

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... AUG 26 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.

Berens River

MAN

Bereus River Sep 9 1905

Jas. White Esq  
Geographer. Ottawa

Sir,

Bereus River, was originally designated by  
The Indians O'meeme Sibi. Pigeon River, they call  
the place still when speaking of it O'meeme Sibi -  
although as you will observe Pigeon River of today is some  
seven miles to South of Bereus River, this may be accounted  
for from the fact that Bereus River and Pigeon River  
are two branches of the same River both flowing from  
the same source Family Lake on this side the height  
of Land -

When these Indians came into Treaty 5 under  
Jacob Bereus, their present Chief still living and retaining  
the northern branch became known as Bereus River  
- where the Indian Reserve was located and is today.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient Servant

J. A. Osborne  
H.B. Co.

Asst. Postmaster