

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.

"Mattavicus" ✓
Man.

Wattsvier Sep 15th 1905

James White Esq
Ottawa

Dear Sir

This is just a Country Post Office
named partly after myself. When I first came
to the country I bought & lived on the north
half of this section (Sec 30, T. 16, R. 27.) on a rise
or hill with a good view for miles south
& when this P.O. was about to be opened of course
it had to have a name so one of my neighbours ^{A. W. Chambers}
suggested Wattsvier thus the name
My home in early days was at Curries. But
Woodstock was our Town. Came to this country

21 years ago

Yours truly

Edm Watt

Wattsvier

P.S.

A. W. Chambers was Postmaster Man
for a number of years after the
Office was started he being one
of the first settlers in these parts. W.H.