

THE EXPORT OF PENNSYLVANIA PLACE NAMES

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I

I will fall in love with a Salem tree
And a rawhide quirt from Santa Cruz,
I will get me a bottle of Boston sea
And a blue-gum nigger to sing me blues.
I am tired of loving a foreign muse.

Rue des Martyrs and Bleeding-Heart-Yard,
Senlis, Pisa, and Blindman's Oast
It is a magic ghost you guard,
But I am sick for a newer ghost,
Harrisburg, Spartanburg, Painted Post.

PENNSYLVANIA has been an exporting community since colonial days. Its products have run the gamut from food to ideas and from minerals to manufactured articles. These have entered not only into foreign commerce but into inter-colonial and inter-state trade as well. Pennsylvania has exported people also. In colonial times, especially, thousands of immigrants landed at Philadelphia, lived a shorter or longer time in the colony, and then proceeded elsewhere. For the most part, they either went west over the mountains or else descended southward into the Shenandoah Valley and the Valley of Virginia. The number of Pennsylvanians who have helped to people and to build up new states in the west is legion. These persons who left the Commonwealth and settled elsewhere were not only a Pennsylvania export in themselves but they also furthered the export of place names.

As the American people grow into national maturity they are becoming increasingly interested in their origins; hence the vogue of the last few years for origins of place names. For Stephen Vincent Benét, part of whose poem entitled "American Names" was quoted above, names like Harrisburg had a sweet, native savor and rolled off the tongue with poetic beauty.¹ In 1945 George R. Stewart pro-

¹ The entire poem was printed in *Life*, Jan. 31, 1944, p. 48.

duced his *Names on the Land; A Historical Account of Place-Naming in the United States* (Random House).

The transit of names from Europe to the Atlantic Coast, then into the interior, and often onward to the Pacific slope, is a diverting topic. In the process Pennsylvania has played an important part, for geographic names which show Pennsylvania influence are scattered far and wide over the country. They are thickest in Ohio, as would be expected, but can be found in many western and even in some southern and northern states.

A number of names connected with the "Keystone State" have become part of the American language. For example, "Pittsburgh Plus," "Philadelphia Story," "Philadelphia scrapple," "Lehigh cement," "Conestoga wagon," "Pennsylvania Polka," and "Pennsylvania-Dutch" are known everywhere. Countless others will occur to the reader. Perhaps the best known use of the state's name, outside its boundaries, is Pennsylvania Avenue in the federal capital. The battleship *Pennsylvania*, and the cruisers *Philadelphia*, *Pittsburgh*, and *Wilkes-Barre*, are famous on the Seven Seas. Graduates of the universities and colleges of the state have carried the names of their *almae matres* all over the globe.

This essay will deal with the export of Pennsylvania names as well as with the influence exerted by Pennsylvanians upon the place names of other states in the Union.

The process took many forms, some simple, some complicated, some second-hand. Here are a few: (1) One of the earliest arose when Pennsylvania Indians, as they were pushed out of their hunting grounds, went west. In the Ohio country in particular they left marks of their presence, although they scattered names even as far as Indian Territory. (2) A second prolific source was the emigration of peoples, like the Germans and Scotch-Irish from Pennsylvania. (3) Possibly the simplest method occurred when some homesick pioneer from Pennsylvania went west to settle in the wilderness, or in the prairies, or in the mountains, and had occasion to give his location a name.² It was natural for him nos-

² In rather turgid and confused English, this process was referred to in the *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Internal Affairs Bulletin*, XV (April, 1947), 14, as follows: "Since Franklin County embraces parts of this famous [Cumberland] valley, it is interesting to know that the valley got its name, probably from some homesick English, or more likely Scotch-Irish, settler, who thought he saw in it some semblance to Cumberland in the north

talgically to use the name of his native community back home; in many cases he christened his settlement "New Something-or-Other." (4) Often the founder of a town gave it his own name. A variation was the practice of a later generation to name a town after its first settler. (5) A fertile source of Pennsylvania names in other states was the great men of the Commonwealth. When a Pennsylvanian became well known as a general or as a statesman, the people in other states or territories often did him honor by naming counties or towns after him—not so much because he was from Pennsylvania as because he belonged to the nation. (6) A Pennsylvanian who had the opportunity of naming some spot frequently gave it an appellation which was not connected with Pennsylvania. Although such influence is of course second-hand and indirect, many towns and counties in the West were named by Pennsylvanians in that manner. There were other sources and methods, as well as combinations of all of these.

II

It is proper first to examine the work of Pennsylvania Indians, who did some of the earliest name carrying. The Eastern Shawnees and the Delawares influenced Western nomenclature considerably, above all in Ohio. This was another example of Pennsylvania as the exporter of peoples, even though it was usually a forceful eviction rather than a voluntary emigration.

Like thousands of Europeans who came to Pennsylvania and then passed to other areas, the Eastern Shawnees were only temporary residents of the colony. They were a people in transit, as it were. When the whites arrived along the Atlantic Coast, the Shawnees were in the South in what are now Georgia and South Carolina. Their name is usually translated as meaning "Southernner," and in a different spelling is now carried by the city of

of England. Since Cumberland, England, originally Kimbraland, for the Kimbric or Keltish race, an ancient people of that region, we have the odd circumstance of a district in the new world, from which a vanishing race was fast retreating toward the sunset, being named for a race, pushed from their native homes, or absorbed, by the ancestors of Franklin County's first settlers, coming into competition with them as the whites did with the Indians here."

