

INDIANA GEOGRAPHICAL NOMENCLATURE.

SOME years ago Henry Gannett, geographer of the United States Geological Survey, prepared a list of places in the United States, giving the origin of their names, and from this work an anonymous newspaper correspondent compiled the following list of Indiana places, which we copy verbatim:

Adams: County, named after President John Quincy Adams.

Alfordsville: Named for James Alford, who built the first house.

Allen: County, named for Colonel William Allen, of Kentucky.

Amo: Hendricks county, Indian word meaning bee.

Anderson: Madison county, English name of a Delaware chief.

Anoka: Cass county, Indian word meaning "on both sides."

Argos: Marshall county, named from the town in Greece.

Arnolds: Creek in Ohio county, named from Colonel Arnold, of the revolutionary war.

Azalea: Bartholomew county, named for the flower.

Banner: Wells county, named for a newspaper, the Bluffton Banner.

Bartholomew: County, named for General Joseph Bartholomew, United States Senator.

Battleground: Tippecanoe county, named in commemoration of the battle of Tippecanoe.

Boonville: Warrick county, disputed; claimed in honor of Daniel Boone, others say named for Ratliff Boone, second Governor of the State, who laid it out.

Buck creek: Greene county, so named because a buck appeared each returning season on the banks of a nearby creek.

Calumet: River, Canadian corruption of the French, chalemel, literally meaning "little reed," but which in its corrupted form refers to the pipe of peace used by the Indians to ratify treaties; some authorities derive the word from calamo, honey-wood.

Cass: County, named for General Lewis Cass, Governor of Michigan in 1820.

Clark: County, named for General George Rogers Clark, who captured Vincennes.

Clarksville: Hamilton county, same.

Clinton: County, named for DeWitt Clinton, Governor of New York and projector of the Erie canal.

Crawford: County, named for Colonel William Crawford, who was captured by Indians and burned at the stake at Sandusky, Ohio, in 1782.

Crawfordsville: Named for William H. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury under President Monroe.

Daviess: County, named for Colonel Joseph Daviess, who fell at the battle of Tippecanoe.

Dearborn: County, and town in Wayne county, named for General Henry Dearborn, Secretary of War under President Thomas Jefferson.

Decatur: County, named for Commodore Stephen Decatur.

Dekalb: County, named for Baron Dekalb, who fell at the battle of Camden.

Delaware: County, so given because this tribe had villages within the boundaries of the county.

Delphi: Named for the ancient town in Phocis.

Dismaugh: Lake in Laporte county, from an Indian word meaning "Lake of the Monks."

Dubois: County, named for Toussaint Dubois, who had charge of the guides and spies in the Tippecanoe campaign.

Eel river: Called by the Indians Shoamaque, "slippery fish." The Indiana State Historical Geology, 1882, gives the Indian name as Ke-wa-be-gwinn-maig, meaning "snake-fish-river."

Evansville: Named for General Robert Evans, who laid it out.

Fayette: County, named for the Marquis de La Fayette.

Fort Wayne: Named from a fort built by Lieutenant-Colonel Hamtramck, in 1794; named for General Anthony Wayne.

Fountain: County, named for Major Fountain, of Kentucky, killed at the battle of Maumee, in 1790.

Fulton: County, named for Robert Fulton.

Garrett: Dekalb county, named for John W. Garrett, president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad.

Gibson: County, named for John Gibson, secretary and acting Governor of Indiana Territory in 1811-13.

Goshen: Named from the land of Goshen. The name is found in many parts of the country, applied as a synonym for fruitfulness and fertility.

Greene: County, named for General Nathaniel Greene, a Revolutionary soldier.

Hamilton: County, named for Alexander Hamilton.

Hammond: Named for Abram Hammond, twelfth Governor, 1860-61.

Hancock: County, named for John Hancock, signer of Declaration of Independence.

Hendricks: County, named for William Hendricks, one of the early Governors.

Henry: County, named for Patrick Henry.

Hope: Bartholomew county, so named by its Moravian settlers as a monument to the sentiment which caused them to emigrate there.

Huntington: County, named for Samuel Huntington, of Connecticut, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Indiana: State, so named because a company of traders bought this tract of land lying along the Ohio from the Indians.

Iroquois: River, an Indian word meaning "heart people," or "people of God," or from the Indian "hiro," "I have said," and "koue," a vocable which expressed joy or sorrow, according to the rapidity with which it was pronounced; also the name of a tribe.

Jackson: County, named for General Andrew Jackson.

Jasper: County, named for Sergeant Jasper, of Fort Moultrie (S. C.) fame, who was killed in the siege of Savannah.

