

WASHINGTON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

After several years of research as to the origin, history and meaning of the geographic names in the State of Washington, it is now determined to publish the results first in the Washington Historical Quarterly.

There have been many changes in the names during their development to present forms. Some changes have occurred while this research has been in progress. In the nature of the work there is danger of errors being made. Readers are therefore urged to make note of any changes or errors that may be observed and report them as soon as possible. All such corrections will be incorporated into the published entries so that the whole may be issued in book-form soon after the last installment has appeared in the Quarterly.

While this plan will surely help to make more perfect the information being collected, such preliminary publication should greatly widen the people's interest in the Washington Historical Quarterly. During the next few issues there will appear in this proposed series of articles something of historic value about every portion of territory and about every named community in the State of Washington.

In carrying on these researches, use has been made of all known journals of discoverers and explorers, all known maps and charts, the books of early travellers, all local histories available, newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, and many other sources. One of the most laborious portions of the task has been the seeking of information from individuals. Thousands of letters of inquiry have been sent out. The replies, many of which convey most valuable help, are filed in what is called Names Manuscripts, each such letter being given a separate number for purposes of reference. Effort is made to give each one credit for the information given.

Many of the authorities cited, like Vancouver, Wilkes, United States Coast Survey and representatives of the Hudson's Bay Company, will be found repeated in many of the entries. One reason for this is the desire to make each entry as nearly perfect as possible. Those making frequent and practical use of the list will avail themselves of the alphabetical arrangement and they are entitled to find under each heading all the accurate information that can there be given.

A word of acknowledgment should here be made to the Lords of the British Admiralty, who have contributed a number of valuable charts. These have greatly aided the work and have helped to clear up several cases of names that were previously puzzling problems.

The extensive series of charts of the United States Exploring Expedition, commanded by Captain Charles Wilkes, has been photostated for this work. Here are found the origins of hundreds of the geographic names.

ABERDEEN, city in Grays Harbor (formerly called Chehalis) County. The town was platted by Samuel Benn in 1884 on his homestead. Benn was born in New York City and in 1856 he came to San Francisco. Three years later he moved to Washington Territory and settled on the Chehalis River. There are two sources claimed for the name of the city. John J. Carney (*Names MSS.*, Letter 65) says it arose from the fact that the Aberdeen Packing Company of Ilwaco established a cannery in early days on the Benn homestead. Hawthorne's *History of Washington*, Volume II., page 602, declares that the name was suggested by Mrs. James Stewart, who, before her marriage in 1868, was Miss Joan B. Kellan of Aberdeen, Scotland, who had come to America with her parents in 1849 and settled in Ohio. She and her husband moved to Washington Territory in 1874.

ABERNETHY CREEK, see Nequally Creek.

ACME, town in Whatcom County. The word is Greek in origin and has come to mean the highest point of achievement or of excellence. Charles F. Elsbree (*Names MSS.*, Letter 195) writes that Thomas Stephens and Samuel Parks sent East for a couple of Acme hymnals and were joked for so doing. About 1887 Parks was sent to Bellingham with a petition for a new postoffice. No name was in the petition. He asked if Acme would do and on receiving an affirmative answer that name was written into the records.

ADAMS COUNTY, organized under the law of November 28, 1883, the name being in honor of President John Adams.

ADELAIDE, town in King County. When the postoffice was established there in 1886, it was named in honor of Miss Adelaide Dixon. (*Names MSS.*, Letters 40 and 442.)

ADMIRALTY BAY, in Island County, west coast of Whidbey Island. It probably takes its name from Admiralty Inlet. The name makes its first appearance on Kellett's Chart, 1847.

ADMIRALTY HEAD, on Whidbey Island, opposite Point Wilson. It was undoubtedly named for Admiralty Inlet. The name first appears on Kellett's Chart, 1847, and is now carried on official Government charts. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, had given it the name Red Bluff, which name has not persisted.

ADMIRALTY INLET, the waterway connecting the Strait of Juan de Fuca with Puget Sound. The name was bestowed on Saturday,

June 2, 1792, by Captain George Vancouver, the discoverer, in honor of the Board of Admiralty, which supervises the work of the Royal Navy of Great Britain. The Spaniards were first to see the waterway. Quimper saw its entrance in 1790 and Eliza examined it more carefully in 1791. He did not explore it because the Indians said canoes would be necessary to reach its farthest limits. These Spaniards gave the entrance the name Boca de Caamano. As their maps were not published, Vancouver had no way of knowing that his name of Admiralty Inlet was not the first one given. The Wilkes Expedition (Volume IV., page 479) makes use of the name Admiralty Sound, but in present usage the name Puget Sound is encroaching on the other. On the original chart of Vancouver, Admiralty Inlet extended to where the city of Tacoma is now located. On the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey Chart, 6450, dated February, 1905, Admiralty Inlet ends and Puget Sound begins at the lower end of Whidbey Island.

ADOLPHUS ISLAND. The Wilkes Expedition charted in 1841 two little islands north of Orcas Island, which were called Adolphus and Gordon Islands. George Davidson of the United States Coast Survey proved in 1853 that the two little islands did not exist.

AENEAS, town and creek in Okanogan County. The name came from Chief Aeneas, who was at one time a Government guide. He died about 1913 reputed to be more than one hundred years of age. (Charles Clark, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 288.)

AGATE PASSAGE, in Kitsap County, connecting Port Orchard with Port Madison. It was named by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, in honor of one of the party—Alfred T. Agate, artist. It has often been asserted, erroneously, that the name arose from the finding of agates among the pebbles of the shores.

AHAHAWAT, a summer village of the Makah Indians, in a little cove three miles south of Cape Flattery. The name is here given as spelled by James G. Swan in his writings for the Smithsonian Institution. On the Kroll map the name is spelled Archawat.

AH-KWAHLK-HAHT, a point on Tulalip Reservation beach on Port Susan, Snohomish County. The meaning of the Indian word is unknown. (Charles M. Buchanan, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 155.)

AHTAHNAM, see Atanum.

AINSWORTH, town east of Pasco in Franklin County. It was named in honor of J. C. Ainsworth, a prominent railroad man of the West.

ALA SPIT, in Island County near Hope Island, off the northeast portion of Whidbey Island, as shown on the Wilkes Expedition chart of 1841.

ALAMEDA, a postoffice in Douglas County. In 1907 the people petitioned for a postoffice and three names were to be submitted for a choice by the officials. Vernile F. Hopkins, an old settler, suggested that Alameda be one of the three and it was the one selected. (William F. Edwards, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 434.)

ALAMICUT RIVER, in Wahkiakum County. The old settlers claim that the Indians called the slough Alamicut, meaning "Deep River." (C. Arthur Appelo, *Names MSS.*, Letter 304.) On Kroll's map the name is Deep River. On the Wilkes Expedition chart, 1841, the name is Ela-be-kail.

ALBION, town in Whitman County. The former name Guy was changed in March, 1901, at the instance of an English miller by the name of Thomas to honor the early discoveries in the Northwest by the British, who called the region Nova Albion. (Thomas M. Farnsworth, *Names MSS.*, Letter 438.)

