

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.

"Nelson"

Man.

Nelson man March 28-1906

The Geographer

Dep. of the Interior Ottawa

Dear Sir

If you wish some information ~~for~~ the name of Nelson man. originated.

In the Spring of 1847 Adam Nelson of Silver Islet Ont. settled at this place ^{it had no name then but Pembina mt. country} and built a grist and saw mill. This established quite a centre in this new country a ~~town~~ ^{Village} soon began to grow up. a post office was opened, and named Nelsonville after Adam Nelson the builder of the mill. In 1849-80. Nelsonville was incorporated as a Town and the name was shortened to Nelson. On the advent of railways there all missed the town by about 6 miles. The people then all moved away to the nearest railway station taking in most cases their buildings with them. Two churches and a Post-Office is all that now remains of the town of Nelson. The above mentioned Adam Nelson died 1901

yours truly

A. P. Stevenson

P.S. I settled here in 1844 and was personally acquainted with all the above facts; A.P.S.