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# Department of the Interior,

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, MAR 13 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.

✓ *Debert Station*

De Bert Station

April 14/06

Dear Sir

I am returning you  
this manuscript. I cannot give  
you the information required I  
have asked the oldest inhabitant  
and they were not able to tell me  
They thought <sup>the</sup> ~~it~~ was given by the  
French the first inhabitants of this  
place maintain the neighbouring village  
derived its name from the old Mass  
House & De Bert was a great wheat growing  
village - this word De Bert was used meaning  
of plenty of bread. I am not giving this  
as a correct answer to your enquiries  
but as it was told to me

I hope you will pardon the  
delay in not answering before I

remain yours very Respectfully  
Miss Collinson