COUNTIES AND COUNTY NAMES*

There are, and have been, ever since the 26th day of February, 1857, ninety-nine counties in this state. No county has been created under the present constitution of the state, although acts have been passed looking to that end. One enactment divided the county of Kossuth, and out of the three northernmost townships erected in the county of Crocker; but the act was subsequently pronounced unconstitutional by the supreme court. Acts looking to the division of Pottawattamie county have also been passed, but, upon submission to the voters of that county, were defeated.

The creation of a county having less than 432 square miles has always been forbidden by the state constitution, and it was because the proposed county of Crocker was obnoxious to this interdiction that the act creating it was declared void. It was found, however, when the present constitution was adopted, that, owing to want of knowledge of the fact that the township adjoining the northern state line (number 100) was one mile short throughout its entire length, several counties, viz.—Mitchell, Worth, Winnebago, Emmet, Dickinson, and Osceola—had each an area sixteen miles less than the required minimum. To remove all doubts likely to arise because of this error, the constitution of 1857 authorized the organization of these counties with their area as already defined.

The present constitution further provides that "no law changing the boundary lines of any county shall have effect until, upon being submitted to the people of the counties affected by the change, at a general election, it shall be approved by a majority of the votes in each county cast for and against it." An act was passed in 1862 authorizing counties to readjust their boundaries as they might see fit. Under the provisions of this statute, the boundary line of Crawford and Monona counties was removed six miles to the westward. The commissioners who drafted the code, believing the act unconstitutional, recommended that it be not embodied in the code, which recommendation being adopted, the act ceased to have force September 1, 1873.

Two counties were created by the legislative council of Michigan; twenty-two (including three extinct) by the legislative assembly of Wisconsin; and twenty-three by the legislative assembly of Iowa Territory; while the General Assembly of the state has established in all fifty-nine, of which, however, it has abolished three—Bancroft, Yell and the first Humbolt.

All the counties of the state are now organized and have been so since 1871. The organization of the older counties was provided for by special legislative enactments. But chapter 84, of the acts of the first general assembly, and chapter 12, of the acts of the fourth general assembly, provided modes of proceeding for such organization; and, especially since January 22, 1853, when the latter act took effect, nearly all the counties organized, and since the adoption of the present constitution all of them have followed the mode thus provided.

The statement given below is a brief synopsis of the facts connected with the establishment and organization of the counties, together with the original selection of county-seats, so far as the same may be gathered from the various statutes of the several legislative bodies.

*From Iowa Historical and Comparative Census.

The act of the territorial council of Michigan which laid off the counties of Dubuque and Demoine is deemed of sufficient interest to warrant its reproduction entire here:

AN ACT to lay off and organize counties west of the Mississippi River.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the legislative council of the Territory of Michigan, That all that district of country which was attached to the territory of Michigan, by the act of Congress entitled "An act to attach the territory of the United States west of the Mississippi river and north of the state of Missouri to the Territory of Michigan," approved June twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, and to which the Indian title has been extinguished, which is situated to the north of a line to be drawn due west from the lower end of Rock Island to Missouri river, shall constitute a county and be called Dubuque; the said county shall constitute a township which shall be called Julien; the seat of justice shall be established at the village of Dubuque until the same shall be changed by the judges of the county court of said county.

SEC. 2. All that part of the district aforesaid, which was attached as aforesaid to the territory of Michigan, and which is situated south of the said line to be drawn west from the lower end of Rock Island, shall constitute a county, and be called Demoine; the said county shall constitute a township, and be called Flint Hill; the seat of justice of said county shall be at such place therein as shall be designated by the judges of the county court of said county.

SEC. 3. A county court shall be and hereby is established in each of said counties. The county court of the county of Dubuque shall be held on the first Monday in April and September, annually; and the county court of the county of Demoine, on the second Monday in April and September, annually.

SEC. 4. All laws now in force in the county of Iowa, not locally inapplicable, shall be and hereby are extended to the counties of Dubuque and Demoine, and shall be in force therein.

SEC. 5. The inhabitants of the said township may hold an election for their township officers on the first Monday in November, next; all elections in the county of Dubuque shall be held at the following places, to-wit: at Sorimier's store in the village of Dubuque, and at Gehon's store in the village of Peru, at the dwelling house now occupied by Hosea T. Camp, near the head of Catfish creek, and at Lore's dwelling house on the Mukkoketta. The elections in the county of Demoine shall be held at the seat of justice of said county. The said elections shall be held by three persons, at each place above mentioned, who shall be elected to perform such service by a majority of the inhabitants then present between the hours of ten and twelve of the said day, and who shall proceed to hold said elections according to the mode prescribed by law for holding township elections, and make return thereof to the justices of the county court of each county respectively, who shall canvass the votes given at the several polls within their counties and declare the names of the persons who shall have been duly elected at such election. The oath of office of the chief justices of the county courts of the said counties may be administered by the person appointed clerk of the respective counties, and the said chief justices shall then proceed to administer the oath of office to the said clerk and associate justices of the county courts according to law.

SEC. 6. Process, civil and criminal, issued from the circuit court of the United States for the county of Iowa, shall run into all parts of said counties of Dubuque and Demoine, and shall be served by the sheriff, or other proper officer, within either of said counties; writs of error shall lie from the circuit court for the county of Iowa, to the county courts established by this act, in the same manner as they now issue from the supreme court to the several county and circuit courts of the territory.

SEC. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force on and after the first day of October next, and the township officers elected under this act shall hold their offices until the first Monday of April next, and until others are elected and qualified."

Approved September 6, 1834.

The first and second sections of the act were probably intended to divide the territory to which the Indian title had been extinguished between the counties of Dubuque and Demoine; and the first section limits the county of Dubuque to the line of the Indian purchase. The letter of section two does not, however, it will be observed, so limit the county of Demoine, whatever might have been the intention. In the following statement, accordingly, it is assumed that the original county of Demoine comprised all of the present state south of the line now separating Madison and Dallas counties, extended to both rivers. The actual line—one drawn due west from the lower end of Rock Island to the Missouri river—was rather more than half a mile to the northward; but the assumed line is believed to be sufficiently accurate for the purpose of this statement.

STATUTORY DATA CONCERNING PRESENT AND FORMER COUNTIES OF THE STATE.

ADAIR.—At one time a part of the county of Des Moines; and the northern tier from December 31, 1837, till July 30, 1840, a part of Keokuk county. Named after Gen. John Adair, an officer of the war of 1812, and sixth governor of Kentucky. Created by act of third general assembly, chapter 9, approved January 15, 1851. Chapter 27, of the acts of the same session, appointed Isaac G. Houck, Barlow Granger and Samuel B. McCall, respectively of the counties of Madison, Polk and Boone, commissioners to locate the county seat. Chapter 25, acts fifth general assembly, appointed three other commissioners, viz: George B. Hitchcock, Elias Stratford and John Buckingham, respectively of Cass, Madison and Page counties, who were to meet March 5, 1855, or within 60 days thereafter, to locate the county seat. Chapter 8, acts fourth general assembly, made the county, for revenue, election, and judicial purposes, a township of the county of Cass; and directed that the first election to be held at the house of Alfred Jones. The county was fully organized soon afterward.

ADAMS—Created by the same act as Adair. From October 1, 1834, to December 7, 1836, a part of the county of Des Moines. Chapter 8, of the fourth general assembly, provided for its organization, and appointed William Davis of Mills, James B. Campbell of Taylor and John Buckingham of Page, commissioners to locate the county seat, and Amos Lowe, organizing sheriff. The commissioners were to meet at McCalpins Mills, in Page county, and the place selected was to be called Quincy. The latter act attached the counties of Montgomery and Union to Adams for election, revenue and judicial purposes, each to be a civil township. The first election was ordered to be held April 4, 1853. The county was named in honor of the second president, and the county seat after the sixth.

ALLAMAKEE.—Named after Allan Makee, an early Indian trader, according to some accounts; but Fulton, in his "Red Men of Iowa," says the name is of Indian origin. Erected in 1847, by chapter 66, acts of first general assembly, out of what had been parts of the counties of Fayette and Clayton. It was organized from March 1, 1849, under the provisions of chapter 111, acts of the second general assembly. The first election was to be held April 2, 1849. Thomas C. Linton was appointed organizing sheriff, and William C. Linton, John Francis and James C. Jones were selected to locate the county seat.

APPANOOSE.—At one time a part of Des Moines county. Named in honor of a great chief of the Sacs and Foxes. Created and temporarily attached to Van Buren county, February 17, 1843. February 15, 1844, it was attached to Davis county. It was organized from August 3, 1846, on which day the first election was held. William Whitacre, of Van Buren county, B. P. Baldwin, of Washington, and Andrew Leach, of Davis, were appointed, January 13, 1846, to locate the county seat. See Revised Statutes, chapter 34; and chapter 60, acts seventh legislative assembly, second session.

AUDUBON.—At one time a part of the county of Keokuk. Named after John James Audubon, the eminent naturalist. Erected in 1851. As originally constituted, it comprised, in addition to its present territory, the tier of townships to the eastward. The same year these townships were detached to Guthrie. In 1853 the county was temporarily attached to Cass county as a civil township; and the first election was ordered to be held at Mr. Hamlins. See chapters 9 and 81, third general assembly, and 8, fourth general assembly. The act creating the county spells the name "Audibon," of course an orthographical error. Organized in 1855 under chapter 12, acts fourth general assembly.

BANCROFT.—The name of an extinct county. It was erected in 1851, and consisted of townships 98-100, ranges 27-30. It was at one time a part of Fayette county. Attached, for election, revenue and judicial purposes, to the county of Boone, January 22, 1853. In 1855, an act was passed attaching it to the county of Webster, but the same day another act was passed, abolishing the county by uniting it with that of Kossuth. See chapters 9, third general assembly; 12, fourth general assembly, and 141 and 142, fifth general assembly. Several years later an attempt was made to revive the county under the name of "Crocker," which see. Named in honor of George Bancroft, the historian.

BELKNAP.—In 1874 the general assembly passed an act providing for the division of the county of Pottawattamie, by detaching therefrom the three eastermost tiers of townships to form a new county to be called Belknap, subject to the approval of the people of the existing county. At the general election of 1874 the proposition was rejected by the people. See chapter xxiii, Private, Local and Temporary Laws, fifteenth general assembly. Named in honor of Gen. Belknap, then Secretary of War. Two years later another attempt was made to establish this new county, under the name of "Grimes," which see.

BENTON.—Originally constituted December 21, 1837. It then comprised all the territory between its present northern and southern lines extended to the Missouri river, and was temporarily attached to the county of Jackson. November 30, 1840, it was similarly attached to Linn county. Re-established, with present boundaries, February 17, 1843. It was organized from March 1, 1846; Joseph A. Secrest, of Jones county, Lyman Dillon, of Dubuque county, and Joseph A. Downing, of Cedar county, being appointed commissioners to locate the seat of justice. In 1847, it was enacted that the district court should be held at such place as the county commissioners should indicate. January 31, 1849, it was provided that at the following April election the voters should vote upon a county seat location; and if no point should receive a majority then a second election should be held the following August between the two points receiving the highest number of votes at the first election. See acts first Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6, first general assembly, chapter 52; second general assembly, chapter 82; Third Iowa legislative assembly, chapter 3; revised statutes, chapter 34; and seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 96. Named in honor of Thomas Hart Benton, senator from Missouri, who had materially aided in the passage of the bill erecting the Territory of Wisconsin.

BLACK HAWK.—Established February 17, 1843, from the county of Buchanan. At first temporarily attached to Dubuque county, it was, February 8, 1844, similarly attached to Delaware county; January 17, 1846, to Benton county; and in 1851 to Buchanan county. In 1853, A. J. Lowe, of Delaware county, and S. S. McClure and Edward Brewer, of Buchanan, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, and for this purpose were to meet at the house of E. D. Adams, May 2d. January 24, 1855, an election was directed to be held on the question of removing the county seat from Cedar Falls to Waterloo; and if the latter should prevail it should become the seat of justice from and after July 4th following. See Revised Statutes, chapter 34; fourth legislative assembly, chapter 87; seventh legislative assembly, second session chapter 96; third general assembly, chapter 95; fourth general as-

sembly, chapter 50; and acts fifth general assembly, chapter 28. Named after the famous chief of the Sacs Foxes, who was the leader in the Indian war of 1832.

