressional township 68 north, range 6 west. Franklin Township was laid out in 1836-7, sectionized in 1837, and the land placed on the market in 1838. The civil township was created by order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841. The pioneer village, Franklin, was designated as the place for holding the first meeting of the township. The township received its name from its pioneer village founded in 1840. When created Franklin Township comprised congressional townships 68 and 69 north, range 6 west, thus including what is now known as Marion Township. It was reduced to its present area in April, 1841.

FRANKLIN. An inland village, mostly in the northeastern part of section 26 of Franklin Township, with a portion in section 23. "Franklin was laid out in the year 1840, March 21st, by order of the Board of County Commissioners, who met March 10th, 1840. It was the location selected by Jas. L. Scott and S. C. Reed to be the seat of justice for Lee County; the above-mentioned parties having been appointed by a special act of the legislature for that purpose. The land upon which the town is situated was donated for the purposes of a county seat by Johnson Chapman, John Brown, and Thomas Douglass."³⁹ The village was probably named directly for Franklin, Tennessee, and indirectly for Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), the philosopher and American statesman.

A previous post office in the vicinity was known as Franklin Center. This was changed to Franklin, January 20, 1883, with the reappointment of Christiana Rauscher, postmaster. Her successors were: Frederick Lang, February 7, 1887; George Vogt, Sen., October 14, 1893; Frederick Lang, March 12, 1898; Hugo P. Seyb, January 18, 1910, who served until the office was discontinued, February 14, 1920.

FRANKLIN CENTER. The locally descriptive name for the pioneer post office in Franklin Township. This office was established September 28, 1843, with John Brown, postmaster. His successors were: Augustus Ehinger, April 14, 1853; Christian Rauscher, April 20, 1861; Christiana Rauscher, December 11, 1865, under whose incumbency the name of the office was changed to Franklin, January 20, 1883.

FRANKLIN STATION. A station on the Chicago, Burlington &

³⁹*Ibid.*, p. 13.

Quincy Railroad, in the southern part of section 35 of Franklin Township. It receives its name from the older village of Franklin situated about two miles to the north.

FRENCH CREEK. This stream rises on the east side of section 28 of Washington Township, runs south and southeast through the west side of the city of Fort Madison to the Mississippi River in the northern part of section 9 of Madison Township, by Atlee's Mill lots.⁴⁰

FRENCH ISLAND. A small island at the upper end of Big Slough, in the southeastern part of section 13 of Jefferson Township, a cut-off from the northern part of Upper Castro Island.⁴¹

FRIEND. The locally descriptive name of a rural church on the east side of section 11 of Cedar Township, established by the Quakers.

GALLAND. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, on the east side of Montrose Township, along the Mississippi River, and in the western part of the east section 19. The former name of the village was Nashville. Here Dr. Isaac Galland located in 1829 and established a trading post and it is in his honor as the first settler that the village was named.

Doctor Galland was born in May, 1790, near Marietta, Washington County, Ohio. As a youth he wandered over much of the frontier, Indiana, Illinois, as far west as New Mexico, where he was imprisoned in Santa Fé on suspicion by the Mexican government. With a limited education he acquired considerable knowledge of law and medicine and was a ready public speaker and writer. Much of his manhood was passed in Lee County where he practiced medicine and was the local agent of the New York Land Company. He must have been a successful agent as the final compromise settlement netted him eleven thousand dollars. The year 1854 was spent in California. Returning to Iowa in 1855 he dwelt at Fort Madison until his death, November 28, 1858. He was buried in the cemetery near where he landed in July, 1828. A monument was placed at his grave by his son.

"Dr. Galland was a perfect type of an American frontiersman, with the education and manners of civilized life, intermixed with all the audacity, boldness and peculiarities of Indian and border life. He had lived a great deal among the Indians, spoke their language fluently, and had made their character and habits a study. At the time of his death, he was engaged in writing a book on Indian life, manners, and customs of the west."⁴²

His son, Washington Galland, was a soldier in the Mexican War, an officer in the Civil War, and a representative of Lee County in the Tenth General Assembly.

The post office of Galland, Iowa, was established April 14, 1884, with Josiah Hemingway, postmaster. His successors were: Anna

⁴⁰*Ibid.*, p. 48; *Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 607.

⁴¹*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 80.

⁴²*History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 549.

Moneghan, May 19, 1889; Anna R. Osburn, July 6, 1899; James A. Wade, June 20, 1912; and Viola Hemingway, November 22, 1912. The office was discontinued September 30, 1913.

GRAPE CREEK. This stream rises in or near the northwestern part of section 8 or the southern part of section 5 of Des Moines Township, runs southeastward to Sugar Creek in the north central part of section 6 of Jackson Township. It was formerly called Main Creek. The name is for the many wild grapes (*Vitis vulpina*) growing along the stream course.

GREEN BAY. This township comprises the eastern peninsular part of Lee County, lying in the angle between the Skunk and Mississippi rivers. It comprises fractional parts of congressional township 68 north, ranges 2 and 3 west, including section 31 and parts of sections 30 and 32 of township 69, range 3 west. The township was named after the long, narrow lake in the southern part of the township known as Green Bay. The township was created by order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841. Originally Green Bay Township included fractional township 68 north, ranges 2 and 3 west, and all that portion of fractional township 69 north, range 4 west, east of the north and south line dividing sections 33 and 34. It was reduced to its present area in January, 1843.

GREEN BAY. A long, narrow lake or bayou, in the southern part of Green Bay Township. It is about four miles long and is a remnant of an old river bed, lying along the Mississippi River into which it empties. Its name is due to the abundance of green algae and aquatic plants growing in the lake. Jesse Williams' map of Iowa, 1840, has the name Green Bay for this lake, after which the township was named.

GREEN BAY. A former post office indicated on Henn, Williams' map of Iowa, 1854, and other, early maps. It was in the southeast part of section 9 of Green Bay Township, after which it was named. This office was established June 18, 1851, with John Carter, postmaster, who served until the office was discontinued, August 16, 1851. It was re-established, January 10, 1854, with Francis M. Jolly, postmaster, who served until the name of the office was changed to Jollyville, January 28, 1859, which see.

HALF-BREED TRACT. The name given to the southern portion of Lee County, comprising all of Jackson, Montrose, Des Moines, and the major portions of Madison, Jefferson, Charleston, and Van Buren townships. The boundary line began at Fort Madison, south central part of section 4, ran westward, bearing slightly southward, to the west side of section 7 (or the southwest corner of it) of Van Buren Township, the western end being about a mile south of the eastern end. This tract was so named because it was for a time a reservation for Indians, particularly mixed races known as half-breeds.

HAMILL. A station on the old Keokuk & Northwestern (now the

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad, near the center of section 25 of Cedar Township. It was apparently named for Smith Hamill, a prominent business man of Keokuk. He was born July 23, 1815, in Lawrence County, Pennsylvania. He came to Keokuk in 1846 and was a member of the Third General Assembly of Iowa.⁴² The post office is known as Mount Hamill, which see.

HARMONY. The name of a rural school on the south side of section 22 of Van Buren Township, about three miles southeast of Croton. The name is suggestive of a peaceful and friendly community and it was doubtless chosen as an ideal of the settlers.

HARRISON. This township lies on the west side of Lee County, south of Cedar, west of Franklin, and north of Van Buren townships. It comprises congressional township 68 north, range 7 west. Settlement began in 1835 with Joseph and William Howard, Isaac Renfrew, and Isaac and Creth Beller. The township was laid out in 1837, sectionized in 1837-8, and the land put on the market in 1839-40. The civil township was created on order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841, and then comprised townships 68 and 69 north, range 7 west, thus including what is now known as Cedar Township. It was reduced to its present area in July, 1844. The township was named for General William Henry Harrison (1773-1841), the hero of the battle of Tippecanoe, the ninth president (1841) of the United States.

HAZEN. A station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad, near the center of section 17 of Washington Township. The place was apparently named for James B. Hazen, a prominent resident of Pleasant Ridge Township (section 34) who also owned land in Washington Township. He was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, May 25, 1827, and became a permanent resident of Lee County in 1866.⁴³

HELL HOLLOW. A more or less dry run and low canyon rising in sections 23 and 24 with numerous branches from other sections of Pleasant Ridge Township and running northeast to Skunk River in section 1. The vicinity in early day was wild and rough which character seems to have suggested the name.

HICKORY GROVE. The locally descriptive name for a rural school on the ridge highway in the southern part of section 4 of Jackson Township, a short distance south of the county farm.

HINSDALE. An early post office and a village in the northern part of section 24 of Des Moines Township, on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific (the old Des Moines Valley) Railway, near the junction of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fé Railway. Towns with the name Hinsdale occur in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, and

⁴²*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co., 1887, p. 294.*

⁴³*Andreas' Atlas, 1874, p. 50; Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co., 1887, p. 214.*

Illinois, named for prominent local people. The Iowa place was probably named for the one in New Hampshire which was named for Colonel Ebenezer Hinsdale, one of its leading citizens.

The post office of Hinsdale, Iowa, was established May 8, 1871, with William S. Sample, postmaster, who served until the office was discontinued November 7, 1879. The office was re-established August 22, 1889, with John Matthews, postmaster, and under him discontinued January 31, 1890. The office was re-established April 2, 1894, with Benjamin F. Jeffers, postmaster. His successors were: Mrs. Mary A. Jeffers, August 13, 1894; William Sprouse, November 19, 1897; Emiline Spiker, March 29, 1900; Emiline Thompson, August 15, 1901; Arvilla Teel, January 25, 1902; and Daisy S. Bell, April 30, 1902, under whom the office was discontinued September 30, 1902.

