ORIGIN
of
THE INDIAN NAMES
of
THE STATES OF IOWA, MISSOURI,
MISSISSIPPI, OHIO, AND KENTUCKY.
ALSO
OF THE RIVERS OHIO, MISSISSIPPI,
MISSOURI, AND NEOSHO.

By

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I O W A.

The Iowa Indians called themselves Pahoja, meaning Gray Snow. The Iowas are of the Siouan family. They descended from the Winnebago stem of that family. At an early day they, in company with kindred bands, migrated to the Southwest from the country of the Great Lakes. On the Fox River, near the Mississippi, they separated from the others. They wandered over all that country between the Missouri and the Mississippi rivers as far north as Minnesota and the Dakotas. The first whites to come in contact with them called them Aiaquez or Ioways. They still maintain tribal relations on the reservations in Kansas and Nebraska. These are the people who gave their name to that tract of country now embraced in the State of Iowa—and furnished the name to the State itself.

M I S S O U R I.

The origin and the meaning of this word are both lost. It is probably of Algonquian origin. People of that stock lived on the east bank of the Mississippi in what is now Illinois. Perhaps they spoke of the river and country to the west as the Missouri River and the Missouri country. The cause for the use of this name and the circumstances under which it