

## ORIGIN OF WASHINGTON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

[Continued from Volume XI., page 217]

MOUNT ST. PIERRE, named by Lieutenant Robert E. Johnson on June 7, 1841, who called it "a remarkable peak." (United States Exploring Expedition, *Narrative*, Volume IV., page 432.) It is probably Badger Mountain of the present day maps of Douglas County.

MOUNT SAUK, five miles north of Rockport, in the north central part of Skagit County. Like the name of a river in the same vicinity, this name came from that of a tribe of Indians. (Postmaster at Sauk, in *Names MSS.* Letter 49.)

MOUNT SI, about two and one half miles northeast of North Bend, in the central part of King County. In 1862 Josiah Merritt settled near the foot of the mountain which was named for him. (Julia Falkner, *Local History of Fall City.*)

MOUNT SPOKANE, in the northwestern part of Spokane County, and formerly known as Mount Baldy. On August 23, 1912, in the presence of Governor M. E. Hay, Mayor W. J. Hindlay of Spokane and others, Miss Marguerite Motie broke a bottle of spring water on the summit and bestowed the new name. (*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, August 24, 1912.)

MOUNT STUART, named on September 20, 1853, by Captain George B. McClellan who says: "a handsome snow-peak, smaller than Mount Baker; as it is not to be found on any previous map that I know of, and had no name, I called it Mount Stuart." (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume I., chapter 18, page 196.) The peak is in the southwestern part of Chelan County and has an elevation of 9,470 feet. The Stuart who was honored by having his name given to this beautiful mountain may be identified by McClellan's Diary. On December 4, 1846, he wrote: "Jimmie Stuart came down to take care of me when I first got there, and after doing so with his usual kindness was unfortunately taken with fever and had to stay there anyhow." Later, without entry-date, McClellan wrote: "On the 18th June, 1851, at five in the afternoon died Jimmie Stuart, my best and oldest friend. He was mortally wounded the day before by an arrow, whilst gallantly leading a charge against a party of hostile Indians. He was buried at Camp Stuart, about twenty-five miles south of Rogue River [Oregon] near the road, and not far from the base of the Cision [Siskiyou] mountains.

His grave is between two oaks, on the side of the road, going south, with J. S. cut in the bark of the largest of the oaks." (McClellan's *Mexican War Diary*, page 14 and note.)

MOUNT TACOMA, see Mount Rainier.

MOUNT VAN BUREN, see Mount Olympus.

MOUNT VANCOUVER, see Mount Jefferson, Oregon.

MOUNT VERNON, the county seat of Skagit County, named in March, 1877, by Harrison Clothier and E. C. English in honor of the Virginia home of George Washington. (*History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties*, page 189.) The Virginia estate was named in honor of Admiral Edward Vernon of the British Navy by Lewis Washington who willed it to his brother George Washington. (Henry Gannett, *Origin of Certain Place Names in the United States*, page 217.)

MOUNT WASHINGTON, see Mount Saint Helens.

MOUNT WHITMAN, see Mount Rainier.

MOUNT YOUNG, near Wescott Creek, on San Juan Island, in San Juan County. The name first appears on the British Admiralty Chart 2689, Richards, 1858-1859. The name does not appear on American charts.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, on a hill near Ferndale, in Whatcom County. On account of the splendid view of the mountains and surrounding country, the place was named by Mrs. H. A. Smith who settled there in 1877. (Fred C. Whitney of Ferndale, in *Names MSS.* Letter 156.) The same name was at one time used for Clearlake, Skagit County.

MOUSE RIVER, see Querquelin River.

MOXLIE CREEK, in Thurston County. "January 16, 1869,—Died, R. W. Moxlie, a pioneer, for whom Moxlie Creek was named." (Mrs. George E. Blankenship, *Tillicum Tales of Thurston County*, page 388.)

MUCK, a creek, tributary to the Nisqually River in the southwestern part of Pierce County. The creek was named "Douglas River" by the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, whose post at what is now Roy was known as Muck. "Bastien sent off to Muck with two ox plows, and to bring home a load of meat, Montgomery having been instructed to slaughter in the plains some of the large oxen that cannot be driven away from Douglass River." (*Nisqually Journal*, February 2, 1846.)

MUCKLESHOOT INDIAN RESERVATION, near Auburn in King County. C. L. Willis, a pioneer of Seattle, says the word means river junction. (Victor J. Farrar, in *Names MSS.* Letter 551.)

MUD BAY, see Eld Inlet.

MUD BAY SPIT, see Point Cooper.

MUD CREEK, a tributary of Walla Walla River in Walla Walla County. In 1853 it was mapped as "Wild Horse Creek." (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume XII., book I, map.)

MUD FLAT, see Nisqually Flats.

MUD MOUNTAIN, mentioned by Ezra Meeker during a trip through Naches Pass. (*Pioneer Reminiscences*, page 94.) It is shown on the Surveyor General of Washington Territory's map of 1857. (*United States Public Documents*, serial number 877.)

MUKAMUK PASS, near Conconully in Okanogan County. It is a great place for game, deer, grouse, rabbits, and pheasants. A man can take his gun and get mukamuk (Chinook Jargon for food) in that gulch or pass. (C. H. Lovejoy to Frank Putman, of Tonasket, April 6, 1916, in *Names MSS.* Letter 345.)