BOONE.—At one time a part of the county of Benton. Erected January 13, 1846. Four days later it was temporarily attached to the county of Polk. In 1851, David Sweem, S. K. Scovill, and Samuel Hayworth, respectively of Marion, Dallas, and Warren counties, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat. The county was organized in 1849. See seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapters 96 and 101; third general assembly, chapter 19. Named after the pioneer of Kentucky and Missouri, or more probably his son, Captain Nathan Boone, who was an early army officer in the territory.

BREMER.—At one time a part of Fayette. Established in 1851, and attached for judicial, election and revenue purposes, to the county of Buchanan. It was similarly attached to the county of Black Hawk in 1853. In the year 1853 three commissioners were appointed to locate the county seat, viz.: James Wood, of Black Hawk county, Thomas Clark, of Butler county, and O. H. P. Roszell, of Buchanan county. See third general assembly, chapters 9 and 95, and fourth general assembly, chapters 50 and 99. Named in honor of Frederika Bremer, the Swedish traveler and author.

BUCHANAN.—Constituted December 21, 1837, partly from the county of Dubuque. It then comprised all the territory west of the county of Delaware between its northern and southern boundaries, direct to the Missouri river, and included, besides several Iowa counties of today, a part of the present county of Union, D. T. At what time it was reduced to its present limits nowhere appears in the printed statutes of either of the territories. But in the revised statutes of 1843 the boundaries of the new county of Black Hawk are described as "beginning at the northwest corner of Buchanan county," and otherwise precisely as Black Hawk is now found on the maps. Buhanan county was, for temporary purposes, at first a part of the county of Dubuque. February 8, 1844, it was similarly attached to the county of Linn. January 19, 1846, John G. McDonald of the county of Jackson, Theophilus Crawford, of Dubuque county, and John W. Clark of Delaware county, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat. These persons do not appear to have acted, for during the following year Lyman Dillon, of Dubuque county, Thomas S. Denson, of Jones, and Sylvester Stephens, of Jackson were appointed commissioners for the same purpose. The county was organized soon afterwards. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; sixth Iowa legislative assembly, chapter 87; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 100; and first general assembly, chapter 90. Named after James Buchanan (afterward president of the United States), then a senator from Pennsylvania, and for the same reason that determined the naming of Benton county.

BUENA VISTA.—At one time divided between Fayette and Buchanan counties. Established in 1851, and attached in 1853, for temporary purposes, to the county of Wahkaw (now Woodbury), which relation it maintained until the county was organized, some six years later. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9, and fourth general assembly, chapters 8 and 12. Named after the field of General Taylor's final victory in the war with Mexico, February 22, 1847. The name is spelled in the act creating the county "Buna Vista."

BUNCOMBE.—The first name of Lyon county. The change was made December 10, 1862, by chapter 23, acts extra session, ninth general assembly. Named after a county in North Carolina. See "Lyon."

BUTLER.—At one time divided between Fayette and Buchanan counties. Established in 1851, and attached to Buchanan county. In 1853, it was attached to Black Hawk county. The same year John T. Barricks and William Payne of Bremer county, and D. C. Overman of Black Hawk county, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat. See acts third general assembly, chapters 9 and 95; and fourth general assembly, chapters 50 and 99. Named in honor of General William O. Butler, a major-general of volunteers in the war with Mexico, and candidate of the democratic party for vice-president in 1848.

CALHOUN.—Originally called Fox county. Name changed and county temporarily attached to Boone county January 22, 1853. Attached to Greene county for election, etc., purposes July 1, 1855. It was organized within a short time thereafter. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; and fifth general assembly, chapter 142. Named in honor of John Caldwell Calhoun, the eminent South Carolinian, and by the same act that gave to the neighboring county of Risley the name of Calhoun's great contemporary and rival, Daniel Webster.

CARROLL.—At one time a part of Benton. Established in 1851. Temporarily attached to Shelby county in 1853 (up to which time it had been similarly attached to Polk), and to Guthrie county, February 14, 1855. Organized during the same year. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fourth general assembly, chapters 8 and 12; and fifth general assembly, chapter 8. Named in honor of the distinguished signer of the Declaration of Independence, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton.

CASS.—A part of Des Moines county, 1834-1836; the northern tier of townships in Keokuk county 1837-1840. Established in 1851. In the same year Isaac G. Houck, Barlow Granger, and Samuel B. McCall, of the counties, respectively of Madison, Polk and Boone, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat. Organized from March 1, 1853, and made one township with Audubon and Adair counties each a township of this county for temporary purposes. At the same time Robert McGavern, of Pottawattamie, Thomas G. Palmer, of Mills, and Milton Richard, of Fremont, were appointed commissioners to locate the seat of justice which was to be called "Lewis," and were to meet for the purpose, at Indian Town, March 7th. The first election was directed to be held April 4th, at "Broshaw's store." An act was passed in 1855 providing for an election, April 2d following, on the question of removing the seat of justice; and if a majority should favor removal Peter Hedge, Barton Garvin and Jeremiah Bradshall were to locate the new county seat. See acts third general assembly, chapters 9 and 27; fourth general assembly, chapter 8, and fifth general assembly, chapter 152. Named in honor of Lewis Cass, then senator from Michigan, and the last preceding candidate of the democratic party for president.

CEDAR.—Taken from the county of Dubuque. Constituted December 21, 1837. The act erecting the county made Rochester the seat of justice. The county was organized forthwith. An act of June 22, 1838, authorized the county commissioners to raise two hundred dollars toward locating the permanent seat of justice, and as soon as the fact that the money was raised should be certified to the governor the latter should appoint three commissioners, not residents of Cedar county, to make the location; for which purpose they were to meet at the town of Rochester, September 3d, following. The following winter, the Iowa legislature appointed Henry W. Wiggins, J. G. McDonald, and John Eagan, respectively of the counties of Scott, Jackson and Johnson, commissioners to relocate the seat of justice; for which purpose they were to meet at Rochester March 11, 1839, and establish the county seat either at the existing site or at a place the nearest practicable to the geographical center. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; third session, No. 13; second Iowa legislative assembly, chapter 17. Named after the Red Cedar (or Necatosh) river, which runs through the county.

CERRO GORDO.—At one time a part of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached February 28, 1855, to Floyd county for election, revenue, and judicial purposes. In 1857, Stephen H. Henderson, of Mitchell county, and James Taggart and George McCoy, of Benton, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, and for that purpose they were to meet at Clear Lake Village February 2d, or within ninety days thereafter. In the act establishing the county, the name is erroneously spelled "Cerro Gorda." See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fifth general assembly, chapter 84; and sixth general assembly, chapter 97. Named after a famous battlefield of the war with Mexico, where the army under General Scott gained a decisive victory.

CHEROKEE.—At one time divided between Fayette and Buchanan counties. Established in 1851, and attached to Wahkaw (Woodbury) county in 1853. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9, and fourth general assembly, chapters 8 and 12. The county was organized in 1857. Named after a famous southern Indian tribe.

CHICKASAW.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. It then extended three miles further northward along its entire width. Attached to Fayette county for election, revenue and judicial purposes January 22, 1853. Present boundaries established July 1, 1855. The county was organized in 1853. Named after a prominent Indian nation of the south. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; and fifth general assembly, chapter 120.

CLARKE.—At one time a part of the county of Des Moines. Established January 13, 1846. It then lacked its present eastermost tier of townships, but included the eastern half of the present county of Union, making it five townships long and three wide. Present boundaries established in 1849. In 1851, Beverly Searcy, of Lucas county, James Graham of Warren, and S. D. Bishop of Monroe, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, to meet for the purpose April 21st, or within six months thereafter. The county was that year organized. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 82; second general assembly, chapter 9; and third general assembly, chapter 19. Named in honor of James Clarke, governor of the territory at the time the county was erected.

CLAY.—Established in 1851. Attached to Wahkaw, January 22, 1853. Organized in 1858. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; and fourth general assembly, chapter 12. Named in honor of Lieutenant-colonel Henry Clay, Jr., of Kentucky, who fell at the battle of Buena Vista. In the naming of the counties created in 1851, it had been informally decided to call three of them after distinguished officers who had perished during the war with Mexico; and the names selected were Clay, Hardin and Yell. The choice of the first one was no doubt largely owing to the fame of Colonel Clay's distinguished father, whose long public career was then (1851) drawing to a close, and whose leadership in the compromise measures of 1850, then quite popular, had endeared him to many who had previously been unfriendly to him.

CLAYTON.—Constituted December 21, 1837, partly from the county of Dubuque, taking in, at that time, part of the present county of Allamakee, but probably excluding part of the northwestern township of the present county. The act establishing the county made Prairie La Porte (now Guttenberg), the county seat. The present boundaries were established in 1847. By act of January 14, 1840, D. F. Blythe, J. L. Kirkpatrick, and Franklin Moffit, of the counties of Dubuque, Jackson and Delaware respectively, were appointed commissioners to relocate the county seat, who were to meet at the town of Prairie La Porte, May 4th. At the following August election, the voters were to decide between the place so selected and Prairie La Porte; and if a majority favored the former it was to be the county seat from September 1st. A later act postponed this election till October 5th. February 15, 1843, Hardin Nowlin, William Jones and David Moreland, of the counties respectively of Dubuque, Jackson and Delaware, were appointed commissioners to relocate the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at Prairie La Porte, April 3d; the place by them selected was to be the county seat as soon as a house should be furnished thereat for holding the courts. In case the commissioners decided for removal, a majority of the legal voters might demand an election on the question of removal, to be held June 5th. An act of January 15, 1849, provided that at the following April election the voters should select for a county seat either Garnavillo, Guttenberg or Elkader, and if there should be no majority at such election there should be another, May 7th, between the two points receiving the most votes at the other election. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; second Iowa legislative assembly, chapter 48; second legislative assembly, special session, chapter 19; fifth legislative assembly, chapter 74; first general assembly, chapter 23; and second general

assembly, chapter 130. Named in honor of John Middleton Clayton, senator from Delaware, who also had rendered material assistance in the passage of the Wisconsin territorial bill.

CLINTON.—Constituted December 21, 1837, out of part of the county of Dubuque. An election was ordered to be held February 19, 1838, to select a county seat, Lyons and Cammanche being the competitors. Organized from March 1, 1840; first election to be held April 6th, at the house of Lyman Evans; Cammanche to be the county seat. An act approved January 14, 1841, appointed William Miller, Andrew F. Russell and William A. Warren, respectively of the counties of Cedar, Scott and Jackson, commissioners to relocate the seat of justice, who were to meet for the purpose at the house of Abraham Folcks, in Clear Creek precinct, before July 14th. The place so selected, to which the commissioners were to give a name, was to be the county seat so soon as suitable buildings should be erected for the accommodation of the court and suitors, until which time Cammanche was to remain the temporary seat of justice. March 15, 1848, provision was made for the voters to select, at the ensuing spring election, a permanent seat of justice; if no place had a majority, a special election was to be held May 1st, between the three points having the most votes at the first election; and if there was yet no majority another election was to be held June 5th, between the two points having the most votes at the May election. See Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6, second legislative assembly, chapter 39; third legislative assembly, chapter 64; and first general assembly, extra session, chapter 49. Named in honor of DeWitt Clinton, the illustrious fifth governor of the state of New York.

COOK.—The name of an extinct county taken from the original county of Des Moines, December 7, 1836. It is difficult to give its precise limits. The act setting it apart thus describes its boundaries: "Beginning on the Mississippi river, at the northeast corner of the county of Musquitine; thence up said river to the southeast corner of the county of Dubuque; thence with the line of said county of Dubuque to the Indian boundary line; thence with the said line south to the northwest corner of the county of Musquitine; thence east with said line * * * to the beginning." "The northeast corner of the county of Musquitine," or Muscatine, as the name is now spelled, was, by the same act, made to be twenty-five miles up the river, "on a straight line," from the "northeast corner of the county of Louisa," which was "twelve miles above the mouth of the Iowa," or about the same as at present. This would make the northeast corner of Muscatine about midway between the present town of Buffalo and the mouth of Rock river in Illinois. Now, the southern line of the county of Dubuque was not more than four or five miles north of this new line of Muscatine county, and paralelled to it all the way. (See Dubuque below.) This would make the county about that width. But a map of Wisconsin territory, published in 1837, has a county of Cook, triangular in shape, two sides being the southern and western described above, the latter extended northwardly; the hypothenuse consisting of a line drawn from the southern end of Rock Island, in a direction W. N. W. to the Indian boundary line, reaching it not far from the northwestern corner of the present Benton county. The acts creating the several counties do not, however, warrant any such limits. It is probable the entire act dividing up the county of Des Moines was drafted with only meager information concerning the geography of the country affected. The county became extinct by its territory being apportioned among several new ones December 21, 1837. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, first session, No. 21; and second session, No. 6. It is not known whence this county derived its name.