HOG THIEF CREEK. The name of a small stream rising in section 16 of Jackson Township, runs southward to the Des Moines River near the center of section 33.

HOUGHTON. A station on the old Keokuk & Northwestern (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad on the south side of section 12 of Cedar Township, about a half mile east of the old Cammackville post office.

The post office of Houghton, Iowa, was established April 7, 1881, with John Huff, postmaster. His successors were: John Schriever, April 26, 1886; Joseph Harhoff, February 2, 1887; John Hough, May 31, 1889; Daniel Cowell, August 12, 1893; Fred Hallway, May 9, 1896; Lizzie Freetly, September 21, 1897; Frederick W. Hallway, May 25, 1898; John Hellman, February 4, 1899; John Fette, January 18, 1900; William Kern, July 9, 1902; James S. Kelly, March 2, 1903; Henry Peitzmeier, January 26, 1904; Hubert A. Hellweg, April 19, 1919; and William G. Hellman, August 22, 1923, the present postmaster.

JACK CREEK. This stream rises in the northern part of section 23 of Charleston Township, a short distance east of the village of Charleston, flows southeastward across the southwestern corner of Jefferson Township and the northeastern part of Montrose Township, and empties into the Mississippi River in the northeastern part of section 10, near the north side of the town of Montrose.

JACK'S SLOUGH. A bayou on the east side of Green Bay Township running from Skunk River in section 13 southwestward about two miles to Big Slough in section 24.⁴⁴

JACKSON. This township is in the southern part of Lee County, in the angle between the Mississippi and the Des Moines rivers, south of Montrose and Des Moines townships. Settlement began in 1820 by Dr. Samuel C. Muir who located a claim and built a cabin on the present site of the city of Keokuk. French settlement began as early as 1821 by Lemoliese, a trader, who located on what is now the site of Sandusky.

⁴⁴*Andreas' Atlas, 1874, p. 36.*

The township was named for General Andrew Jackson (1767-1845), the hero of the Battle of New Orleans, the seventh president (1829-1837) of the United States. The township was created on order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841.

JAYBIRD. The avian name of a rural school in the southeastern corner of section 9 of Washington Township on land owned by Leonard Eoff.

JEFFERSON. This township is in southeast central part of Lee County, south of West Point, east of Charleston, and north of Montrose townships, and west of Madison Township and the Mississippi River. Settlement began in 1834 with William Skinner and George Williams. The township was created on order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841. The township was named for Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), third president (1801-1809) of the United States.

JEFFERSON CENTER. The name of a rural school near the crossroads in the central part of section 21 of Jefferson Township. The name is more or less locally descriptive.

JEFFERSONVILLE. A former, platted village on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, in the northwestern part of section 16 of Jefferson Township. It was laid out by W. H. Crosley, July 12, 1867. The projected village lapsed, being too near the railway junction known as Viele. A post office was early established and continued for many years. The place was apparently named after the township in which it is situated.

The post office of Jeffersonville, Iowa, was established July 8, 1856, with Daniel Weese, postmaster, and under him discontinued November 30, 1863. The office was re-established July 15, 1864, with John Martin, postmaster. He was succeeded by Pierce R. Sutton, February 20, 1865, under whom the office was discontinued March 15, 1866. The office was again re-established March 12, 1867, with John J. Martin, postmaster. He was succeeded by Daniel Weese, May 20, 1868, who served until April 17, 1876. In the meantime the name of the post office was changed to Viele, which see.

JOLLYVILLE. A former inland village and post office in the southeast central part of section 7 of Green Bay Township. It was laid out May 15, 1856, by Francis M. Jolly, after whom it was named.⁴⁵ On some maps the Jollyville site is named Wever, an error as the Wever village site is about a mile to the northeast.

A post office in the vicinity, known as Green Bay, was changed to Jollyville, January 28, 1859, with the appointment of Christian Gerloff, postmaster. His successors were: Lewis Jolly, December 31, 1859; Otto V. Hoffman, December 31, 1861; and Julius G. Junge, October 3, 1867, who served until the name of the office was changed to Wever, October 12, 1873, with a new appointment.

⁴⁵*Ibid.*, pp. 13, 36.

KEOKUK. The city of Keokuk, one of the county seats of Lee County, is situated on the bluffs and table-land forming the southern extremity of Iowa, at the foot of the rapids in the Mississippi River, mainly in sections 24, 25, and 26 of Jackson Township. In 1820 Dr. Samuel C. Muir, a surgeon in the United States army and stationed at Fort Edwards, now Warsaw, Illinois, built a cabin on the present site of the city of Keokuk. In 1828 Moses Stillwell and family with his two brothers-in-law, Amos and Valencourt Vanausdol⁴⁶ (sometimes wrongly given as Van Ansdal), settled on the site. Stillwell was the local agent in trade for Otis Reynolds and John Culver of St. Louis. The American Fur Company had established a trading post here sometime before 1830. In 1831 Dr. Samuel C. Muir and Isaac R. Campbell became the successors of the company and owners of the buildings. Doctor Muir died of the cholera in 1832. In the spring of 1837 the village was platted by Dr. Isaac Galland, an agent of the New York Land Company. The surveying was done by Mr. Brattle of Fort Edwards. In June, 1837, a public sale of lots was held. Keokuk was incorporated as a city December 13, 1847. The Sac and Fox Indian name of the place is usually given as Puck-e-she-tuck, meaning the foot of the rapids, and for some years the place was known to the white people as Puck-e-she-tuck, Point, and Foot of the Rapids. According to Isaac Galland, Keokuk received its christening at a celebration held July 4, 1829, by a few river men whose boats were lying at the foot of what is now Main Street. The meeting was presided over by Colonel George Davenport. During the festivities the name of Keokuk was given to the settlement in honor of the Sauk leader, a member of the Fox clan, *Kiyokag*, who was friendly to the white people and one of the remarkable characters of the vicinity. A monument to him stands over his grave in Rand Park, Keokuk. The name Keokuk is said to mean watchful fox. A pioneer pronunciation of Keokuk was Keokerk. Nicollet's map, 1843, gives the name as Keokuck, as does also Jesse Williams' map, 1840, a common, early spelling.

The post office of Keokuk, Iowa, was established June 24, 1841, with Laban B. Fleak, postmaster. His successors were: William S. McGavie, June 19, 1844; Adam Hine, May 9, 1845; John W. Ogden, March 26, 1849; William Patterson, April 8, 1853; Ansel T. Walling, April 6, 1857; William Patterson, June 23, 1857; Richard McAllister, October 23, 1860; James B. Howell, April 8, 1861; John Adair McDowell, August 27, 1866; James C. Parrott, March 13, 1867; Samuel M. Clark, January 20, 1879; Patrick Gibbons, November 2, 1885; Richard Root, March 13, 1889; Rollin Clark, May 15, 1893; David J. Ayres, November 2, 1893; Asaph Buck, January 17, 1898; Samuel W. Moorehead, February 27, 1906; E. P. McManus, March 11, 1914; Edward W. McManus, January 9, 1918; Joshua F. Elder, November 31, 1918;

⁴⁶The name also occurs as Vanausdall and Van Ausdall (*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, pp. 81, 91); likewise Vaposdal is found.

William C. Howell, January 15, 1923; and Virginia L. Howell, acting postmaster, appointed May 31, 1928, now acting.

KEOKUK POINT. A high salient overlooking the Mississippi River at Keokuk. The point is in the angle between the Mississippi and Des Moines rivers and it is the terminus of the narrow divide or ridge separating the Skunk River and Des Moines River basins. The Keokuk & Northwestern Railroad (now a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system) closely follows in Lee County this ridge. The place is a good observatory station and it has been associated with the Indian chief, Keokuk. Being in the city of Keokuk also makes the name locally descriptive as well as appropriate.

LA CREW. A station on the Keokuk & Northwestern Railroad in the northwestern part of section 6 of Franklin Township. The name is apparently derived from the French *la cru*, meaning the ground or site, having reference to the village site.

The post office of La Crew, Iowa, was established March 21, 1881, with the appointment of Henry Hyatt, postmaster. His successors were: Charles F. Griffey, October 17, 1881; Richard H. Todd, January 18, 1886; Bernard Nelle, December 11, 1886; William E. Bell, December 30, 1887; Laura E. Williamson, December 21, 1888; John A. Williamson, October 13, 1892; Cordelia J. Brown, February 2, 1893; Irene M. Wilkinson, April 19, 1900; Albert L. Mathews, February 28, 1901; William A. Ross, March 25, 1902; and Charles B. Holland, December 8, 1904, who served until the office was discontinued, October 31, 1913.

LAMELEE CREEK. A small stream rising by one branch in the western side of section 22 and by another branch in the southeastern part of section 16 of Montrose Township, with branches above and below, flows southeastward to the Mississippi River in or near the southeastern part of section 36 of the same township, by Sandusky. The word, Lamelee, is a corrupted form of the name of the Indian trader, Lemoliese, who located in 1820 near the mouth of the creek, in or near where the site of Sandusky now is. The creek is sometimes given the correct name Lemoliese. The United States soil map, 1916, gives the name as Lamalee Creek. The stream is also sometimes called Sandusky Creek, after the village near its mouth.

LEAD ISLAND. The name of an island as given by *Andreas' Atlas*, (1874, p. 36) in the Mississippi River in the southwestern part of Green Bay Township, opposite the mouth of Green Bay and mainly in section 31. The United States soil map, 1916, indicates the island has considerably shifted location.