Savannah.³ Their course across the country can be followed by noting such contemporary places as Shawnee-on-Delaware and Shawnee Flats in Pennsylvania, Shawnee in Ohio, Shawnee, Shawnee Run, and Shawnee Lake in West Virginia, Shawneetown in Illinois, Shawneetown in Missouri, Shawnee (town and county) in Kansas, and Shawnee in Oklahoma. There is also a Shawnee in Wyoming.⁴

The tribe left many names, especially in Ohio. The word "Pequea," standing for one of its five clans, can be traced from eastern Pennsylvania into Ohio, West Virginia, and Kansas. In Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, this clan had a village of Pequea on Pequea Creek; it moved to Lick Town on the Scioto River in Pickaway County, Ohio; next to Piqua on the Mad River; then to Piqua on the Miami River; and finally to Wapakoneta—"white jacket"—on the Auglaize River. There is a Pickaway in West Virginia, and a Piqua in Kansas. Likewise the Shawnees usually had a village of Chillicothe which was another division of the tribe. Several Chillicothes existed in Ohio at various times; it is now a place name in Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. Mt. Logan in Ohio was named for a Shawnee chief; and Lewistown in the same state recalls Captain John Lewis, a Shawnee.

The Delawares also exerted an influence over the nomenclature of the West. Unlike the immigrant Shawnees, these Indians can be called pre-Pennsylvanians, for they were here when the first settlers arrived.⁵ Curiously enough, the word "Delaware" is not Indian in origin, but comes from Lord de la Warr—"lord of the

³ On the other hand, Hamill Kenny in *West Virginia Place Names* (Piedmont, W. Va., 1945), pp. 556-57, suggests that the word may mean "grassy plain." In the Ohio region the Eastern and Western (Cumberland) Shawnees joined for the first time in their history.

⁴ Besides Kenny, already cited, this and the following paragraphs dealing with Indian name carrying are based, *passim*, mainly upon the following: *Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico*, edited by Frederick Webb Hodge, which is Bulletin 30 of the Smithsonian Institution Bureau of American Ethnology (two volumes, fourth impression, Washington, D. C., 1912); "Origins of Ohio Place Names," a paper read before the Fifth Ohio State Conference, D.A.R., held at Toledo, Oct. 29, 1903, by Mrs. Maria Ewing Martin, in *Ohio Archeological and Historical Publications*, XIV (1905), 272-91; and Henry Gannett, *Origin of Certain Place Names in the United States*, which is Bulletin No. 258 of the United States Geological Survey (second edition, Washington, D. C., 1905).

⁵ According to the Walum Olum, which is the national legend of the Delawares, the tribe in times past had come from the area west of the Mississippi. The Walum Olum is discussed by C. Hale Sipe, *The Indian Wars of Pennsylvania* (Harrisburg, Pa., second edition, 1931), pp. 34 ff.

weir"—who discovered the bay from which the river gets its name. The English called the tribe after the river along which it lived instead of using the native designation of Lenape or Lenni Lenape, which means "real men." Although there is a Lenape in Kansas which was named for the Delawares, it was "Delaware" rather than "Lenape" which spread far and wide.

As in the case of the Shawnees, the Delawares left their name in a number of places in the West, and even in other areas. Delaware Counties appear in New York, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, and Oklahoma. Delaware County in Ohio has a city of Delaware which is the county seat;⁶ both Indiana and Oklahoma have towns and counties named Delaware. There are towns of that name in Iowa and Kentucky. Delaware Springs in Arizona received its name from the Indian who discovered it in the 1850's. Delaware Township and Moraviantown, both in Ontario, Canada, were called after the Indian tribe.⁷

The Delawares settled at the forks of the Muskingum River in the Ohio region. Muskingum is Delaware, translated as "elk's eye" or "moose eye or face." Muskingum College got its name from the river. The Hocking River recalls the Delaware village of Hockhocken, meaning "place of gourds." The word is also met in the villages of Hocking, Little Hocking, and Hockingport, as well as in the Hocking Valley Railroad. Killbuck Creek and the town of Killbuck recall a Delaware chief. Mahoning River and County get their names from a Delaware word for "at the salt-lick." There is also a Mahoning Creek which runs into the Lehigh River in eastern Pennsylvania. Tuscarawas—a county, a river, and a village in Ohio—is a Delaware word variously translated as "old town" or "open mouth." Newcomerstown is a translation of the name of a Delaware chief; it was originally a Delaware village. A Delaware

⁶ Radnor Township in Delaware County, Ohio, shows a double kind of borrowing from Pennsylvania, for Radnor is also located in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Radnor is Welsh, and Delaware is the Anglo-French name for the bay, river, and Indian tribe. Radnor, Illinois, is a namesake of Radnor, Pennsylvania.

⁷ For Delaware Township see G. H. Armstrong, *The Origin and Meaning of Place Names in Canada* (Toronto, 1930), p. 80; for Moraviantown see a paper entitled "Transplants of Pennsylvania Indian Nations in Ontario" by Dr. Arthur D. Graeff. [Published in this issue. Ed.] Moraviantown was founded by Christianized Moravian Indians who trekked to Philadelphia, to New Jersey, to Wyalusing, to Western Pennsylvania, to the Muskingum Valley, to Detroit, and finally to Ontario.

site in the Ohio country was named French Margaret's town for the daughter of Madame Montour. A town of Montour can be found in Montana, Iowa, and New York; the one in Iowa was named for Andrew Montour.

Munsee, meaning "at the place where stones are gathered together," was one of the divisions of the Delawares. The word can be traced from Pennsylvania, where it is spelled Muncy, to Indiana and Illinois where it is Muncie. The Mahicans or Mohicans, a name meaning "wolf," were related to the Delawares and came from New York to Wyoming, Pennsylvania. From there they migrated to Ohio where Mohican is the name of both a river and a town.