Jay: County, named for the Honorable John Jay, early Governor of New York.

Jennings: County, named for Jonathan Jennings, first Governor of the State.

Johnson: County, named for John Johnson, judge of the Supreme Court of the State.

Knox: County, named for General Henry Knox, Secretary of War during the administration of Washington.

Kokomo: Indian word meaning "young grandmother."

Kosciusko: Named for the Polish patriot, Tadeusz Kosciusko.

Lagrange: County, named for the home of La Fayette, near Paris.

Laporte: County, a French word meaning door or opening between two stretches of forest connecting two prairies.

Laughery: River, so named for the massacre of Captain Laughery's company by the Indians.

Lawrenceburg: Named for the wife of Captain Vance, whose maiden name was Lawrence.

Leopold: Town, named for Leopold, King of the Belgians.

Ligonier: Named for Sir John Ligonier, lord viscount of Enniskillen.

Logansport: Named for Captain Logan, Indian chief, nephew of Tecumseh.

Madison: County, named for President James Madison.

Marion: County, named for General Francis Marion.

Marshall: County, named for Chief Justice John Marshall.

Martin: County, named for Colonel John P. Martin.

Martinsville: Named for the oldest of the locating commissioners, John Martin.

Merom: Named for the waters of Merom, in Palestine.

Metea: Cass county, named for Pottawattomi chief, or possibly from meda, or meta, which means a prophet or priest.

Miami: County, the French orthography for the Indian word Maumee, meaning mother; or, according to another authority, pigeon.

Mishawaka: Probably named for the Indian chief Mishiniwaka.

Mississinewa: River, Indian word for "river of great stones."

Modoc: An Indian word, meaning "the head of the river."

Montgomery: County, named for General Richard Montgomery, who was killed in the assault on Quebec.

Monticello: Named for the home of Thomas Jefferson, in Virginia.

Muncie: Named from the Indian tribe, the word meaning "death," given to them on account of an epidemic of smallpox, which nearly exterminated the tribe.

Muscatatuck: River, meaning "pond river," and so named because of the many stagnant ponds upon its banks.

New Harmony: Posey county, settled by the Harmonists, and named for their sect.

Newton: County, named for Sergeant John Newton, a Revolutionary officer.

Noble: County, named for Noah Noble, an early Governor.

Ohio: River, Indian word, meaning "the beautiful river."

Orange: County, named for the county in North Carolina, home of its settlers.

Owen: County, named for Colonel Abraham Owen, of Kentucky, killed at Tippecanoe.

Perry: County, named for Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry.

Posey: County, named for General Thomas Posey, an early Governor of the State.

Pulaski: County, named for the Polish patriot, Count Casimir Pulaski.

Randolph: County, named for Thomas Randolph, killed at Tippecanoe.

Redwood: River, derived from the Indian word "musqua," "me," "tig," meaning redwood, tree, river.

Ripley: County, named for General Eleazar W. Ripley.

Rising Sun: Named by its founder, John James, when viewing the sunrise from that location.

Roanoke: An Indian word, designating a species of shell, which they used for money.

Rushville: Named for Dr. Benjamin Rush, of Philadelphia.

St. Joseph: River, named for the husband of the Virgin Mary, by its early Catholic explorers.

Scott: County, named for Governor Charles Scott, of Kentucky.

Shelby: Named for General Isaac Shelby, former Governor of Kentucky.

Spencer: County, named for Captain Spier Spencer, killed at Tippecanoe.

Steuben: County, named for Baron von Steuben, the Prussian soldier, who fought in the Revolution.

Sullivan: County, named for Daniel Sullivan, killed by the Indians when bearing messages from Captain Clark, after the capture of Vincennes.

Tell City: Named by its Swiss colonists for William Tell.

Terre Haute: French word meaning high land.

Tippecanoe: River and county, an Indian word given the various meanings of "At the great clearing," "The long-lipped pike," and "buffalo fish."

Vanderburg: Named for Henry Vanderburg, judge of the first court formed in the State.

Vermilion: County, named from the river in South Dakota; said to have been so named because of the red earth produced by the burning of the shale overlying the outcrop of coal, by ignition from autumnal fires.

Vera Cruz: Named for the old town in Mexico.

Vigo: County, named for Colonel Francis Vigo.

Vincennes: Named from the fort built by the Sieur de Vincennes.

Wabash: County, river and town, from the Indian word "Ouabache," meaning cloud borne by an equinoctial wind; or according to another authority, "white water."

Wakarusa: Town, named from a stream, the Indian word meaning "thigh deep."

Wanatah: Named for an Indian chief, whose name signified "He that charges on his enemies."