LIBERTY. The name of a rural school in the southeastern corner of section 29 of Jefferson Township. It was so named as an expression of the sentiment of the community.

LICK CREEK. This stream rises by two branches, one in the southwestern part of section 19, the other in east central part of section 20.

These unite near the east side of section 30 and the stream runs thence southeast across section 32 of Harrison Township, continues southeast and southwest across Van Buren Township and enters the Des Moines River in the east central part of section 19, about a mile northwest of Croton.

LITTLE CEDAR CREEK. A small stream which enters Lee County from Van Buren County, flows eastward and northward, across sections 7, 8, 9, and 4 of Cedar Township, into Henry County, where it meets Big Cedar Creek on the west side of Salem Township. The name is locally descriptive in contradistinction to Big Cedar Creek of which it is an affluent. The name Cedar is due to the presence of the red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) which grows along the course of the larger stream.

LITTLE DEVIL CREEK. This stream rises in the center of section 12 of West Point Township, with a branch from sections 17 and 18 of Washington Township, runs southeastwardly to unite with Sugar Creek in the southwest central part of section 15 of Jefferson Township to form Big Devil Creek, after which it was named in contradistinction to it. The United States soil map, 1916, shortens the name to Devil Creek.

LITTLE ROCK. The name of a rural school in the east central part of section 30 of Harrison Township, about four miles southeast of the village of Primrose.

LITTLE SUGAR CREEK. This stream rises in the east central part of section 6 of Harrison Township, runs southeast to (west) Sugar Creek in the southwest central part of section 31. Being an affluent of Sugar Creek makes the name locally descriptive.

LITTLE SUGAR CREEK. This stream rises in the southeastern part of section 20 with branches from section 21 of Franklin Township, flows eastward to the southeast part of section 25, thence eastward and southward across sections 30 and 32 of West Point Township, to (east) Sugar creek in the central part of section 5 of Jefferson Township. Being an affluent of Sugar Creek it was named Little Sugar Creek in contradistinction to it. On the United States soil map, 1916, the name is Little Creek, an abbreviation of its older name.

LOCUST GROVE. A rural school on the south side of section 17 of Washington Township, near the headwaters of one of the branches of Little Devil Creek. It apparently receives its name from the locust trees growing in the vicinity.

LOST CREEK. This stream rises on the east side of section 21 of Pleasant Ridge Township, flows southeastward across Denmark and Washington townships, thence eastward and southward across Green Bay Township to Green Bay in the southwestern part of section 28. The name is more or less locally descriptive. In the lower course of

the stream the channel is poorly defined because of the marshy nature of the land.

"Lost creek rises in the center of the southern [southeastern] part of section 20 [21], Pleasant Ridge Township, flows southeast to the southeast quarter of section 8, not far from Jollyville, Green Bay Township, where it was originally lost, by spreading all over the prairie, and hence its name. A few years ago, the township cut a channel, or ditch, and threw up an embankment on either side, from section 8 to the upper [lower] end of Green Bay, by which a good deal of land was reclaimed and made susceptible of the highest stages of cultivation. In wet seasons, a tremendous current flows down Lost Creek, which, in its mad fury, carries forward everything that comes in the course of its floods. The railroad has often suffered serious damage from the force of its current."⁴⁷

LOWER CASTRO ISLAND. An island about four miles long and half a mile or less in width, along the Mississippi River, in sections 24, 25, 26, and 35 of Jefferson Township.

LOWER LOCK. A locally descriptive name for a lock in the Des Moines Rapids Canal along the Mississippi River, in section 24 of Jackson Township, east of the city of Keokuk.

MADISON. This is a small township of about six sections, located on the Mississippi River, south of Washington and east of Jefferson townships. It comprises the northwest fractional part of congressional township 67 north, range 4 west. Settlement began with Peter Williams in 1832. The township was created and named by the Board of County Commissioners in the regular January meeting of 1841. The township was named in honor of James Madison (1757-1836), fourth president (1809-1817) of the United States.

MAIN CREEK. This stream rises in the southern part of section 5 of Des Moines Township, flows southeast across the township to Sugar Creek in the west central part of section 6 of Jackson Township. A later name is Grape Creek.

MARION. This township lies on the north side of Lee County, west of Pleasant Ridge, north of Franklin, and east of Cedar townships. It comprises congressional township 69 north, range 6 west. The township was sectionized in 1836 and land sold in 1838. Settlement began in 1836 or 1837. The township was created on order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular meeting in April, 1841, as a partition of Franklin Township. The first election was held at the home of John Taylor, May 19, 1841. The township was directly or indirectly named in honor of General Francis Marion (1732-1793), the noted partisan leader of the American Revolution.

MARION CENTER. A pioneer locality in Marion Township where the

⁴⁷*History of Lee County*, 1879, pp. 416-17.

first schoolhouse for the township was erected in 1839 or 1840.⁴⁸ The name is locally descriptive.

MEIEROTTO. A station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in the southwest central part of section 25 of Marion Township. The place was named for Christian Meierotto, a resident of the vicinity and former owner of the village site.⁴⁹

MELROSE. A former station on the old Des Moines Valley Railroad in the northwestern part of section 1 of Des Moines Township. The railway having been relocated farther westward the station was taken over by Connables. The word Melrose comes from the Latin, *mel*, honey, and *rosa*, rose; that is honey of roses, a mixture of powdered red rose, honey, and diluted alcohol.

MELROSE. The name of a rural church at the forks of the highway in the southeastern part of section 35 of Des Moines Township in the vicinity of the old Melrose station, after which it was doubtless named.

MERTENSVILLE. A station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad on the west side of section 18 of Marion Township. It was named for Christian Mertens, a prominent farmer in the vicinity. Mr. Mertens was born February 12, 1830, in Germany, came to the United States in 1846, and to Marion Township, Lee County, in the fall of 1851.⁵⁰

MESSINGERVILLE. A suburb on the north side of the city of Keokuk in the southwestern part of section 24 of Jackson Township. It was so named for William Messinger, the owner of the land.⁵¹

MIDDLE LOCK. A locally descriptive name for the lock in the Des Moines Rapids Canal along the Mississippi River in section 13 of Jackson Township. The nearby station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad has the same name, Middle Lock, given it after the canal lock.

MISSISSIPPI. The Mississippi River forms the boundary of Lee County on the east and southeast sides from the mouth of Skunk River to the mouth of the Des Moines River.

The name comes from *massa*, great, and *sepo*, river, of the Sac and Fox or Algonquian Indian language, and is frequently translated as the father of rivers, or great water, or large river. This is the derivation early and usually given. The names, however, are only close approximations by white men.

"MISSISSIPPI. The pronunciation of this name in the language of the Sauk Indians is, Mis-se Se-po. Mis-se is an adjective, answering to the English words, grandest, noblest, chiefest, or most splendid,—and Se-po, simply means river; hence, this name in its original acceptation

⁴⁸*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 24.

⁴⁹*Ibid.*, p. 24.

⁵⁰*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 417.

⁵¹*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 17.

signifies the grandest, the noblest, the chiefest, or the most splendid river. The Indians often pronounce this name with the plural termination, *uh*, as *Misse Sepouh*, that is, Chiefest of Rivers."⁵²

According to Dr. William Jones (Bur. Am. Eth., Bull. 40; 1, p. 753. 1911.) the more correct Fox Indian name of the Mississippi River is *Masé sibò w'*, meaning large river.

MONK CREEK. A small stream which rises in the southwestern or southern part of section 23 of Van Buren Township, runs southeastward to the Des Moines River on the east side of section 2, just west of old Belfast or east of the new location. The creek was named for a Mr. Monks who resided along the stream in the northwest part of section 1, about a half mile northeast of Belfast.

MONTROSE. This township lies along the west side of the Mississippi River in the south central part of Lee County, south of Jefferson, east of Des Moines, and north of Jackson townships. It comprises the fractional part of congressional township 66 north, ranges 4 and 5 west. Settlement began in 1832 with Captain James White. Montrose Township was created on order of the Board of County Commissioners at the July meeting, 1841, as a partition of old Ambrosia Township. The township was named after its pioneer village, Montrose.

MONTROSE. This town lies on the west bank of the Mississippi River, opposite the village of Nauvoo, Illinois, in sections 9 and 10 of Montrose Township. The town was laid off and named in 1837 by David W. Kilbourne. It was relocated November 10, 1853, by Ed. Brooks, F. E. Billon, and D. C. and W. J. Riddick.⁵³ The site is on an elevated plateau. Here Louis Honore Tesson, a Frenchman, located in 1796 and lived several years with his family. He held a Spanish claim of a mile square and ran a trading house. Fort Des Moines was erected on the site in 1834. The first store was established in 1839 by David W. and Edward Kilbourne. The name of David W. Kilbourne is sometimes wrongly given as Daniel W. Kilbourne, and the final e is frequently omitted.

The name Montrose is derived from the French, *mont*, mountain or hill, and *rose*, rose, that is rose hill or the hill of roses, or the place where roses grow profusely as was the case before settlement, hence the name is a locally descriptive one.

Isaac Galland, *Iowa Emigrant*, 1840, p. 32, gives the name as Montrose but on his map the name is Mt. Rose, the English translation. See Fort Des Moines.

The post office first established in the vicinity of the site of Montrose, Iowa, was known as Fort Des Moines, Des Moines County, Wisconsin Territory. It was established April 6, 1837, with Jacob Huner, postmaster. The name of the office was changed to Montrose, Lee

⁵²Galland's *Iowa Emigrant*, 1840, p. 10.