Delaware place names have travelled far. In Coos County, Oregon, is a town of Allegany, a Delaware word. There are Allegheny Counties in Virginia and North Carolina, and an Allegany County in New York. The name was carried to Sierra County, California, by settlers from Alleghany, Pennsylvania, who used it for a village and a mining camp. Monongalia County, West Virginia, is from Monongahela, a Delaware word. "Ohio," which is so important in place naming, is Delaware. The Delaware "Shamokin" is a town name in South Carolina. Lehigh, a corruption of a Delaware word or words for "where there are forks," was carried to Choctaw territory for a town in the coal area of what is now Oklahoma.

Of all the Delaware influence upon place naming, perhaps the word "Wyoming" has had the most spectacular history. It is a Delaware word meaning "upon the great plain," and was made known in 1809 by Thomas Campbell's poem "Gertrude of Wyoming," although the poet did not know how to pronounce the word correctly. It became the name for counties in New York and West Virginia. The village of Wyoming, Nebraska, was settled by people from Wyoming, Pennsylvania. A special form of the name is Wyco in West Virginia, a town which was so called because it is in Wyoming County. By 1867 there were ten post offices called Wyoming, stretching from Rhode Island to Nebraska and Kansas.

Next year, 1868, when a new territory was proposed in Congress, James M. Ashley of Ohio suggested the name "Wyoming" for it. The House committee on territories was willing, but objections arose on the floor because the word had no connection with

the proposed territory. Ashley, who said it meant "large plains," believed that such a name was better suited than other suggestions like Cheyenne and Shoshonee. In the Senate some members wanted to call it Lincoln—an idea which would have indirectly honored Pennsylvania. Cheyenne was also favored by many Senators until someone said Cheyenne meant "snakes"; then, when another suggested it was French for "female dog," Cheyenne was out of the question. After long debate, "Senator Cameron of Pennsylvania arose, and graciously said that his state would be happy to supply a name for a new one, where doubtless many Pennsylvanians had already settled."⁸

Partly because the Iroquois were primarily a New York group and partly because they were more sedentary, less influence seems to have been exerted by Pennsylvania Iroquois in western place naming. Nevertheless some significant effects can be traced. The word "Iroquois" is Algonkin for "real adders"; the *ois* is a French suffix. There are both a town and a county in Illinois called Iroquois; also towns in West Virginia and in South Dakota. Mingo and Mingo Junction in Ohio and Mingo in West Virginia were named for the Mingo Indians, some of whom, at least, were Iroquois. Logan and Logan County in West Virginia recall a Mingo chief whose patronymic was William Penn's secretary. Shenango Creek in Ohio probably got its name from the Iroquois. Tioga was carried from Pennsylvania to West Virginia and Iowa for town names; it is Iroquois for "at the forks," or "swift current," or "gate." The town of Juniata in Nebraska was named for the Juniata River in Pennsylvania. "Juniata" is an Iroquois word, probably a variant of an Oneida one, meaning "standing-stone people." Another translation is "they stayed long," and still another "beyond the great bend."⁹

Of all the Iroquoian peoples, the Eries are possibly the least known because of the early dissolution of the tribe, and yet the

⁸ Stewart, *op. cit.*, pp. 311-12. Stewart seems to have settled the question of the origin of the name of the state of Wyoming. The *Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico*, *op. cit.*, part two, p. 978, says: "It is not known who suggested the name of the state (which had been proposed as that of a territory as early as 1865), but it was probably some emigrant or emigrants from one of the dozen or more places so called in the different parts of the Union."

⁹ A. H. Espenshade, *Pennsylvania Place Names* (State College, Pa., 1925), *passim*.

name has come to be used more prominently than perhaps that of any other Iroquoian group. Erie is translated as "it is long-tailed," therefore, as "lion" or "panther." Hence the Eries have often been called the "cats." The name came to be applied to the lake and from that have arisen all sorts of combinations, making Erie one of the commonest place names in the language: Erie County in New York and Ohio, Erie Canal, Erie Railroad, Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad, and Wabash and Erie Canal, not to mention local usage in Pennsylvania itself. There are towns of Erie in Illinois, South Dakota, Colorado, Kansas, and Michigan. That scamp, "Jubilee Jim" Fisk, who helped to mulct the Erie Railroad, liked to dub himself "Duke of Erie."

III

Some peculiar combinations have emerged from name-carrying and name-borrowing. One of the most unusual imitations is seen in Virginia where a county called Spotsylvania was named for Governor Spotswood. The "sylvania" in the name, according to the *Columbia Encyclopedia*, was probably copied from *Pennsylvania*. Possibly the same sort of thing is to be observed in Pittsylvania County in Virginia. Other interesting "sports" are Ovapa (Ohio, Virginia, and Pennsylvania) and Viropa (Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania). Penn Yan in New York means Pennsylvania and Yankee. Arkadelphia and Triadelphia in Ohio are probably copies in part of Philadelphia. Even the nickname of the state has been used elsewhere when settlers from Pennsylvania named their towns "Keystone" in Indiana and in North Dakota. Possibly the prize for peculiarity in this respect is the town of Proviso, Illinois, which was named for Wilmot's proposal.

Although it is natural that Pennsylvania influence in place names is strongest in the region west of the state, it is nevertheless true that people from the Commonwealth have had an effect upon geographic nomenclature towards the South, and even towards the North.

Two of the most important carriers of Pennsylvania influence in geographic naming were the Germans and the Scotch-Irish who came to Pennsylvania, stayed a while, and then moved on. They scattered names southward into the Shenandoah Valley, into the

Valley of Virginia, and then into the Carolinas. Others crossed the mountains into Kentucky; and still others went to the forks of the Ohio and transported names to the Ohio region.