ALDEN BANK, in Georgia Strait, north of west from Lummi Bay. It was discovered and named by the United States Coast Survey in 1853 in honor of Lieutenant Commander James Alden of the *Active*. Alden had been in the same waters with the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, and also took part in the Indian wars on Puget Sound in 1855-1856. He died in San Francisco in 1877.

ALDEN POINT, west cape of Patos Island, Strait of Georgia. The name is evidently an additional honor of Lieutenant Commander Alden. It appears on the Richards chart of 1858-1860.

ALDER, town in Pierce County. It was named by Martin Hotes in February, 1902, after a grove of alder trees where the town is located. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 108.)

ALDER CREEK. There are three creeks by this name in Washington. One is in Stevens County (see also Powwow Creek) flowing into the Columbia at Fruitland; another is in Klickitat County, flowing into the Columbia at Alderdale; and another has its rise near Mount Baker and flows into the Skagit River.

ALDER RIDGE, hills back of Alderdale, in Klickitat County.

ALDERDALE, station and village in Klickitat County. William Warner, Robert Warner and Mrs. M. L. Warner, constituting the Western Investment Company, platted the townsite and named it Alderdale because it is near the mouth of Alder Creek. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 555.)

ADLWELL CANYON in Clallam County. The name is in honor of Thomas T. Adwell, who located his homestead there many years ago. At present the site is being used for a dam and power plant by the

Olympic Power Company. (H. B. Herrick, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 267.)

ALFALFA, a town in Yakima County. The name was given because of the quantities of alfalfa hay shipped from the station. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 353.)

ALGONA, a town in King County. The place was first called Valley City, but as there was already a postoffice in the state called Valley the authorities rejected the name of the newer aspirant. A mass meeting in February, 1910, selected the name "Algoma," a word said to mean "valley of flowers." In adopting the name, the post-office department changed one letter and the settlers do not know what Algona means. (Claude E. Googe, in *Names MSS.*, Letters 36 and 79.)

ALKI POINT, now a part of Seattle, in King County. The first name given this place was "Point Roberts" by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841. It is not clear just what man was sought to be honored. In the crews of the expedition there were four men bearing the name of Roberts—Abraham, Humphrey, Owen, and William. It may have been any one of them. Furthermore it may have been the diplomat, Edward Roberts, who had gained fame in the Orient a few years before. Although the name appeared on a number of early charts, it was supplanted by the first settlers who made their homes there. On November 13, 1851, the famous Denny colony landed on that point. In the party there were twelve adults and twelve children. From that colony has grown the city of Seattle. The settlers were very ambitious. They called the place "New York." As the one little store and the few cabin homes grew so slowly they added a hyphen and the Indian jargon word Alki, meaning "by and bye." New York-Alki meant that it was to become the metropolis of the Pacific Coast in the near future. When a majority of the settlers moved to the east shore of Elliott Bay and began the city of Seattle, those remaining at the point dropped the name "New York," but Alki Point has remained as a well-established geographic name. For a time the Government charts showed this point as Battery Point. See entry under that name.

ALLAN ISLAND, in Skagit County, west of Fidalgo Island. It was named in 1841 by the Wilkes Expedition in honor of Captain William Henry Allen of the United States Navy. The name of Allen often suffers when transferred from biography to geography. In this case there is little doubt, for the Wilkes chart shows the waterway between Fidalgo Islands as "Argus Bay" and it was in the *Argus* that Captain Allen was mortally wounded while fighting the British brig *Pelican* on August 14, 1813. It was a favorite scheme of

Wilkes to link the name of an American naval officer with his ship by placing two geographic names close together. "Argus Bay" has been changed on recent charts to Burrows Bay, but the old name of the island remains. The two islands—Allan and Burrows—had previously been named by the Spaniards in the "Sutil y Mexicana" Expedition as "Las dos Islas Morros."

ALLARD, town in Benton County, named in honor of Samuel Allard. (Alice Dumert, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 259.)

ALLEN BANK, southeast of Blake Island and stretching across to Point Vashon. The bank was discovered and named by the United States Coast Survey in 1857.

ALLEN POINT, in Island County, southeast extremity of Camano Island. This is one of the original names by Vancouver, but badly distorted. He named one waterway Port Gardner after Sir Alan Gardner of the British Admiralty. The other waterway he called Port Susan in honor of Lady Susana Gardner, and to the point of land he gave his friend's first name, calling it Point Alan. After different spellings it has come upon the most recent official charts as Allen Point.

ALLSHOUSE ISLAND, see Raft Island.

ALMIRA, a town in Lincoln County. In the year 1889 this place was named by the Chief Engineer of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in honor of Mrs. Almira Davis, wife of Charles C. Davis, the town's first merchant. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 357.)

ALMOTA, a town and three creeks in Whitman County. The creeks are West Almota, Little Almota and Almota. Rev. Myron Eells is authority for the statement that the name is a corruption of the Nez Perce word "Allamotin," meaning "torch-light fishery." Lewis and Clark camped there on October 11, 1905, and mention the Indian houses which John Work of the Hudson's Bay Company found and described in his journal of 1825.

ALOCKAMAN RIVER in Wahkaikum County. On Preston's Map of Oregon and Washington West of the Cascade Mountains, 1856, and on the Map of the Surveyor General of Washington Territory, it is shown as Strong's River. In the Pacific Railroad Reports, George Gibbs refers to it as "Elokamin." The United States Coast and Geodetic Chart shows it "Elochoman."

ALLOWEZE, see Burke, in Grant County.

ALLYN, a town in Mason County. It was named in honor of Judge Frank Allyn of Tacoma, who was interested in the new town about 1889. (Soren C. Nelson, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 411.)

ALOHA, a town in Grays Harbor County. The name is the Hawaiian term of tender greeting.

ALPHA, see Latah.

ALPINE, a town in King County. The place was formerly called Nippon, but in January, 1915, C. L. Clemans, mill owner there, secured a change of name to Alpine as the location is at the summit of the Cascade Mountains.

ALPOWA, a creek and a town in Garfield County. Originally a town was started under the name of "Alpowa City" where Silcott, Asotin County, is now located. The word Alpowa is from the Nez Perce language and means "a spring forming a creek," although Thomas Beal, an old pioneer, says it came from missionary experiences and meant that on Sundays they should go to church. The Nez Percés formerly had a village at the mouth of the creek where it flows into the Snake River. The name has also been spelled "Alpawah" and "Elpawawe." (Fred W. Unfried, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 322.)

ALTAHNUM, see Atanum.

ALTO, a town in Columbia County, eleven or twelve miles north-east of Dayton. The railroad engineer gave the name because it was the summit of the divide between Whetstone Hollow and Tucanon.

AMBER, in Spokane County. The place was originally called Calvert, after an old settler by that name. The name was changed to Amber to conform to the name of a postoffice already established on the homestead of Mr. Costello. (L. C. Gilman, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 590.)

AMELIA, formerly a postoffice in Mason County, named in honor of Amelia Edmonds, the postmistress. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 234.)