MUKILTEO, a town on the shore of Puget Sound in the west central part of Snohomish County. It is an old Indian place name. Gov. Isaac I. Stevens in making the Indian treaty of January 22, 1855, chose "Muckl-te-oh or Point Elliott" as the place. (Charles J. Kappler, *Indian affairs, Laws and Treaties*, Volume II., page 669.) "Date, origin, and original application unknown. I have never met an Indian who could give me the meaning of the word Mukilteo though I have made 21 years of inquiry and lived among them that long." (Charles M. Buchanan, *Aboriginal Names Used at Tulalip*, in *Names MSS.* Letter 155.) The founders of the town were J. D. Fowler and Morris H. Frost partners in a store. Mr. Fowler became postmaster in 1862. The place was known as Point Elliott but Mr. Fowler changed it to Mukilteo, local Indian word for "good camping ground." (*History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties*, pages 369-370.)

MUMMY ROCKS, in Middle channel, off the southwest shore of Lopez Island, in San Juan County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, included these rocks in what were charted as Geese Islets.

MURDENS COVE, on the east shore of Bainbridge Island, in Kitsap County. It was named by the United States Coast Survey in 1856. (George Davidson, *Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 609, note.) Locally the name has been changed to Rolling Bay. In that vicinity it is believed that Murden was an early beach dweller. (Lucas A. Rodd, postmaster at Rolling Bay, in *Names MSS.* Letter I.)

MUSCLE RAPID, see Indian Rapids.

MUSQUETI POINT, on the eastern shore of Hood Canal, at the bend, in the central part of Mason County. It was named by the

Wilkes Expedition, 1841. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 78.)

MUTINY BAY, on the southwest coast of Whidbey Island, in Island County. It was named by the United States Coast Survey in 1855. (George Davidson, *Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 594, note.)

## N

NACHES, an Indian name used for a pass through the Cascade Mountains, for a river, canyon and valley. The spelling has assumed such forms as Nachchese in Theodore Winthrop's *The Canoe and the Saddle*, 1853, (date of journey); as Wachess by J. Patton Anderson in James G. Swan's *Northwest Coast*, 1857; as Nahcheess on James Tilton's Map of Part of Washington Territory, 1859. The form of Naches, in present use, first appeared on Preston's *Map of Oregon and Washington West of the Cascade Mountains*, 1856. The Government benchmark at Naches Pass shows an elevation of 4,988 feet. (J. H. Williams' edition of Winthrop's *The Canoe and the Saddle*, note on page 124.) The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, called the river "Spipen," a tributary of the Yakima River. (Atlas with volume XXIII, *Hydrography*, chart 67.) Pierre C. Pambrun of Fort Walla Walla and Cornelius Rogers are credited with an early exploration of Naches Pass. (*Oregon Spectator*, May 12, 1849, quoted by H. H. Bancroft, *Works*, Volume XXXI., page 63, note 40.) The river was crossed by Captain George B. McClellan on August 20, 1853. (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume I., pages 377-389.) A famous company of pioneers, James Biles, Captain, containing such well known families as Longmire, Himes and Byles crossed Naches Pass in 1853. The meaning of the Indian word Naches has not been ascertained. The pioneers in 1920 were making efforts to retain this name instead of "McClellan Pass" which arose with the construction of a state highway.

NAGROM, a sawmill town in the southeastern part of King County, named by the division superintendent of the Northern Pacific Railroad in honor of Mr. E. G. Morgan, president of the Morgan Lumber Company. The name was derived by spelling Morgan backwards. The town was established about August 25, 1911. (Robert W. Hallam, in *Names MSS.* Letter 449.)

NAHCOTTA, a town on the west shore of Willapa Harbor in the west central part of Pacific County. It was named by John P. Paul in the eighties after an Indian Chief who was camped in front of

Mr. Paul's residence. (Julian Hawthorne, *History of Washington*, Volume II., pages 581-582.)

NAHCULLUM RIVER, see Baker River.

NAI-HAI-UL-IX-ON CREEK, see Scaffold Camp Creek.

NAPAVINE, a town in the west central part of Lewis County, named by James Urquhart on December 17, 1883. The name is derived from the Indian word "Napavoon," meaning small prairie. Mr. Urquhart, a native of Scotland, who came to New York in 1851 and migrated to Oregon in 1852, settled first on Eden Prairie. When his family came by way of Cape Horn, he settled at Napavine in 1855. (*History of the Pacific Northwest: Oregon and Washington*, Volume II., page 611.)

NARMENEET RIVER, see Klickitat River.

NARROWS, see The Narrows.

NASEL, a river flowing into Willapa Harbor in the south central part of Pacific County, and a town by the same name near the mouth of the river. George Gibbs called it "Nasal River." (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume I., page 465.) James G. Swan refers to the Nasal Indians and also says: "Among others who came to settle was an old friend, Col. H. K. Stevens, who, with a friend named Hinckley, had taken a claim on the Nasal River, which he had named the Kenebec." (*Northwest Coast*, page 135.) The Bureau of American Ethnology says that Nisal was a division of the Chinook tribe formerly residing on Nasal River. (*Handbook of American Indians*, Volume II., page 75.)

NATCHESS, see Naches.

NAVARRE COULEE near Winesap, in the southeastern part of Chelan County, running from the Columbia River to within about two miles of Lake Chelan, from which it is separated by a mountain spur. The name is an honor for the pioneer Judge Navarre who was also a civil engineer. (W. J. Taylor, in *Names MSS.* Letter 294.)

NAVARRE PEAKS, west of Methow on the boundary between Chelan and Okanogan Counties. They are called North Navarre and South Navarre. The name is an honor for the pioneer surveyor, Judge Navarre.

NAVY ARCHPELAGO "is a collection of 25 islands having the Straits of Fuca on the south, the Gulf of Georgia on the north, the Canal de Arro on the west, and Ringgold's Channel on the east. They have been named from distinguished officers late of the U. S. Naval service, viz., Rodgers, Chauncey, Hull, Shaw, Decatur, Jones, Blakely, Perry, Sinclair, Lawrence, Gordon, Percival, and others."