CRAWFORD.—At one time a part of Benton county. Established in 1851. As originally formed, it did not include its present western tier of townships. Attached to Shelby county in 1853. Organized in 1855. Present boundaries established in 1865. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapters 8 and 12; and ninth general assembly, chapter 87. The immediate derivation of this name is unknown. It is probably after that of a

county in some other state, which was itself named after William H. Crawford, secretary of the treasury 1817-1825.

CROCKER.—The general assembly, in 1870, undertook to make a new county out of that part of the county of Kossuth, lying north of the north line of township 97, being the former county of Bancroft, and provided for the first election, which was accordingly held October 10, 1870, and a set of county officers chosen. Greenwood was subsequently designated as the county seat. As the county contained less than 432 square miles, the act constituting it was declared by the supreme court, December 11, 1871, to be a violation of section 2, article XI, of the constitution. Named in honor of Marcellus M. Crocker, who had been colonel of the thirteenth Iowa infantry, and a brigadier-general of volunteers. See acts thirteenth general assembly, chapter 192; also Garfield vs. Brayton, 33 Iowa Reports, page 16.

DALLAS.—A part of the county of Keokuk from December 21, 1837, till 1840. Established as a county January 13, 1846. It then included the westernmost tier of townships of the present county of Polk, and lacked its own present westernmost tier. Four days later the boundaries as now existing were established. The same day it was attached to the county of Polk for election, revenue and judicial purposes. Organized from March 1, 1847. First election held April 5th. William Wear and William Canfield, of Polk county, and L. W. Babbitt, of Marion county, appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, and to meet, for that purpose, May 3d, or within thirty days thereafter, at the town of Hickory. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapters 82, 83 and 101; and first general assembly, chapter 50. Named in honor of George Mifflin Dallas, vice-president of the United States.

DAVIS.—At one time a part of Des Moines county, and more recently partly included within the county of Van Buren. Named in honor of Garret Davis, a representative from Kentucky, who was active and influential in procuring the erection of the territory of Iowa. He afterwards, during the civil war, did much toward preventing Kentucky from joining the seceding states. Established and temporarily attached to Van Buren county, February 17, 1843. As at first constituted, it lacked part of its present easternmost tier of townships, owing to an evident error in the act establishing the county, which fixed the northwest corner of range 12 as the northeast corner. The present boundaries were established February 15, 1844, and the county organized from the first day of the following month. Charles H. Price, of Van Buren, Thomas Wright of Henry, and John Brown of Lee were to locate the seat of justice as near the geographical center of the county as they might deem proper, "paying due regard to the present as well as future population." They were to meet for the purpose during the month of April at the house of Noble C. Barron. February 11, 1848, it was provided that at the following April election the electors should vote for or against removal of the county seat. If a majority favored removal, William G. Coop, William S. Whitaker, and George Wilson, respectively of the counties of Jefferson, Van Buren and Wapello were to meet at Bloomfield, May 1-11, to select such seat of justice and name it. June 5th following, the voters were to choose between the site thus selected and Bloomfield. See revised statutes, chapter 34 and acts sixth legislative assembly, chapter 122; and first general assembly, extra session, chapter 50.

DECATUR.—At one time a part of the county of Des Moines. Established January 13, 1846. Named after Stephen Decatur, the distinguished naval officer. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 82. Chapter 18, acts third general assembly, appointed Wareham G. Clark, Henry Allen, and F. N. Sales, respectively of the counties of Monroe, Lucas and Appanoose, commissioners to locate the seat of justice; who were to meet at the house of H. B. Notson, February 1st, or within sixty days thereafter, to enter upon their duties. February 10, 1853, provision was made for an election for county seat, to be held April 4th following, between "either of the situations where locations" had "been selected, and at the center, or any other point the people" might "select within three miles of the geographical center." If no place should

have a majority at such election, then the electors were to vote, May 2d, between the two points having the greatest number of votes at the April election. The owners of the site selected were, however, required to deed to the county, within ten days, forty acres of land for the accommodation of the public buildings of the county. See acts fourth general assembly, chapter 53.

DELAWARE.—So named because of the eminent service rendered by John M. Clayton, United States senator from the state of Delaware, in the creation of territory of Wisconsin. Constituted December 21, 1837, but for temporary purposes continued as a part of the county of Dubuque, from which it was taken. An act of the second legislative assembly, of December 20, 1839, provided for the organization of the county, and appointed S. B. Umstead, Shadrach Burliston, and Paul Cain, respectively of the counties of Clayton, Jackson and Dubuque, commissioners to locate the county seat, who were to meet on or before May 1, 1840, to determine on the most eligible point. The first general election was to be held at the houses of William Eads, J. Schwartz and ——— Morland. An act approved July 24, 1840, repealed so much of the act of 1839 as named commissioners, those selected having done nothing, and appointed in their stead, William Smith, Sr., William Jones and Thomas Denson, respectively of the counties of Dubuque, Jackson and Jones. An act approved January 13, 1841, provided that at the general election the next August the electors might vote on the location of the county seat, and if no place should have a majority then another election should be held August 16th, to decide between the two points having the most votes at the other election. February 13, 1843, the county was again formally attached to Dubuque for judicial purposes. February 8, 1844, the county was organized, and Buchanan and Black Hawk counties attached. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; second Iowa legislative assembly, chapter 7; extra session, chapter 7; third general assembly, chapter 60; fifth legislative assembly, chapter 57; and sixth legislative assembly, chapter 87.

DES MOINES.—All of what is now the state of Iowa south of a line drawn due west from the lower end of Rock Island, in the Mississippi, was constituted, by an act of the territorial legislature of Michigan, approved September 6, 1834, the county of "Demoine" from and after October 1st following. December 7, 1836, the counties of Lee, Van Buren, Henry, Louisa, Muscatine and Cook were taken out, and the county of "Des Moines" bounded as follows: "Beginning at the most southern outlet of Skunk river, on the Mississippi; thence up said river to a point fifteen miles above the town of Burlington, on the bank of said river; thence on a westerly direction to a point on the dividing ridge between Iowa river and Flint creek, being twenty miles on a due west line from the Mississippi river; thence a southerly direction so as to intersect the northern boundary line of the county of Lee at a point twenty miles on a straight line from the Mississippi river; thence east with the northerly line of said county to the place of beginning." The "northerly line of" Lee is thus described in the same act: "Beginning at the most southern outlet of Skunk river, on the Mississippi, thence (in) a northern direction, passing through the grove on the head of the northern branch of Lost Creek; and thence to a point corresponding with the range line dividing range seven and eight." The southern boundary line of the county, therefore, seems to have been a few miles to the southward of the present line, so that it included parts of the present townships of Green Bay, Denmark, and Pleasant Ridge, in Lee county. It also comprised most of Baltimore township and parts of New London and Canaan townships, as they at present exist in Henry county; while parts of the present townships of Washington, Huron and Yellow Springs, Des Moines county, seem to have been set off to Louisa county. An act approved January 18, 1838, changed the boundaries again, making the lines the same as at present, excepting that fractional township 69, ranges 3 and 4, now the township of Denmark, and a part of that of Green Bay, in the county of Lee, were included in Des Moines, while the whole of 69, 5, was included in the county of Lee. The act of the Michigan legislature provided that the county judges should locate the seat of justice. Seat of justice established at Burlington, January 18, 1838. January 9, 1840, an election was ordered to be held March 3, 1840, for county

seat between the "centre" and "Burlington." See "Territorial Laws of Michigan," Vol. III, pp. 1326, 1327; acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, first session, No. 21; second session, No. 67; first Iowa legislative assembly, p. 94; second Iowa legislative assembly, chapter 35. The present boundaries were established in 1839. Named after the river, which ran through the original county.

DICKINSON.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached to Wahkaw county for temporary purposes, up to which time it had been similarly attached to the county of Polk. Organized about 1858. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 8. Named in honor of Daniel S. Dickinson, a senator of the United States from the state of New York.

DUBUQUE.—Established October 1, 1834. For the original boundaries, see introduction to this data. The present boundaries of the county were established December 21, 1837, at which time the counties of Cedar, Clayton, Clinton, Delaware, Jackson and Jones were wholly, and those of Buchanan, Fayette, Johnson, Linn, Muscatine and Scott partly, taken from this county. Seat of justice "established at the village of Dubuque until changed by the judge of the county court." See Territorial Laws of Michigan, Vol. III, pp. 1326-7; acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, No. 6. County and township were named in honor of Julien Dubuque, a miner from France, who came to the vicinity in 1788, and was the first person to work its lead mines, and who died in the year 1810, and was buried in the county.

EMMET.—At one time a part of Fayette county. Established in 1851, and named in honor of Robert Emmet, the Irish patriot of 1798. At first the name was spelled "Emmett." But about 1868, the correct orthography came into use. The county was attached to Boone county for temporary purposes January 23, 1853, up to which time it had been similarly attached to the county of Polk; and to Webster county July 1, 1855. It was organized in 1859. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fifth general assembly, chapter 142.

FAYETTE.—Established December 21, 1837, being partly taken from Dubuque county. As originally constituted, it was perhaps the largest county, territorially speaking, that has anywhere had an existence. Its boundaries are thus desribed: "The whole of the country lying west of the Mississippi river and north of the southern boundary of Clayton, extending westward to the western boundary of Wisconsin territory, and not included within the proper limits of the said county of Clayton." The boundaries of the latter are thus described: "Beginning at the point on the Mississippi river, where the fifth principal meridian intersects the same; thence running south on the said meridian line, to the line dividing townships ninety and ninety-one north; thence west along said line to the line dividing ranges six and seven west; thence north along the said line to the neutral ground; thence along the southern boundary of said neutral ground to the Mississippi river; thence down the middle of the main channel of said river to the place of beginning." The neutral ground referred to included nearly the whole of the present county of Allamakee, and a part of that of Clayton, besides a large tract to the westward and some to the northward, so that the county of Clayton comprised an area hardly as extensive as its present limits. All the remainder of the territory to the northward of township 90 was comprised within the new county of Fayette. It extended to the British dominions on the north, and from the Mississippi river to the White Earth. It therefore included within its limits all of the present state of Minnesota west of the Mississippi, and except a small tract in the southeast corner, all of the present territory of Dakota east of the Missouri and the White Earth, embracing altogether an area of not far from 140,000 square miles. It was, however, only a paper county, as it had no organization until some years after it had been reduced to its present boundaries, which was in 1847. Election ordered April 7, 1851, between the following points for county seat: "Centerville, at the center," "Lightville, near Light Mill, on the Volga

river, West Union, Auburn and Claremont." If no place had a majority, another election was to be held May 2d between the two points receiving the highest number of votes at the first election; the successful one to furnish the county two acres of land for public buildings. In 1853, Silas A. Sawyer and D. A. Mahoney, of the county of Dubuque, and E. K. Beckford, of the county of Clayton, were appointed commissioners to relocate the county seat; for which purpose they were to meet at the house of William Russell, in May or June; their action, in case they deemed a removal of the county seat advisable, to be subject to the approval of the voters, at an election August 1st. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; also first Iowa General assembly, chapter 23; third general assembly, chapter 21; fourth general assembly, chapter 60. Named in honor of Marquis de La Fayette, but probably more immediately after a county in some other state.

FLOYD—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851, with northern boundary three miles north of the present line. Attached to Chickasaw January 22, 1853; under the authority of which county Floyd was organized in 1854. The present boundaries were fixed July 1, 1855. In 1857, the acts of Martin V. Burdick, of Howard county, and Daniel E. Maxon, of Mitchell county, appointed by Judge Samuel Murdock to locate the county seat, were legalized. The same year D. W. Poindexter, Lorenzo Bailey, and James P. McKenney, respectively of the counties of Mitchell, Chickasaw and Winneshiek, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, for which purpose they were to meet at "St. Charles," Floyd county, in June or July. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; fifth general assembly, chapter 120; sixth general assembly, chapters 118 and 242. Named in honor of Sergeant Charles Floyd, of Lewis and Clark's expedition, who died in 1804, and was buried on the banks of the Missouri; the first white man of whose death and burial in Iowa there is record.