Warren: County, named for General Francis Warren.

Warrick: County, named for Captain Jacob Warrick, killed in the battle of Tippecanoe.

White river: Translation of the name originally given by the French, "Riviere le Blanche."

Winamac: Indian word meaning captive.

Yankeetown: This word Yankee, with various suffixes, forms the name of many places in the United States. The name is said

to be the Indian pronunciation of the word "English," and bestowed upon the inhabitants of New England by the people of Virginia when they refused to aid them in the war with the Cherokees; it meaning to them "cowardice." After the battle of Bunker Hill, the people of New England having established a reputation for bravery, accepted the name and gloried in it.

An analysis of this list, supplemented by other names not included in it, will reveal that our county names in particular reflect that American sense of patriotism that in an earlier day delighted to honor the men who had served the nation and the State, especially in a military capacity. Of the ninety-two counties in the State, seventy-eight are named for such men. Some of these had little more than a local fame, but were none the less grounded in the patriotic esteem. Six of them—Madison, Monroe, Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Harrison and Adams, were named for Presidents of the United States. Six—Huntington, Carroll, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock and Jay—were named for signers of the Declaration of Independence, and sixteen for soldiers of national fame. Civilians of nation-wide fame thus honored were DeWitt Clinton, Thomas H. Benton, Henry Clay, Robert Fulton, Chief Justice Marshall and Patrick Henry.

Howard county perpetuates the memory of Tilghman A. Howard. Grant county was named for two Grant brothers, Samuel and Moses, early settlers in this region. Parke, for Benjamin Parke, one of the earliest of the educators in the State. He founded the State law library, was the first president of the Indiana Historical Society and cooperated in the founding of the Vincennes library and university. Vigo county was named for Colonel Francis Vigo, a Sardinian, whose services were invaluable to General Clark in the capture of Vincennes. The bell now hanging in the courthouse at Terre Haute was bought by the \$500 set apart in his will to show his appreciation of the people giving his name to the county. Brown county was named for General Jacob Brown, a soldier of 1812, and Blackford for Judge Isaac Blackford, one of our most notable jurists.

To quote from another newspaper writer: Many towns in In

diana have peculiar names, but the origin of the names is often much more so. Clay county has her share of such towns. For instance, Bowling Green, the former and original county-seat of this county, was so named from the fancied resemblance of the plat of greensward selected for the court-house square to the lawn in the city of New York dedicated to the game of bowling and known as the "bowling green," where, in colonial days stood the leaden statue of King George, which was demolished by the patriots in revolutionary times and molded into bullets.

Benwood, a town in the north part of the county, derived its name from the same source as did the first station on the Vandalia railroad out of Indianapolis west. A familiar character along the line of this road, during the time that wood was used for fuel, was Ben Davis, the agent of the railroad company, who measured and received the cordwood stacked by the side of the track. In the naming of Benwood, it is readily perceived that the first name of the agent and "wood" are combined.

Carbon, the principal town on the Big Four, between Greencastle and Terre Haute, was so named by its projector for the reason that it owes its existence to the deposits of coal developed there.

Cardonia was projected, platted and improved by the Clay Coal Company, of which John F. Card was president, which affords the reason for its having been so named.

Cory, on the E. & I. railroad, was named in honor of Simon Cory, a pioneer merchant and well-known hardware dealer at Terre Haute, who was interested in the building of the road.

Coffee, a postoffice down on the old Louisville road, had a narrow escape from being christened "Molasses" or "Pepper." This office was established something over seventy years ago, at a little country store, where A. J. Barber, for forty years a conspicuous character in this county, was employed as clerk. The petition for the postoffice having been granted, a party of citizens and patrons assembled at the store to agree on and recommend a name for it. Failing to agree, they appealed to Barber, who was just then engaged in making an inventory of goods. Casting his eye back on his inventory, he said, "Oh, call it coffee," which

was the second last item enumerated—and so they named it by common consent. The item on the bill immediately preceding was molasses, and pepper was that which followed.

Saline, a station on the E. & I. railroad, twenty miles southeast of Terre Haute, on being called out by trainmen, has provoked the inquiry of many passengers over the road as to whether there are any salt-works in the immediate vicinity of the place—a natural inference from the name—and when answered negatively, are at a loss to know why the town was so called. But the pioneer who laid out the place, who knew the site and its surroundings for many years before the town or railroad was thought of, gave it this name from the fact that a quarter of a mile from the site of the railroad station was the strongest and most frequented “salt lick” in this or adjoining counties, the deer actually undermining and felling a large oak tree by their persistent and continuous licking of the saliferous soil underneath.