(United States Exploring Expedition, *Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., page 306.) That is the effort of the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, to name the islands and the aggregate which is now known as San Juan County. Some of the names have persisted and others have been changed. See such names as Fidalgo, Guemes, Lopez, Orcas and San Juan.

NAVY YARD, PUGET SOUND, on Port Orchard in Kitsap County. "I take pleasure in mailing you copies of orders and letters in relation to the starting of the Navy Yard, Puget Sound. The original name was 'Puget Sound Naval Station,' but some years since Congress changed the name to Navy Yard, Puget Sound because of its increasing importance. 'Bremerton Navy Yard' is a mis-nomer, without official sanction, and should never be used." (A. B. Wyckoff, Lieut. U. S. N. (Ret'd.) in *Washington Historical Quarterly*, July, 1908, page 356.) Lieutenant Wyckoff is the officer who selected the site of the navy yard in 1891.

NEAH BAY, a harbor near the entrance of the Strait of Juan de Fuca in the northeastern part of Clallam County. On August 15, 1788, Captain Charles Duncan, the British trader, indicated a bay at that place on his chart but did not give it a name. In 1790, the Spanish Captains Eliza and Quimper took possession and named the place "Bahia de Nunez Gaona" in honor of Haro y Peralta, a distinguished Spanish prelate, archbishop of Mexico in 1772 and viceroy from May 8 to August 16, 1787. In 1792 the Spanish Lieutenant Salvador Fidalgo was sent there to fortify the place. That work was abandoned the same year. Fragments of Spanish brick are still found in the banks of Neah Creek. Vancouver in that same year, 1792, charted the bay but did not stop there. (Edmond S. Meany, *Vancouver's Discovery of Puget Sound*, page 307, note.) American Traders called it "Poverty Cove" though the same is true of San Juan Harbor on the northern shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, made an elaborate map, calling it "Scarborough Harbour" in honor of Captain James Scarborough of the Hudson's Bay Company, who had rendered assistance to the Wilkes party. (J. G. Kohl, in *Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume XII., Part I., pages 276-277.) The Wilkes chart made the first use of the word Neah but applied it to the islands now known as Waaddah. (United States Exploring Expedition, *Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 80.) The present name of the bay was given by Captain Henry Kellett in 1847. He spelled it Neeah Bay. (British Admiralty Chart 1911, Kellett, 1847.) The name comes from that of the Makah Chief Dee-ah. The Clallams, on the east,

having a nasal language, called it Neah. (Rev. Myron Eells, in *American Anthropologist*, January, 1892.)

NEBRASKA SPRINGS, a group of small springs along the steep rocky shore at the foot of South Hill, San Juan Island, named in honor of Nebraska's representation at the Puget Sound Marine Station. (Walter L. C. Muenscher, in *Puget Sound Marine Station Publications*, Volume I., pages 59-84.)

NECK POINT, a point on San Juan Island north of Goose Island, in Middle Channel. (British Admiralty Chart 2840, Richards, 1858-1860.) The name does not appear on American charts.

NECLIM POINT, on the west shore of Hood Canal opposite Ayres Point. (United States Exploring Expedition, *Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 78.) The name is probably of Indian origin and was retained by Captain Kellett. (British Admiralty Chart 1911, Kellett, 1847.) The name was recognized by the United States Coast Survey in 1854. (*United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 784.) On present charts the place is known as Potlatch.

NECOMANCHEE RIVER, a former name of North River in the southeastern part of Grays Harbor County and the northwestern part of Pacific County. "The other names of the Shoalwater Bay Indians were the Ne-coman-chee or Nick-omin, who resided on a river of that name flowing into the north side of the Bay." [Willapa Harbor.] (James G. Swan, *Northwest Coast*, page 211.) The Indian word is said to mean "shadowy water." Henry Gannett. *Origin of Certain Place Names in the United States*, page 225.)

NEDS ROCK, shown at the east entrance to North Bay of Grays Harbor. (United States Exploring Expedition, *Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 75.)

NEDWHAULD CREEK, see Latah Creek.

NE-HEI-AT-PITQUA RIVER, see Kettle River.

NEILL POINT, the southeast cape of Vashon Island in the southeastern part of King County. It was named by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841. (United States Exploring Expedition, *Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, Chart 78.) The one thus honored was William Neill, a quartermaster in the expedition.

NELLITA, a town on the shore of Hood Canal in the southwestern part of Kitsap County. It was named on July 23, 1900, by Ralph Brueger in honor of his wife Mrs. Nelli Brueger. It covers the land between Hood Point and Bob's Point and was formerly known as Brown's Cove after Arthur Brown who first logged on the bay. (Ralph Brueger, postmaster, in *Names MSS.* Letter 10.)

NELSON, two former settlements bore this name. One was in the central part of Pierce County, named in honor of Nils Nelson, who later operated a dairy on the land. (Clara G. Lindsley, of Spanaway, in *Names MSS.* Letter 254.) The other, in the central part of Douglas County, was named for a town in Nebraska, but the postoffice there was discontinued about 1906. (B. C. Ferguson, in *Names MSS.* Letter 77.)

NEMAH, a town on the site of an old Indian village of the same name at the mouth of a river flowing into Willapa Harbor. The river is also called Nemah or Nemar. There are many spellings of the word, which is an Indian word of unknown meaning. It may have come from one of the tribes of southwestern Washington, which have become extinct. (L. L. Bush to George W. Prior, in *Names MSS.* Letter 184.)

NEQUALLY CREEK, a small tributary of the Columbia River at Memelouse Point, a rocky promontory jutting out into the river. The name was given by Captain Rockwell, who triangulated the Columbia in 1871 to 1876. Prior to that it was known as Abernethy Creek in honor of Alexander S. Abernethy who settled on the adjacent land in 1850. (William Newell, of Oak Point, in *Names MSS.* Letter 205.)