The Pennsylvania-Germans left a few names in Maryland, such as Leitersburg (founded by a man born in Holland), Creagers-town, and Hauvers. One writer¹⁰ declares that Jonathan Hager, founder of Hagerstown, came from Pennsylvania; others assert that he went directly from Germany to Maryland.

Germans from Lancaster County began to settle in the Shenandoah Valley in the 1720's. Robert Harper of Pennsylvania founded Harper's Ferry in 1734. Protagonists of German and of Scotch-Irish influence disagree as to whether he was German or Scotch-Irish. Faust¹¹ is sure Harper was a German, and Kenny goes even further by saying that Harper's original name was possibly Herber or Herrber.¹² Dunaway, on the other hand, is just as certain that Harper was Scotch-Irish.¹³ In any case, it is agreed that Harper was a Pennsylvanian.

Other Germans settled a village near Harper's Ferry which they called New Mecklenburg. When the place was incorporated in 1762 it was named Shepherdstown in honor of Thomas Shepherd (Schaefer) who settled there in 1734. Joist Hite of York who had been born in European Strasburg, probably named the town of Strasburg in the Valley. Previously it had been known as Staufferstadt. Other Pennsylvania-Germans named Stephens City, Ruffner's Cave, Kernstown or Kerns, Keezletown (Keizell's Town), Hamburg, and Amsterdam.¹⁴

Scotch-Irish and Irish influence is visible in North Carolina, where many settlers from Pennsylvania arrived by way of the valleys. They established such places as Fitzgerald, Cody, Courtney, Mallory, Riley, Corbett, Murphy, Murfreesboro, Hogan's Creek, Lyons, Mebane, Mullen, Gorman, Donnoha, Dalton, Manning, Mooresville, Oneal, Connover, Connollys, Callahan, Grogans-

¹⁰ Daniel W. Nead, *The Pennsylvania-German in the Settlement of Maryland* (Lancaster, Pa., 1914), pp. 54-55.

¹¹ Albert B. Faust, *The German Element in the United States* (two volumes, Boston and N. Y., 1909), I, 192.

¹² *Op. cit.*, pp. 298-99.

¹³ Wayland F. Dunaway, *The Scotch-Irish of Colonial Pennsylvania* (Chapel Hill, 1944), pp. 103-04.

¹⁴ Faust, *op. cit.*, *passim*, but especially chapters VII, XII, and XIII; see also Herman Schuricht, *History of the German Element in Virginia* (Baltimore, 1898), *passim*.

ville, Gaffney, McGrady, McConnellsville, Neely, Powers, Lynch Station, Limerick, Belfast, Mayo, Muckross, Mount Mourne, and Claremont.¹⁵ In South Carolina the town of Lowys (formerly Lowysville) was settled by the Scotch-Irish Lowy family from Pennsylvania in the 1750's.

After the valleys had been settled, pioneers began to spill through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky, scattering names here and there. English influence is evident in Harrodsburg, which was named for James Harrod. Of English stock, he was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Other Kentucky place names were brought in by, or were reminiscent of, the Pennsylvania-Germans. It is possible that the Holston River was originally the Holstein River. Florence was founded by a German from Pennsylvania, while Frankfort, the state capital, indicates German origin. Bracken County has a German name, and in it are towns like Berlin and Germantown. There is also a Muhlenberg County, called after General J. P. G. Muhlenberg.¹⁶

Daniel Boone's name is closely associated with Kentucky history. Faust mentions the possibility that Boone might have been a German, but the author of the Boone biography in the *Dictionary of American Biography* says definitely that he was of English extraction.¹⁷ He was born in Berks County. His explorations in Kentucky are remembered by names like Boonesborough, Boonville, Boone Station, and Boone County. Stewart tells two stories about Boone which illustrate the strange ways in which place naming often occurred. While in Kentucky, Boone had a dream that yellow jackets had stung him and interpreted the dream as a warning that he would be wounded by Indians. The spot is still called Dreaming Creek. At another time he was reading *Gulliver's Travels* to his companions when the Indians did attack. One of his friends remarked that they had just defeated the Lorbrulgruds. The place is now known as Lulbegrud.¹⁸ Boone's name has been used for geographic locations in various sections of the country. At least seven counties are called Boone and a number of towns carry his name in one form or another. For instance, Missouri has a Boonesboro,

¹⁵ Michael J. O'Brien, *A Hidden Phase of American History* (N. Y., 1921), p. 357.

¹⁶ Faust, *op. cit.*, *passim*.

¹⁷ Faust, *op. cit.*, I, 358; W. J. Ghent, in *D.A.B.*, II (1929), 441.

¹⁸ *Op. cit.*, p. 151.

a Boonville, and a Danville. The last of these three shows an interesting expansion of Boone's influence over place naming; the town was so designated for a son of Boone and founded on land owned by the father. Likewise, in North Carolina, there are places called Boone, Boonestown, and Boonville.¹⁹

Other settlers went west by using the more northerly route, through Pittsburgh and along the Ohio River. Among the earliest were Germans. In what is now West Virginia, the famous Indian fighter, Ludwig (Louis) Wetzel, is remembered by the name of a county which is just south of the Panhandle. Missionary work among the Ohio Indians by the Moravians produced a number of German place names. Somewhat after the fashion of the peripatetic Pequea, the Moravian name "Gnadenhütten," meaning "huts of grace," began with a settlement above Leighton, Pennsylvania; it was then carried to Weissport, Pennsylvania; and was later used for a mission on the Muskingum River. Near Gnadenhütten on the Muskingum the Moravians also established Schoenbrun, New Schoenbrun, and Lichtenau (later Salem). There are now several Salems in Ohio. The Moravians and other sect people from Pennsylvania brought to Ohio such Biblical names as Zoar, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Canaan, and Goshen.