⁵³Andreas' *Atlas*, 1874, pp. 13, 84.

County, Wisconsin, March 28, 1838, with the appointment of Henry L. Austin, postmaster. The next change was to Lee County, Iowa, July 27, 1839, when David W. Kilbourne was appointed postmaster. His successors were: Cyrus Peck, January 5, 1844; John M. Anderson, October 26, 1846; William Stotts, June 16, 1847; John S. Carpenter, January 14, 1848; Daniel S. Baker, June 29, 1848; John F. Warmoth, May 30, 1849; Reuben Sears, October 15, 1851; William Anderson, December 10, 1852; John Spain, January 19, 1853; William Anderson, December 6, 1855; Garven Hamilton, December 24, 1855; I. M. Anderson, October 30, 1856; Cyrus Peck, May 17, 1857; Henry Singer, March 20, 1858; Hiram Probasco, May 19, 1859; Oliver Reeves, March 25, 1861; John Fifer, November 26, 1866; John M. Anderson, June 14, 1867; William Anderson, March 22, 1869; Thomas Ward, May 25, 1875; Thomas J. Ellis, September 16, 1893; John P. Kennedy, October 15, 1897; Henry F. Eppers, August 28, 1913; Robert B. Lamb, September 5, 1918; and George W. Kennedy, December 13, 1922, the present postmaster.

MOOAR. A station on the Keokuk & Northwestern (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in the eastern part of section 9 of Jackson Township. It was named for Daniel Mooar, an early resident and large landholder in the vicinity.⁵⁴

The post office of Mooar, Iowa, was established December 31, 1889, with the appointment of Francis G. Thomas, postmaster. His successors were: Edmund W. Simons, March 21, 1894; Oliver C. Kerr, September 21, 1901; and William Hill, November 25, 1902, who served until the office was discontinued, January 2, 1907.

MORNING STAR. The name of a rural school on the eastern side of section 18 of Cedar Township, about a mile and a half north of Big Mound. The school is on the open prairie, facing the east, which apparently suggested the name.

MORNING SUN. The name of a rural school in the northeastern part of section 33 of Cedar Township. The name suggests that the school is on rising ground, in the open, and facing the east and so it is.

MOUNT CLARA. A station on the Keokuk & Northwestern (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in the western part of section 16 of Montrose Township, in the vicinity of the pioneer place at the crossroads known as Brown's Tavern. The place is on the summit of the divide southwest of the village of Montrose, hence the prefix, Mount, is locally descriptive.

MOUNT HAMILL. The name of the post office at Hamill, a station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in the north central part of section 25 of Cedar Township. As the hamlet is on the divide the name of the post office is locally descriptive. See Hamill.

The post office of Mount Hamill, Iowa, was established under the

⁵⁴*Ibid.*, pp. 35, 91.

name of Courtright, March 28, 1881, with the appointment of Abner Clark, postmaster. The name of the office was changed to Mount Hamill, November 9, 1881, with the reappointment of Abner Clark. His successors were: Thomas Waterhouse, April 15, 1884; James F. Pease, July 29, 1886; Thomas Waterhouse, April 9, 1889; Hanna McCracken, April 15, 1893; Clark C. Anders, April 18, 1896; Thomas Waterhouse, October 28, 1897; Peter P. Showalter, March 19, 1902; Edwin Hough, September 30, 1902; Clarence N. Lietz, December 19, 1905; Isaac C. Bell, July 13, 1906; Willis E. Howes, April 14, 1911; Isaac C. Bell, May 27, 1912; Robert E. Bell, November 23, 1912; Rolla A. Yeast, October 6, 1913; Sela R. Casady, April 6, 1920; and Minnie C. Refior, August 23, 1920, the present postmaster.

MUD CREEK. This is a tributary of Lost Creek. It rises in section 17 of Washington Township, flows southeast and northward and joins the main channel in section 12 of the same township. The name is locally descriptive.⁵⁵

MUMM CREEK. A small stream, rising by three branches in the northern part of sections 21 and 22 of Van Buren Township, runs southward and westward to the Des Moines River in the northern part of section 4 of the same township. The creek was named for an old settler along the stream, apparently for K. Mumm who resided by the stream in section 33.

NASHVILLE. This village is on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad by the Mississippi River, on the narrow strip of east section 19 of Montrose Township, about two and a half miles below Montrose. Here Dr. Isaac Galland settled in 1829 and opened a trading house. The approximate Sac and Fox Indian name of this place was Ah-we-pe-tuk. The village of Nashville was laid out by Elias Smith, July 29, 1841. The original name, Nashville, was doubtless given the village after Nashville, Tennessee. Later the name was changed to Galland in honor of the first settler. Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee, was probably named for Governor Abner Nash of North Carolina, though the honor is claimed for General Francis Nash.

The post office of Nashville, Iowa, was established March 3, 1843, with William W. Willis, the first and only postmaster. The office was discontinued August 11, 1843, after an existence of only five months and eight days.

NASSAU PASS. A cut-off, about a half mile long, from the Des Moines River to the Mississippi River, in the southern part of section 34 of Jackson Township has this name. A nearby street in the city of Keokuk is also called Nassau.⁵⁶ It was probably named after the pass, or both may have been named for an early, local resident.

A county, river, and sound in Florida have the name Nassau, as

⁵⁵*History of Lee County, 1879, p. 417; Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co., 1887, p. 607.*

⁵⁶*Andreas' Atlas, 1874, p. 17, 91.*

well as a county on Long Island, a village in Nassau Township, Rensselaer County, New York, a village in Delaware, the capital of the Bahamas, West Indies, and a township in Sioux County, Iowa. All directly or indirectly derive their names from the Duchy of Nassau in Germany. The word Nassau goes back a millenium to a German Duchy, a former state in west part of Germany, later a part of the Prussian province of Hesse-Nassau. About 1100 the castle of Nassau was built. The House of Nassau included William the Silent (Prince of Orange) who led the Dutch in their struggle for independence.

NEW BOSTON. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy (the old Keokuk & Northwestern) Railroad, near the junction with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fé Railway, in the western part of section 36 of Charleston Township. As an inland village New Boston was laid out by Charles Mason, September 20, 1854. It was doubtless directly or indirectly named after Boston, Massachusetts. In the United States sixteen places have the name Boston and twelve have the name New Boston, all directly or indirectly named for the city in Massachusetts. Boston, Massachusetts, derived its name from Boston, Lincolnshire, England. On Henn, Williams' map of Iowa, 1854, and other, early maps, the name is Boston.

The post office of New Boston, Iowa, was established January 4, 1855, with Josiah Harvey, postmaster. His successors were: Orin Baldwin, November 21, 1855; G. W. Jenree, April 4, 1856; Milton Moore, October 8, 1857; Orwin Baldwin, February 17, 1858, under whom it was discontinued March 11, 1859. The office was re-established January 19, 1864, with William H. Hardin, postmaster. His successors were: James Jordan, February 22, 1864; J. H. McCutchen, June 20, 1866; Luther C. Rankin, April 2, 1868; John Miles, August 5, 1870; and William J. Smith, March 14, 1871, under whom the office was again discontinued April 7, 1871. The office was again re-established January 12, 1875, with William E. Armstrong, postmaster. His successors were: William A. Davis, October 6, 1875; John P. Keran, January 8, 1883; Ella M. Hall, February 21, 1884; Mary A. Ball, December 30, 1884; Mrs. Elsie P. Walker (acting), December 16, 1926; and Walter A. Slater, January 29, 1927, the present postmaster.

The name New Boston was given in contradistinction to the pioneer village of Boston, situated about twenty miles north, in the south-eastern part of Henry county, later renamed Lowell.

NICKERSON ISLAND. A small island, west of Lower Castro island, between Big Slough and River Slough in sections 26 and 35 of Jefferson Township. It was named for an early, local resident, probably Levi Nickerson.⁵⁷

NORTH MARION. The name of a rural school in the southwest corner

⁵⁷*History of Lee County*, 1879, pp. 479, 480.

of section 4 of Marion Township. The name is locally descriptive as the school is in the north part of Marion Township.

NORTON. The name of the bridge over Skunk River on the north side of section 4 of Green Bay Township. In an early day the ferry was near by on the south side of section 33.

OAK GROVE. The locally descriptive name of a rural church at the forks of the highway in the southern part of section 19 of Montrose Township. The name is for the prevailing oak groves of the vicinity.

OAKLAND. The locally descriptive name for the cemetery on the west side of the city of Keokuk.

OAKLAND. The locally descriptive name for a rural school near the Des Moines River in the south central part of section 19 of Des Moines Township, about a mile and a half west of Vincennes.

OAK RIDGE. The name of a rural school in the central part of section 7 of Jefferson Township, nearly three miles northwest of Viele. The name is locally descriptive as the school is on a divide or ridge road and in an oak grove.

OAKWOOD. The locally descriptive name for a rural school in or near the northeast corner of section 19 of Jackson Township.

