

# Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, FEB 21 1906

DEAR SIR,

I wish to obtain information respecting the derivation of the place-names of Canada—of the names of the villages, towns, cities and of the natural features, such as rivers, lakes, capes, bays, mountains, etc.—and shall be much obliged if you will give me any information that you may possess or can procure, respecting the below-mentioned name and also respecting the names of any other features in the vicinity of your residence concerning which you have knowledge.

In many localities, the older generation is passing, or has passed away, and unless steps are taken to collect this information, it will, in many instances, be too late. In most communities there are persons who take an interest in things of this nature or who have been connected with the early settlement of the locality. If there are any such in your neighbourhood, will you kindly submit this to them.

Below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information and also the commoner derivatives of place-names in Canada :—

(1.) Whether named after a village, town or city, or natural feature in any other province or country ; if so, the name of province or country in which the original locality is situated.

(2.) Whether named after a person ; if so, the person's name, occupation, spelling of name as rendered by the person and any details of interest respecting him (or her) such as (a) Whether alive or, if dead, approximate year of death ; (b) Whether at any time a resident of the locality and, if so, whether still living there.

(3.) Whether named after a natural feature ; if so, any details respecting the origin of the name as applied to the feature and the geographical position of the latter.

(4.) Whether the town, village or city ever had any other name or names ; if so, at what dates, approximately, and the origin of these obsolete names.

Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a courtesy.

Yours truly,

JAMES WHITE,

Geographer.

Kindly write your reply on the attached sheet.

To ensure free transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

"Lac Ste Anne"  
Acta.

lot 7-54-3-65



Lac Ste Anne is a name given by the N. S. Priests  
to this place after the Mission of the same name  
in Quebec, where Pilgrimages of the faithful  
are made. There is an Annual Pilgrimage made  
to this Shrine of Ste Anne.

The Original name of this lake is Munito Sakehegan  
or (Gods lake or lake of the Great Spirit). The apparent  
reason for this name is on account of the numerous  
Mirages which appear during the early part of the Spring  
shortly after Sun-rise, and no doubt appeared to the minds  
of the Indians. as being Spirits or works of the Great  
Spirit of their belief.

There is a smaller lake about 15 miles east of this Point  
now called Devils lake. by the French on account of the  
bad roads around it. and as the road to this Point comes  
by the said lake, the Pilgrims apparently compared  
themselves to Bunyan's Pilgrims in naming the lake so.  
This Devils lake was originally called the smaller lake.  
Some of the oldest Natives tell me that the reason of  
this name is on account of the large sized White Fish  
they used to kill here and they were easily caught  
when they were hard up, and as the water from the  
larger lake runs through the smaller one by  
the Surgeon River. this must account for the  
connection of names

Peter Gunn  
Postmaster