FOX.—Divided between Buchanan and Benton counties 1837-1840. Established in 1851. Name changed to Calhoun January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk for temporary purposes. Acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 100. Named after one of the confederated tribes—Sacs and Foxes—which at one time occupied a large part of eastern Iowa.

FRANKLIN.—Established in 1851. Attached to Chickasaw temporarily January 22, 1853, and to Hardin, July 1, 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; and fifth general assembly, chapter 142. Organized in 1855. Named in honor of Benjamin Franklin, although the legislators who gave the name may also have had in mind Sir John Franklin, the Artic explorer, about whose fate there was at the time world-wide anxiety.

FREMONT.—Created in 1847, and named in honor of Lieutenant-colonel John Charles Fremont, then an officer of the army in the war with Mexico, who had a few years before conducted an exploration and survey of the Des Moines river. It was probably temporarily attached to Pottawattamie county. Organized in 1850. In 1851, William L. Berge, R. McGavren and John A. Sloan, respectively of the counties of Page, Pottawattamie and Jefferson, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice; for which purpose they were to meet at the house of James Babbitt during the month of May. See acts first general assembly, chapters 83 and 84; third general assembly, chapter 19.

GREENE.—At one time a part of the county of Benton. Established in 1851, and named in honor of General Nathaniel Greene, of the revolutionary army. Attached to Dallas January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk for temporary purposes. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101. Organized in 1854.

GRIMES.—In 1876 an act was passed (acts sixteenth general assembly, chapter 160) taking from the county of Pottawattamie the townships in ranges thirty-eight, thirty-nine and forty and constituting them the county of "Grimes," being the territory covered by the act of 1874, looking to the establishment of Belknap county. The county seat was to be within the township of Center. The act changing the boundary of Pottawattamie county was to be submitted to the voters of that county at the general election of 1876. The proposition was accordingly so submitted, and was rejected by the people. Named in honor of James W. Grimes, third governor of the state, and several years United States senator.

GRUNDY.—At one time divided between Buchanan and Benton counties. Established in 1851, and named after Felix Grundy of Tennessee, prominent in political life half a century ago. Attached to Buchanan county for revenue, election and judicial purposes the same year, and to Black Hawk county in 1853. See acts third general assembly, chapters 9 and 95; fourth general assembly, chapter 50. Organized under chapter 12, fourth general assembly, in 1856.

GUTHRIE.—At one time a part of the county of Keokuk. Established in 1851, and named in honor of Captain Edwin Guthrie, captain of a company of Iowa volunteers in the war with Mexico, who was wounded at Pass La Hoya, and died shortly afterward at the Castle of Perote. The county as originally formed had its eastern and western boundary lines six miles to the eastward of the present lines respectively. In the same year, the present boundaries were established. At the same session of the legislature, Isaac H. Walters, David Bishop and Lewis Whitten, respectively of the counties of Marion, Madison and Polk, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, who were to meet for that purpose April 21, 1851, or within six months thereafter. Organized by the judge of the fifth judicial district in 1851, under chapter 84,acts first general assembly. See acts third general assembly, chapters 9, 19 and 81.

HAMILTON.—Taken from Webster county, and comprises the same territory as did the latter before Yell was united with it, and formerly called Risley. Created and organized in 1857, and Webster city made the county seat. See acts sixth general assembly, chapter 15. Named in honor of William W. Hamilton, president of the senate in that general assembly.

HANCOCK.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached to Boone, January 22, 1853, and to Webster July 1, 1855. It had formerly been similarly attached to the county of Polk. Organized about 1858. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; fifth general assembly, chapter 142; and seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101. Named in honor of John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress.

HARDIN.—At one time divided between the counties of Buchanan and Benton. Established in 1851; and attached to Marshall January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk for temporary purposes. Organized early in 1853. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; and fourth general assembly, chapter 12. Named in honor of Col. John J. Hardin of Illinois, who perished in battle during the war with Mexico.

HARRISON.—Established in 1851. Was at one time a part of the titular county of Keokuk. Organized from March 7, 1853, by chapter 8, acts fourth general assembly, which enactment also appointed Abram Fletcher, Charles Wolcott and A. B. Jones, respectively of the counties of Fremont, Mills and Pottawattamie, commissioners to locate county seat, the name of which was to be Magnolia, and who were to meet in March for that purpose. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9. Named in honor of the ninth president, William Henry Harrison.

HENRY.—Set off from Des Moines county, December 7, 1836, and "Mount-pleasant," designated as the place for holding court. The original boundaries were quite different from the present. They are thus defined: "Beginning at the southwest corner of Des Moines; thence northwest with the line of the said county of Van Buren, to the Indian boundary line; thence north with the said

boundary line twenty-four miles; thence southeast to the northwest corner of the county of Des Moines; thence south with the west line of the county of Des Moines to the beginning." The northeast corner of the county was at a point twenty miles due west from the Mississippi, or about three miles south and perhaps one east of the present northwest corner of the Des Moines county. The southeast corner was not far from the southwest corner of section nineteen (19), township sixty-nine (69), range six (6) west, or what is now Marion township, in the county of Lee. The southwest corner was about seven miles east of the present northwest corner of Van Buren county; and the northwest corner was within the present county of Washington, about six and a half miles from its western boundary, and some three miles north of the present town of Brighton. The county thus seems to have included, of present political divisions of the state the following: A small part of the township of Washington, Des Moines county; a part of Pleasant Ridge and most of Marion and Cedar townships, Lee county; all of Cedar, most of Union, and parts of Lick Creek and Harrisburg, in Van Buren county; about half of the county of Jefferson; and parts of Clay, Brighton and Marion townships, in the county of Washington. On the other hand, parts of the present county were not included, viz., parts of Scott, Baltimore, New London, Wayne, Jefferson and Canaan townships. The second session of the Wisconsin legislative assembly took from Louisa and Des Moines counties enough territory to make the present northern and eastern lines of Henry. Sufficient was set off to Lee and Van Buren counties to make the southern line as at present, while on the west all the territory west of the east line of range 9, was set off, thus making the county the same as at present, except that it included the easternmost tier of the present county of Jefferson. The county seat was established at Mt. Pleasant, and all the territory to the westward was attached to Henry for judicial purposes. January 21, 1839, the boundaries were fixed as at present, the westernmost tier of townships above referred to being set off to the new county of Jefferson. The county was organized immediately upon its creation. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, first session, No. 21; second Wisconsin legislative assembly, No. 67; first Iowa legislative assembly, page 92. Named in honor of Gen. Henry Dodge, governor of the territory of Wisconsin.

HOWARD.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851, with limits that included only townships 98, 99 and 100, ranges 11-14. July 1, 1855, the north half of township 97 was set off from Chickasaw to Howard, adding 72 square miles to the area of the county. The county was attached to Chickasaw county January 22, 1853. The county was organized in 1855, and the organization legalized in 1857. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; fifth general assembly, chapter 12; and sixth general assembly, chapter 180. Supposed to be named in honor of Gen. Tighlman A. Howard, of Indiana.

HUMBOLDT.—Created February 26, 1857. It appears to have been the intention of the general assembly to make the new county the same as the former county of Humbolt; but when the bill got to the governor, the proposed county lacked township 90, which was in the former county, and in this shape it was approved. The next session an attempt was made to correct the error, and township 90 was included within the county. The new constitution had meantime been adopted, which instrument forbids the change of county boundaries without the consent of all the counties affected. The constitutionality of the act making the correction was therefore tested, and the district court of Webster county held it invalid, which ruling was sustained by the supreme court December 1, 1860. The county therefore, remains as created in 1857. Ezekiel Clark, of Johnson county, W. C. Stafford of Webster and Asa C. Hall of Kossuth were appointed commissioners to meet on the second day of March, 1857, or within six months thereafter, at the house of E. McKnight, and "proceed to locate the seat of justice" as near the geographical center of said county as a convenient site can be found. The first election was held April 6, 1857. See acts sixth general assembly, chapter 147; and seventh general assembly, chapter 42; also Duncombe vs. Prindle, 12 Iowa Reports, page 1. This county, as well as

the one referred to below, was named in honor of the eminent German scientist and traveler, Baron Friedich Heinrich Alexander von Humboldt.

HUMBOLT.—A part of Fayette county, 1837-1840. Established in 1851. It embraced all of the present county of Humboldt, and the northern tier of townships of Webster county. It was temporarily attached to Boone county January 22, 1853. An act approved January 24, 1855, temporarily attached it to Webster, while another act of the same day partitioned the county between Kossuth and Webster counties. The county therefore became extinct July 1, 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 121; and fifth general assembly, chapters 142 and 141. See also Humboldt above.

IDA.—At one time divided between Buchanan and Benton counties. Established in 1851. Attached in 1853 (prior to which time it was similarly attached to the county of Polk) to Wahkaw, by the authorities of which county it was organized in 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9, and fourth general assembly, chapter 8. So named at the suggestion of Eliphalet Price.

IOWA.—Constituted February 17, 1843. The whole of the county was included within the territory of the extinct county of Keokuk. Attached to Johnson county May 5, 1844. Organized July 1, 1845, and Thomas Henderson of Keokuk county, Luman M. Strong of Linn and Stephen B. Gardner of Johnson appointed commissioners to locate and establish the county seat. For this purpose they were to meet at the house of James M. Price, July 14, 1855, "or at such other time within the month of August, as a majority of said commissioners shall agree." January 31, 1855, provision was made for a vote to be taken April 2d following, on the question of relocating the seat of justice. If a majority should vote for removal, Horace H. Wilson, John Cassidy and John Porter, respectively of the counties of Washington, Poweshiek and Johnson, were to act as commissioners to make such relocation; their election to be subject to the approval of the people August 6th. See revised statutes, chapter 34; and acts sixth legislative assembly, chapter 4; seventh legislative assembly, chapter 55, and fifth general assembly, chapter 79. Named from the river which crosses the county.

JACKSON.—Constituted December 21, 1837, out of a part of the county of Dubuque, and named in honor of the seventh president, who had shortly before retired to private life. The seat of justice was located at Bellview. An act, approved July, 24, 1840, appointed Andrew Bankson, William Hutton and Abner Beard, respectively of the counties of Dubuque, Jones and Clinton, commissioners to relocate the county seat, for which purpose they were to meet at Bellview October 12; the site selected by them, which they were to name, was to become the county seat December 1st. Another act (approved January 15, 1841), appointed Jesse Yount, Eli Goddard and Thomas Denson, respectively of the counties of Dubuque, Clinton and Jones, commissioners to relocate the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at Bellview April 13th, to make selection and name the same; their determination to be subject to popular approval at a special election to be ordered by the county authorities. If the new site should be accepted by the voters, the board of county commissioners was authorized to borrow enough money with which to enter the quarter section upon which the location should be made, for which money they were to pay not exceeding forty per cent. An act, approved January 24, 1848, enacted that another election be held at the ensuing April election to select a county seat; and if no place had a majority then between the two points receiving the greatest number of votes the people should, August 7th, make selection. Still another act (approved February 5, 1851) provided for an election to be held April 7, 1851; if no place had a majority then, between the three highest points a second election to be held May 5th; and between the two highest points at such election, if no place had a majority, another election, June 2d, should make choice. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; second Iowa legislative assembly, special session, chapter 6; third legislative assembly, chapter 73; first general assembly, extra session, chapter 48; third general assembly, chapter 75.

JASPER.—Was part of the first county of Keokuk. Established January 13, 1846, with western boundary intended to be between ranges 20 and 21, although, owing doubtless to an error in transcribing the bill, it is very doubtfully expressed. Four days later, the present boundaries were established. Organized from March 1, 1846, up to which time it was attached to Mahaska. January 17, 1846, Richard Fisher, E. W. Kirkham, and Thomas Anderson, respectively of the counties of Wapello, Davis and Keokuk, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice, and to meet at the office of the clerk of the district court May 7th, or within thirty days thereafter; the district court meantime to be held at the house of Mathew D. Springer, or wherever else the commissioners should designate. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapters 82, 83 and 101; and sixth legislative assembly, chapter 68. Named in honor of Sergeant William Jasper of revolutionary fame.