NESPELEM, the name of a tribe of Indians, a river, canyon, bar, rapid and a town on the Colville Indian Reservation in the southeastern part of Okanogan County. There have been many spellings of the word. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, charted it as "Spillnin." (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 67.) Edward S. Curtis spells it "Nspilich" and says it refers to "a large, open meadow beside a stream, in particular the meadow just below the village of Nespilim." (*The North American Indian*, Volume VII., page 64.) The first vowel is nearly ignored in the Indian pronunciation and the word literally means, "it, the flat land." (Earl De Camp, postmaster, in *Names MSS.* Letter 367.)

NESQUALLY RIVER, see Nisqually River.

NEUSKAHL CREEK, a small stream entering Grays Harbor from the south, in the southwestern part of Grays Harbor County. In early days there was at the mouth of the creek an Indian village called "Noos-koh." (Bureau of American Ethnology, *Handbook of American Indians*, Volume II., page 81.) The meaning of the Indian word has not been ascertained. (John J. Carney, of Aberdeen, in *Names MSS.* Letter 65.)

NEWAUKUM, a tributary of the Chehalis River in the west central part of Lewis County, a prairie and a town near Chehalis have



the same name. Prior to the American regime, the Puget Sound Agricultural Company had a farmsite there which they called Nawakum. ("Nisqually Journal," October 25, 1849, in *Washington Historical Quarterly*, Volume XI., page 63.) George Gibbs, on March 1, 1854, mentioned the river as "Nawaukum River." (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume I., page 468.) The present name was charted in 1856. (Preston's *Map of Oregon and Washington West of the Cascade Mountains*.) The Seattle Intelligencer for September 30, 1872, says: "General Tilton, of the Northern Pacific Railroad, has been engaged for a few weeks past in laying off the new railroad town of Newaukum, which in the Indian vernacular means the 'gently flowing waters.' It is located about two miles southeast of Claquato, and one and a half miles from Judge McFadden's farm in Lewis County. The railroad company will without delay erect the many depot buildings and make such other improvements as is usual to railroads of this character." That prophecy was not fulfilled.

NEW CALEDONIA, a Hudson's Bay Company name for part of the present British Columbia, which at times included a part of Washington.

NEWCASTLE, a town in the west central part of King County. "The coal of this section for a few years previous to 1869 had been opened up and mined in a small way at Coal Creek where Coal Creek cutting down through the measures had exposed the coal. The property extended a mile and a half farther west towards Lake Washington and we believed the coal extended that far west, although there was no indication of it on the surface, and, as the coal was hauled by team to the Lake, if the coal could be opened there, a mile and a half would be saved in the haul, quite an item. Therefore, on a Friday in August (I am not sure of the day of the month) 1869, Rev. George F. Whitworth, J. E. Whitworth, myself and two workmen went to work and by digging pits traced the coal measures across the hill to the point where the mine was subsequently opened. The next day we came back and actually uncovered the seam that was first mined at this point. At the noon hour we were discussing coal and the remark was made this would not be carrying coals to New Castle, and then it was suggested we call the mine, and the village that must necessarily grow up around it, New Castle. This was approved subsequently by all interested and New Castle it has been ever since." (F. H. Whitworth, of Seattle, in *Names MSS*. Letter 85.)

NEW CHANNEL, northeast of Spieden Island, in San Juan County. (*British Admiralty Chart 2689*, Richards, 1858-1859.) The name does not appear on American charts.

NEW DUNGENESS BAY, the word "new" is dropped in much of the use made of this name as given by Vancouver in April, 1792. (*Voyage Round the World*, second edition, Volume II., page 55.) He thought it resembled Dungeness in the British Channel. The word comes from dune and "naess," meaning cape. Prior to Vancouver the Clallam Indians called the bay Tses-kut; and the sandpit, Tsi-tsa-kwick. (J. A. Costello, *The Siwash*.) In 1790, the place was explored by the Spaniard, Don Manuel Quimper, who called the sandspit Puerto de Santa Cruz. Later the bay was shown as Bahia de Quimper. ("Eliza's Map, 1791," in *United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 1557, chart K.) Since the time of Vancouver most charts have shown it as New Dungeness Bay. See Dungeness.

NEW GEORGIA, see Washington, State of.

NEWHALL'S POINT, a small point in Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, named in honor of Mr. Newhall. Formerly it was known as "Idlewild," home of Judge E. D. Warbass. (Walter L. C. Muen-scher, in *Puget Sound Marine Station Publications*, Volume I, pages 59-84.)

NEW HANOVER, see Washington, State of.

NEW KAMILCHE, see Kamilche.

NEW MARKET, see Olympia and Tumwater.

NEWPORT, county seat, in the southeastern part of Pend Oreille County. A few residents on the bank of the Pend Oreille River portaged their supplies brought from Sandpoint. In 1890, when the first steamboat was placed on the river, a new landing place was selected and Mr. M. C. Kelly suggested the name Newport. (Fred L. Wolf, in *Names MSS*. Letter 368.)

NEWPORT BEACH, a town on Quartermaster Harbor, Vashon Island, King County, named by Dr. A. L. Goff in 1906, after the city on the Atlantic Coast. (Mrs. A. Hunt, of Burton, in *Names MSS*. Letter 84.)

NEWTON, a town in the southwestern part of Grays Harbor County, named by Clarence H. Morgan, the new postmaster there, on September 30, 1906. (Postmaster, in *Names MSS*. Letter 515.)

NEW WHATCOM, see Bellingham.

NEW YORK, see Alki Point.