AMERICAN LAKE, a town and lake in Pierce County, near Tacoma. In 1917, Camp Lewis, one of the Federal Cantonments for the new army, was located in that vicinity and gave to American Lake an increased importance. There is a persistent error as to the origin of this name. The error declares that the name arose from the fact that the Wilkes Expedition celebrated the Fourth of July, 1841, on the shore of the lake and thus contributed to it a name. That is very beautiful but not true. Hubert Howe Bancroft (*Works*, Volume XXIX., page 189, footnote) quotes Elwood Evans's *Puyallup Address* as it appeared in the *New Tacoma Ledger* for July 9, 1880, as follows: "The lake was never formally named; but on account of the American celebration and the residence of the missionaries, was called American Lake, and sometimes Richmond Lake, by the settlers of the Puget Sound Company. The prairie was also called the American Plains, and by the natives, 'Boston Illahee.'" The Wilkes narrative

does not even mention the lake, but it is quite clear in fixing the place of the famous Fourth of July celebration. In Volume IV., page 412, the record shows that the place of celebration was on the edge of Mission Prairie and that the men were landed from the ships and marched to the place "about a mile distant." The second or new Fort Nisqually was later built near the scene of the celebration and the fence of the Dupont Powder works now encloses the ground. Five years after the celebration, the Inskip chart, 1846, showed the location of the new Fort Nisqually, the mission building site, the race-course and also indicated a road marked "To Gordon Lake" leading probably toward the present American Lake. Ten years later Preston's Map of Oregon and Washington West of the Cascade Mountains, 1856, shows the lake, then called "Lake Tolmie." Mrs. Mary Perry Frost says that in 1854 she moved into a cabin on their donation claim near the lake. Other American settlers had claims in the same vicinity and the name of American Lake undoubtedly grew from that fact, as the British still held the ground around Fort Nisqually. The monument erected in recent years to mark the site of the Wilkes celebration of 1841 is located about three miles from the right place.

ANACORTES, a city in Skagit County. The place was settled about 1860 and received the name of "Ship Harbor." In 1876, Amos Bowman, a civil engineer, bought the site and platted a town. He sought to give it the maiden name of his wife—Anna Curtis—but the records perpetuated in some way the present spelling, possibly to give a Spanish tone as the city is on Fidalgo Island.

ANATONE, a town in Asotin County. What is now known as Ten Mile Creek was known to the Indians as Anatone. It is claimed that it was so called for a noted Indian woman who lived near the present site of Anatone. (J. C. Packwood, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 381.)

ANDERSON ISLAND, in Pierce County. It was named in 1841 by the Wilkes Expedition. In the *Narrative*, Volume IV., page 305, Wilkes says: "Twelve miles more brought us to the anchorage off Nisqually, where both vessels dropped their anchors about eight o'clock. Here we found an English steamer [Beaver] undergoing repairs. Soon after we anchored I had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Anderson, who is in charge of the fort, and Captain McNeil. They gave me a warm welcome, and offered every assistance in their power to aid me in my operations." He honored these two men by naming for them the nearby islands—Anderson and McNeil. Alexander Caulfield Anderson was born in Calcutta on March 10, 1814. He became a Chief Trader of the Hudson's Bay Company and was located at Fort Nisqually during the year 1840-1841. After other

service with the Company, he retired in 1858 and took up his residence near Victoria. He died in May, 1884. The island has had at least two other names. The Inskip chart, 1846, shows it as "Fisgard Island" after the British frigate which was on this station, 1844-1847. Inskip sought to carry the honor further by changing the name of McNeil Island to "Duntze Island" for Captain John A. Duntze of the frigate. Anderson Island was also known for a time as "Wallace Island" in honor of Leander C. Wallace, who was killed by Snoqualmie Indians during their attack on Fort Nisqually in 1849.

ANDREWS BAY, on the west coast of San Juan Island. On some charts the bay is shown as "Manzanita."

ANGELES POINT, in Clallam County at mouth of Elwha River. The Spaniards—Quimper, 1790, and Eliza, 1791—called it "Punta Davila." Kellett's chart, 1847, shows it as "Angelos Point." Most American charts now show it as Angeles Point.

ANGLE LAKE, in King County, near Orillia. "I think it was named on account of its shape, forming almost a right angle. It was named before 1864." (J. D. Cameron, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 68.)

ANGLIN, town in Okanogan County. Named in honor of T. S. Anglin, who was appointed postmaster on October 28, 1902. (T. S. Anglin, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 263.)

ANKENY, a town in Adams County. It was named in honor of former United States Senator Levi Ankeny, who was a land owner in that vicinity. (L. C. Gilman, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 590.)

ANNAS BAY, an indentation at the great bend of Hood Canal. Wilkes in the United States Exploring Expedition, Volume XXIII., page 323, refers to it as Anna Bay and also as Anna's Bay. The latter spelling without the apostrophe is now adopted.

APPLE COVE, see Apple Tree Cove.

APPLEDALE, a town in Douglas County. "In 1909, the Great Northern Railway Company built a branch line from the Columbia River to Mansfield, Douglas County. This place was then called Appledale on account of the many apple orchards there." (Julius Hollenbeck, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 478.)

APPLE TREE COVE, in Kitsap County. It was named on May 10, 1841, by the Wilkes Expedition, whose *Narrative*, Volume IV., page 304, says: "This was named Apple-tree Cove from the numbers of that tree which were in blossom around its shores." No landing was made there at that time; no white settler was located there and so the conclusion is forced to the mind that Wilkes saw dogwood trees

in bloom and mistook them for apple trees. The name has persisted on all subsequent charts, though the word "Tree" is sometimes omitted.

APUTAPUT, falls in the Palouse River not far from its mouth. See Palouse Falls. The Narrative of the Wilkes Expedition, Volume IV., page 466, says: "The falls upon this river are of some note, and are called Aputaput; and they will hereafter be an object of interest to the travellers in this country." There is also given in the same record an Indian legend of Aputaput.

ARCADIA, a town in Mason County.

ARGUS BAY, see Allan Island and Burrows Bay.

ARGYLE, a town in San Juan County. There is a town of the same name in Nova Scotia and another in Wisconsin. It is possible that the Washington name was derived from one of these.

ARGYLE LAGOON, a small triangular lagoon about one mile south of the Puget Sound Marine Station on San Juan Island.

ARIEL POINT, see Nodule Point.

ARIELS POINT, see Double Bluff.

ARKANSAS CREEK, in Cowlitz County. It was named in the early fifties for the reason that a number of settlers there had come from the state of Arkansas. (E. B. Huntington, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 158.)

ARLETTA, a town in Pierce County. It was named about 1893 by Mrs. G. W. Powell, who used part of the name of her eldest daughter Arla and a portion of Valetta, the name of a city on the Island of Malta, which is reputed one of the most beautiful cities in the world. (William W. White, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 443.)

ARLINGTON, a town in Snohomish County. When the railroad's arrival gave promise of a city there Morris G. Haller called it Haller City in 1888 in honor of his father. Two years later, Earl & McLeod, railroad contractors, purchased the townsite and changed its name to honor the memory of Lord Henry Arlington, one of the notorious "Cabal" cabinet of Charles II., of England. (W. F. Oliver, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 196.)

ARMSTRONG'S POINT, see Point Chehalis.

ARROWSMITH, postoffice in Grant County. The place was named in February, 1908, "Mitchell" by Jackson Robinson to honor his mother's maiden name. Since then another postoffice was granted for the same vicinity and was named for George Arrowsmith. (F. C. Koppen, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 110.)

