Namer of Towns

Mary Culbertson Ludwig

Follow this and additional works at: https://ir.uiowa.edu/palimpsest

Part of the United States History Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://ir.uiowa.edu/palimpsest/vol29/iss6/2

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the State Historical Society of Iowa at Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Palimpsest by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.
early adopted the plan of having trees planted along his western railroads. These served as
windbreaks and as protection against snowdrifts. Later, as Blair had foreseen, they furnished new
plies for the railroad.

Although John Blair's operations in the west extended in succeeding years from Iowa to Wis­
consin, Kansas, Nebraska, Dakota, Missouri, and Texas he always returned to his home town—
Blairstown, New Jersey. He was postmaster there for 40 years and for several years had the
distinction of being the oldest bank president in the country. It was at Blairstown that he died on
December 2, 1899, and, fittingly enough, he was buried in Blairstown cemetery. The man whose
boyhood ambition had been to "get rich" had ful­
filled his dream; John I. Blair's estate was valued
at about $70,000,000. Thus ended the life of
"John Insley Blair, eccentric millionaire, store­
keeper, postmaster, miller, banker, iron manufac­
turer, railway promoter, and namer of towns".

MARY CULBERTSON LUDWIG