NEW YORK BAR, in the northern part of Columbia County. "New York Bar, located on Snake River, some distance above Texas

Ferry, was quite an important shipping point in the early days, the grain raised in a large section of the country lying north and east of the Tucannon, including the towns of Pomeroy and Pataha City, being shipped from this point before the advent of the railroads into the country. The Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company had a warehouse there and a regular agent was employed to look after the company's interests. The most important item in the history of this place was the murder of Eli H. Cummins, which resulted in the lynching of one, one legal execution and the death in jail of another of the assassins." (*Illustrated History of Southeastern Washington*, page 378.)

NEZ PERCES, meaning pierced noses, is an Idaho Indian term. A small band of that tribe lived under the late Chief Joseph at Nespelem on the Colville Indian Reservation. For a time Snake River was known as Nez Perces River. ("Journal of John Work," July 21, 1825, in *Washington Historical Quarterly*, Volume V., page 97.) There is a small tributary of the Columbia River, in the southeastern part of Ferry County, named Nez Perce Creek.

NIC-O-MAN-CHIE RIVER, see Necomanchee or North River.

NICULUITA, see Wisham.

NIKEPUN RIVER, see White Salmon River.

NINE PINS. "On approaching Walla Walla the scenery becomes grand; the country is broken into volcanic peaks, forming many fantastic shapes, resembling figures and colossal heads: many of them are seen either insulated or in groups; some of them are known under the name of the Nine-pins." (United States Exploring Expedition, 1841, *Narrative*, Volume IV., page 390.)

NIPPON, see Alpine.

NISQUALLY, an Indian word much used for geographic names. Rev. Myron Eells says it is the word Squally-o-bish, "from the tribe of that name." (*American Anthropologist*, January, 1892.) The Bureau of American Ethnology gives the spelling as Nisqualli and gives many varieties of other spellings in use such as Askwalli, Qualliamish, and Squalliamish. (*Handbook of American Indians*, Part 2, page 76.) In the medicine Creek treaty made with those Indians by Governor Isaac I. Stevens on December 26, 1854, the name Nisqually is used. The tribe lived at the mouth of a river flowing into Puget Sound and forming part of the present boundary between Pierce and Thurston Counties. The river became known as the Nisqually River; the large delta at the mouth of the river became known as Nisqually Flats; the portion of Puget Sound into which the river flows was charted as Nisqually Reach; when the

exploration of Mount Rainier revealed the main source of the river to be in a huge glacier the name of Nisqually Glacier was mapped. One of the earliest geographical uses of the name was for the river in the journal of John Work, Hudson's Bay Company Factor, on November 6, 1824. (*Washington Historical Quarterly*, July, 1912, page 211.) The first home of white men on Puget Sound was the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Nisqually near the mouth of the river. (See Dupont.) Nisqually Bluff or Nisqually Head, two miles west of the mouth of the river, is shown as Laa Point by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841. (Atlas accompanying Volume XXIII., chart 79.)

NISQUALLY HOUSE, first settlement of white men on Puget Sound, established by the Hudson's Bay Company near the mouth of the Nisqually River in the southwestern part of what is now Pierce County. Early in April, 1833, Chief Factor Archibald McDonald selected the site and left some goods there in charge of Pierre Charles, a French Canadian. He returned with Dr. William Fraser Tolmie and others and the fort or house was regularly established the daily journal or record beginning with May 30, 1833. It was continued as a trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company until the fall of 1841 when it was turned over to the Puget Sound Agricultural Company a subsidiary organization of the Hudson's Bay Company. The United States purchased the rights of the British companies on September 10, 1869, under the treaty of July 1, 1863. (*Treaties, 1776-1909, Volume I., pages 688-691.*) See Dupont.

NISSON, a town in the central part of Grays Harbor County. "We selected the name Nisson in honor of the first man who logged, about 1896, part of this East Hoquiam Valley." (Emil J. Bloechlingen, in *Names MSS.* Letter 503.)

NISTEPEHTSAM RIVER, see Salmon Creek, a tributary of the Okanogan River.

NOB ISLAND, one of the seven Wasp Islands, San Juan County. (*British Admiralty Chart 2840.* Richards, 1858-1860.)

NOB POINT, see Point Doughty.

NOCKTOSH, see Yakima River.

NODULE POINT, on the southeast shore of Marrowstone Island, in the northeastern part of Jefferson County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, named it Ariel Point. (*Hydrography, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 77.*) The United States Coast Survey in 1868 declared that it had been named Nodule Point by Vancouver in 1792 on account of peculiar geological formations found in the vicinity. (*United States Public Documents, Serial Number 1005, page 443.*)

NOO-CHAAD-KWUN, see Watmough Head.

NOOK-HAN-NOO, see Green River.

NOOKNOO, see Cedar River.

NOOKSAK, an Indian word used as the name of a river and a town in Whatcom County. The Handbook of American Indians, Part 2, page 81, shows many spellings in use but all are evident efforts to express the same sounds. The same work declares that those Indians were mountain men living in small bands on the river of the same name. Dr. Charles M. Buchanan is quoted as saying that Nook or Nooh means people and sa-ak means the edible root of bracken or fern. (J. H. Williams' edition of Winthrop's *The Canoe and the Saddle*, note on Page 280.) In the same region is the town Ferndale whose name may be thought of as a sort of synonym of the Indian name of Nooksak. One of the early appearances of the river's name was on the map by the Surveyer General of Washington Territory for 1857. (*United States Public Documents* serial number 877, Senate Executive Document No. 5.)

NOON, a town in the west central part of Whatcom County. It was named on April 16, 1890, for A. F. Noon. (Hugh Eldridge, of Bellingham, in *Names MSS.* Letter 136.)

NOOSCOPE, see Green River.