ARTESIAN, a town in Yakima County. It was named by J. H. Gans about 1906 from the numerous artesian wells in the district. (Marian McShane, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 347.)

ARTIC, a town in Grays Harbor County. In the eighties a post-office was desired and the name in the petition was "Arta" to honor Mrs. Arta Saunders. The postoffice authorities misread the last syllable. (M. J. Luark, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 548.)

ASH, see Carson, in Skamania County.

ASHBY, see Cohasset, in Kittitas County.

ASHFORD, a town in Pierce County. It was named in honor of an old settler, W. A. Ashford, who located there on February 2, 1888. It has gained importance in late years by being the railroad station for the entrance to Mount Rainier National Park. (Cora J. Ashford, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 229.)

ASOTIN, a county, a town and a creek in the southeastern corner of the State. The name is from the Nez Perce language and means "eel creek" from the abundance of eels caught there. The town at the mouth of the creek, where it flows into Snake River, took the same name in 1878, as did the County when it was organized under the law of October 27, 1883.

ATANUM, a river and an old Indian mission in Yakima County. A. J. Splawn is given as authority that the Indian word, sometimes spelled "Ahatahnum," means "the creek by the long mountain." Theodore Winthrop in 1853 spelled the word "Atinam." The early records speak of the priests and their successful mission on the banks of the Atanum.

ATEESOWILL, see Bear River, Pacific County.

ATLANTA, on Samish Island, near Point Williams, in Skagit County. "Platted by ex-Sheriff G. W. L. Allen in 1883. He erected a two-story hotel, established a store, secured a postoffice and built an extensive wharf, but failed in his larger purpose. This was the extent of the town's growth." (*History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties*, page 247.)

AT-SAR-KAL LAKE, see Lake Washington.

ATSMITH, see Willapa Harbor.

ATTALIA, a town in Walla Walla County. It was named by Mrs. V. K. Loose of Seattle. While touring Italy she visited a little hamlet whose name appealed to her so strongly that her husband adopted it for his irrigation and townsite projects in 1906. (R. C. Julian, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 341.)

AUBURN, a city in King County. Dr. Levi W. Ballard, in 1886, laid off part of his claim as a townsite and called it "Slaughter" in honor of Lieutenant W. A. Slaughter, United States Army, who lost his life there during the Indian war of 1855-1856. On the completion of the railroad the town grew rapidly and in 1893 petitioned

the Legislature to change its name to Auburn. One of the agitators for the change of name told a group of legislators that it was discouraging for the hotel boy to shout to passengers leaving the train: "Right this way to the Slaughter House!" For all that, the gallant lieutenant deserves an enduring monument.

AVERY, a town in Klickitat County. It was named in honor of A. G. Avery, right-of-way attorney for the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway Company. (L. C. Gilman, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 590.)

AVON, a town in Skagit County. The first settler there was W. H. Miller, 1882. He sold part of his land to A. H. Skaling on October 27, 1883, who opened a store. In 1890, H. W. and F. S. Graham started a nearby town which was called North Avon. It is said that those early settlers sought to honor Shakespeare.

AXFORD, postoffice and prairie in Grays Harbor County. The postoffice was named in October, 1880, after the pioneer settler of that place. (Hilda E. Evans, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 230.)

AYERS POINT, see Ayres Point.

AYOCK POINT, in Mason County, on the western shore of Hood Canal. It is one of the names given by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841.

AYRES POINT, in Mason County, on Hood Canal, opposite Potlatch. The name was given by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, and possibly in honor of John Ayres, a member of his crew. On Kellett's Chart, 1847, the spelling is "Ayos."

B

BAADAM POINT, in Clallam County, northeast of entrance to Neah Bay. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, called it "Village Point." Kellett's Chart, 1847, calls it "Mecena Point." The United States Coast Survey in 1852 found a neighboring Indian village called Baadah and that is the name used in the Pacific Coast Pilot. Recent charts retain this name, but with the last letter changed, making it Baadam.

BACHELORS ISLAND, in Clarke County. On Saturday, March 29, 1806, the Lewis and Clark Expedition gave this island the name Cathlapole (one spelling being Quathlapotle) Island after the Indian nation of that name, who lived near there. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, named it "Pasauks Island" and what is now Bachelor Island Slough was called Pigeon Creek. Recent charts carry the name Bachelor for both features.

BACON, in Grant County. The place was named by the railroad builders in 1900. The name was given as a joke, but still remains. (Arch Gill Bacon, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 523.)

BADGER, in Badger Flats, four miles north of Badger Canyon, in Benton County. Badgers were numerous in that vicinity and as

the water of Badger Springs was first found flowing from a badger hole the name so plentifully used was suggested. (W. L. Bass, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 224.)

BADILE BAY, see Padilla Bay.

BAG ISLAND, see Brown's Island.

BAHIA DE GASTON, see Bellingham Bay.

BAHIA DE LA ASUNCION, see Columbia River.

BAHIA DE NUNEZ GAONA, see Neah Bay.

BAHIA DE QUIMPER, see New Dungeness Bay.

BAILEY, a town in Grant County. It was named by Mrs. R. J. Bailey on March 21, 1911. (Robert A. Bailey, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 100.)

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, in Kitsap County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, by discovering Agate Passage, made known the existence of the island. It was named in honor of Captain William Bainbridge, hero of the *Constitution* in the *Java* action, and one of the famous men in United States naval records.

BAIRD, a town in Douglas County. It was named in honor of James Baird, a Scotchman, on whose homestead the postoffice was located, and he was the first postmaster. (N. E. Davis, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 116.)

BAKER, see Concrete, Skagit County.

BAKER, a mountain in Whatcom County, see Mount Baker.

BAKER BAY, in Pacific County, near the mouth of the Columbia River. It was named in 1792 by Lieutenant W. R. Broughton of the British expedition whom Captain Vancouver sent to explore the Columbia River, previously discovered and named by Captain Robert Gray, the American. The name was in honor of Captain James Baker of the American schooner *Jenny*, which Broughton found anchored in the bay. The Lewis and Clark Expedition makes this entry: "This Bay we call Haley's Bay from a favorite trader with the Indians." Sergeant Patrick Gass of the same expedition called it "Rogue's Harbor" from trouble with Indians. The name Baker Bay has persisted. It is often written Baker's Bay.

BAKER LAKE, in the vicinity of Mount Baker, Whatcom County.

BAKER RIVER, a tributary of the Skagit River in Whatcom and Skagit Counties. The *History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties*, page 118, says: "In 1877, a party, consisting of Otto Klement, Charles von Pressentin, John Duncan, John Rowley and Frank Scott, set forth from Mount Vernon in canoes manned by Indians to explore the upper Skagit. At the mouth of what the Indians called the Nahcullum River, which Klement renamed Baker River, the party

debarked." The proximity of the great mountain of that name was the reason for the rechristening.

BALCH'S COVE, in Pierce County; see Glencove.

