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from western Illinois and southeast Iowa. Those 18000 soon would be joined principally in southwest Iowa by 3000 to 5000 Mormons from other parts of the U.S. and Canada and by more than 9000 from western Europe and the British Isles. The later came by contract ships to New Orleans and then up the Mississippi-Missouri by steamboat.

There was, of course, not sufficient wood, water and grazing land in any one location to supply those 30,000 Mormon pioneers. So they built about 55 towns scattered through southwest Iowa and