JEFFERSON.—Constituted January 21, 1839. The eastern tier of townships was taken from the county of Henry. All of it had at an earlier day been a part of the county of Des Moines. The "Indian boundary," as it was called, was made the western line of the county. This line seems to be considered identical with the present western line of the county in the act of 1843, creating the county of Wapello, although in point of fact the Indian line ran from near the present southwest corner to a point about five miles east of the present northwest corner of the county. Organized immediately on creation, Samuel Hutton, Joshua Owens and Roger N. Crissup, of Henry, Lee and Van Buren counties respectively, being commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at the town of Lockridge, March 4, 1839. They were also to decide upon the name of the county seat. If, for any cause, the commissioners failed to fix upon a county seat, then the seat of justice was to be temporarily established at the house of Sylvanus Harrington. See acts first legislative assembly, page 93; revised statutes, chapter 34. Named in honor of the third president.

JOHNSON.—Constituted a separate county December 21, 1837, and named in honor of Richard Mentor Johnson, vice-president of the United States. It originally included all of township 77, Washington county. At creation, temporarily attached to the county of Cedar. Organized from July 4, 1838; the "district court to be held at the town of Napoleon, the seat of justice." January 25, 1839, township 77, in ranges 6, 7, and 8, were set off to Washington. June 5, 1845, the fragment of township 77, range 6, lying east of the Iowa river, was returned to Johnson county. Since that date the boundaries have remained unchanged. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6, and third session, No. 10; first Iowa legislative assembly, page 100; and seventh legislative assembly, chapter 45. Chapter 19, acts second legislative assembly, directed county commissioners to relocate the county seat.

JONES.—Taken from the county of Dubuque, and constituted a separate county, December 21, 1837; and made for temporary purposes a part of the county of Jackson. Simeon Gardner, Israel Mitchell and William H. Whitesides, respectively of Clinton, Linn and Dubuque counties, were appointed, in 1839, commissioners to locate the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of Thomas Dixon, March 12th, and within ten days thereafter certify their determination to the governor of the territory. An act, January 17, 1840, appointed John G. McDonald, Frank Moffatt and Thomas M. Isett, respectively of Jackson, Delaware and Muscatine counties, commissioners for a similar purpose, to meet at the same place as their predecessors, and on or before April 14th. An act, approved February 24, 1847, directed that the place of holding courts should be the old court house in Edinburg (about the center of the county) until another place should be provided by the county commissioners. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, No. 6; first Iowa legislative assembly, page 95; second legislative assembly, chapter 93; first general assembly, chapter 104. Organized soon afterward. Named in honor of George Wallace Jones, then delegate in congress from the territory of Wisconsin, being the first to hold that position, as he had also been the last delegate from the territory

of Michigan. In the latter capacity he managed the bill for the creation of the territory of Wisconsin. As delegate from Wisconsin he also secured the passage of the bill for the erection of the territory of Iowa. He was afterward surveyor-general of Iowa and Wisconsin; and more recently he was one of the first United States senators from Iowa.

KEOKUK.—The name of an extinct county, which comprised all of townships 77, 78, 79, 80 and 81 from the western line of Johnson county to the Missouri river. Township 77 had been a part of Des Moines county. Established by act approved December 21, 1837, and attached for temporary purposes to Cedar county. June 22, 1838, it was similarly attached to Johnson county. Abolished July 30, 1840. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; third session, No. 10; second Iowa legislative assembly, extra session, chapter 29. This, and the following, were named after Keokuk, or, as the name is usually spelled in the treaties Kee-O-kuck, the noted chief of the Sacs. The name is interpreted in the treaties, "The Watchful Fox," but in the great treaty of September 21, 1832, when the first purchase was made, the interpretation given is "He who has been everywhere."

KEOKUK.—Established and attached for temporary purposes to Washington county, February 17, 1843. The northern tier of townships had been in the extinct county of Keokuk, while the entire territory was in the original county of Des Moines. Organized from March 1, 1844. Special election to choose county officers called for April 1st following. Harvey Stephens was appointed organizing sheriff, and John Stuart and George H. Stone, of Washington county, and Samuel Shuffleton, of Jefferson, commissioners to locate seat of justice; for which purpose the commissioners were to meet at the house of William Grimsley in the month of May. January 9, 1846, Joseph Foster, Joshua Owens and John Brophy, of the counties respectively of Van Buren, Lee and Clinton, were appointed commissioners to relocate the county seat, for which purpose they were to meet at Sigourney May 11th following, or later. If they decided upon a removal from Sigourney their action was subject to popular approval at the following August election. An act, passed in 1855, provided that on August 6th there should be an election to decide whether the county seat should be removed from Lancaster to Sigourney. If the removal should prevail, the latter town was required to pay, or secure to the county the sum of $5,000, and the holders of lots in Lancaster were to be indemnified as had been provided for the holders of lots in Sigourney when the county seat was taken from the latter. The indemnity to be paid the people of Lancaster was to be assessed by William P. Organ, of the county of Washington, and James Bridges and Henry Blackburn, of the county of Mahaska. See chapter 34, revised statutes; 68, acts sixth legislative assembly; 47, seventh legislative assembly, second session; and 140, fifth general assembly. In the act creating the county, the name is spelled Keokuck.

KISHKEKOSH.—Constituted, and attached to the county of Jefferson for judicial, revenue and election purposes, February 17, 1843. Attached to Wapello February 13, 1844. Organized from and after July 1, 1845; and James A. Galliher, E. S. Rand and Isreal Kister, respectively from the counties of Jefferson, Van Buren and Davis, appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of W. G. Clark July 7, 1845, or within one month thereafter. The territory west was attached for judicial purposes. January 19, 1846, an election was ordered to be held April 6th, following, as to whether "Princeton" (now Albia) or "Clarksville," should be the county seat. Name changed to Monroe August 1, 1846. See revised statutes, chapter 34, acts sixth legislative assembly, chapter 100; seventh legislative assembly, chapter 67; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapters 118 and 121. Named after Kish-ke-kosh, a chief of the Foxes, the name signifying, "The man with one leg off." The name is spelled in the original act of creation Kishkeekosh, but in all subsequent acts only one "e" appears.

KOSSUTH.—Established in 1851, and named in honor of Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot and leader, who was then making the tour of the United States. It had been a part of the original county of Fayette. When created, its northern line corresponded with that of township 97. Attached to the county of Boone January 22, 1853, and to that of Webster July 1, 1855. On the same day Bancroft county was united with it, as was the north half of the county of Humbolt. February 26, 1857, the latter strip was set off to the new county of Humboldt. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12, fifth general assembly, chapter 142; and sixth general assembly, chapter 147.

LEE.—Set off from the county of Des Moines December 21, 1836. The original boundaries were as follows: "Beginning at the most southern outlet of Skunk river, on the Mississippi thence in a northern direction passing through the grove on the head of the northern branch of Lost Creek, and thence to a point corresponding with the range line dividing ranges seven and eight, and thence south with said line to the Des Moines river." It is difficult to trace precisely the northern line here laid down, probably owing to the fact that the geography of the new territory was then only vaguely known. It would appear, however, to have been somewhat to the southward of the present line, so that parts of the present townships of Green Bay, Denmark, Pleasant Ridge, Marion and Cedar were left out. January 18, 1838, the following boundaries were established: "Beginning at the main channel of the Mississippi river, due east from the entrance of Skunk river into the same, thence up said river to where the township line dividing townships sixty-eight and sixty-nine north leaves said river; thence with said line to the range line between ranges four and five west; thence north with said line to the township line between the townships sixty-nine and seventy north; thence west, with said line, to the range line between ranges seven and eight west; thence south with said line to the Des Moines river; thence down said river to the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence up the same to the place of beginning." This northern line differed from the first sufficiently to make all of the present Pleasant Ridge, Marion and Cedar townships part of Lee county, while Des Moines county had all of the present Denmark township, and part of what is now Green Bay township. The present boundaries were established January 23, 1839. Fort Madison was made the county seat January 18, 1838. In 1840 George Gallaher, James L. Scott and Samuel C. Reed, of the respective counties of Des Moines, Jefferson and Van Buren, were appointed commissioners, who were to meet at Fort Madison March 2d, and "Proceed forthwith to select a suitable place for the county seat as near the geographical center as a suitable site" could be obtained. In July the territorial legislature directed that at the next election the voters should select a county seat. If no place should have a majority at such election, there should be another one November 9th, at which the two points receiving the most votes at the first election were to be the competitors. In 1841 a similar election was directed to be held on March 8th, and if necessary April 19th. January 13, 1843, Thomas O. Walmsly, Isaac N. Selby and Stephen Gearheart, respectively of Henry ,Van Buren and Des Moines counties, were appointed commissioners, who were to meet at Franklin, March 13th to select a seat of justice. In 1845 an election was to be held August 6th on location of county seat; on September 3d, between the three points receiving the greatest number of votes at the first election. If no one should then have a majority; and on October 1st between the two points having the highest votes at the September election, if none should then have a majority. February 5, 1848, the general assembly enacted that the district court should be held in both Fort Madison and Keokuk. An attempt was made in 1844 to set off the half-breed tract as a new county, but it was unsuccessful. See Madison. See also Acts Wisconsin Legislative Assembly, No. 21; Wisconsin Legislative Assembly, second session No. 67; First Iowa Legislative Assembly, page 94; Second Legislative Assembly, chapter 69; same, second session, chapter 12; Third Legislative Assembly, chapter 69; Fifth Legislative Assembly, chapter 8; Sixth Legislative Assembly, chapter 124; Seventh Legislative Assembly, chapter 56; and first general assembly, extra session, chapter 52.

The origin of the name of this county has been the subject of some controversy; but the better evidence seems to establish the fact that the county is so called in honor of a member of the firm of Marsh, Deleven & Lee, of Albany, N. Y., and of what was known as the New York Land Company, which possessed extensive interests in the half-breed tract. Some, however, have attributed the name to Lieutenant Robert E. Lee, the afterward famous confederate leader, who conducted an early survey of the Des Moines rapids of the Mississippi river. Quite recently, Albert Lea, from whom the the town of that name in Minnesota is called, has advanced a claim to the paternity of the name, saying that he was at Belmont when the act was passed erecting the county of Lee, and that the orthography was erroneously changed by a clerk in transcribing. Neither of the last two claims seem to be well authenticated.

LINN.—Established December 21, 1837, nearly half of it—comprising the present townships of Brown, Buffalo, Bowlder and Jackson, most of Linn and Maine, and parts of Franklin, Bertram, Marion, Otter Creek and Spring Grove, as they at present appear on the maps—being taken from the county of Dubuque, and for temporary purposes attached to the county of Dubuque. Attached to Johnson county for judicial purposes January 21, 1839. Organized from and after June 1, 1839. Richard Knott, Lyman Dillon and Benjamin Nye were commissioners to locate the county seat, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of William Abby, March 4, 1839, and in their selection to have "particular reference to the convenience of the county and healthfulness of the location." See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; first Iowa legislative assembly, pages 129, 91 and 95. Named in honor of Lewis Fields Linn, senator from the state of Missouri, one of the active supporters of the Wisconsin territorial bill.

