

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... AUG 25 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.

"Shanawan" ✓ (See over)  
Man?

# Shanawan

Shanawan a station on the C.P.R.  
Delorain Branch placed there by the  
Company after the earnest solicitation  
of the residents in the immediate vicinity  
and named by themselves <sup>the Company</sup> not after any party  
or natural geographical position. The  
said residents agreeing to do the grading for  
the side track.

Dear Sir  
What does Shanawan mean? I take it  
that it is an Indian word.

Yours truly  
James White

Dear Sir

I am in the dark on the meaning of the  
word Shanawan I got the oldest Resident here to Report  
the above and from that I would think some of the  
officials of the C.P.R. would be able to explain why it is  
named Shanawan I have only been here 2 years and know  
but little of the history of the neighborhood I opened the  
Post Office here one year ago and as yet the only Resident there is  
lots of the heat shipped from here and will be a good business  
point in the future  
Yours truly  
Wm Ramsden P.M.