VERTON. A former post office and a station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in the central part of section 22 of Marion Township. The post office was established August 7, 1895, with William Culligan, postmaster, who was succeeded by Bernard J. Fullenkamp, December 22, 1902. The name of the post office was changed to Pilot Grove on March 19, 1908, with George L. Fullenkamp, postmaster. He was succeeded by George Hellman, March 9, 1911. The name of the railway station was later changed to Pilot Grove Station. The new post office of Pilot Grove was named after the older one situated about two miles to the north. Overton was named after Elias Overton, an early pioneer and long time resident of the vicinity. He was born in Hartford County, North Carolina, January 12, 1807. In 1836 he became a resident of Marion Township, Lee County, in time acquiring over 1200 acres. He held a number of local offices and was county supervisor. He died March 29, 1893. One of his children, Marion T. Overton, born in Marion Township, August 10, 1850, became a prominent resident of the vicinity.⁵⁸

PALEAN. The name of one of the streets in the city of Keokuk. It was named for Joshua Palean, a native of New York, an early Indian trader in Keokuk where he died of the cholera in 1833.⁵⁹

PANTHER CREEK. A small creek, rising on the east side of section 33 of Franklin Township with a small branch from the south side near Donnellson, runs southeast across Charleston Township and northeast

⁵⁸*Biog'l Review of Lee Co.*, 1905, 279-80.

⁵⁹*History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 499.

to Sugar Creek in the northeast central part of section 16 of Jefferson Township. The creek was doubtless so named because of the presence of the animal, panther, in the vicinity.

PENITENTIARY CREEK. This stream rises in the western part of section 34 of Washington Township, runs southeast and south near the west side of the Iowa State Penitentiary to the Mississippi River on the east side of section 3 of Madison Township. The stream was named after the Iowa State Penitentiary established as a temporary prison as early as 1839.

PILOT GROVE. An inland village in the west central part of section 10 of Marion Township. It was laid out April 16, 1858, by Wesley Harrison, Stephen Townsend, and others. The place probably gets its name from a small grove of trees in the vicinity which served as a guide or pilot to travelers crossing the trackless prairie.

The post office of Pilot Grove, Iowa, was established February 24, 1851, with Jonathan Jones, postmaster. His successors were: John Stewart, April 14, 1853; Andrew B. Gregg, December 6, 1854; Nathan Jackman, October 25, 1858; Mrs. Jane B. Ringland, April 2, 1861; Thomas O. Moon, September 27, 1864; John Burnet, October 29, 1869; George W. Holland, November 3, 1870; W. D. Jackman, November 2, 1885; Henry J. M. Otto, November 9, 1886; Charles A. Lee, January 22, 1890; and George Shaner, May 15, 1890, under whom the office was discontinued June 16, 1894. The post office at Overton was changed to Pilot Grove on March 19, 1908, with George L. Fullenkamp, postmaster. His successor was George Hellman, March 9, 1911, the present postmaster.

PILOT GROVE STATION. A station on the Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad near the center of section 22 of Marion Township, about two miles south of the old village of Pilot Grove, after which the station was named. An earlier name of the station was Overton, which see.

PINE RIDGE. The name of a farm in section 1 of Cedar Township, more or less locally descriptive.

PITMAN. A station on the Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in the northwestern part of section 11 of West Point Township. The place was directly or indirectly named for Lewis Pitman, the owner of the land in the vicinity, and for Pitman Grove, also named for him.

PITMAN. The name of a rural church in the east central part of section 2 of West Point Township, nearly three miles east of the village of West Point. Several families of the name of Pitman live in the vicinity, descendants of Lewis Pitman, a Lee County pioneer. The church was directly or indirectly named for this pioneer and his family and for Pitman Grove, also named for him.

PITMAN CREEK. This stream rises by several branches or sloughs

in or near the northern parts of sections 33 and 34 of Pleasant Ridge Township, about two miles northeast of the village of West Point, runs south and southwest to Sugar Creek in the northwestern part of section 29 of West Point Township. The stream was named for Lewis Pitman, an early settler along the stream in sections 2, 3, 10, and 11 of West Point Township. Lewis Pitman was a native of Woodford County, Kentucky, born June 11, 1794. He came to Lee County, West Point Township, in 1835. He died February 27, 1862. He left many descendants who continued to dwell on the old homestead.⁶⁰

PITMAN GROVE. A grove of native trees in sections 3 and 10 of West Point Township, named after Lewis Pitman, an early settler in the grove, arriving in Lee county, April 2, 1835. According to the *History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 487, the Pitman family share in the honor of the naming. In this grove the second annual gathering of the old settlers of Lee county was held in August, 1872.

PLEASANT GROVE. A more or less locally descriptive name for a rural school in the southwestern corner of section 5 of Cedar Township.

PLEASANT GROVE. The name of of a rural school in the northern part of section 26 of Des Moines Township, nearly three miles east of Vincennes. The name is for the wooded vicinity.

PLEASANT RIDGE. This township lies on the north side of Lee County, west of Denmark, and east of Marion townships. It comprises congressional township 69 north, range 5 west, save portions of sections 1 and 2 cut off by the Skunk River. The township was created in January, 1843, on petition by order of the Board of County Commissioners as a partition of old Denmark Township. A prairie ridge or watershed, giving a pleasing landscape, traverses the township from north to south. This suggested the name, Prairie Ridge, a locally descriptive one.

PO-TO-WON-OCK. The approximation by white men to the Sac and Fox Indian name given to the site of Fort Madison. The meaning is the place of fire, an allusion to the fort burned by the Indians. See Fort Madison.

POTTER'S SLOUGH. A narrow bayou or cut-off, over two miles long, near the Mississippi River in the southeastern part of Jefferson Township, below the mouth of Big Devil Creek. It is sometimes given as Potter Slough.⁶¹

PRAIRIE CREEK. This stream rises in the northern part of section 20 of Pleasant Ridge Township, runs northwestward to the northwest part of section 6 and enters Henry County, continuing to Skunk River. The course of the stream is through prairie, hence the name is locally descriptive.

⁶⁰*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, pp. 43, 51; *History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 385.

⁶¹*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 80.

PRAIRIE HOUSE. See Charleston.

PRICE'S CREEK. This stream rises in the northern part of section 4 of Jackson Township, flows southeast to the Mississippi River in the east central part of section 13 of the same township, a short distance above Middle Lock. The name on some maps is given as Price Creek. The stream was named for William Price who settled in the vicinity about 1831.⁶²

PRIMROSE. An inland hamlet on the west side of section 23 of Harrison Township. The site was laid out by George Perkins and James H. Washburne, February 28, 1848. Six other, small places, have the name of Primrose, in Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, and Ontario. The name of the Iowa village is probably local in origin.

The post office at Primrose, Iowa, was established January 15, 1846, with Exum S. McCulloch, postmaster. His successors were: Joseph T. Reesman, May 11, 1850; Marshall D. Elgin, February 24, 1852; Michael S. Detar, March 29, 1853; John F. Walden, May 4, 1854; Allen Walden, December 26, 1854; Norvil Powell, September 6, 1855; Abner Buckles, August 2, 1856; Samuel Bell, April 22, 1857; Norvil Powell, June 8, 1861; Benjamin F. Hill, October 11, 1864; Samuel K. Shives, December 29, 1865; Benjamin C. Burt, February 9, 1866; Lewis Rye, March 8, 1871; John Sax, October 26, 1883; Elizabeth E. Buckles, May 5, 1885; Mrs. Hattie J. Slusher, February 7, 1887; Mrs. Hattie J. Miller, March 3, 1887; Ebenezer Williamson, May 31, 1889; Henry Bollinger, October 14, 1893; William Williamson, Jr., January 4, 1898; Henry Bollinger, August 8, 1901; James A. Maxwell, November 24, 1903; Elizabeth D. Schock, April 21, 1914; and Elizabeth D. Benjamin, August 19, 1916, the present postmaster. Elizabeth D. Schock and Elizabeth D. Benjamin are the same person, she having changed her name by marriage making her reappointment necessary. Mrs. Hattie J. Slusher and Mrs. Hattie J. Miller are also probably the same person but the records fail to show that such is the case.

PUCK-E-SHE-TUCK. The Sac and Fox Indian name, meaning the foot of the rapids, for the rapids in the Mississippi River in the vicinity of Keokuk, a locally descriptive name. The name as given is a white man's approximation.

RAND PARK. The name of a beautiful city park near the Mississippi River on the northeast side of the city of Keokuk. The park was named for George Dexter Rand, a prominent business man of Keokuk, who served one term as mayor, 1883, when the park was completed. Mr. Rand was born at Quincy, Illinois, February 9, 1838, educated at Asbury University, Greencastle, Indiana, began his business career as a miner in Colorado (then the far west), during the Civil War he was a paymaster in the navy, at the close of the war he engaged in the

⁶²*Ibid.*, p. 12.

lumber business at Glendale, Alabama, removed to Keokuk in 1880 and continued in the lumber business and later went into banking. He died November 12, 1903, and was interred at Greencastle, Indiana.⁶³

RIVER SLOUGH. A river bayou, on the west side of Nickerson Island, in the southeastern part of Jefferson Township. The slough is an arm of the Mississippi River and the name is thus locally descriptive.⁶⁴

RUSSELLVILLE. A pioneer place or hamlet in the northeast corner of section 15 of Cedar Township. It was laid out on October 20, 1858. The place was also known as Doantown because on land owned by Robert Doan, a pioneer and prominent resident of the vicinity.⁶⁵ The name Russellville apparently is in honor of Robert A. Russell, a prominent resident of Fort Madison.

RUSSELLVILLE. The name of a rural school in the southwest corner of section 11 of Cedar Township. The name is for the pioneer hamlet of the vicinity.

SACKS. The name of a rural school at the cross highways in the northeastern part of section 9 of Harrison Township. The school was apparently named for John C. Sax, whose home and farm were by the schoolhouse. George, James, and H. C. Sax also lived in the neighborhood.⁶⁶

SAINT FRANCISVILLE. The name of a ford across the Des Moines River near the west side of section 4 of Des Moines Township. The ford is in the vicinity of Saint Francisville, Clark County, Missouri, hence the name.