LOUISA.—Set off from the county of Des Moines, December 7, 1836; district court to be held at the town of Wapello. The following were the first boundaries of the county; "Beginning at the Mississippi river, at the northeast corner of Des Moines; thence up said river twelve miles above the mouth of Iowa; thence west to the Indian boundary line; thence with the said boundary line, to the northwest corner of Henry and with the line of the same, to the northwest corner of the county of Des Moines; thence east with the line of said county of Des Moines to the beginning." The western line therefore extended from about the northwest corner of township 75, range 7, to a point probably somewhere in the north half of section 19, township 73, range 8; and the southern line from the latter point to another, probably in section 18, township 72, range 4 west, and thence east to the Mississippi. The county, therefore, included, besides the present county, of the political divisions of the state, the following: All of the townships of Oregon and Crawford, most of those of Washington and Marion, and parts of those of Franklin and Brighton, in the county of Washington; parts of the townships of Jefferson and Canaan, most of that of Wayne, and nearly all of that of Scott, in the county of Henry; and parts of the townships of Washington, Yellow Springs and Huron, in the county of Des Moines. January 18, 1838, all of the county west of range 4 was attached to the new county of Slaughter, while the southern line of the remainder of the county was made the same as at the present. This left all of the present township of Elm Grove, and most of that of Columbus City, and all of Union and Oakland, in Slaughter county, where nearly all of the last named two had been all along. The next change which took place January 12, 1839, regained townships 74 and 75, in range 5, and gave the county, in addition, township 76, same range, which had not before been in Louisa county. The lines as then fixed, remain unaltered to this day. The act of January 18, 1838, established the seat of justice at the town of Lower Wapello. In 1839 an election was directed to be held March 5th for the choice of a county seat, at which a majority vote should be required; if no place had a majority, another election was to be had the following August between the two points having the highest number of votes at the March election. See acts Wisconsin Legislative Assembly, No. 21; Legislative assembly second session, No. 67; first Iowa legislative assembly, page 89. Named after

Louisa Massey, a young lady of Dubuque, who, a few months before the passage of the act creating the county, had shot a ruffian named Smith, who had threatened the life of her brother, and was believed to be seeking an opportunity to execute the threat, he having already participated in the murder of another brother. The people of Dubuque and elsewhere, for the fame of Miss Massey's bold action spread throughout the West, were very much gratified thereat, whence followed the naming of the county Louisa in her honor. Such is the generally accepted, and very probably correct account of the origin of the name. It is proper to state, however, that Wm. L. Toole, a pioneer of the county, attributes the name to the fact that among the members of the first Wisconsin legislature were some persons who came from the county of Louisa, in the state of Virginia, and who succeeded in giving to this new Iowa county the name of that of their nativity. It is not improbable that this consideration made friends for the proposition to name the county after the Dubuque heroine.

LUCAS.—Established January 13, 1846, with western boundary line six miles west of the present one, and therefore included, in addition to the limits now existing, the present townships of Franklin, Jackson and Liberty, in the county of Clarke; the whole formerly a part of the county of Des Moines. In 1849 these townships were set off to Clarke county and Lucas made of the same extent as now. At the time of its creation it had already been attached to the county of Kishkekosh for election, revenue and judicial purposes. Organized from and after July 4, 1849; Wareham G. Clark, Pardon M. Dodge and Richard Fisher, respectively of the counties of Monroe, Appanoose and Wapello, being appointed commissioners to locate the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at Chariton Point, September 3d, or within thirty days thereafter; and the district court to be held at Chariton Point until the county seat was located. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 82; seventh legislative assembly, first session, chapter 67; second general assembly, chapters 9 and 74. Named in honor of the first governor of the territory, Robert Lucas.

LYON.—Established as Buncombe county in 1851, and attached to Wahkaw county in 1853. Name changed December 11, 1862. Organized under chapter 12, acts fourth general assembly, in 1870, by the authorities of Woodbury county. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 8; and ninth general assembly, extra session, chapter 23. Named in honor of Brigadier-General Nathaniel Lyon, commander of the Union troops at the battle of Wilson's Creek, the first action of the civil war in which Iowa troops took a part.

MADISON.—An act was passed February 15, 1844, constituting the "half-breed tract" in the county of Lee "a new county to be called Madison," and Nashville designated as the place for holding court until a county seat should be permanently located; subject, however, to a vote of the people of the entire county of Lee, to be taken at the April election, 1844. See acts sixth legislative assembly, chapter 124. This, and the following, were named in honor of the fourth president.

MADISON.—Established January 13, 1846. Had been a part of the original county of Des Moines. Already attached to the county of Mahaska for election, revenue and judicial purposes. In 1849, Thomas Butler, George Gillaspy and Isaac Cooper, of the counties respectively of Dallas, Marion and Polk, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 82; sixth legislative assembly, chapter 68; and second general assembly, chapter 13.

MAHASKA.—Formerly in the county of Des Moines, and the northern tier of townships more recently in the first county of Keokuk. Established and attached to the county of Washington for judicial, revenue and election purposes, February 17, 1843. Organized from and after March 1, 1844; first election to be held April 1st; William Edmonson appointed organizing sheriff; and Jesse Williams, of Johnson county, Ebenezer Perkins, of Washington county, and Thomas Hen-

derson, of Keokuk county, commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice. They were to meet at the house of Matthew D. Springer during the month of May. The territory to the westward of Mahaska and Iowa counties was attached to this county for temporary purposes. See Revised Statutes, chapter 34, and acts sixth legislative assembly, chapter 68. Named in honor of a prominent chief of the Iowa, spelled in the treaties Mo-has-ca and Ma-hos-ka, and interpreted "White Cloud."

MARION.—Had been a part of the original county of Des Moines, and the northern quarter more recently a part of the county of Keokuk. Established June 10, 1845, with eastern boundary not clearly defined. Organized from and after August 4, 1845; first election to be held September 1st. Ezra M. Jones, Joseph Robertson and James Montgomery, respectively of the counties of Van Buren, Scott and Wapello, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of William Stanley, August 11th. The sheriff of Mahaska county was to act as organizing sheriff. Until organization, the county was attached to Mahaska for election, revenue and judicial purposes. Present boundaries established February 4, 1847. See acts seventh legislative assembly, chapter 57; sixth legislative assembly, chapter 68; first general assembly, chapter 15. Named in honor of Francis Marion, of revolutionary fame.

MARSHALL.—Had been a part of the county of Benton. Established January 13, 1846. Attached to Benton county for election, revenue and judicial purposes, January 17th; and same day to Jasper county for similar purposes. Organized in 1849 under chapter 84, first general assembly. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapters 82, 96 and 101. Named in honor of John Marshall, fourth chief justice of the United States.

MILLS.—Taken from the temporary county of Pottawattamie in 1851. Seat of justice conditionally located at the town of Coonville, the name of which was changed to Glenwood in 1853. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 10. Organized in 1851 under chapter 84, first general assembly. Named in honor of Major Frederick Mills, an Iowa officer, who perished at the battle of Cherubusco, Mexico.

MITCHELL.—Originally a part of Fayette county. Established in 1851, with southern boundary three miles to the northward of the present. Attached to the county of Chickasaw January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been attached to Clayton county for judicial purposes. Organized in 1854, under chapter 12, fourth general assembly, and organization legalized January 31, 1855. Attached to Floyd county for judicial purposes in 1855. Present boundaries established July 1, 1855. In the same year an act was passed, appointing John Harlow, Joseph B. Dolley and John Banack, respectivley of the counties of Howard, Floyd and Bremer, commissioners to locate the seat of justice; for which purpose they were to meet at the house of C. L. Clausen, in March or April. In 1857, S. W. Stanley, George A. Bronson and James Crow, respectively of the counties of Floyd, Chickasaw and Cerro Gordo, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat; for which purpose they were to meet at the village of Mitchell, May 4th, or within sixty days thereafter. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; first general assembly, chapter 26; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; fifth general assembly, chapters 54, 111 and 120; sixth general assembly, chapter 170. Named after John Mitchell, an Irish refugee of 1848.

MONONA.—Established in 1851. Had been a part of the county of Benton. It then included a range of townships to the eastward of the present county. Attached to the county of Harrison for election, revenue and judicial purposes in 1853, up to which time it had been similarly attached to the county of Polk. Organized in 1854 by the authorities of Harrison county. In 1865 the eastern tier of townships, in the original county, was ceded to the county of Crawford under chapter 87, ninth general assembly. The name is of Indian origin.

MONROE.—Name changed August 1, 1846, from Kishkekosh, which see as, also acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 118. Named in honor of the fifth president.

MONTGOMERY.—Established in 1851, being taken from the provisional county of Pottawattamie. Attached in 1853, for revenue, election and judicial purposes, to Adams county as a civil township; first election to be held at the house of Amos Lowe. Prior thereto it probably remained attached to the county of Pottawattamie. Organized in 1858. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 8; and first general assembly, chapter 84. Named in honor of General Richard Montgomery, who fell at the assault of Quebec, in 1775.

MUSCATINE.—Set off from Des Moines county, December 7, 1836, with boundaries as follows: "Beginning on the Mississippi river, at the northeast corner of the county of Louisa; thence up said river twenty-five miles on a straight line; thence west to the Indian boundary line; thence with said boundary line south to the northwest corner of the county of Louisa; thence east with the line of said county of Louisa to the beginning." The vagueness of these boundaries has been adverted to in the paragraph concerning Cook county. It is quite evident that the legislators who divided the original county of Des Moines overestimated the distance between the mouth of the Iowa and the lower end of Rock Island. Otherwise they would hardly have made such a county as that of Cook, at the most less than five miles wide, and extending from the Mississippi to and across the Iowa. As constituted by the act of creation, Muscatine (or "Musquitine," as the name was spelled) county lacked about two miles off the northern edge of the present townships of Montpelier, Bloomington, Lake and Pike, about half of Sweetland, and all of Wilton, Fulton, Moscow, Goshen and Wapsinonoc. On the other hand, the county included, of other present political divisions of the state, the following: In Scott county, part of Buffalo township; in Johnson county, the greater part of Fremont township; in Louisa county, most of Oakland and part of Union; and in Washington county, all of Highland, most of Iowa and Jackson and part of English River; the southwestern corner of the county being about identical with the present southwestern corner of Jackson township, Washington county. The same act directed that the district court be held at the town of Bloomington. A year later the new county of Johnson took from the county all of township 78, west of range 4; and the new county of Scott took from the county all to the eastward of range 1 east. Shortly afterward the new county of Slaughter took from the county the remainder of the territory west of range 4; while Muscatine received sufficient accessions from the counties of Cook and Dubuque to make its northern boundaries as at present. See acts Wisconsin Legislative Assembly, No. 21; second session, Nos. 6 and 67. Named after the island which forms a prominent feature of this and Louisa counties.

O'BRIEN.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached to the county of Wahkaw in 1853; prior to which time it had been similarly attached to the county of Polk. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 8; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101. Organized about 1860. Named after William Smith O'Brien, the leader of the movement for Irish independence in 1848.

OSCEOLA.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached to Polk county until 1853, when it was attached to Wahkaw county. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 8, and seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101. Organized in 1871 by order of board of supervisors of Woodbury county. Named after the famous southern Indian chieftan.

PAGE.—At one time a part of Des Moines county. Created in 1847. Made a part of provisional county of Pottawattamie the same year. In 1851, Benjamin Rector, William Smith and Charles Wright, respectively of the counties of Fremont, Pottawattamie and Madison, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the county seat, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of William Berge during the month of June. At the following session of the general assembly John Scott and Thomas M. Gordon, of Fremont county, and Jacob Miller, of Taylor, were similarly appointed commissioners; for which purpose they were to meet at the house of Philip Boulwores, March 6, 1853, or within

thirty days thereafter. The name of the new county seat was, by the same act, made "Clarinda." See acts first general assembly, chapters 83 and 84; third general assembly, chapter 18; and fourth general assembly, chapters 1 and 9. Named in honor of Captain John Page, Fourth U. S. Infantry, who was mortally wounded at the battle of Palo Alto.

PALO ALTO.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Temporarily attached to the county of Boone, January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been similarly attached to the county of Polk. Attached to Webster, July 1, 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fourth general assembly, chapter 12, and fifth general assembly, chapter 142. First county officers elected December 20, 1858, under direction of the county judge of Webster county. Named in honor of the first battle and victory of the war with Mexico.

PLYMOUTH.—The lower tier of townships at one time in the county of Buchanan; the remainder in the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached to the county of Wahkaw in 1853, up to which time it had remained attached to the county of Polk. See acts third general assembly, chapter 51; fourth general assembly, chapter 8, and seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101. Named in honor of the landing place of the pioneers of New England. Organized under direction of the judge of Woodbury county, about 1858.

POCAHONTAS.—The lower tier of townships made in 1837 a part of the county of Buchanan, and the remainder a part of that of Fayette. Established in 1851. Temporarily attached to the county of Boone, January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been similarly attached to the county of Polk. Attached to Webster, July 1, 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101, and fifth general assembly, chapter 142. Organized in 1859 under direction of the county judge of Webster county. Named in honor of the Virginia Indian princess.

