

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, FEB 26 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.

"Minitonas"

Man.

Minitonas Man. April 23/06

Dear Sir

I know of very little which will be of interest to your department but will give you the following sketch I best I can. This district is known as the Swan River Valley district called after the largest river in the Valley viz the Swan River. The largest village in the valley is Swan River situated on the banks of the Swan River. The next village is our own Minitonas named after the Minitonas Hill $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the village. Inter named by the Sota Indians "Home of Little God."

The first settler in this locality came in year 1898. William M. Sifton being the first white settler.

The C. N. R. Land Department map is a perfect map of the valley.

Besides the Swan River above mentioned there are other rivers near Minitonas village are the East and West Favel River. These rivers were known by natives as the Two Rivers until about 16 years ago a timber explorer named them and sent in his report and they have since been called the Favel Rivers.

James Beock Postmaster