SAINT PAUL. An inland village on the south side (southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of southwest $\frac{1}{4}$) of section 14 and extending into section 23 of Marion Township. It was laid out April 30, 1866. The vicinity is a Catholic community and the village was named for the saint.

The post office of Saint Paul, Iowa, was established February 24, 1863, with Henry A. Vorwaldt, postmaster. His successors were: Casper Meierotto, January 15, 1866; John Schoeder, January 29, 1868; Gerhard H. Kempker, January 9, 1882; Otto Fritzjunker, February 9, 1886; Frank Denny, April 25, 1890; John Schriever, February 15, 1894; and John Leveling, September 10, 1898, under whom the office was discontinued June 29, 1901.

SAND PRAIRIE. A more or less locally descriptive name of a prairie in the southern part of Des Moines Township in the vicinity of Vincennes. This prairie is a sort of a second bottom to the Des Moines River.

SAND PRAIRIE. The name of a station on the Chicago, Rock Island

⁶³*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, pp. 555-56; *Biog. Review of Lee Co.*, 1905, pp. 479-80.

⁶⁴*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 80.

⁶⁵*Ibid.*, pp. 13, 20.

⁶⁶*Ibid.*, p. 64.

& Pacific Railway in the southeastern corner of section 20 of Des Moines Township. The station was named after the prairie in the vicinity, locally known as Sand Prairie. An older name of the place was Vincennes, which name is still (1922) retained by the local post office.

SANDUSKY. A village on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in the northeast corner of Jackson Township and section 1, on the Mississippi River. Here a Frenchman by the name of Lemoliese established a trading post as early as 1820. The name of the place was first known as Lemoliese, after the French settler. The village was probably named after Sandusky, Ohio, or possibly Illinois. Gannett says the name is "derived from the Indian *outsandouke*, 'there is pure water here,' or from *sa-anduste*, 'large pools of water.' Another authority gives the meaning as 'cold spring.'"

The post office of Sandusky, Iowa, was established July 11, 1861, with the appointment of James Graham, postmaster. His successors were: William Shepard, April 21, 1862; Joseph W. Hunt, December 18, 1862; Anderson B. Alley, September 4, 1863; Elizabeth Hunt, November 28, 1864; Thomas Jarvis, June 10, 1867; Harlan P. Dodge, March 16, 1871; George W. Newman, December 9, 1872; John F. Danielson, April 9, 1875; John W. Duval, December 29, 1876; Benjamin Stephenson, February 6, 1880; John Devosear, November 14, 1881; Luella Nightengale, September 27, 1883; and Luella Carter, November 14, 1895, who served until the office was discontinued, February 5, 1904. The office was re-established February 23, 1904, with Frank Carpenter, postmaster, who served until the office was finally discontinued, February 14, 1905.

SANDUSKY CREEK. Another name for Lamelee or Lemoliese Creek which see.⁶⁷

SARGENT'S GROVE. The name of a grove in the northern part of section 34 of Des Moines Township.⁶⁸ The grove was a planted one of black walnut (*Juglans nigra*). Here the third annual reunion of the pioneer settlers of Lee County was held, August 8, 1873. The grove was named after Nicholas Sargent,⁶⁹ an early settler and extensive landowner in the vicinity, who planted it.

SAWYER. A station on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in or near the southeastern part of section 7 of Washington Township. It was named for F. Sawyer, the landowner of the site.⁷⁰ The post office was established June 1, 1886, with the appointment of Howard M. Dewey, postmaster. He was succeeded by George W. Van Hyning, March 19, 1892, under whom the office was discontinued, April 29, 1905.

⁶⁷*History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 416; *Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 607.

⁶⁸*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, pp. 85, 88.

⁶⁹*History of Lee County*, 1879, pp. 488, 787.

⁷⁰*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 44.

SCRUB OAK. The name of a church in the northwestern corner of section 13 of West Point Township. In the vicinity the oaks growing on the upland are more or less stunted and are called scrub oak, hence the name of the church.

SHARON. The name of a rural church at the cross highways in the northeastern part of section 4 of Harrison Township. The church was dedicated and so named after the biblical Sharon of Palestine.

SHOPTON. A locally descriptive name for a station on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fé Railway in Madison Township, about a mile southwest of the city of Fort Madison, now near the westward extension of the city.

SKELETON RUN. A small creek, rising in the southwestern part of section 15 of Charleston Township, about a mile northwest of the village of Charleston, flows southwest to Sugar Creek in the southeastern part of section 29 of the same township. This is the location given by Keyes, 1895. *Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 76, has the stream rise in the southwestern part of section 26 of Charleston Township, runs southwestward to Sugar Creek in the northern part of section 4 of Des Moines Township. This stream parallels the one mentioned above but is about two miles southeast of it. The United States soil map, 1916, gives the same location as Keyes except the run enters Sugar Creek in the northwestern part of section 33 of Charleston Township.

SKUNK RIVER. The Skunk River forms the northeastern boundary of Lee County, separating it from Des Moines County. The river runs along the boundaries of Pleasant Ridge, Denmark, and Green Bay townships, entering the Mississippi River in or near the east side of the east section 7 of Green Bay Township. The name of the river is the supposed translation of the Sac and Fox Indian name usually given as Chi-ca-que, meaning a strong or obnoxious odor—so named because of the large quantity of wild onions which grew along the river, particularly farther up the stream. This form of the Indian word is a white man's approximation. Skunk River has its origin in central Iowa, in the east central part of Hamilton County; its branches draining Cairo Lake and Wall Lake of the same county. The general course of the river is southeast across Story, Polk, Jasper, Marion, Mahaska, Keokuk, Washington, and Henry counties.

Albert M. Lea, in his *Notes on Wisconsin Territory*, 1836, p. 27 and map, gives the Indian name as Chacagua River. Isaac Galland, *Iowa Emigrant*, 1840, p. 13, has the name Shecaqua. Nicollet's map, 1843, gives the name Shikagua. These variations in spelling are approximations of white men for the same Indian word.

According to Dr. William Jones (*Bur. Am. Eth.*, Bull. 40; 1:758. 1911.) the Fox Indian word is *ce'gagwa*, meaning skunk; the proper diminutive should be *ce'gāgō'a*, which happens to be the word for onion.

The name of the river and city of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, is

derived from this Indian word for onion. The Ojibwa Indian form is given as *she-kag-ong*, meaning "wild onion place," from a root form implying a "bad smell." (Gannett.)

SOAP CREEK. A small stream in the southeastern part of Jackson Township. It rises in the southern part of section 22 with a branch in section 27, runs southeast to the Mississippi River on the west side of section 36. In approaching Keokuk, the old Keokuk & Northwestern (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad leaves the divide and follows the valley of Soap Creek.⁷¹

SOUTH AUGUSTA. A village on the Skunk River, in the northwest quarter of section 25 of Denmark Township, opposite Augusta, Des Moines County. Here in 1835 John Whitaker erected a sawmill. The village of South Augusta was surveyed by George Berry, April 19, 1842. The name, South Augusta, is locally descriptive. No permanent town developed. Augusta, Des Moines County, was probably directly or indirectly named for Augusta, Richmond County, Georgia. The nearby township and village in Hancock County, Illinois, was named for Augusta, Georgia, after the old home place of the first settlers, and may have suggested the name for the Iowa village. Augusta, Georgia, was settled by immigrants from England during the reign of King George II and named in honor of the royal princess Augusta.

SOUTH FRANKLIN. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in the south part of section 35 of Franklin Township. The village of South Franklin was laid out by P. Henry Smith, August 22, 1872. The name is locally descriptive, the place being named after the inland village of Franklin, about two miles to the north.

STONE. The name of a rural school in the south central part of section 3 of Washington Township, about two miles southeast of the village of Denmark. The name is probably derived from the material used in the construction of the school building.

STONE COLLEGE. The name of a rural school in the west central part of section 27 of Marion Township, about a mile and a half south of Pilot Grove Station, on the farm of Elias Overton, who settled in the vicinity in 1836.⁷²

STRING PRAIRIE. An early post office indicated on Henn, Williams' map of Iowa, 1854, and other, early maps. It was in the southwestern part of section 15 of Des Moines Township. A long, narrow strip of prairie, between woods, ran northwest and southeast through this vicinity, hence the name String Prairie is locally descriptive. The Washburn rural school is in the northwestern corner of the same section.

SUBDISTRICT SCHOOL No. 1. The locally descriptive name of a rural school in the southwestern part of the north section 32 of Green Bay Township.

⁷¹*Geology of Lee Co.*, by C. R. Keyes, 1895, p. 312.

⁷²*Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 51.

SUBDISTRICT SCHOOL No. 3. The name of a rural school on the west side of section 19 of Green Bay Township, about a half mile west of Wescott Station.

SUBDISTRICT SCHOOL No. 4. This rural school is located near the northwestern corner of section 15 of Green Bay Township, about two miles southeast of Wever, and by the early Green Bay post office.

SUGAR CREEK. A station on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway in the southwestern part of section 24 in the southwestern part of Jackson Township. It was named after the nearby Sugar Creek.

SUGAR CREEK. This stream rises in the northeastern part of section 29 of Cedar Township, flows southeast across Harrison, Charleston, and Des Moines townships, and thence southwest across Jackson Township to the Des Moines River in section 25. In pioneer days maple sugar was obtained from the groves of sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*, also known as rock or hard maple) which occurred along the stream course. This circumstance gave the creek its name, a locally descriptive one. The stream is also known as West Sugar Creek in contradistinction to the eastern one in Lee County, also known as Sugar Creek. On Jesse Williams' map, 1840, and on Nicollet's map, 1843, the name is Half-breed Creek. This name was for the Half-breed Tract through which the stream flows.