POLK.—A part of the county of Keokuk, 1837-1840. Established January 13, 1846, and named in honor of the president of the United States, James Knox Polk. Its first limits comprised all of townships 78-81, ranges 21-24; thus including all of the present townships of Clear Creek and Washington, and nearly all of those of Poweshiek and Des Moines, Jasper county; while of the present county of Polk the townships of Madison and Webster, nearly all of those of Jefferson and Valley, and a part of that of Bloomfield were not included. Four days later new boundaries were established as follows: "Beginning at the northeast corner of township 81, north of range 22 west; thence west to the northwest corner of township 81, north of range 25 west; thence south to the southwest corner of township 77, north of range 22 west; and thence north to the place of beginning." The evident intent of this act was to make the county four townships square, range 21 being transferred to Jasper county, and range 25 from Dallas county; but the boundaries given, by omitting the southeastern corner, really gave the county, as will be seen, a triangular shape. The next session the county was given the shape intended by making it consist of townships 77-81, ranges 21-24, township 77 being taken from Warren county. In 1853, all of township 77, except the north part of the Des Moines river, and including the present townships of Linn, Allen and Richmond, most of that of Greenfield and part of that of Palmyra, in Warren county, were returned to that county. Since then the boundaries of Polk county have been undisturbed. The county was organized from and after March 1, 1846; Thomas Hughes, M. T. Williams and Giles M. Pinneo, respectively of the counties of Johnson, Mahaska and Scott, being appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice; Fort Des Moines to be the seat of justice until the county seat was located; and the first election to be held April 6, 1846. Up to March 1st of that year attached to Mahaska county for temporary purposes. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapters 82, 83 and 101; first general assembly, chapter 17; fourth general assembly, chapter 18.

POTTAWATTAMIE.—The county embraced within the limits of what is known as the Pottawattamie purchase was, in 1847, "temporarily organized into a county by the name of Pottawattamie, at any time when, in the opinion of the judge of the fourth judicial district, the public good" might require. It is difficult to define the precise limits of the proposed county. The purchase is thus described in the treaty with the Pottawattamies, June 5 and 17, 1846; "All lands to which they have claim of any kind whatsoever, and especially the tracts or parcels of land ceded to them by the treaty of Chicago, and subsequent thereto, and now, in whole or in part, possessed by their people, lying and being north of the river Missouri, and embraced in the limits of the territory of Iowa; and also all that tract of country lying and being on or near the Osage river and west of the state of Missouri." These lands had been granted to the "United Nation of Chippewa, Ottawa and Pottawattamie Indians" by the treaty of Chicago, September 26, 1833, in which treaty the boundaries are thus described: "Beginning at the mouth of Boyer's river, on the east side of the Missouri river; thence down the said river to the mouth of Naudoway river; thence due east to the west line of the state of Missouri; thence along the said state line to the northwest corner of the state; thence east along the said state line to the point where it is intersected by the western boundary line of the Sacs and Foxes; thence north along the said line of the Sacs and Foxes, so far as that when a straight line shall be run therefrom to the mouth of Boyer's river (the place of beginning) it shall include five millions of acres." The western boundary of the state of Missouri at that time was the same as the present western line of the state south of the Missouri, extended to the north line of the state; and the tract lying between such line and the Missouri river was therefore mostly included within the cession thus made. The western line of the Sacs and Foxes is described in the treaty of Prairie du Chien, July 15, 1830, as running from the then northwest corner of the state of Missouri "to the high lands between the waters falling into the Missouri and Demoines, passing to said high lands along the dividing ridge between the forks of the Grand river; thence along said high lands or ridge separating the waters of the Missouri from those of the Demoine, to a point opposite the source of Boyer river, and thence in a direct line to the upper fork of the Demoine, the place of beginning." Of the 5,000,000 acres about one-fourth would appear to have been found in the state of Missouri, leaving some 3,750,000 acres within the limits of the present state of Iowa. The provisional county, therefore, seems to have included the present counties of Fremont, Page, Taylor, Adams, Montgomery, Mills and Cass, most of the county of Ringgold, about half of each of the counties of Union and Adair, parts of the counties of Audubon and Shelby, and a little of Guthrie, Decatur and Harrison. The county was organized under authority from Judge James P. Carlton, in 1848. In 1851 the present limits were established. The territory within such limits was, 1834-1836, part of the county of Des Moines, and the northern tier of townships was in Keokuk county, 1837-1840. In 1851 the county commissioners were required to designate two places for a county seat, one of which was to be selected by the voters on the 7th day of April. See acts first general assembly, chapter 84; third general assembly, chapters 9 and 26. Named after the tribe of Indians which formerly possessed the territory.

POWESHIEK.—A part of the county of Keokuk, 1837-1840. Established, boundaries defined and attached to the county of Iowa, February 17, 1843. Attached to the county of Mahaska, February 5, 1844. Organized from and after April 3, 1848, on which day the first election was to be held; David Edmundson, John White and John Rose, respectively of the counties of Jasper, Mahaska and Polk, being appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice, to meet at the house of Mahlon Woodward, June 5, 1848. See revised statutes, chapter 34; acts sixth legislative assembly, chapter 69; first general assembly, extra session, chapter 54. Named in honor of a prominent chief of the Sacs, the name being interpreted in treaties the Roused Bear, and also the Shedding Bear.

RINGGOLD.—Part of the county of Des Moines, 1834-1836. Boundaries established in 1847. Wholly or partially included within the temporary county of Pottawattamie county. In 1851 John W. Ellis and Reason Wilkinson, of the county of Davis, and H. B. Notson, of the county of Decatur, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the county seat; for which purpose they were to meet at the house of H. B. Notson. In 1853 the county was attached to Taylor for revenue, election and judicial purposes. Organized after March 1, 1855; first election to be held April 2d, and Wm. McAfee, of Taylor county, made organizing sheriff. Organization legalized 1856-1857. February 21, 1855, George W. Jones, A. Hawley and Robert Stafford, respectively of the counties of Mahaska, Decatur and Page, were also appointed commissioners to locate and name the seat of justice, who were to meet for that purpose at or near the center of the county April 2d. See acts first general assembly, chapter 83; fourth general assembly, chapter 8; fifth general assembly, chapters 3 and 37; the sixth general assembly, chapter 16. Named in honor of Major Samuel Ringgold, who was mortally wounded in the battle of Palo Alto, and died soon afterward.

RISLEY.—In 1851, townships 86-89, in ranges 23-26, were constituted a new county. It was attached to the county of Boone January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk for election, revenue and judicial purposes. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101 and fourth general assembly, chapter 12. The last named act also changed the name of the county to Webster. The original bill for this act made no change in county names. While it was under consideration in the house, however, James W. Grimes, afterward governor, then a representative from the county of Des Moines, offered the following as an additional section: "SECTION 4. That the name of the county of Wah-kah* shall be changed to Woodbury; the name of the county of Risley shall be changed to Webster, and the name of the county of Fox to that of Calhoun." The section was adopted by the house and incorporated into the bill. This occurred December 20, 1852. On the 29th the bill was indefinitely postponed, and a substitute therefor introduced. On the same day J. F. Rice, who represented a district extending from Jasper county to Guthrie inclusive, and northward to the Minnesota line, gave notice of intention to introduce "a bill for an act to unite into one county the territory now comprising the counties of Yell and Risley." On the 1st day of January, 1853, the substitute above mention passed the house. One week later the bill passed the senate, slightly amended. The house concurred in the amendment the same day. The governor affixed his approval on the 12th. The act was published in the *Capital Reporter*, January 19th, and in the *Iowa Republican*, January 22, 1853, on which day it accordingly took effect. Meantime, on the 10th of January, Mr. Rice's proposed bill to unite Yell and Risley counties was introduced. It was referred to a special committee, which reported a substitute. Pending the consideration thereof, January 14th, on Mr. Grimes' motion, the name of the proposed county was changed from "Sharon" to "Webster." The next day the bill passed the house, the title being changed, also on Mr. Grimes' motion, so as to read, "A bill for an act to create the county of Webster." The bill passed the senate January 18th, and was approved by the governor, January 22d. Thus were passed two acts, one of which changed the name of the county of Risley to that of "Webster" and the other, which passed both houses after the first had been approved by the governor, and in apparent forgetfulness thereof, united the counties of Yell and Risley into a new county to be called Webster. The first act took effect, as above stated, January 22d, and the latter, which had no publication clause, presumably on the 1st day of July. The territory comprising this county now constitutes the county of Hamilton. See acts fourth general assembly, chapters 12 and 52; sixth general assembly, chapter 15.

*So spelled in the Journal.

SAC.—At an early period a part of Buchanan county, except the southern tier of townships, which were in Benton county. Established in 1851. Attached to the county of Wahkaw, January 22, 1853, up to which time it was attached to the county of Polk. Attached to the county of Greene, July 1, 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 51; fourth general assembly, chapter 8; and fifth general assembly, chapter 142. Named in honor of the Sac tribe of Indians, which with the Foxes at one time possessed nearly the entire territory of the present state of Iowa.

SCOTT.—Taken from the counties of Dubuque and Cook, with a little from Muscatine county, and constituted December 21, 1837. The act creating the county directed that an election be held February 19, 1838, to decide whether Davenport or Rockingham should be the county seat, from and after April 1st following; polls to be opened at "H. W. Higgins' Hotel in Rockingham; John H. McGregor's hotel in Davenport; the house of J. A. Richards, at the house of E. Parkhurst in Parkhurst." An act passed the following summer provided for another election to be held August 6, 1838, to decide between the same places. In the summer of 1840 the Iowa territorial legislature ordered an election to be held August 24th, to decide between Davenport, Rockingham and "the northwest fractional quarter of section number thirty, township number seventy-eight north of range four east of the fifth principal meridian." In case no place had a majority, then a second election should be had on the 17th of September between the two places having the greatest number of votes at the first election. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6; third session, No. 28; second Iowa legislative assembly, special session, chapters 25 and 40. Named in honor of Major-General Winfield Scott, who had, in 1832, negotiated the first treaty purchasing the lands in Iowa from the Indians, the treaty being made within the limits of what is now the city of Davenport.

SHELBY.—Part of the county of Keokuk, 1837-1840. Established in 1851, being partly taken from the temporary county of Pottawattamie. Organized from and after March 7, 1853; William Lovelady, James Hardy and Solomon Wheeler, respectively of the counties of Fremont, Mills and Pottawattamie, being appointed commissioners to locate the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of Mansel Wicks, March 7th; the county seat to be named Shelbyville; first election to be held April 4th. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 8. Supposed to be named in honor of Gen. Isaac Shelby, an officer of the war of the revolution, and of that of 1812, and first governor of the state of Kentucky.

SIOUX.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached to the county of Wahkaw in 1853, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fourth general assembly, chapter 8. Organized in 1860. Named after the formidable nation of Indians, which at one time possessed a large part of what is now northern Iowa.

SLAUGHTER.—Boundaries established January 18, 1838. Most of it was taken from the counties of Louisa and Muscatine, with a little from that of Henry. As originally constituted it comprised townships 74-76, ranges 5-8. The county seat was established at Astoria. Name changed to Washington and boundaries altered, January 25, 1839. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 67; first Iowa legislative assembly, page 100. Named in honor of William B. Slaughter, secretary of the territory of Wisconsin.

STORY.—Part of the county of Benton in 1837 and later. Established and boundaries defined January 13, 1846. Attached to the county of Benton four days later for election, revenue and judicial purposes; and the same day to the county of Polk for the same purposes. Attached to the county of Boone, January 22, 1853. See acts seventh legislative assembly, chapters 82, 96 and 101; fourth general assembly, chapter 12. Named in honor of the eminent jurist, Joseph Storey, for a third of a century associate justice of the supreme court of the United States.

TAMA.—A part of the original county of Benton. Established, boundaries defined and attached to the county of Linn for judicial, revenue and election purposes, February 17, 1843. Attached, for similar purposes, to the county of Linn, January 17, 1846. See revised statutes, chapter 34; acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 96. Organized under the provisions of chapter 84, acts first general assembly, in 1852. Named, it is supposed, after Taomah, an Indian celebrity.