BALCH PASSAGE, between Anderson and McNeil Islands, in Pierce County. The Inskip chart, 1846, shows it as "Ryder Channel." Lafayette Balch, owner of the brig "George Emory," in 1850, failed to receive proper encouragement from the townsite owners at Olympia and moved to the newly established Fort Steilacoom, where he began a merchandising business. It was in his honor that the nearby waterway was named.

BALLARD, formerly an independent city, now a portion of the City of Seattle, King County. R. W. Grover (*Names MSS.*, Letter 571) says: "On July 17, 1882, the present site of Ballard was platted in five- and ten-acre tracts under the name of Farmdale Homestead, by John Leary, Thomas Burke and W. R. Ballard. In May, 1888, Farmdale Homestead was vacated and Gilman Park plat was substituted, which consisted of some 700 acres. Captain W. R. Ballard was the active manager of the Gilman Park enterprise, which was promoted by a corporation called the West Coast Improvement Company. In 1889, the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern (now absorbed by the Northern Pacific) Railway Company constructed a spur to Gilman Park. Mr. Jennings, manager of the road, needing a name for the station at the end of the spur, decided to honor Captain Ballard and the new station was called Ballard. The name Gilman Park ceased almost immediately as a local designation for the townsite, but it was not until November, 1890, that steps were taken to change its legal name when, at a public meeting called chiefly for the purpose of discussing incorporation, Mr. R. W. Grover made the motion that Gilman Park be known as Ballard."

BALLSAM BAY, see Bellingham Bay, Whatcom County.

BANCROFT, in Skagit County. *The History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties*, page 247, says: "A town laid out around Alder Academy, Fidalgo Island, in 1883 by Rev. E. O. Tade. It was so named in honor of Hubert Howe Bancroft, the author of the Pacific Coast series. An unsuccessful enterprise, which never prospered beyond the sale of a few lots."

BANGOR, on Hood Canal, in Kitsap County. The place was formerly called "Three Spits," as there are three spits adjacent to one another jutting out into Hood Canal. When a postoffice was being established there the postoffice department gave it the name of Bangor. (H. W. Goodwin, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 412.)

BARE BLUFF, see Jim Crow Point, Columbia River.

BARE ISLAND, north of Waldron Island, in San Juan County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, charted Ship Jack Island, evidently intending that the name should embrace the two small islands. The Admiralty Chart, known as the Richards Chart, 1858-1860, shows the smaller island as "Penguin Island." In the meantime, the United States Coast Survey, in 1853, observed the contrast in what were then called the "Shipjack Islands" and charted them under the new names Wooded and Bare Islands. On subsequent charts the name of Bare Island has persisted, while that of "Wooded Island" has gone back to Shipjack Island.

BARNES ISLAND, northeast of Orcas Island, in San Juan County. The Spaniard Eliza, 1791, charted Barnes and Clark Islands as "Islos de Aguayo," using part of the long name of a Spanish nobleman who will be more particularly noted under the name of Orcas Island. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, here honored an American naval hero as was done in the other names of islands in what they called the "Navy Archipelago."

BARNESTON, in King County. The postmaster writes (*Names MSS.*, Letter 466): "Barneston is so named in honor of John G. Barnes of Seattle. At the time the postoffice was established at this place, Mr. Barnes was one of the property owners in this vicinity and the postoffice was named in his honor, June 12, 1901."

BARREN ISLAND, a small islet north of San Juan Island, in San Juan County.

BARRETT LAKE, in Whatcom County. It was named in honor of Henry Barrett, who owned land there. (Fred L. Whiting, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 156.)

BARRIER RIVER, see Methow River.

BARROWS BAY, see Yukon Harbor in Kitsap County.

BARRY, a postoffice in Douglas County. It was named in 1893 in honor of A. J. Barry, who was postmaster at the time. The name was retained, though the office was moved to Stenson Ferry and Mrs. R. C. Steveson became postmistress. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 216.)

BASALT POINT, north of Port Ludlow, in Jefferson County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, called it "Point Kanawi." The United States Coast Survey evidently gave the name in 1855 as it appears on the charts of that and subsequent years.

BASCOMB, a supposed town in Okanogan County. Guy Waring, of Winthrop, writes (*Names MSS.*, Letter 291): "Bascomb is a laughing place on the map. There is not and never was any such place, but instead it was the homestead of Henry Bascom Station, which the surveyor of rectangular townships that in this mountain country

were as a round peg in a square hole, called, carelessly, Bascom 'Station' instead of Station and on the maps it has been Bascom Station ever since. Draw a pen through it. Mr. Station is at present living at Twisp."

BATTERY POINT, one of the names for Alki Point. It was given that name by the United States Coast Survey in 1856. George Davidson, of that Survey (*Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 607), says that the Admiralty chart corrected to 1865 shows this point as Roberts' Point (the Wilkes names of 1841) and he also says that the Indian name was "Me-kwah-mooks." The recent Government charts use the name Alki Point.

BATTLE GROUND, a town in Clarke County. Aug. H. Richter writes (*Names MSS.*, Letter 538): "In early days, forty or forty-five years ago, the Indians drove off live stock across the Lewis River three miles north of this place. The grandchild of Chief Jack told me the whole story thirty years ago. The Twenty-first Infantry from Vancouver was ordered out and there was fighting all around here. The soldiers received orders in the morning to shoot all Indians on sight. While the scouts were out, peace was declared, but they did not know it, and accidentally shot and killed the chief. In 1886, I built a store here and called it Battle Ground Store. In 1902, I platted the place."

BATTLESHIP ISLAND, a small islet north of San Juan Island, in San Juan County. It is so named because of its resemblance to a battleship.

BAY CENTER, a town in Pacific County. The name was first spelled Bay Centre. It was suggested by Mrs. Mattie Rhoades, then Miss Mattie Goodpasture, as the village site was about the middle of the landward side of Willapa Harbor. (L. L. Bush, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 97.)

BAY CITY, a town in Grays Harbor County. It was named because of its location on South Bay. (American Pacific Whaling Company, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 45.)

BAYVIEW, a town on Padilla Bay, Skagit County. It was platted and named on April 7, 1884, by William J. McKenna, the pioneer who died on May 3, 1916. The object in selecting the place was the desire of D. A. Jennings, a wholesale grocer of Seattle, to establish there a branch store.

BAZALGETTE POINT, on the northwest extremity of San Juan Island, in San Juan County. It was named in 1868 by Captain Pender of the Royal Navy in honor of Captain George Bazalgette of the British Army, who commanded at British Camp, 1860-1867, during

part of the time of joint occupancy of the island. This was during the dispute over the ownership of the San Juan Islands.

BEACH, a town on the eastern shore of Lummi Island, Whatcom County. It was named in honor of Wade H. Beach, who filed on his land claim there on November 20, 1884. (Mrs. Pauline A. Buchholz, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 507.)

BEAR RIVER, emptying into the southeast portion of Willapa Harbor, Pacific County. The Indian name was "Atisowil," which is said to mean Bear River.

BEAN'S POINT, see Restoration Point.

BEAVER LAKE, a small lake five miles east of Lake Sammamish, King County. J. B. Scott (*Names MSS.*, Letter 499) says: "A habitat of beavers years ago."