SUGAR CREEK. This stream has several long branches. The main stream rises in the northeastern part of section 6 of Marion Township, flows southeast across Marion, Franklin, and West Point townships, and unites with Little Devil Creek near the center of section 15 of Jefferson Township to form Big Devil Creek. The name of the creek is due to the presence of groves of sugar maples (*Acer saccharum*) which were formerly in abundance along the stream, hence locally descriptive. The stream is also known as East Sugar Creek in contradistinction to the western one in Lee County, also known as Sugar Creek. On the United States soil map, 1916, the name is given as Big Sugar Creek from its source to the Mississippi River, thus including the portion formerly called Big Devil Creek.

SUMMIT. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, about two miles north of the city of Fort Madison, in or near section 28 of Washington Township. As the place is on rising ground overlooking the Mississippi River the name is locally descriptive.

SUMMIT. The locally descriptive name for a rural school on the ridge road in the southeast central part of section 8 of Jackson Township.

SUMMITVILLE. A former post office and a hamlet in the west central part of section 33 of Montrose Township. The name appears to be locally descriptive as the place is on rising ground along the ridge road.

A station on the old Keokuk & Northwestern (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad in the near vicinity still carries the name.

The post office of Summitville, Iowa, was established May 6, 1847, with William S. Sorton, postmaster. His successors were: James Sprote, November 8, 1849; Thomas Sprote, July 20, 1852; Isaiah Gilmore, December 14, 1853; Jacob Y. Anthony, February 19, 1856; N. Smith, December 12, 1856; Edward Wickersham, May 5, 1857; Edward F. Dixie, March 11, 1859; J. Q. A. Dehuff, August 15, 1859; Jacob Renwalt, March 17, 1860; John A. Cluster, April 3, 1860; Elkanah Little, August 12, 1863; Jacob Renwald, February 23, 1864; John H. Renwald, August 17, 1892; Charles C. Mullikin, November 3, 1893; Horatio S. Brown, March 27, 1902; Earl A. McKee, February 11, 1914; Alice Y. McKee, October 1, 1914; and Mary B. Brown, March 20, 1918, who served until the office was discontinued, May 31, 1919.

SUTTON CREEK. This small stream rises in the north central part of section 22 of Pleasant Ridge Township, flows northwest and northeast and into Henry County on the north side of section 3, reaching the Skunk River in the near vicinity.

TURNER'S PRAIRIE. A small prairie in the southern part of Jackson Township, mainly in section 29. It was named for local landowners, John F., James P., Davis C., and William H. Turner. It was also known as Lower Sand Prairie, in contradistinction to Sand Prairie in the vicinity of Vincennes.⁷³ Turner's Prairie is a second bottom to the Des Moines River.

TUSCARORA. A pioneer place at the cross highways in the southeastern part of section 8 of Franklin Township. The place is named on Henn, Williams' map of Iowa, 1854, and other, early maps. A hamlet clustered about the common corner of sections 8, 9, 16, and 17, near the headwaters of the east Sugar Creek. Two or three farm dwellings still indicate the vicinity. The name is for the Tuscarora Indians, one of the confederated Iroquois tribes. A village in Livingston County, New York, four townships, a village, and a river in Pennsylvania have this name. On some of the early maps as Plumbe's, 1839, the name is spelled Tuscarorah.

The post office named Tuscarora, Iowa, was established September 19, 1840, with Jeremiah McCollister, postmaster. His successors were: William Dunlap, May 30, 1842; Thomas W. Taylor, January 20, 1845; Fleming G. Payne, June 19, 1849; James Reid, November 14, 1849; George Grigsby, January 28, 1850; and Nathaniel Ives, August 23, 1851. The name of the post office was changed to Dover, January 6, 1853, with a new appointment, which see.

UNION. The name of a rural school on the south side of section 11 of Jefferson Township, about a mile and a half southeast of Viele.

UNION. The name of a rural school on the east side of section 25

⁷³*Ibid.*, p. 91; *History of Lee County*, 1879, p. 324.

of Van Buren Township, about three miles northwest of Belfast and on the east line of the township. The school obviously serves both Van Buren and Charleston townships, hence the name Union.

UPPER CASTRO ISLAND. An island along the Mississippi River on the east side of Jefferson Township in sections 13 and 24.

VALLEY. The name of a rural school in or near the northwest corner of section 9 of Montrose Township, about two miles northwest of the village of Montrose. The location being on the low ground along Jack Creek near the Mississippi River the name is locally descriptive.

VALLEY CHURCH. The name of a rural church on the highway near Hog Thief Creek in the west side of section 28 of Jackson Township. Apparently the name is locally descriptive.

VAN BUREN. This township is on the southwest side of Lee County, along the Des Moines River, south of Harrison and west of Charleston townships, and east of Van Buren County. It comprises the fractional part of congressional township 67 north, range 7 west. Settlement began in 1836. The township was created on order of the County Board of Supervisors at the regular January meeting, 1841. The township was named for Martin Van Buren (1782-1862), the eighth president of the United States (1837-1841).

VAN BUREN. The name of a post office established January 7, 1849, later changed to Warren, which see. The name was in honor of Martin Van Buren, ex-president of the United States.

VAN BUREN. The name of a rural school near the forks of the highway on the north side of section 11 of Van Buren Township. It receives its name from the township in which it is situated.

VIELE. A station at the junction of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad on the east side of section 9 of Jefferson Township. A post office was early established and maintained for many years. The place was named in honor of Judge Philip Viele, of Fort Madison, the pioneer lawyer of Lee County. Mr. Viele was born at Pittstown, Rensselaer County, New York, September 10, 1799. He came to Fort Madison, June 2, 1837. He was chairman of the first Republican state convention held at Iowa City in 1856. In 1859 he was a member of the Iowa State Board of Education. In 1870 he was treasurer and financial agent of the Fort Madison, Farmington & Western Railroad (now a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system). As he had brought the proposed road from a failure to a success he was gratefully remembered by having the station named for him. (See his life by D. F. Miller in *Andreas' Atlas of Lee County*, 1874, p. 30-31.)

The post office of Viele, Iowa, was established December 6, 1873, by changing the name of a post office in the vicinity known as Jeffersonville. This was done during the incumbency of Daniel Weese, the postmaster, who had been appointed May 20, 1868. His successors were: Frank A. Worsig, April 17, 1876; Joseph O. Jones, January 3, 1879;

H. C. W. Eppers, April 4, 1881; J. O. Jones, November 21, 1881; and Albert Osborn, January 20, 1882, under whom the office was discontinued June 1, 1882. The office was re-established June 9, 1882, with Albert Osborn, postmaster. His successors were: Joseph O. Jones, July 14, 1888; David Osborn, June 22, 1889; Clifton H. Frizelle, August 5, 1890; David Osborn, May 18, 1893; Joseph O. Jones, January 11, 1896; Mary Bubner, June 13, 1896; Francis L. Keran, August 21, 1897; Mary Bubner, January 18, 1899; and Francis L. Keran, March 24, 1903, under whom the office was again discontinued June 29, 1907. The office was again re-established August 31, 1907, with John M. Kudebek, postmaster, who served until the office was finally discontinued July 31, 1911.

VIELE. The name of a rural school on the south side of section 9 of Jefferson Township, about a mile southwest of Viele junction, after which it was named.

VINCENNES. A pioneer village in the southwest corner of section 20 of Des Moines Township, on the old Des Moines Valley (now the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific) Railway. The place was doubtless named after Vincennes, Knox County, Indiana, which in turn was named for the fort built by Sieur de Vincennes. Later the name of the Iowa village was changed to Sand Prairie, though the early established post office still retains the name Vincennes.

The post office at Vincennes was established under the name of Camargo, January 15, 1852, with George Smoot, postmaster. He was succeeded by J. McDaniel, November 1, 1854, who served until the name of the office was changed to Vincennes, March 16, 1858, with the appointment of Lewis B. Wayland, postmaster. His successors were: Joseph Peigman, July 14, 1858; Jesse W. Berry, June 25, 1859; Mrs. Esther R. Berry, January 19, 1863; William T. Blackburn, April 18, 1864; Braxton C. Berry, February 13, 1865; Osman N. Steele, February 9, 1866; Charles P. James, July 1, 1867; William D. Griffith, December 22, 1870; William C. Lockwood, May 1, 1882; Horace C. Sargent, Jr., October 30, 1884; Quartis Mott, July 31, 1905; Justus E. Garard, March 30, 1886; Ferdinand W. Griffith, March 28, 1889; Daisy A. Early, May 21, 1890; Hettie M. Rider, August 24, 1892; George S. Scott, April 18, 1896; Martha Scott, November 18, 1896; Robert W. Cruze, May 17, 1899; Henry Chronicle, May 26, 1906; John W. Walker, May 10, 1917; Mary A. Storms, September 16, 1918; Rose M. Case, February 15, 1921; and Ida Lawson Rooney, March 13, 1925, the present postmaster.

WARREN. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, in the southwestern part of section 36 of Harrison Township.

A post office named Warren was established in the vicinity many years before the advent of the railway which gave the name to the station. The name of the post office was doubtless in memory of General Joseph Warren (1741-1775) of Revolutionary fame, killed in the battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775.