After the Ohio country had been cleared of Indians, large numbers of non-sect Germans migrated from Pennsylvania. For their settlements they used not only Pennsylvania geographic names, but "old country" ones as well. In Ohio can be found villages like German, Berlin, Bremen and New Bremen, Berne, Leipsic, Strasburg, Antwerp, Germantown,²⁰ Somerset, Winesburg, Saxon, Osnaburg, Hanover, Frankfort, Spires, Potsdam, Freiburg, Gottesburg, Snydersburg, Phillipsburg, Minster, Glandorf, Backman and Harschmannville. Ebenezer Zahn (Zane) founded Zanesville; Zanesburg was the original name of Wheeling; and there are names like Zanes and Zane's Island in West Virginia. Because he came from Lancaster, Zane named a town in Ohio "New Lancaster," now known merely as Lancaster. A Pennsylvania-German founded New Phila-

¹⁹ W.P.A. Writers' Program, *How They Began—The Story of North Carolina County, Town, and Other Place Names* (N. Y., 1941), *passim*.

²⁰ Berks County Germans settled Germantown between 1804 and 1810, giving the name to the town and to German Township. See J. P. Houtz, "Germantown, Ohio," in *The Pennsylvania-German*, XII (Nov., 1911), 655-64.

delphia, calling it after the Quaker metropolis. The custom of naming towns "New This-or-That" was quite common in Ohio. Besides those already mentioned, there are New Holland, New Pittsburg, and others. Ulrichsville was so called after early German settlers; and Germans founded Steubenville, which they named after the general.²¹

Like the Germans, the Scotch-Irish and other Pennsylvanians had heavy influence over Ohio place naming. The following ten Ohio counties were called after Pennsylvanians: Wayne, Logan, Ross, Mercer, Darke, Crawford, Butler, Fulton, Allen, and Morrow. Hunter claims that all ten men were Scotch-Irish; Dunaway, on the other hand, is more modest and says that six were Scotch-Irish.²²

As states were settled west of Ohio, it was natural that Pennsylvania exerted less influence and that what influence there was is harder to trace. Most of the German names in Illinois, Missouri, and Wisconsin were derived from the "Thirty-twoers" and "Forty-eighters" who came directly from Germany, many of whom landed at New York City. Yet Pennsylvania's influence was still felt. New Harmony, Indiana, settled and named by the Rappites, recalls Old Harmony in Pennsylvania. The town of Hermann in Gasconade County, Missouri, was established by the German Settlement Society of Philadelphia. Penn Township in Osborne County, Kansas, was named by Pennsylvania-Germans. The Boyer family of Berks County gave its name to a creek and a town in Crawford County, Iowa. Palatine, Illinois, was laid out by a Pennsylvanian in 1846. Six counties in as many states, as well as a number of towns, carry the name "Custer," in honor of the general who came of Hessian stock which settled in Pennsylvania after the Revolution. German Mennonites from Pennsylvania established Berlin, Hespeler, Hanover, Neustadt, and other towns in the Province of Ontario, Canada.²³

²¹ Faust, *op. cit.*, *passim*.

²² W. H. Hunter, "Influence of Pennsylvanians on Ohio," in *Ohio Archaeological and Historical Publications*, XII (1903), 287-310; Dunaway, *op. cit.*, p. 114.

²³ Faust, *op. cit.*, *passim*. For the Mennonites of Canada, see A. B. Sherk, "The Pennsylvania-Germans of Waterloo County, Ontario, Canada," in *The Pennsylvania-German*, XII (May, 1911), 280-97; also Faust, I, 467.

IV

Among the outstanding Pennsylvania statesmen who have had a wide effect upon place naming in other states, the two most prominent were Benjamin Franklin, who lived most of his life in Pennsylvania, and Abraham Lincoln, whose ancestors came from Pennsylvania. Besides the "state" of Franklin, there are thirty-three post offices, twenty counties, a mountain in New Hampshire, and many towns, which honor the name of Franklin. Columbus, Ohio, was originally called Franklinton. A town in Delaware County, New York, was named Franklin for Benjamin's son, Temple. Abraham Lincoln has been honored by twenty-three counties, by mountains in Colorado and New Hampshire, and by numerous cities and towns. The best known city is Lincoln in Nebraska, where there are also a West Lincoln and a Lincoln County. Even in Democratic South Carolina, there is a Lincolnville, so named by Negroes.²⁴

Pennsylvania statesmen, both great and small, have had immense influence upon place naming. One of the luckiest was George M. Dallas, vice-president of the United States under Polk, the only holder of that office from Pennsylvania. He is remembered by five counties and a number of towns. Texans, wishing to honor the leaders of the Democratic party for their interest in annexation, named counties for both Polk and Dallas in 1846; Dallas, however, received the added distinction of having a county seat called after him—a county seat which was destined to become a great city. Stewart's comment is: "An unremembered vice-president, he is honored by a larger city than is any president except Washington."²⁵ In turn, Dallas in South Dakota was named for Dallas in Texas.

It is probably not appreciated how much Pennsylvanians have affected nomenclature in Texas, especially in reference to counties. Besides Dallas County, there are quite a few others. Kinney County was named for H. L. Kinney, a native Pennsylvanian, who founded Corpus Christi; Titus County for a man whose father

²⁴ The above facts about Franklin and Lincoln can be found in Stewart, *op. cit.*, pp. 358, 382, and in Gannett, *passim*. For Franklin's influence over the place naming in one Ohio county, see W. Edson Richmond, "Place-Names in Franklin County, Ohio," in *Ohio State Archeological and Historical Society Quarterly*, LIII (April-June, 1944), 135-60.