BECKETT POINT, south of Cape George, Port Discovery, in Jefferson County. The Wilkes Exploring Expedition, 1841, charted it as "Sandy Point." Beckett Point evidently originated with the Kellett chart, 1846, and has been retained on subsequent maps.

BEE, a postoffice on McNeil Island, Pierce County. The name arose from the fact that an extensive apiary was maintained there when the postoffice was secured.

BEEBE, a postoffice in Douglas County. It was named in honor of James Beebe of Wakefield, Massachusetts. He was president of the Wenatchee-Chelan Orchard Company, which owned a large orchard tract on the east side of the Columbia River. The office was established in December, 1912. (Grace D. McInarie, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 510.)

BELFAST, see Mentor in Garfield County.

BELL'S BLUFF, see Cape Horn, Columbia River.

BELLE ROCK, in the middle of Rosario Strait, San Juan County. The United States Coast Survey discovered, named and charted this danger to navigation in 1854. George Davidson, of that Survey, describing it (*Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 563), says: "The steam-ship *Republic* ran upon this rock, also the pilot-boat *Potter*, and other vessels."

BELLEVUE ISLAND, one of the former names of San Juan Island.

BELLEVUE POINT, on the western shore of San Juan Island. It was charted in 1855 by the United States Coast Survey and evidently obtained its name from the former name of San Juan Island.

BELLINGHAM, a city on the bay of the same name in Whatcom County. The first white man to enter the bay was the Spaniard Eliza, 1791, who named in Seño de Gaston or Gulf of Gaston. On June 11, 1792, the bay was surveyed by Joseph Whidbey in a boat

excursion under Vancouver. The latter, on receiving his officer's report, charted the name Bellingham Bay. He does not say for whom the name was given, but he frequently associated the surnames and Christian names of those honored by giving them to nearby or related geographic features. He gave the name of Point William to the prominent point south of the entrance to the bay. In studying up his contemporaries, it was found that Sir William Bellingham checked over Vancouver's supplies and accounts as he was leaving England. There is very little doubt that Sir William Bellingham was the man thus honored. In that same year, 1792, the Spaniards of the "Sutil y Mexicana" Expedition again charted the bay and sought to retain a form of Spanish name by calling it Bahia de Gaston. The Spanish charts were not published for years, while the British charts appeared promptly and fixed the name permanently. David Thompson of the North-West Company of Montreal referred to the bay as "Ballsam Bay." The United States Coast Survey in 1854 showed the northern portion of the bay as "Gaston Bay," a partial recognition of the older Spanish name. The first town on the bay was given the Indian name Whatcom. Later there were established the towns of Sehome and Fairhaven. There were several combinations of these rival settlements, all of which later joined in the one City of Bellingham. Mrs. Ella Higginson, the poet, says she has had the distinction of having lived in three cities of Washington—Sehome, New Whatcom and Bellingham—without having moved out of her house.

BELLINGHAM CHANNEL, the waterway between Cypress and Guemes Islands, Skagit County. The Indian name was "Tut-segh." The Spaniard Eliza, 1791, called it "Canal de Guemes." The present name was given by the United States Coast Survey in 1853, taking it, of course, from the large bay just beyond.

BELLETOWN, that part of Seattle, King County, which developed on the donation claim of William N. Bell, one of the original founders of the city.

BELMA, a former postoffice in Yakima County. The postmaster at Grandview writes (*Names MSS., Letter 498*): "No town; there used to be a postoffice and a little store. Office was discontinued about five years ago; store also. Schoolhouse goes by the name of Belma School."

BENCH CREEK, a tributary of Bonaparte Creek in Okanogan County. It was named from being on a prominent bench not far from Anglin. (Charles Clark, in *Names MSS., Letter 288.*)

BENIGHT, a town in Lewis County. On December 11, 1913, the town was named in honor of J. E. Bennight, manager of the Wash-

ington Coal & Mining Company, whose mines at the place so named are on the line of the Eastern Railway & Lumber Company's line to Kopiah.

BENSTON, a postoffice in Pierce County. The office was first called Huntersville, which was unsatisfactory. Mrs. Isabel Carlson (*Names MSS.*, Letter 135) writes: "The postoffice department asked for a list of old settlers' names to select from and they chose Benston from my father's name, William Benston. I think it was in 1893."

BENTON CITY, in Benton County. It was named in 1909 by F. L. Pitman, chief engineer, and C. E. Woods, general right-of-way man of the North Coast Railroad. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 587.)

BENTON COUNTY organized under the law of March 8, 1905, and named in honor of Thomas H. Benton, a great friend of the West, while United States senator from Missouri.

BERLIN, a projected town in Garfield County. The *History of Southeastern Washington*, page 549, says: "Berlin was platted January 9, 1883, by Charles Ward and Sarah E. Ward, his wife. Ward's addition was platted June 23, 1884, by the same parties. But this town existed only on paper. At one period it was rumored that Berlin would become a candidate for the county-seat as a compromise between Pomeroy and Pataha City, but nothing eventuated."

BERLIN, a postoffice in King County. The postmaster (*Names MSS.*, Letter 447) writes: "Named by the Great Northern Railroad Company in honor of Berlin, Germany, on account of the large sum provided by Germany for building the Great Northern."

BERRIAN, a postoffice in Benton County. "Named for the oldest settler here." (A. F. Berrian, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 374.)

BERTODANO COVE. This geographic feature appears on Kellett's Chart, 1847, and apparently on no others. It is located between Dungeness and Washington Harbor in Clallam County.

BERTRAND CREEK, a tributary of the Nooksack River, Whatcom County. It was named for James Bertrand, the first white man to settle on the creek. (Mrs. Phoebe Newton Judson, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 187.)

BESSEMER, a projected town in Skagit County. It was platted by Harrison Clothier in 1890 when the Cokedale mines were opened. It was town in name only.

BEULAH LAND, see Palissades, Douglas County.

BEVERLY, a town in Grant County. The name was chosen from Beverly, Massachusetts, by H. R. Williams, vice-president of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, who introduced many eastern names along the western line. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 530.)

BIG CAMASS PLAIN, near Springdale, Stevens County. It was mentioned by that name by John Work, of the Hudson's Bay Company in his journal for September 20, 1825, and the name still persists. (T. C. Elliott, in *Washington Historical Quarterly*, July, 1914, page 166.)

BIG CREEK, an upper branch of the Yakima River, in Kittitas County. J. K. Duncan, topographer with Captain George B. McClellan, 1853, mentions the creek as "Wahnoowisha River." (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume I., page 210.)

BIG ISLAND, see Blalock Island.

BIG LAKE, in Skagit County east of Mount Vernon. On James Tilton's *Map of a Part of Washington Territory*, 1859, it is shown as "Delacy's Lake."

BIG SHEEP CREEK, in Stevens County, near the Canadian boundary. It is often called Sheep Creek and under the date of April 19, 1827, David Douglas, the botanist, writes: "Last night I forgot to say, a small stream four miles below our last camp falls into the river—called White Sheep River, from the antelopes found on its banks—a few miles back from the Columbia." (*Journal Kept by David Douglas*, 1823-1827, p. 248.)

BIG SKOOKUM, see Hammersley Inlet.

BILL POINT, south cape of Eagle Harbor, Kitsap County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, named the harbor from its fancied resemblance to an eagle in shape. Wing Point still remains, but Bill Point does not so often appear on recent charts.