NOO-SEH-CHATL, see Woodland Creek.

NOO-SOHK-UM, see Port Madison.

NORLAND, a town on Marrowstone Island in the northeastern part of Jefferson County. It was named about 1890 for Mr. Peter Nordby who owned the land there at that time. (Postmaster at Nordland, in *Names MSS.* Letter 513.)

NORTH BAY, there are three geographic features bearing this name. One is the northern portion of Grays Harbor, another is a part of Griffin Bay, San Juan Island and the third is on the west shore of Waldron Island. The one in Grays Harbor was charted as "Useless Bay" by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 75.)

NORTH BEND, a town in the central part of King County. Its name comes from its location where the South Fork of the Snoqualmie River bends to the north. The town was formerly known as Snoqualmie and was platted by W. H. Taylor who settled there in 1872. (H. H. Daigneault, in *Names MSS.* Letter 518.)

NORTH BLUFF, at the north entrance to Holmes Harbor, Whidby Island. It was named by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 90.) The honor was for James North, acting master of the United States Ship *Vincennes* of the expedition. For another effort to name a "North Bluff," see Clallam.

**NORTH HEAD**, at the mouth of the Columbia River, in the southwestern part of Pacific County. Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition named it Point Lewis "after my particular friend Lewis." (Reuben Gold Thwaites, Editor, *Lewis and Clark Journals*, Volume III., page 236.) In a note the editor says: "This promontory is now known as North Head, where a new and modern lighthouse stands. North of it is Long Beach, a well known summer resort, extending for several miles along the coast."

**NORTH PASS**, a passage to Deer Harbor between Reef Island and the western extremity of Orcas Island. (*British Admiralty Chart* 2840, Richards, 1858-1860.)

**NORTH RIVER**, flowing through the southern part of Grays Harbor County and the northwestern corner of Pacific County into Willapa Harbor. The Indian name was Necomanchee. The name North River appeared on James Tilton's Map of a Part of Washington Territory, September 1, 1859. (*United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 1026.) "Before closing I want to invoke support for changing the almost meaningless name North River to the original Indian name 'Nic-o-man-chie,' or 'shadowy waters,' which is a beautifully significant name and peculiarly appropriate as the stream is naturally of a dark tint even since the opening up of the country." (M. J. Luark, of Montesano, in *Names MSS.* Letter 548.)

**NORTH YAKIMA**, see Yakima.

**NORWEGIAN POINT**, between Point No Point and Foulweather Bluff in the northern extremity of Kitsap County. The name is shown on the United States Coast & Geodetic Survey Chart 6450. It was first charted by the United States Coast Survey in 1855. (*United States Public Documents* Serial Number 845, chart 44.)

**NOSE-TO-ILSE**, an Indian name for Chinook Point.

**NOVA ALBION**, Captain Francis Drake's name for the Pacific Coast including California, Oregon and Washington.

**NO-WEHTL-KAI-ILSE**, see Point Ellice.

**NOW-WOW-EE**, see Rock Creek a tributary of the Columbia River.

**NUKOLOWAP**, see Hazel Point and Oak Head.

**NUNEZ GAONA**, see Neah Bay.

**NUSHIATSKA**, see Ocosta.

**NUT ISLETS**, see Dago Island and Squaw Island. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, named the two islands at the mouths of Lewis and Lake Rivers, in the western part of Clarke County, Nut Islets. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 72.)

## O

OAK BAY, between the south end of Marrowstone Island and the mainland in the northeastern part of Jefferson County. On May 9, 1792, Captain George Vancouver wrote: "While detained by this unfavorable weather, some of the young gentlemen in their excursions found several oak-trees, of which they produced specimens; but stated that they had not seen any exceeding three or four feet in circumference. In consequence of this valuable discovery, the place obtained the name of Oak Cove." (*Voyage Round the World*, second edition, Volume II., pages 80-81.) The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, sought to honor the famous American naval hero, James Lawrence, by calling it "Port Lawrence." (*Narrative*, Volume IV., page 303.) See Guemes Island for a similiar futile effort. Captain Kellett restored the older name as Oak Bay in 1847. (British Admiralty Chart in 1911, Kellett, 1847.) That name has continued on subsequent maps.

OAK HARBOR, a town on the eastern shore of Whidbey Island, in Island County. "The second place to be settled in Island County was Oak Harbor—so named on account of the large number of native trees found growing there, a phenomenal and unprecedented thing on Puget Sound." (*The Ebna* of May 31, 1910, in *Names MSS.* Letter 344.)

OAK HEAD, on Hood Canal in the eastern part of Jefferson County. The Indian name was "Nukolowap." The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, sought to retain the Indian name. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 78.) Captain Kellett changed it to Oak Head six years later. That name has since persisted. See also Hazel Point.

OAK ISLAND, a small island on the east shore of West Sound, Orcas Island, San Juan County. (*British Admiralty Chart* 2689, Richards 1858-1859.) The name does not appear on American charts.

OAK POINT, a town on the Columbia River in the southwestern part of Cowlitz County. On Sunday October 28, 1792, Lieutenant W. R. Broughton, who was exploring the Columbia River in the armed tender *Chatham* for Captain Vancouver wrote in his log: "for the first time in this river some oak-trees were seen, one of which measured thirteen feet in girth; this, therefore, obtained the name of Oak Point. (*Voyage Round the World*, second edition, Volume III., page 100.) Oak Point became a great landmark. It

was mentioned by Alexander Henry, the Younger, on January 9, 1814. (*New Light on the Early History of the Greater Northwest*, edited by Elliott Cones, Volume II., page 793.) This point is on the Oregon side of the Columbia but the Pioneer botanist, David Douglas, who mentioned it frequently, located it on the north bank while describing the oak trees. "Plentiful on the north banks of that stream sixty miles from the ocean, and from that circumstance named by Capt. Vancouver 'Oak Point.' 1792." He gave the tree its botanical name *Quercus Garryana*, saying: "I have great pleasure in dedicating this species to N. Gerry, Esq., Deputy Governor of the Hudson Bay Company, as a sincere though simple token of regard." (*Journal*, 1823-1827, page 49.) Hubert Howe Bancroft says that the Oak Point Mills were built on the north side of the river in the summer of 1850 by a man named Dyer for Abernethy and Clark of Oregon City. (*Works*, Volume XXX., page 4, notes.)

