

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... AUG 19 1905 .....

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 that 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.

"Yarrow"  
alta

James White Coy

Dear Sir with regard to  
the origin of the name Yarrow I do  
not know just in what way it came  
about... I am inclosing you a leaf and  
flower of the herb we know as Yarrow  
of which there is an abundance here  
there is a small village in Scotland  
known as Yarrow But I am inclined  
to believe it was the herb from which the  
P O derived its name

From the hills near by we can see 150  
miles of Mountain range some of the  
highest of the Rockies. Victoria peak  
and the Great Chief in Montana says  
as Elephant Mountain and Costel Mt  
also Turtel Mt were the great slide took  
place in <sup>May</sup> 1903 that covered the main valley  
of Front alps  
our Rivers are the Kootenay a Waterton River  
from the South Kootenay Pass with numerous Branches

Running up through the wildest of  
mountain scenery deep gorges and immense  
hills with the clearest of water full of  
Mt trout

Sincerely yours

Thos F Dutton

DM