BILL OF ORCAS, see Point Doughty.

BINGEN, in Klickitat County. Theodore Suksdorf (*Names MSS.*, Letter 101) says: "The town was named by P. J. Suksdorf, owner of the premises, after the beautiful town on the Rhine, in Germany. The location of Bingen on the Columbia is much like Bingen on the Rhine. The town of Bingen was laid out in 1892. The postoffice was established two or three years later."

BIRCH BAY, in Whatcom County, near the Canadian boundary. In June, 1792, Vancouver made this bay an anchorage from which he sent out exploring parties in small boats. When describing the trees found on shore, he said: "and black birch; which latter grew in such abundance that it obtained the name of Birch Bay." The Spaniards, Galiano and Valdes, of the "Sutil y Mexicana" expedition, had already named it Enseñada de Garzon as they record meeting the Vancouver ships there on the evening of June 12, 1792. George Davidson (*Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 575) says the Indian name for the place was "Tsan-wuch."

BIRCH POINT, north cape of Birch Bay in Whatcom County. The name arose from the older name of Birch Bay. The Spaniard, Eliza, 1791, seems to have charted this point as "Punta de Señor Jose." The Admiralty Chart known as Richards, 1858-1859, shows the point as "South Bluff."

BIRD ROCK, in Rosario Strait, east of Decatur Island, in San Juan County. This feature consist of three small rocky islets very close together and rising to a height of about forty-feet. The name was given by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, undoubtedly from the fact that many sea birds were found nesting there.

BIRDSVIEW, a town in Skagit County on the Great Northern Railway. Th epostmaster (*Names MSS.*, Letter 130) says the postoffice was named by George Savage in 1880. A different origin is given by the *History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties*, page 119. There it is claimed that B. D. Minkler established the postoffice in 1880 and was the first postmaster. Continuing—"The name of Birdsvie was not derived, as might be supposed, from any ornithological connection, but from the fact that Mr. Minkler's first name, which was Birdsey, was commonly abbreviated to Bird, and from this the town took its name."

BISHOP, a town on Snake River in Whitman County. It was named by the railroad officials after Bishop Brothers, who settled on the bar there in 1877. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 61.)

BISSELL, a town on the Columbia River, in Stevens County. The postmaster (*Names MSS.*, Letter 105) says: "Named by Postmaster General Bissell in 1898." Wilson S. Bissell was Postmaster General in President Cleveland's second Cabinet from 1893 to 1895, which requires adjustment of the above statement at least in regard to the year.

BLACK CREEK, see Skohomish River.

BLACK HILLS, west of Olympia, in Thurston County. They are mentioned in the Treaty with the "S'Klallam" Indians January 26, 1855, and they are shown on the Map of the Surveyor General of Washington Territory, 1857.

BLACK LAKE, near Olympia in Thurston County.

BLACK RIVER, two rivers of that name, one in King County, the other in Thurston County. The one in King County drained Lake Washington into the Duwamish River. This Black River at the present site of Renton had the name of "Quo-doultz-spu-den" in the Duwamish language. Recent changes are doing away with this "Black River" as a geographic name. The river of that name in Thurston County has a longer history. In the Journal of John Work of the

Hudson's Bay Company (published in the *Washington Historical Quarterly*, July 1912) we have one of the earliest known records of the river. When the North-West Company of Montreal was absorbed by the Hudson's Bay Company, Governor George Simpson brought out Doctor John McLoughlin to be Chief Factor of the Columbia District. Arriving at Fort George (Astoria) in November, 1824, Governor Simpson ordered an expedition to proceed northward to discover the mouth of Fraser River. Under James McMillan a party of forty-three, including John Work as one of the clerks, started on November 18, 1824, by way of what is now Willapa Harbor, a portage to Grays Harbor and up the Chehalis River. On Sunday, November 28, they continued up that stream "to where it receives a little river called the Black River from the Northward." Such a reference in the journal indicates that the name may have been used before the arrival of this party. In the same day's entry Work says: "The Black River, so named from the colour of its water, is from 20 to 30 yards wide." On the next day they sent to an Indian village seeking Pierre Charles, "who has been with the Indians for some time." This is another evidence that this party was not the discoverers of Black River. On reaching Black Lake, Work simply remarks it as the source of the river, but on the return trip, under the date of December 26, he refers to it as "Scaadchet Lake." The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, refers to the river and lake as "Sachal." The Secret Mission of Warre and Vavasour reported, 1846, that light baggage could be forwarded by way of "the Satchet or Black River." (*Washington Historical Quarterly*, April, 1912, page 151.) George Gibbs in 1854 (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume I., page 468) called the river "Satchall." Work declares in 1824 that there was ample evidence that the portages had long been used by Indians, which helps to account for the Indian names.

BLACK ROCK, east of Blakely Island, in San Juan County. It was named by the United States Coast Survey in 1854. Near it the Survey named White Rock. These two were called "The Pointers" by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841.

BLAINE, a city in Whatcom County at the Canadian boundary. It was namad by Cain Brothers on April 23, 1885, in honor of James G. Blaine, Republican nominee for President the year before. (J. W. Sheets, *Names MSS.*, Letter 349.)

BLAKE ISLAND, near the entrance to Port Orchard, in Kitsap County. In charting this island in 1841, the Wilkes Expedition did not explain the choice of names. It seems most likely that it was intended as an honor for George Smith Blake, a naval officer who

had charge of the United States Coast Survey, 1837-1848. This officer and Wilkes must have had many conferences before the expedition sailed in 1838.

BLAKE'S LAKE, in the northern portion of Spokane County. The missionary, De Smet, named it "Lake De Nef." (N. W. Durham, *Spokane and the Inland Empire*, page 139.)

BLAKELY, an island in San Juan County; a rock, harbor and town on Bainbridge Island in Kitsap County. The island and the harbor were both named by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, in honor of Johnston Blakely, an American naval hero of the War of 1812. The name of the rock and of the town were derived from that of the harbor. In 1813, Blakely was given command of the new sloop-of-war *Wasp*, in which he made a number of most daring captures. On June 28, 1814, he captured the *Reindeer*, for which Congress voted him a gold medal. After a number of other successful exploits, news of the sloop ended. No word was ever received of the *Wasp* or her brave crew. There is now being made an effort to standardize the spelling of the name. The officer himself on one sheet of manuscript spelled his own name Blakely and Blakeley.

BLALOCK ISLAND, in the Columbia River, Benton County. The name is in honor of Dr. Nelson G. Blalock, a Civil War surgeon, who became one of the best known pioneers of the Walla Walla country, his greatest ambition being to extend and improve fruit culture. One of his largest undertakings was on the island that now bears his name. He was a member of the Washington Constitutional Convention. For thirty years he was a member of the Board of Trustees of Whitman College and for twelve years he was President of the Board. He died at Walla Walla on March 14, 1913, aged 77 years. John Work of the Hudson's Bay Company mentioned in his journal for June 27, 1825, the island as "Big Island." T. C. Elliott, editor of the *Work Journal*, says the fur traders called it "Long Island." (*Washington Historical Quarterly*, April 1914, page 86.)

