

B.L.

Cottonwood House.

Cariboo  
September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1905

James White Esq  
Geographer Ottawa  
Canada

Dear Sir

I take pleasure in answering  
Ym questions, re Rivers & Places in this con-  
Section of the Cariboo Country, as far as I know  
at present, & from hearsay.

1<sup>st</sup> The Fraser River, was  
called after a Mr Fraser, a Factor in the N.B.C. service  
& who died many years ago. 2<sup>nd</sup> The Jumelle River  
after another in the N.B.C. service, a Frenchman & no  
doubt is dead many years ago. 3<sup>rd</sup> The Town of Jumelle  
situated at the Confluence of said River with the Fraser River,  
was called or named after Mon<sup>r</sup> Jumelle - but the spelling  
of late has been changed to Juesnel. 4<sup>th</sup> our Lightning  
Creek in this near neighborhood is commonly supposed to have  
got its name from a Mr William Cunningham, who when prospecting  
in Co. with others in 1861 or 2, all being tired & weary travelling along  
the Bank of said Creek he fell down, & on struggling to get  
up said boys this is Lightning, hence the name. & the  
Cottonwood River on the Bank of which our house here stands  
got its name from the prevalence of the growth of Cottonwood  
Trees along its Banks - I would here remark that I was well  
acquainted with the above Mr Cunningham, he like many  
others of the old timers has crossed the great Divide - Wm  
Cottonwood Yale & Cariboo Dist.

William Creek was named after a German called  
William — who was amongst the first that went into said  
Creek Prospecting — I remember seeing him, — Richfield  
Town being the first location on William Creek, } & when the Cart  
house Sty Stand } got its name so I understand from the richness  
in Gold of its Place, Barkerville, a mile or so below Richfield  
on William Creek was named after an old Settler by the  
name of Billy Barker. — I knew him well — he with others  
from Richfield located a claim & named it the Barker  
Claim, Other Claims were located adjoining & in the vicinity  
& soon a little town of huts & log cabins were built & finally was  
called Barkerville, a little later A. W. Cameron  
from Richfield, & others went about a mile or so further down  
the Creek & located claims, the Cameron location went  
by the name of the Cameron claim, soon a little ~~place~~ <sup>Town</sup>  
sprang up & was named Cameron after Mr Cameron.  
said Mr Cameron Arrived & took away from Cerberus, the  
largest amount of Gold Dust ever taken by any one  
individual, many years after he returned completely  
ruined financially, & in a short time after he died  
& was buried in the Barkerville Cemetery.

Now if there is anything in the above of any  
interest to you, all right, but if not cast all into  
the waste basket.

Yours Very Respectfully  
John Boyd  
Postmaster.

Cottonwood  
Bl. ✓