TAYLOR.—Formerly a part of the county of Des Moines. Created in 1847, and the same day made a part of the temporary county of Pottawattamie. In 1851 John R. Williams, G. D. Hackworth and Harvey Dunlavy, of the counties respectively of Monroe, Wapello and Davis, were appointed commissioners, who were to meet at the house of Isaac Groill, on or before July 7th, "and proceed to locate and establish the seat of justice of said county, as near the geographical center" as the commissioners should "deem proper, having due regard to the present as well as future population." February 2, 1853, William Robbins and Jesse Majors, of the county of Page, and S. F. Snyder, of the county of Montgomery, were appointed commissioners for the same purpose, with similar instructions, and were to meet at the house of John Lowe, March 13th, or within thirty days thereafter, and proceed to make selection, Bedford to be the name of the place chosen. See acts first general assembly, chapters 83 and 84; third general assembly, chapter 37, and fourth general assembly, chapter 20. Separately organized in 1851. Named in honor of Major General Zachary Taylor, then commanding the Army of Occupation in the war with Mexico, and afterward president of the United States.

UNION.—A part of the county of Des Moines, 1834-1836. Partly also in the provisional county of Pottawattamie, 1847-1851. Established in 1851. Attached as a civil township to the county of Adams in 1853. From the date of its establishment it would seem to have been attached to the county of Wapello up to this date, under the provisions of the act organizing the latter county. Organized from and after March 1, 1853. A. J. Hanscom, Col. Mills and Lewis F. Perry, respectively of the counties of Pottawattamie, Cass and Clarke, were the commissioners to locate the seat of justice at the geographical center of the county, or as near the same as a suitable site could be found; for which purpose they were to meet at Pisgah, March 7th, or within ninety days thereafter. John Edgecombe was the organizing sheriff January 31, 1855; S. S. Walker, Adrian Miles and George A. Hawley, respectively of the counties of Lucas, Monroe and Decatur, were appointed for the same purpose, and were to meet therefor February 5th, or within ninety days thereafter at Peter's Mill. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; first general assembly, chapter 84; sixth legislative assembly, chapter 100; fourth legislative assembly, chapters 8 and 11; fifth general assembly, chapter 43. The etymology of the name is obvious. The county was established immediately following an intense popular agitation in regard to the institution of slavery, which agitation at one time seemed to threaten a dissolution of the union; and at a period when it was widely supposed that the whole subject of slavery, so far as the nation was concerned, had been finally disposed of by the compromise measures of 1850, and the union of the United States thereby effectually preserved.

VAN BUREN.—Set off from the county of Des Moines, December 7, 1836, and named in honor of Martin Van Buren, vice-president of the United States and president elect. Its first boundaries were as follows: "Beginning at the northwest corner of Lee; thence south with the west line of said county to the river of Des Moines; thence up the same to where the Missouri line strikes the same; thence west with the said Missouri line to the Indian boundary line; thence north with the said boundary line twenty-four miles; thence east to the beginning." These boundaries apparently excluded from the townships of the county as at present organized as follows: All of Cedar, most of Union and Village, and parts of Harrisburg, Lick Creek and Chequest; while they included parts of the present townships of Roscoe and Prairie, Davis county. The district court was to meet at Farmington, the first one to be held April 10th. In 1838 enough territory was taken from the county of Henry, and from part of the original county of Des

Moines beyond the Indian boundary line, to make the county lines the same as they are now, after cutting off the part of the original county that is now in Davis county. The act retracing the boundaries also made provision for a special election to be held March 5th, for the choice of a county seat. If no place should receive a majority of all the votes then cast, the governor was to order another special election to choose between the two points receiving the greatest number of votes at the first election. In the same year provision was made for another election to be held August 6th for the selection of a county seat, and if no place should have a majority another was to be held September 10th following, for the selection of one of the two receiving the most votes at the first election. In 1839 Benjamin F. Chastain, Michael H. Walker and Stephen Gearheart, respectively of the counties of Jeffersan, Lee and Des Moines, were appointed to relocate the county seat. They were to meet at the town of Keosauqua, May 6th, and proceed forthwith to make the location. The first district court after January 25, 1839, was to be held at Keosauqua. The act appointing these commissioners had, however, a proviso to the effect that, if the proprietors of the town of Keosauqua should, by the first day of April following, enter into bonds for the payment to the county of the sum of five thousand dollars, payable in town lots or other real estate, or in materials which might be received, to be used in carrying on and completing the public buildings of the county, the act should be null and void. See acts Wisconsin legislative assembly, No. 21; Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 67; Wisconsin legislative assembly, third session, No. 7; first Iowa legislative assembly, page 96.

WAHKAW.—The southermost tier of townships was at one time a part of the county of Benton and the remainder in the county of Buchanan. Established in 1851. An act approved January 12, 1853, provided for the organization of the county from and after March 1; appointed Charles Wolcott, Thomas L. Griffith and Ira Perdu, respectively of Mills, Pottawattamie and Harrison counties, commissioners to locate the seat of justice, who were to meet for that purpose on the second day of July; and also made Thomas L. Griffith organizing sheriff, and attached several counties to this one. The county seat was to be named Sergeants Bluff. Prior to this time the county had been attached to that of Polk for revenue, election and judicial purposes. This act of 1853 was to take effect upon publication in the *Western Bugle*, of which publication, however, there appears to be no evidence in the state archives. On the same day another act was approved which changed the name of the county to Woodbury. This act took effect by publication January 22, 1853. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fourth general assembly, chapters 8 and 12. The name is of Indian origin; immediate derivation unknown.

WAPELLO.—A part of the county of Des Moines, 1834-1836. Established February 17, 1843, and attached to Jefferson county for judicial, revenue and election purposes. Organized from and after March 1, 1844; special election for county officers to be held April 1st, until which time and until his successor was qualified, James M. Peck was to act as sheriff. Joseph B. Davis, John H. Randolph and Solomon Jackson, respectively of the counties of Washington, Henry and Lee, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice; for which purpose they were to meet at the house of George Wilson, near the old Indian agency, within the month of May. The county of Kishkekosh and the territory west were attached for election, revenue and judicial purposes. See revised statutes, chapter 34; acts sixth legislative assembly, chapter 100. Named after a famous chief of the Fox tribe of Indians. The name is usually interpreted as signifying the Prince, but in the treaty of Prairie du Chien, August 19, 1825, where the name is spelled Wau-ba-law, it is interpreted "the playing fox," and in that of Fort Armstrong, "He who is painted white," and here it is spelled Wau-pel-lo.

WARREN.—A part of the county of Des Moines, 1834-1836. Subsequently the northern tier of townships was in the county of Keokuk. Established and boundaries defined, January 13, 1846. The county originally comprised all of townships 74-77, ranges 22-25. Four days later an attempt was made to set off township 77 to Polk county, but owing to error in the description the attempt was only partially successful. The next session the transfer was completed. Warren county had only twelve congressional townships until March 1, 1853, when township 77, excepting the small part of it to the left of the Des Moines river, was restored to it. In 1848-49, William Ferguson, William Ware and Alfred D. Jones, respectively of the counties of Jasper, Polk and Warren, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of Alexander Ginder, in the month of June, 1849. The county was organized in this year, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Mahaska for temporary purposes. Named in honor of Gen. Joseph Warren of revolutionary note.

WASHINGTON.—Named in honor of the first president, January 25, 1839, the first name having been Slaughter, which see. See also acts first legislative assembly, page 100. The latter act appointed John Gilleland, Thomas Richey and William Chambers, respectively of the counties of Louisa, Henry and Muscatine, commissioners, who were to meet at Astoria the first day of the following June for the purpose of locating and establishing the county seat.

WAYNE.—A part of the county of Des Moines, 1834-1836. Established and boundaries defined January 13, 1846. In 1851 George W. Perkins, William Davis and Lamaster M. Boggs, respectively of the counties of Appanoose, Decatur and Monroe, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the seat of justice, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of Isaac McCarty during the month of May. Organized about 1851, up to which time it had continued attached to the county of Appanoose for election, revenue and judicial purposes. See acts seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapters 82 and 60; third general assembly, chapter 18. Named in honor of Gen. Anthony Wayne, of the revolutionary army.

WEBSTER.—The name of the original county of Risley (now constituting the county of Hamilton) was changed January 22, 1853, to "Webster," another act, approved on that day, but which did not take effect until some time afterward, united the counties of Yell and Risley into a new county to be called "Webster." July 1, 1855, half of the county of Humbolt was added to Webster. January 8, 1857, townships 86-89, ranges 23-26, were constituted the county of Hamilton, and on February 26th the northernmost township of the remainder of the county was set off to the new county of Humboldt; so that the county of Webster, as it now exists, contains within its limits no part of the county first called Webster. In the year 1857 an attempt was made to take another township from the northern end, so as to make Humboldt county of the same size as the former county; but the act aiming to accomplish this was declared unconstitutional. January 22, 1853, Webster county was attached to Boone. See acts fourth general assembly, chapters 12 and 52; fifth general assembly, chapter 141; sixth general assembly, chapters 15 and 147; seventh general assembly, chapter 42. See also Humboldt and Risley above. Named in honor of Daniel Webster, then recently deceased.

WINNEBAGO.—At one time a part of the county of Fayette. Established in 1851. Attached to the county of Boone, January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk; attached to the county of Webster, July 1, 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fifth general assembly, chapter 142. Named after the tribe of Indians which at one time occupied the neutral ground in northern Iowa.

WINNESHIEK.—Established and boundaries defined in 1847, having been a part of the county of Fayette for several years. Organized January 15, 1851, up to which time it had been, for temporary purposes, attached to the county of Clayton. A special election for county officers was ordered for April 7th; and John L. Carson, was made sheriff for the purposes of organization. In regard to the choice of county seat the following was enacted: "It shall be the duty of the sheriff aforesaid, on or before the tenth day of March next, to set three stakes, designating the points in said county, contending for the future location of the county seat of the same, one of which stakes shall be set at or near Louisville on Turkey river; at or near Swainey's Mill, on Yellow river, and at or near Decorah, on the Iowa river, in said county." See acts first general assembly, chapter 66; third general assembly, chapter 11; Wisconsin legislative assembly, second session, No. 6. Named after a chief of the Winnebagoes, whose name, Fulton, in his "Red Men of Iowa," says was "Wau-con-chaw-koo-kah." In the recital to the treaty of Washington, 1855, appears this name, followed by the words "or Kinnoskik," and it is there interpreted "Coming Thunder." In an earlier treaty (1837) it is said to signify "Yellow Thunder."

WOODBURY.—Name changed from Wahkaw January 22, 1853, in honor of Levi Woodbury, of New Hampshire, one of the most eminent men of his time, and the successor of Judge Story on the bench of the supreme court of the United States. See acts fourth general assembly, chapter 11.

WORTH.—A part of the county of Fayette, 1837-1840. Established in 1851. Attached to the county of Chickasaw January 22, 1853; up to which time it had been partly attached to Polk. Attached to Floyd for judicial purposes in 1855, and two years later to Worth. Attached, March 24, 1858, to the county of Cerro Gordo for judicial, election and revenue purposes. Organized in 1857; organization legalized April 6, 1858. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; seventh Iowa legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fifth general assembly, chapter 111; sixth general assembly, chapter 56, and seventh general assembly, chapters 47 and 144. Named in honor of Major General William J. Worth, famous in American military annals, more particularly those of the war with Mexico.

WRIGHT.—The lower tier of townships in Buchanan county and the remainder in Fayette in territorial times. Established in 1851. Attached to Boone county January 22, 1853; prior to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk for election, revenue and judicial purposes. Similarly attached to the county of Webster July 1, 1855. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; fourth general assembly, chapter 12; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fifth general assembly, chapter 142. Believed to be named in honor of Silas Wright, distinguished in American statesmanship, and twelfth governor of the state of New York, and also in honor of Joseph A Wright, at the time of the creation of the county governor of the state of Indiana.

YELL.—The name of an extinct county which was established in 1851. It comprised all of townships 86-89, ranges 27-30. The southern tier of townships had been, in territorial times, a part of the county of Benton, and the remainder a part of that of Buchanan. Attached to the county of Boone January 22, 1853, up to which time it had remained for revenue, election and judicial purposes attached to the county of Polk. In the same year it was united with the county of Webster, or Risley, into one county under the name of Webster. See acts third general assembly, chapter 9; seventh legislative assembly, second session, chapter 101; fourth general assembly, chapters 12 and 52. Named in honor of Col. Archibald Yell, who was killed at the battle of Buena Vista. He was the second governor of the state of Arkansas.