²⁵ *Op. cit.*, p. 254.

was born in Pennsylvania; Fisher County for S. Rhoads Fisher, born in Philadelphia, who was once secretary of navy of the Texan Republic; Mitchell County for two Mitchell brothers, one of whom was a Pennsylvanian and signer of the Texan Declaration of Independence; Dimmitt County for Phillip Dimmitt, a native Pennsylvanian and a participant in the Texan Revolution; Hockley County for George W. Hockley, born and reared in Philadelphia, who served as Texan secretary of war; Kaufman County for David Spangler Kaufman, born at Boiling Springs, who was a statesman of the Texan Republic and later a member of Congress from the state of Texas; Hartley County for O. C. Hartley, born in Bedford County, who was a reporter for the Texan Supreme Court; and Walker County for Robert J. Walker, born in Northumberland County.²⁶

A sampling of other Pennsylvania statesmen and politicians who have affected place naming follows. William Penn is remembered by numerous towns and townships called Penn. Allentown, a borough in Monmouth County, New Jersey, was named for William Allen, Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania. Mifflin Township and Mifflinville, in Franklin County, Ohio, honor Governor Thomas Mifflin. Senator James Ross is remembered by Ross County, Ohio. Albert Gallatin's name has been used for Gallatin Gateway, the Gallatin River, and for a town and county in Montana; there are also Gallatin Counties in Kentucky and in Illinois, and towns of Gallatin in New York, Mississippi, and Tennessee; Galatia is a township and village in Illinois. John W. Geary got his name applied to a town and a county in Kansas, of which he was territorial governor. James Buchanan was honored by Fort Buchanan, Arizona, built in 1856. Counties in Iowa, Missouri and Virginia recalled Pennsylvania's only president.²⁷ His home, Wheatland, was used for the name of a township in Illinois and a town in Iowa. Thaddeus Stevens got his name attached to a town in California and a county in Kansas. In Indiana, Rush County and Rushville were named for Dr. Benjamin Rush of Philadel-

²⁶ Z. T. Fulmore, *The History and Geography of Texas as Told in County Names* (Austin, Texas, 1915), *passim*.

²⁷ Will C. Barnes, *Arizona Place Names in University of Arizona Bulletin*, VI, No. 1 (Tucson, 1935), 64-65; Morgan P. Robinson, *Virginia Counties: Those Resulting from Virginia Legislation*, which is Volume IX, pp. 1-284 of the *Bulletin of the Virginia State Library* (Richmond, 1916).

phia; and Rushville, a township and city in Illinois, was called after Dr. Richard Rush, candidate for the vice-presidency in 1828. A parish and town in Louisiana and a town in West Virginia were named for Simon Cameron; and a town in South Carolina was called after J. Don Cameron. Dallas, Alabama, honors A. J. Dallas, Madison's secretary of the treasury. Samuel Meredith is remembered by the town of Meredith in Delaware County, New York. Bingham County, Idaho, was named by Governor William B. Bunn for his friend, Congressman Henry H. Bingham. James G. Blaine, born in Pennsylvania, has been honored by having named after him a mountain in Colorado, counties in Idaho, Nebraska, and Oklahoma, and towns in Maine, West Virginia, North Carolina, and Oklahoma. Ingham County, Michigan, received its name from Jackson's secretary of the treasury, S. D. Ingham. Thomas Morris of Philadelphia gave his name to Mount Morris, New York. Randall, Illinois, recalls Samuel J. Randall, a member of Congress. A town in Oklahoma, no longer in existence, was named for Postmaster General John Wanamaker. Quay, Oklahoma, was so designated for M. S. Quay. John C. Calhoun, whose ancestors came from Pennsylvania, is remembered by names of counties in South Carolina, Virginia, and Iowa; by Fort Calhoun which formerly stood in Nebraska; and by a town in South Carolina.

Stewart tells the story of the way in which the California legislature wanted to show its respect for John Bigler, who was a native of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and who was third governor of the "Golden State" (1852-56). The solons changed the name of Lake Tahoe to Lake Bigler. Says Stewart: "The governor was notoriously convivial, and the act produced the witticism that a large lake was not aptly named for a man who so seldom drank water. The law still stands, but not even the official roadsigns of the state Highway Commission point to Lake Bigler."²⁸ Perhaps Stewart's comment had its effect; at all events, the lake was officially changed to Tahoe by the legislature on July 18, 1945.²⁹

Pennsylvania's professional men, business men, inventors, and scientists have lent their names to numerous places throughout the country. Fulton County appears in five states; there are also towns

²⁸ *Op. cit.*, p. 375.

²⁹ Phil Townsend Hanna, *The Dictionary of California Land Names* (Los Angeles, 1946). Hanna says Bigler's name did not stick because he was a ranting secessionist during the Civil War (p. 296).

called Fulton in Missouri, Illinois, and South Dakota. Fulton in Missouri (recently made world famous by Churchill's speech) was called after Fulton in Illinois. Stephen Girard, one-time wealthiest man in the United States, is honored by a township and city in Illinois and by a village in Ohio; Girard, Kansas, was named for Girardville, Pennsylvania. Binghamton, New York, was named for William Bingham of Philadelphia, a benefactor of the city. Hezekiah Niles of *Weekly Register* fame is remembered by Niles in Ohio and in Michigan. Waterman Palmer of Pittsburgh founded Palmer in Marquette County, Michigan. Drexel in North Carolina and Drexel in Wisconsin were so called for the Philadelphia banking family. Hahnemann, Illinois, honors the great homeopathic physician of Philadelphia. Carnegie, Oklahoma, recalls the Pittsburgh steel king. Sayre in Oklahoma was named for Robert H. Sayre of Bethlehem, a prominent stockholder in the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad; and Wilburton in the same state was called after Elisha Wilbur, president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, another subscriber to Choctaw Railroad stock.

