

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.

"St. Lazare"
Man.

St. Lazare . Roman Catholic Parish - Post office of the same name - County of Marquette for the Dominion House of Commons - County of Birtle for the Provincial Legislature of Manitoba. 300 souls depending from this Parish, which was founded in 1880 by Rev. Father Decorby, a missionary priest of the order of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Five miles from the old Fort Ellice, after which the municipality, in which St. Lazare is situated, is named - Fort Ellice used to be a very important trading post of the Hudson's Bay Co. in bygone days -

The Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle Rivers meet right opposite St. Lazare, which will be a station on the projected Grand Trunk Pacific main line -

The village is situated in the valley of the Assiniboine and used to be a camping place for the Sautear Indians, which occupied a reserve a few miles away -

Henry Tillman
Teacher -