Martz postoffice, at the town of Middlebury, established by the aid of C. M. Thompson, then postmaster at Bowling Green, under the Pierce administration, was named in remembrance of Mr. Thompson, whose middle name is Martz. Middlebury, the name of the town proper, was conferred by Elias Coopriker, who selected the name from the old elementary spelling book.

Clay City was originally platted in 1873 as Markland, in honor of an Indiana regimental officer in the civil war, who then held a responsible position in the postal service. When the application was made for a postoffice, as another had been granted and called Markland during the interval, it was necessary to choose another name. Morton C. Hunter, of Bloomington, then represented this district in Congress, and his brother was the railroad agent here. Taking advantage of the opportunity, and without the knowledge of the patrons of the prospective office, a commission was sent to Mrs. Hunter, wife of the agent, who took charge of the office, the same being christened Huntersville.

As Morton C. Hunter was unpopular with his constituency here, his action met with almost universal disapproval, resulting in the calling of an indignation meeting, which resolved to put forth a united effort to undo what had been done. To this end

a committee was chosen to propose and report a name appropriate in common for both the town and office. This committee recommended "Clay City," which was unanimously adopted, the change effected and the name of the town subsequently made to conform to that of the office.

Brazil, the name of the present county-seat and the largest city in the county, is invested with a great deal of dubiousness as to source of origin. At the time it was launched by the "proprietor" of the town, Owen Thorp, it was the only one bearing this name in the country. The accepted story is that Thorp was governed in the selection of a name by the frequent occurrence of "Brazil" in an Eastern paper, which he received daily by stage, as an insurrection prevailed at that time in Brazil, South America.

There is in Indiana quite a sprinkling of names that are reminiscent of literature and the classics. Indiana-polis itself has its Greek terminal, and less mixed examples are Albion, Arcadia, Argos, Attica, Auburn, Aurora, Avilla, Carthage, Cicero, Delphi, Milton, Odon, Orestes, Ossian, Oxford and others.

Curiously enough foreign personages and events nowise connected with our history crop out in our nomenclature. Paoli and Kosciusko were respectively Italian and Polish patriots. Secola, Marengo, Vistula, Warsaw and Trafalgar, all names of towns, are echoes of the wars of other lands. Stobo, a handful of houses in Monroe county, is named for Robert Stobo, an adventurous and now forgotten Scotchman, who figured in the French and Indian war under the flag of Virginia. Who remembered him in the christening of this hamlet two generations after his death is now lost to history.

A number of Indiana cities have nicknames which are or have been more or less in vogue, though some of these have become inappropriate as conditions have changed. One writer supplies the following list:

Irvington is known as the "Classic Suburb" because it is suburban to Indianapolis, and is the seat of Butler College, the leading educational institution of the State capital.

Evansville is called the "Crescent City" from its location on the outer side of a curve in the Ohio river; the "Pocket City," from

its location in and as the metropolis of that part of the State popularly designated as "The Pocket."

Terre Haute is the "Prairie City," from its location on Ft. Harrison's prairie, a section of the Wabash valley made memorable and historic by the campaign of General William Henry Harrison against the Indians.

Ft. Wayne is known as the "Summit City," from the comparative elevation of the site on which it is located.

South Bend is called the "Metropolis of Northern Indiana," from its population and importance, having more than one hundred manufacturing establishments, and as the seat of Notre Dame University, the largest Roman Catholic school in the United States. It is called the "Wagon City," because the great Studebaker plant is located there, the largest of its kind in the world. South Bend is also called the "Lotion City," from the many quack preparations, dermic remedies, etc., advertised as manufactured there.

Richmond is called the "Quaker City of the West," the Society of Friends composing a large per cent. of its population and controlling largely its institutions. Earlham College is located in this city.

Anderson is called the "Pittsburg of the White River Valley," because of its extensive manufacturing interests, especially in iron and glass.

Madison is known as the "City 'Neath the Hills," from its picturesque location on the banks of the Ohio river; the marginal heights and bluffs bordering the river overlooking the city.

Vincennes is the "Old Post," familiarly and historically; also the "Pioneer City of the Wabash Valley."

Wabash is known as the "Rock City," the hills on which much of the city is located being composed of solid stone.

Logansport is the "City of Bridges," being located on both the Wabash and Eel rivers, the two streams spanned by more than twenty bridges within the corporate limits for street and railway crossings. It is also called the "City of Churches," having nineteen Protestant church buildings with a membership of

five thousand in a total population of less than four times that number, not counting the Catholic institutions.

Huntington is the "Lime City" on account of its celebrated white lime, which is manufactured and shipped to all markets.