BLANCHARD, a town in Skagit County. In about 1913, the name of a town known as Fravel was changed to Blanchard. (*Names MSS., Letter 25.*)

BLIND BAY, on the north shore of Shaw Island, in San Juan County.

BLOCKHOUSE, a town in Klickitat County. It was established in 1856 and was a fort for Government troops during the Indian war of that time. (*Names MSS., Letter 524.*)

BLOWERS BLUFF, the north cape of Penn Cove, Whidbey Island, in Island County. A family by the name of Ford lived there about

forty-five years ago when it was known as Fords Point. After the Fords left and the Blowers family lived there it became known as Blowers Bluff and is so indicated on the Government charts. (*Names MSS.*, Letter 28.)

BLUE CANYON, a town on Lake Whatcom, in Whatcom County. The townsite was located on a homestead taken up in 1886 by Fred Zobris. Joe Wardner, a noted miner for whom the town of Wardner, Idaho, is named, purchased some coal claims about 800 feet above Lake Whatcom in 1891. In climbing up for his second inspection of the properties on a hazy autumn day he said: "We will call this Blue Canyon Mine and the townsite, Blue Canyon," and that was done. (J. D. Custer, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 209.)

BLUE MOUNTAINS, in Columbia and Garfield Counties. One of the first references to these mountains is by Gabriel Franchere, one of the Astorians. On arriving at the Walla Walla River, he wrote: "A range of mountains was visible to the S. E., about fifty or sixty miles off." He does not give the mountains a name. On July 9, 1811, David Thompson of the North West Company of Montreal, refers to them as "Shawpatin Mountains," but in his entry for August 8, 1811, he says: "Beginning of course see the Blue Mountains, between the Shawpatin and the Snake Indians." In a footnote, T. C. Elliott, editor of the Thompson Journal, says: "Apparently the first record of this name Blue as applied to these mountains." (*Oregon Historical Society Quarterly*, Volume XV., pages 57 and 121.) Alexander Ross, J. K. Townsend, David Douglas, Peter Skene Ogden, John Work and other early travellers continued the use of the name, Blue Mountains. One of the first references is by Rev. Gustavus Hines (*Exploring Expedition to Oregon*, published 1851, page 323): "As you approach the Blue Mountains on the south, particularly on the Umatilla and Walla Walla Rivers, the hills disappear, and you find yourself passing over a beautiful and level country, about twenty-five or thirty miles broad, on the farther borders of which rise with indescribable beauty and grandeur, that range which, from its azure-like appearance, has been called the 'Blue Mountains.'"

BLUESLIDE, a town in Pend Oreille County. "Blueslide took its name from a point of the hill having slid into the river leaving a gap behind. The blue comes from the color of the face of the slide towards the river. It must have been named during rainy weather. The face is principally clay and when wet is blue, but when dry is more of a gray." (C. L. Peters, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 132.)

BLUESTEM, a town in Lincoln County. It is in a large wheat-growing section and "bluestem" is the principal kind of wheat grown

there. This gave rise to the name. (H. A. Thompson, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 256.)

BLUNT'S ISLAND, see Smith Island.

BLUSTRY POINT, see Point Ellice.

BLY, a postoffice in Asotin County. It is named in honor of the postmaster, Joseph Bly.

BOAT CHANNEL, the passage between Turn and San Juan Islands, San Juan County. It is shown on the British Admiralty Chart, Number 2840, but is not named on the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey charts.

BOAT HARBOR, see Mats Mats.

BOCA DE ALAVA, see Cape Alava.

BOCA DE CAAMANO, see Admiralty Inlet.

BOCA DE FIDALGO, see Rosario Strait.

BOCA DE FLON, see Deception Pass.

BOCA DE HORCASITAS, see San Juan Channel.

BODIE, a town in Okanogan County. It was named for the Bodie Mine. (Merrill & Rowe, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 313.) A small creek at that place has the same name.

BOISFORT, a town in Lewis County. Boisfort Prairie received its name at the hands of the French-Canadian employees of the Hudson's Bay Company. Pierre Charles, a Canadian half-breed, is reputed to have been the first settler there. The first American settler was C. F. White in 1852.

BOLTON PENINSULA, between Quilcene and Dabop Bays, Hood Canal, Jefferson County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, Volume XXIII., page 325, says: "Col-see-ed [Quilcene] Harbor is separated from Dabop Bay by Bolton Peninsula, which is 4 miles long, by 1 mile wide." No reference is made to the honor intended by the name. There was a twelve-gun bomb-brig by that name and also a Midshipman William Finch, who afterward became Captain Bolton. He was placed in charge of the captured *Nocton*, a prize of the *Essex*. Wilkes, in his scheme of honors, might have intended either one of these.

BONAPARTE, a creek, lake and mountain in Okanogan County. The creek is a tributary of the Okanogan River at Tonasket. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, charts the creek as "River Bonaparte."

BONILLA ISLAND, see Smith Island.

BONITA, a town in Douglas County. It was named in 1902 by Lieutenant Edward Nasler from a name he picked up in the Philippine Islands. (G. T. Goudrey, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 421.)

BONNIE LAKE, see Rock Lake in Spokane County.

BORDEAUX, a town in Thurston County. It was named in 1900 in honor of Thomas Bordeaux, who started a large logging enterprise there. Dora E. Webb, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 35.)

BOSSBURG, a town in Stevens County. It was platted in 1892 and named from the owners of the land—John Berg and C. S. Boss. (Elmer D. Hall, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 520.)

BOSTON HARBOR, near Olympia in Thurston County. C. D. Hillman, a Seattle real estate dealer, purchased the Dofflemeyer donation claim at Dofflemeyer Point and adjacent lands, which he platted and tried to sell under the name of Boston Harbor.

BOSTON POINT, on Hood Canal near the present Pleasant Harbor. It was so named by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841, but the name as applied is not found on recent charts.

BOTHELL, a city in King County. George Bothell is a well known citizen and early legislator of the state. He and his brother began in 1886 a logging and shingle-making business where the present city stands. In naming the place an honor was conferred upon their father, David C. Bothell. The city was incorporated in 1908. (I. T. Williamson, in *Names MSS.*, Letter 371.)

BOULDER ISLAND, at southeastern extremity of Lopez Island, San Juan County. It was charted by the United States Coast Survey, 1855.

BOULDER REEF, off the northwest shore of Sinclair Island, Skagit County. It was discovered and named by the United States Coast Survey in 1854. The description includes: "A huge erratic granite boulder is seen at ordinary tides inside the outer point of the reef." The British Admiralty chart of 1859 sought to name this "Panama Reef," probably from an accident to the steamship *Panama*, which was on the San Francisco run during the Fraser River gold excitement of 1858.

BOUNDARY BAY, the western portion of Semiahmoo Bay, Whatcom County. The Galiano and Valdes expedition for the Spaniards, 1792, charted the whole gulf as "Ensenada del Eugaño," meaning "Gulf of the Deception," probably because the explorers had run into shallow water. The Admiralty chart of 1847 simply indicated shallow water. The United States Coast Survey named it "Mud Bay" in 1855, but on a second edition of the chart, it was called Boundary Bay and has so remained on all recent charts.