OAKESDALE, a town in the northwestern part of Whitman County, named by the Northern Pacific Land Company in honor of Thomas F. Oakes, Vice President of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in 1886. (E. J. Tramill, Postmaster at Oakesdale, in *Names MSS.* Letter 179.)

OAKINACKEN, see Okanogan.

OAKLAND, a town on a bay or cove of the same name, at the head of Hammersley Inlet, in the east central part of Mason County. It was once the county seat. (*Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 636.) It was probably named by William T. Morrow, the first settler there in 1852. On the attractive prairie a mile from the shore there were scattered oak trees. (Grant C. Angle, of Shelton, in *Names MSS.* Letter 83.)

O'BRIEN, a town in the west central part of King County. When the railroad was built through the farm of Terrance O'Brien a station was named in honor of his father.

OBSERVATORY POINT, the west cape of Freshwater Bay in the northern part of Clallam County. The early Spanish name was "Punta de Salvi." (Manuel Quimper's Map, 1790, in *United States Public Documents*, Serial number 1557.) It is likely that Captain Henry Kellett used the point as a base for observations in 1847 as the name originated with him. (*British Admiralty Chart*, 1911, Kellett, 1847.)

OBSTRUCTION ISLAND, between Blakely and Orcas Island, in San Juan County. It was named by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., page 306; Atlas, chart 77.)



OBSTRUCTION PASS, the two passes on either side of Obstruction Island from Rosario Strait toward Upright Channel are called Obstruction Passes. (United States Coast & Geodetic Chart 6300.)

OCEAN PARK, a town on the ocean shore, in the west central part of Pacific County. Isaac Alonzo Clark, founder of Oysterville, purchased land at the ocean front and enlisted the support of Rev. A. Atwood presiding elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to organize there a great camp-meeting and resort. The latter obtained the help of Rev. William R. Osborn, founder of Ocean Grove, on the New Jersey Coast. Their efforts made a success of Ocean Park. (Julian Hawthorne, *History of Washington*, Volume II, page 532.)

OCOSTA, a town near the Pacific Ocean on the south shore of Grays Harbor, in the southwestern part of Grays Harbor County. The Indian name of the place was "Nushiatska." The present name was chosen about 1891 while George E. Filley was Trustee of the land company owning the site. Mrs. Filley and Hon. William H. Calkins of Tacoma in discussing the matter took the Spanish *La costa* meaning "the coast" and prefixed the "O" for the sake of euphony. (C. J. Coglan, of Ocosta in *Names MSS.* Letter 605.)

ODESSA, a town in the southwestern part of Lincoln County. The name was given by the Great Northern Railroad officials about 1892 on account of the Russian settlers then living south of there near Ritzville. (Hy. W. Rieke, Secretary of the Odessa Commercial Club, in *Names MSS.* Letter 445.)

OFFUT, a town and lake in the south central part of Thurston County. Between 1855 and 1860, two brothers, Levi James and Milford Offut took up claims and bought others until they had acquired 1207 acres. E. A. Collins bought the land in 1888. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway station was established in 1910 and a postoffice in 1913. In naming these one "t" was left off the original name by officials in making the record. The lake has borne the name since 1860. (E. A. Collins, in *Names MSS.* Letter 52.)

OHANLAT RIVER, see Hoh River.

OHOPE, a town, lake and creek, in the south central part of Pierce County. The Surveyor General of Washington Territory in 1857 mapped the creek and lake as "Ow-hap River" and "Ow-hap Lake". (*United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 877.)

OKANOGAN, a river flowing from British Columbia southward to the Columbia River through the central part of Okanogan County. A tribe of Indians bore the same name. The word means "ren-

dezeous" and was applied to the head of the river at Lake Osoyoos where the Indians of British Columbia and Washington often gathered for the annual potlatch and to lay in supplies of fish and game. (Rev. Myron Eells, in *American Anthropologist*, January, 1892.) The name has had many spellings such as "Oakinacken" by Alexander Ross; "Ookenaw," by David Thompson and Alexander Henry, the Younger; "Okenaken," by Gabriel Franchere; "Okinakane," in the Pacific Railroad Reports; and other forms, most of which aim at the same sounds. J. K. Duncan, the topographer with the Pacific Railroad survey, calls the main river through and above the lakes, "Sahtlikwu" and the Similkameen he calls "Millakitekwa." (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume I, chapter 18, page 214.) A town by the name of Okanogan is located on the bank of the river in the central part of Okanogan County.

OKANOGAN COUNTY, organized by act of the Territorial Legislature, February 2, 1888.

OKEHO RIVER, see Hoko River.

OKHO RIVER, see Tocosos River.

OLD COLVILLE, see Colville.

OLD HUNDRED ISLAND, see Castle Island.

OLD MAN HOUSE, Chief Seattle's home on Port Madison Bay. The place is now called Suquamish, the name of his tribe. The Indian name for that place was "Tu-che-cub." (J. A. Costello, *The Siwash*.)