The post office of Warren, Iowa, was established under the name of Van Buren, January 7, 1849, with George Wilson, postmaster. The name of the office was changed to Warren, December 24, 1849, with the appointment of Lewis R. Bissell, postmaster. His successors were: Benjamin Arnold, February 24, 1852; Benjamin Holland, January 20, 1853; John Herron, October 28, 1854; John D. Anderson, July 16, 1861; John G. Walker, September 30, 1867; J. W. Lafever, August 31, 1868; J. W. Dean, September 26, 1870; Thomas B. Russell, March 15, 1871; George W. Holmes, December 18, 1871; Michael W. Mitchel, March 27, 1874; Frank A. Wissig, September 30, 1880; Alfred H. Wissig, March 15, 1881; Samuel Stephenson, October 13, 1881; John Rube, Jr., April 14, 1884; John F. Russell, April 27, 1885; J. H. Underwood, December 10, 1896; Daniel Hoover, December 14, 1898; and Elizabeth A. Wallingford, April 8, 1901, who served until the office was discontinued, August 31, 1904.

WASHBURN. A rural school in the northwestern corner of section 15 of Des Moines Township, about a mile southeast of the village of Argyle. It was apparently so named after S. S. Washburn, an early and large landowner in the vicinity.

WASHINGTON. This township lies in the eastern part of Lee County, south of Denmark, west of Green Bay, north of Madison, and east of West Point townships. It comprises congressional township 68 north, range 4 west. Settlement began with John Box in 1833. The civil township was created by order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841, and the first election was to be held at the schoolhouse on the sixteenth section. The township was named for General George Washington (1732-1799), the military leader of the American Revolution and the first president (1789-1797) of the United States.

WASHINGTON. The name of a rural school on the east side of section 31 of Cedar Township, about a mile south of the hamlet of Big Mound.

WENDA. The name of a rural school about two miles northwest of the city of Keokuk on the west side of section 22 of Jackson Township.

WESCOTT. A station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in the south central part of section 19 of Green Bay Township. The place was apparently named for C. L. Wescott, a resident of the vicinity.

WEST POINT. This township lies near the central part of Lee County, south of Pleasant Ridge, west of Washington, north of Jefferson, and east of Franklin townships. It comprises congressional township 68 north, range 5 west. The civil township was created on order of the Board of County Commissioners at the regular January meeting, 1841, the first election to be held at the village of West Point, after which village the township was named.

WEST POINT. A village on the old Chicago, Fort Madison & Des

Moines (now the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy) Railroad, in the eastern part of section 5 of West Point Township. The town site was claimed by a squatter named Whittaker in 1834. The claim was purchased by John L. Cotton and John Howell in 1835. Abraham Hunsicker purchased the site, laid out a square and a tier of lots on each side. John L. Cotton built a log cabin on the northwest corner of the square and opened a store and the village was known as Cotton Town, after the storekeeper. In May, 1836, the claim of Hunsicker was purchased by William Patterson, Hawkins Taylor, A. H. Walker, and Green Casey, Kentuckians. The new proprietors laid out additional lots which were sold at public sale on September 10, 1836, at an average price of about \$40. "The name of West Point was given to it [the village] at the suggestion of the officers of the garrison at Fort Des Moines (Montrose), who agreed, if allowed to name the town, to purchase a number of lots."⁷⁴ Thus was the Iowa village named after West Point, New York, the home of the military school of the United States, the alma mater of the officers interested in the naming. The village was incorporated in 1854 and up to 1879 and later West Point was the largest inland town in Lee County, having about 1200 people. Eventually a railroad was built through the place. From 1843-1845 West Point was the county seat of Lee County.

The post office of West Point, Iowa, was established September 7, 1838, with the appointment of Aren Dodd, postmaster. His successors were: Jacob Thomas, January 23, 1840; William Alexander, October 4, 1841; Jabez H. Babcock, December 3, 1845; Adolphus Salmon, February 3, 1846; Edward A. Gibbs, August 6, 1849; William Werner, April 14, 1853; William Alexander, March 25, 1861; Herman Welsing, September 3, 1866; William T. Pittman, May 18, 1869; B. F. Woodman, August 23, 1872; Charles Martin, June 14, 1875; James M. Evans, December 13, 1875; Edgar D. Stoddard, December 6, 1877; John Kemper, January 18, 1886; Alvin K. Stoddard, April 17, 1889; Henry Pogge, April 14, 1893; John G. Fett, May 14, 1897; Robert A. Gardner, March 9, 1901; William D. Schulte, July 23, 1913; Louise Schulte, January 15, 1920; Ezebiel D. Steinhilber, July 27, 1920; William A. Brinck, November 9, 1921; and Helene F. Brinck, June 23, 1926, the present postmaster.

WEVER. A hamlet on or near the south side of section 5 of Green Bay Township, on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. It is about a mile northeast of the earlier platted village of Jollyville. On some maps the Jollyville site is erroneously named Wever. Some of the earlier maps give the station on the north side of section 8. As a place-name this form of the word is unusual if not unique. The place was probably named for General Clark R. Wever, a native of Jefferson County, New York. He was an early resident of Fort Madison, a vet-

⁷⁴*History of Lee County, 1879, p. 665.*

eran of the Civil War, engaged in banking, and became wealthy. He died, February 20, 1874.⁷⁵

A post office in the vicinity, known as Jollyville, was changed to Wever, October 12, 1873, with the appointment of Benjamin Slack, postmaster. His successors were: Isham B. Shaw, March 3, 1870; William O. Underwood, July 7, 1871; William Prescott, March 27, 1877; Jacob B. Alter, November 12, 1879; Elisha Cook, December 10, 1879; Elisha W. Green, January 4, 1886; Elisha Cook, April 4, 1889; John Bergundthal, January 24, 1891; Harvey Chestnut, December 24, 1892; Harry H. Hyter, May 19, 1893; Elisha Cook, June 18, 1897; Edward T. Saunders, May 29, 1900; Harry J. Bergundthal, August 27, 1901; John Blume, July 3, 1906; Harlie A. Shepherd, September 8, 1914; and Harry G. Liddle, March 21, 1919, the present postmaster.

WHITE OAK GROVE. The name of a rural school near the center of section 4 of Jefferson Township, on a divide or ridge road. It receives its name because of the prevalence of groves of white oaks (*Quercus alba*) in the vicinity.

WHITE'S IOWA INSTITUTE OF MANUAL LABOR. The building is in the southeast corner of section 14 of Cedar Township. The land is all of section 13, east half of section 14, northeast fourth of section 23, and the north half of section 24. The institution was founded by Joshua White, a wealthy benevolent Quaker of Philadelphia, after whom it was named. Mr. White donated \$20,000 which was to be controlled by a board selected by the Yearly Meeting of Orthodox Friends. The institution was for a time leased to the state of Iowa for a reformatory institution.⁷⁶

WHITE LANE. The early name of this rural post office was Cammackville and it was located in Cedar Township. The name was changed to White Lane, May 10, 1875, with C. A. Wolf, postmaster. The name White Lane is for White's Iowa Institute of Manual Labor which was in the immediate vicinity of the post office and because the office was located on a highway or rural lane. The post office was discontinued May 31, 1876.

WILCOX. The name of a former rural school in the southeast corner of section 30 of Marion Township. It was named for Berry Wilcoxson, a prominent resident of the vicinity. Mr. Wilcoxson was a native of Franklin County, Kentucky, born in February, 1804. He came to Lee County in the spring of 1843 and resided on his farm until he retired in 1879.⁷⁷ At the schoolhouse the first war meeting of Marion Township was held in 1861.

YEARGERVILLE. A former station on the old Keokuk & Northwestern Railroad in Charleston Township.⁷⁸ It was probably named for Edmund Jaeger, an early and a prominent resident of Lee County. The

⁷⁵*Ibid.*, pp. 610, 756.

⁷⁶*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 635.

⁷⁷*History of Lee County*, 1879, pp. 558, 804; *Andreas' Atlas*, 1874, p. 24.

⁷⁸*Portrait and Biog. Album of Lee Co.*, 1887, p. 635.

name of the station apparently has a phonetic as well as a misspelling. It should be Jaegerville.

YELLOW BANKS. A locally descriptive name for the cliff-like hills along the Des Moines River, in the northwestern part of section 30 of Jackson Township.⁷⁹

ZARAHEMLA. The name of the plat of a projected, pioneer town somewhere in Lee County. It was the subject of an act to provide for the assessment and collection of taxes by the legislature of the Territory of Iowa, approved February 17, 1842. (Laws, 1841-42, p. 90.) Zarahemla is a *Book of Mormon* name frequently used for a country and an individual (*Mosiah* 1, v. 1, *et seq.*) Evidently the projectors were Mormons or Latter Day Saints. There is or was a place in Lafayette County, Wisconsin, named Zarahemla (sometimes misspelled Zarahelma), so named for the same reason as was the Lee County, Iowa, village.

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⁷⁹Andreas' *Atlas*, 1874, p. 91.

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DEATH OF A UNION SOLDIER

We noticed yesterday the death, on the steamer, Des Moines City, of J. H. Brady, a member of Company D, Second Iowa Regiment, who was wounded at the charge of Fort Donelson. This young soldier was about eighteen years of age and was from Saylorville, in this county, where his parents reside. It is a sad reflection that after all his efforts to die among the associations of home he yielded up his life before the task was accomplished. Almost in sight of his home, his eyes closed on mortal scenes.

The funeral of the young soldier will take place at Saylorville this morning at half past ten o'clock. The discourse will be delivered at the church in the village, after which interment will take place at the Buzick grave-yard near Crawford's Mills, some four or five miles from Des Moines. Our citizens, as many as possible, ought to turn out.—*Daily State Register*, Des Moines, Iowa, May 2, 1862. (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)

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