Explorers have carried Pennsylvania names to distant places. Peary Land in Greenland honors the Arctic explorer who was born in Cresson. At the other extreme of the globe, Commander Finn Ronne, USNR, was naming places in the Antarctic during the late fall of 1947. Among many others who were honored by Ronne, the following were connected with Pennsylvania: W. F. G. Swan, director of the Barthol Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute at Swarthmore, whose name was applied to a glacier; and Alan Schife of Pittsburgh, Bernard Horne of Pittsburgh, and Burr Brundage of Cedar Crest College, Allentown, for whom mountains were named.

Pennsylvania military men have influenced the nomenclature of other states in a notable way. Perhaps none has been so widely honored as has Anthony Wayne, who is remembered by Fort Wayne, Indiana, and by fourteen, possibly sixteen counties in as many states. He helped to name a string of Ohio forts, like Hamilton, Greenville, Fort Recovery, St. Mary's, Defiance, and Shane's Crossing. Waynesboro appears in Mississippi and Georgia; Waynesburg and Waynesfield in Ohio; Waynesville in Illinois, North Carolina, and Ohio; Wayne in West Virginia, Illinois, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. In a similar way Arthur St. Clair's gov-

ernorship of the Northwest Territory is recalled by St. Clairsville and by Cincinnati, both in Ohio. The latter is of course Latin in its origin, but it was given to the village to please the general who was a member of the Order of the Cincinnati. St. Clair counties can be found in Alabama, Illinois, and Missouri. There is a town of St. Clair in Nebraska.³⁰

Other military men who have given their names to places in many states include the following. Colonel William Crawford, who was massacred by the Delawares in Ohio, has been honored by counties in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. Samuel Brady, who made his famous leap near a lake in Portage County, Ohio, is remembered by a body of water called Brady's Lake.³¹ Stephen Decatur's name is carried by counties in Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, and Kansas; and by towns in Mississippi, New York, and other places. Perhaps the best known city is Decatur, Illinois. Kaneville, Illinois, was named for General Thomas Kane of Philadelphia. General George C. Meade is recalled by a peak in Idaho, a county and city in Kansas, and a county in South Dakota. General Hugh Mercer, who came to Pennsylvania from Scotland, has been honored by naming counties after him in Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, New Jersey, Ohio, and West Virginia; and a town in Wisconsin. Moorhead in Minnesota is named for General J. K. Moorhead of Pittsburgh. Erwin in Steuben County, New York, was called after Colonel Arthur Erwin of Pennsylvania. Sterling Township and Sterling, a city in Illinois, received their names from Colonel Samuel Sterling of Pennsylvania. Pershing in South Carolina and Oklahoma honors General J. J. Pershing, whose ancestors resided in Pennsylvania.

Wide as has been the influence of the leading men of Pennsylvania in place naming, it would be very wrong to think that only the prominent persons played a rôle. Stewart says truthfully that many towns took their names from unimportant men, and he quotes an epitaph in a cemetery at Brownsville, Pennsylvania, to prove his point:

Here lies the body of Thomas Brown,
Who was once the owner of this town.³²

³⁰ Gannett and Martin, *passim*.

³¹ C. Hale Sipe, *Fort Ligonier and Its Times* (Harrisburg, Pa., 1932), pp. 557 ff.; and *Indian Wars*, *op. cit.*, p. 579.

³² *Op. cit.*, p. 200.

Obscure individuals like Thomas Brown often affected place naming in interesting and complicated ways. Said Mrs. Martin in this connection :

Pea-pea [in Ohio] is a branch of Paint Creek. The first settlers found an old beech tree by a creek with the initials "P.P." cut in it, and named the run, the meadows drained by it, and subsequently a township in Pike County [Ohio] from the incident. Many years afterwards its origin was learned. Some emigrants from Redstone Old Fort [Brownsville, Pennsylvania] came down the Ohio and, leaving their families at its mouth, the men ascended the Scioto to explore. One Peter Patrick cut his initials on the tree. Being surprised by Indians, and two of the party killed, they fled down the river, and pulled out with their families for Limestone, Kentucky. If there is any descendant of Peter Patrick present, I would like her to explain just why her ancestor wanted to leave the Redstone settlement the very year that my ancestor was laying out the town of Brownsville in it.³³

A little time spent upon Hamill Kenny's *West Virginia Place Names* will show how Pennsylvania influence was carried to that state by persons who were often obscure; many of them in the course of time have been forgotten. The process included the use of first names, names of landowners, names connected with coal and lumber companies, and various adventitious combinations. Out of many, the following are typical: Winifrede, for a Philadelphia girl; Brown's Mills, for a man from Fayette County; Worth, for Worth Kilpatrick of Connellsville, first president of the United Poca Coal Company; Beeson (Beason) Run, for Jonas Beeson, born in Beesontown, Pennsylvania; Womelsdorf, for O. C. Womelsdorf, a Pennsylvania coal operator in West Virginia; Gamble's Run, Gregg's Knob, and Graham Mines, for three Pennsylvanians; Jane Lew, also known as McWhorter, both names of Pennsylvania origin; Landisburg, for a Philadelphian who was secretary-treasurer of a coal company; Lorentz, for Jacob Lorentz of Lancaster; Myersdale, or Myerstown, founded by a German colony formed in Philadelphia about 1835; Pageton, for a Philadelphian who was president of the Pittsburgh Coal Company; Procious, for its first

³³ Martin, *op. cit.*, p. 275.

postmaster, an immigrant from Pennsylvania; Ronceverte, named by Colonel C. C. Clay of Pennsylvania, who established it as a lumber town; Tanner, for a man of that name in Pennsylvania; Parkersburg, for Alexander Parker of Pennsylvania; Fetterman, for a resident of Pittsburgh who owned the land on which the town was settled, and so on, almost *ad infinitum*.