OLALEE, a creek and meadow near the south fork of the Snoqualmie River. The meadow lying at the head of the creek at an elevation of about 3700 feet, abounds with huckleberries. "Olalee" is the Chinook Jargon word for berry. (Trustees of The Mountaineers to the United States Geographical Board, June 15, 1916, in *Names MSS.* Letter 580.) A town in the southeastern part of Kitsap County bears the name Olalla, evidently from the same Indian word.

OLELE POINT, the southern boundary of Oak Bay, in the north-eastern part of Jefferson County. It was named by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, (*Hydrography* Volume XXIII, page 314; Atlas, chart 78.) The United States Coast Survey charted it as "Point Kanawi" in 1854. (*United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 784, chart 51.) The older name has been restored. It was probably derived from the Indian word for berry.

OLEMA, a postoffice in the south central part of Okanogan County, named by Mrs. L. C. Malott in 1897. (E. Holzhauser, in *Names MSS.* Letter 298.)

OLEQUA, a town on Olequa Creek in the northwestern part of Cowlitz County. The railroad station was named in 1871 by General J. W. Sprague, General Superintendent of the Northern Pacific Railroad. (Mrs. E. B. Huntington, of Castle Rock, in *Names MSS.* Letter 158.) It is claimed that the word is a corruption of the Indian word "Cametze," meaning where the salmon come to spawn. Olequa was a place where many Indians gathered to catch salmon on their spawning grounds. (Henry C. Sicade to John L. Harris, in *Names MSS.* Letter 481.)

OLLALA CANYON, near Dryden in Chelan County. It is sometimes referred to as Williams Canyon. It was named for Ollala, an Indian who lived there from early days and until 1894. (A. J. Amos, of Dryden, in *Names MSS.* Letter 301.)

OLNEY CREEK, a tributary of Wallace River, near Startup, in the south central part of Snohomish County. It was named for an old settler. (J. F. Stretch, of Snohomish, in *Names MSS.* Letter 497.)

OLSON CREEK, a small stream flowing into Lake Whatcom, in the west central part of Whatcom County. It was named on December 3, 1885, for Olaf Olson. (Hugh Eldridge, of Bellingham, in *Names MSS.* Letter 136.)

OLUMAN CREEK, see Elochomon Slough.

OLYMPIA, capital of the State of Washington, at the head of Budd Inlet, in the northern part of Thurston County, of which it is also the county seat. The Indian name for the place was "Stu-chus-and," (J. A. Costello, *The Siwash.*) A variant of this Indian name was "Stitchas," meaning "bear's place." (Elias J. Payne, in *Names MSS.* Letter 219.) A small band of Indians lived there and were known as "Stehtsasamish." According to George Gibbs the site of the present Olympia was known to the Nisqually Indians as "Steh-chass." (Bureau of American Ethnology, *Handbook of American Indians*, Volume II, page 636.) The first home of white men on Puget Sound was Nisqually House established by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1833. The first permanent American homes on Puget Sound were established by the party under the leadership of Michael Troutman Simmons in 1845. The name chosen for the settlement was "New Market." The name indicates that the Americans believed that they were beginning a rival of the market maintained by the Hudson's Bay and Puget Sound Agricultural Companies at Nisqually House. Ambitions ran high for "New Market." A grist-mill and saw-mill were built to use the power of the falls in the Deschutes River. In 1846, Edmund Sylvester and Levi Lathrop Smith arrived. They were partners and together took up two half-

sections of public land—one near what was later known at Chamber's Prairie and the other at the head of Budd Inlet. These men soon concluded that the latter claim would become the site of an important settlement. One of the first names for the place was "Smithter," a combination of the partner's names. (Mrs. George E. Blankenship, *Tillicum Tales of Thurston County*, page 248.) However, "Smithfield" seems to have been more frequently used than "Smithter." (*History of the Pacific Northwest: Oregon and Washington*, Volume I, 312.) Mr. Smith was educated as a Presbyterian minister. He was a cultured but lonely sort of man afflicted with epilepsy. In the last election under the Provisional Government of Oregon he was elected a member of the Legislature. On going from his claim to "New Market" in his canoe, on his way to the Legislature, he was drowned, supposedly during an attack of his malady. His portion to the claim of "Smithter" or "Smithfield" reverted to his partner, Edmund Sylvester, who continued to cherish great hopes for his claim. Important events were crowded into the three years following Mr. Smith's death. One of the results of the gold rush to California was the purchase there of the brig *Orbit* by Edmund Sylvester, Benjamin F. Shaw, Isaac N. Ebey and S. Jackson, in which to make their way to Puget Sound. In the meantime, Mr. Simmons had sold his interests at "New Market" to Captain Clanrick Crosby for \$35,000. He used that money to buy the *Orbit*, which he sent to San Francisco for a cargo of merchandise. At this point arose the name Olympia. Hubert Howe Bancroft quotes Elwood Evans, backed by Mr. Sylvester, that the name Olympia was obtained from the Olympic Range and was suggested by Isaac N. Ebey. (*Works*, Volume XXXI, page 16, note 36.) Later, Elwood Evans gave credit for the suggestion to Charles Hart Smith. (*History of the Pacific Northwest: Oregon and Washington*, Volume I., page 312.) Colonel Ebey was a man of reading and refinement. He suggested the Swiss name "Lake Geneva" for Lake Washington, and is most probably the one who suggested Olympia as the name of the new town. One interesting addition to the evidence is the fact that in his pioneer library was a copy of Olympia Fulvia Morata's *Critical Observation on Homer*. ("The Ebey Diary," in the *Washington Historical Quarterly*, Volume VIII., page 127.) Under the new name the town sprang into life. Mr. Simmons obtained a gift of land on which he built the first store. The *Nisqually Journal* under the date of April 25, 1851, declares, "a port of entry has been established at the City of Olympia."