Bedford is the "Stone City" because of its practically unlimited supply of the finest and best oolitic limestone in the world.

Lafayette is the "Star City," the name acquired in the early history of the place because of location and relative importance, shining as a star of first magnitude in the fancy of its people, as contrasted with its satellites.

Auburn is the "Buggy City," having four large factories, producing more buggies than any other city or town in the State.

Bluffton is the "Asphalt City," its streets generally being paved with asphalt, contributing to the beauty and cleanliness of the place.

Bloomington is the "University City," because it is the seat of the State University, one of the oldest educational institutions in the West.

Elwood is the "Gem City of the Gas Belt" for most obvious reasons. It is also the "Buckle of the Gas Belt," as it is practically the center of the field.

Elkhart is the "City of Musical Doings," the home of more musicians and virtuosos of distinction than any other city of the same size in the State, or, perhaps, in the United States, with a large musical instrument factory and a conservatory of music. Pupils go there from all parts of the country to study music. It is also known as the "Independent State," a local sobriquet given it by Goshen, the county seat, and other surrounding towns, out of jealousy over its fancied assumption of importance.

Peru is the "Barbecue City," so named from its numerous barbecues of phenomenal proportions in presidential campaigns.

Brazil is the "Black Diamond City," from its output of block coal, this quality of coal having been named "black diamond" because of its superior value in the motivity of the industrial and productive world. It is called the "Clay Metropolis" from its output of clay and clay products and utilities, having eight or ten large manufacturing plants in this industry alone.

Angola is the "Hub," locally; "Gola," for short.

Martinsville is the "Artesian City," so named from its seven mineral wells and five sanitoriums.

Crawfordsville is the "Hoosier Athens," because of its educational facilities; the seat of Wabash College, one of the oldest and most reputable educational institutions in the West. It is also the "Hoosier Wool Market," purchasing and handling more wool than any other place in the Wabash valley.

Frankfort is the "Gem City of Hoosierdom" because of its beautiful streets, residences and business blocks, as well as its generally handsome and attractive appearance.

Muncie is the "Magic City of the Gas Belt," from its almost unprecedented development in manufacturing industries and corresponding growth in population and business incident to the discovery and utilization of gas.

Rockport is the "Bluff City," because it is situated on the rugged heights overlooking the Ohio river; perhaps as much as eighty feet above high water mark.

Laporte is the "Maple City" on account of its miles of streets lined with maple trees. Laporte lays claim to being the hand-somest city in the United States.

Lawrenceburg is the "Garden City of the World," so known in its earlier history and prior to the floods of 1847 and 1884.

Jeffersonville, until within recent years, was the "Gretna Green of the Ohio Valley" because of the many marriages of runaway couples from Kentucky and other States, taking its cue from Gretna Green, Scotland, just across the border, to which English people used to resort for clandestine marriages. It is also the "Falls City of Indiana," with respect to Louisville, lying immediately on the opposite side of the Ohio river.

Valparaiso is the "Normal City," the seat of the Northern Indiana Normal School.

Washington is called "Shoptown" from its factories and industries, more especially the railway shops of the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern.

Marion is the "Queen City of the Gas Belt," the beautiful capital of Grant county.

Greencastle is the "College City," the seat of DePauw University, and also the "West Point of Indiana Methodism."

Indianapolis is the "Railroad City," and was formerly known as the "City of Concentric Circles." It is also the "Convention City."

ANNUAL HISTORY MEETING.

[Report prepared by Mr. Logan Esarey, of Bloomington.]

THE fifth annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association met at Bloomington, Indiana, May 23, 24 and 25, 1912. The North Central History Teachers' Association and the History Section of the State Teachers' Association met with the first-named association. The association was the guest of the State University, and the Department of History planned and cared for the meeting.

The first session was held in the auditorium of the Student building. Henry Noble Sherwood, of the University of Cincinnati, opened the session with a detailed account of the "Settlement of the Slaves of John Randolph in Ohio." Professor Harlow Lindley, of Earlham, followed with a glowing tribute to the "Quakers in the Old Northwest." Professor Geiser and Judge Daniel Wait Howe were on the program, but neither was present.

The evening session was held in the men's gymnasium in order to insure ample room. Judge Howe, president of the Indiana Historical Society, presided. President Bryan welcomed the visitors to the university and city in a neat little address, after which the annual address was given by Professor Andrew C. McLaughlin, of Chicago University. Professor McLaughlin's subject was "The Supreme Court and Unconstitutional Legislation—Historic Origins." The address was well received. The evening closed with a reception to the visitors given in the parlors of the Student building.