V

Pennsylvania's cities and boroughs have been employed in other states as copiously for place naming as have the state's people. A deliberate borrowing occurred in Oklahoma, where Philadelphia capitalists supplied money for the building of the Santa Fe across that state. As a consequence, Oklahoma stations on the Santa Fe echo Main Line stations west of Philadelphia, like Wayne, Paoli, Wynnewood, Berwyn, Overbrook, Ardmore, and Marietta.³⁴

The use of Wayne for a Santa Fe station shows counterclockwise peregrination. It was used in Pennsylvania to honor the general who lived nearby and who was so important in place naming in the Ohio region. From the Middle West—as in Fort Wayne—it was carried to eastern Pennsylvania, and then to the Southwest. This matter of counter migration of place names is not unknown, although it is not the rule. In a few cases western names were brought to Pennsylvania, as for instance, Mexico, California, Rough and Ready, Palo Alto, Saltillo, Ashland (for Clay's home), and Oregon and Texas Townships in Wayne County.

The normal course, however, was westward, with some important southward, and a little northward migration. For example, Prince Charles, who later became Charles I, named Plymouth in New England. The word travelled to Connecticut, and from there to the Susquehanna Valley; then it was transported to many places in the West. Plymouth in West Virginia was so designated by two mining operators from the coal town in Pennsylvania. Plymouth Township and village in Rushland County, Ohio, got their names from settlers hailing from Plymouth in Pennsylvania. The name can also be found in Indiana and in Michigan.³⁵

³⁴ Stewart, *op. cit.*, p. 323. It is doubtful that Stewart is correct in calling Marietta a Main Line station on the Pennsylvania Railroad. The town, by the way, was named for the wives of the two original proprietors of the land (Espenshade, *op. cit.*, p. 312).

³⁵ Kenny and Gannett, *passim*; Stewart, p. 198.

The westward migration can be illustrated by examples of the transit of some of Pennsylvania's city and borough names. A loyal son of the City of Brotherly Love who was on a tour might stay at a Philadelphia or a New Philadelphia in Ohio,³⁶ Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, and Mississippi. A proud Pittsburgher could do even better. If he were willing to suffer the ignominy of putting up in either a New or South Pittsburg (without the "h"),³⁷ he could stay in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma (which also has a Pittsburg County), and Texas—a solid block of contiguous states. He could put up in Pittsburgh Landing, Arizona, and in Pittsburg, California. In Oregon, there is a Pittsburg³⁸ and in Idaho and Montana the map shows a Gilmore and Pittsburgh Railroad.

Of all Pennsylvania cities and boroughs, perhaps Lancaster is the most remarkable in respect to name carrying, because it is not one of the largest places in the state. Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was named for the city in England; as already noted, Ebenezer Zane brought the word to Ohio; in turn, Lancaster in Missouri was named after Lancaster in Ohio. Professor Frank Luther Mott calls this process "progressive pioneering."³⁹ The influence of Lancaster did not, however, end with Missouri. Kentucky has a Lancaster; in Nebraska both a town and a county are designated as Lancaster; and the city of Lincoln in Nebraska was at first called Lancaster.⁴⁰ Lancaster in Oregon was named by a native of the Pennsylvania city, while Lancaster in California "presumably" had the same origin. A county seat in Wisconsin

³⁶ He could also stay at Quaker City, Ohio. There is a Philadelphia in Jefferson County, New York, which was called after the Pennsylvania city. South Carolina once had a Philadelphia, too.

³⁷ The spelling of this name has caused much controversy. The *Encyclopedia Britannica* says that Pittsburgh is the official spelling in the city seal and charter, but that the United States Geographic Board has adopted Pittsburg. However, George Stimpson, in *A Book About a Thousand Things* (N. Y. and London, 1946), p. 307, states that in 1891 the United States Geographic Board decided on Pittsburg, but that there was so much local objection the Board changed its mind in 1911 and accepted Pittsburgh as the spelling.

³⁸ Lewis A. McArthur, *Oregon Geographic Names* (Portland, 1944), p. 420.

³⁹ Quoted by Robert L. Ramsay, Allan W. Read, and Esther G. Leech, in "Introduction to a Survey of Missouri Place-names," in *The University of Missouri Studies*, IX (Jan. 1, 1934), No. 1, p. 19.

⁴⁰ Lilian L. Fitzpatrick, *Nebraska Place Names in University of Nebraska Studies in Language, Literature, and Criticism* (Lincoln, Neb., 1925), No. 6, *passim*.

and a county in South Carolina were named by settlers from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. There are other examples.

Other Pennsylvania municipal names which have been carried elsewhere include Ligonier, Indiana, for Ligonier in Westmoreland County; the town of Westmoreland in Kansas, for the Pennsylvania County; York County and its seat of York (originally Yorkville) in South Carolina, for York in Pennsylvania; Chester County and town in South Carolina, for Chester, Pennsylvania; Smethport in North Carolina because of a tanning extract which came from Smethport, Pennsylvania. Those whose ancestry is obvious include Gettysburg, South Dakota; New Castle, Nebraska; Harrisburg in Nebraska, in Ohio, and "presumably" in Oregon; Scranton in Iowa and in Mississippi; Altoona in Iowa, Kansas, and Wisconsin. There are many others.

In summary, let it be stated that this study has not attempted a complete listing of all the places in other states which indicate Pennsylvania's rôle in place naming. Such an aim would be impossible of achievement in the space allotted. Gannett and other students of place naming have in their pages innumerable examples not mentioned in this essay. It is believed, however, that enough has been said to prove that the people of Penn's Woods have played a leading part in a phase of their history which has not heretofore been appreciated.