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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.

Morrison

Antigonish Co. N.S.

Morristown Antigonish Co Nova Scotia

Is called after one of its first settlers Morrison hence
called Morristown altho not yet a town but a
sparsely settled settlement situated along St. Georges
Bay and two miles north of the Town of Antigonish
there are also a couple of lakes here called North and
South Lakes both running thro St. Georges Bay. and South
formed by numerous streams

Enclosed find an
an outline from the Antigonish Casket
of the position of Antigonish Co

Your Obedt

Wm Jm Gillisray

Morristown

Antigonish Co
Nova Scotia

Antigonish County, Nova Scotia.

POSITION.

The County of Antigonish lies on the eastern extremity of the peninsula of Nova Scotia, being separated from the Island of Cape Breton by St. George's Bay and the Strait of Canso, the latter being about one mile wide. It may be mentioned that the peninsula of Nova Scotia proper comprises fourteen counties and the Island of Cape Breton four, the whole eighteen counties forming the Province of Nova Scotia.

The general form of Antigonish County is that of a triangle. One side of this triangle is the straight line, twenty-five miles long, which, separating it from Pictou County, forms its western and south-western boundary. Another side is the boundary lying along the County of Guysboro, to the south and south-east. This side, practically a straight line, is about forty miles in length. The third side is the coast line of the County, adjoining the waters of Northumberland Strait, St. George's Bay and the Strait of Canso, which lies to the north and north-east of the county. This line is about fifty miles as the crow flies, but, measuring along the sinuosities of the coast, the distance would be about doubled.

SURFACE FEATURES.

A spur of the Cobequid range of mountains, irregular in elevation, and no where exceeding one thousand feet, lies along the western margin of the county. The general surface may be described as one of gently undulating hills and beautiful river valleys. A large number of lakes, none exceeding five miles in length, and of almost incomparable beauty, dot the interior along the "height of land," towards the borders of Guysboro County.

The irregularities of the surface, though of a gentle character, give rise to innumerable streams and small rivers, all flowing, of course, coastward. As the county is absolutely free from all kinds of swampy and barren lands, these streams are remarkable for their beauty, and for the crystal clearness and purity of their waters. In the days of the first settlers they abounded in salmon and trout, and even yet they present an attractive field for the sportsman.

NATURAL PRODUCTS.

The land, for the most part, is calcareous in character.

The native forest of this county, as of all the counties bordering on Northumberland Strait, is deciduous, consisting chiefly of maple, birch, beech, ash, elm and oak. The upland, as might be expected with such a forest, is deep, rich in humus, and very fertile. The meadow land along the rivers and their tributaries is unsurpassed for fertility and productiveness. The conditions of good soil, pure and abundant natural streams, and a climate free from the extremes of heat and cold place the County of Antigonish at the top notch for natural pasturage. In this one respect, at least, it has no rival in the broad Dominion of Canada.

Large but undeveloped deposits of red hematite iron ore are to be found on the coast, near Arisaig. Specular iron, and copper ore crop out at several points in the lake regions of the county, while freestone, limestone and gypsum exist, in unlimited quantities, along the coast and in the interior.

The fisheries of Northumberland Strait, and of the great Gulf of St. Lawrence of which it forms a part, and of all the waters adjoining the county, are among the best in all British America. The comparative lack of natural harbors on the coast, alone, has made the fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and its inland waters less celebrated than those of the banks of Newfoundland. Indeed, the former may well claim the superiority, for, in addition to cod, haddock and hake, the coast waters abound with lobster, salmon, mackerel and herring, each in its own season.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The earliest settlers were of French and French-Acadian origin. Their settlements were confined to a few of the districts along the coast. The real settlement and opening up of the country did not take place till towards the end of the eighteenth and the first half of the nineteenth century. Large grants of land were given by the British Crown to the officers and men of disbanded British regiments at the end of the "Seven years' war," when Britain, finally, established her power on the northern half of the North American Continent.

Emigration from the British Isles, but, particularly, from the Highlands of Scotland, sought the rich river-valleys and forest-clad hills of Antigonish County. These sturdy and courageous emigrants secured homesteads of two hundred acres of land, and, in a few years, rejoiced in owning happy, comfortable and christian homes of their own, with no rack-renting landlords to destroy their ambition or to mar their manhood.

Good highways traverse the county in all directions, and substantial iron and steel bridges span the rivers.

The Intercolonial Government railway runs through the county's extreme length and connects the county with Sydney, the extreme eastern point of the Dominion, and on the west with Montreal, the commercial capital of the country,—a distance of a thousand miles. By means of this great railway the county and province is connected with the vast network of railways extending over the Dominion and the United States from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific.

POPULATION, &c.

The population of the county by the census of 1901 is 13,617.

They are nearly all of British origin, the Scottish element being largely in the ascendant.

The religion of the people is Roman

Catholic, Presbyterians, Anglican or Baptist, being, numerically, in the order mentioned.

Loyalty to the British flag, respect for law, and freedom from the graver and grosser crimes are marked characteristics of the inhabitants of the county.

The postal and educational services are not inferior to similar ones in any part of the Dominion.

The shiretown, bearing the same name as the county, has a population of over fifteen hundred. It is the seat of St. F. X. College, one of the best and most flourishing institutions of learning in the Maritime provinces.

In the matter of markets, it is happily situated about midway between the two largest cities in the Province, namely, Halifax and Sydney. Newfoundland and Great Britain are its chief markets for beef-cattle, butter and cheese.

The county is admirably adapted for mixed farming. It offers exceptional inducements to intending immigrants, with some capital, particularly to those who may have fairly scientific knowledge of dairying, and of the raising of marketable cattle, sheep and poultry.

The total area of the county is 355,840 acres, of which 257,225 acres are reported in the last census as being occupied. These figures leave nearly 100,000 acres as being still available for purchasers. But it is only right to add that a large portion of the land reported as occupied can be bought at very reasonable prices. In the modern feverish desire "to get rich quick," many farms, once thrifty and the homes of happy and vigorous families, have been either wholly or partially abandoned, the owners or occupants unhappily yielding to the supposed better economic conditions prevailing in the neighboring Republic. In consequence of this depletion in the population good farms of two hundred acres with fairly good buildings, can be bought for an average price of about one thousand dollars. Smaller homesteads can, in many cases, be had for very much less; and, in the case of lands still owned by the Crown, the cost is only eighty cents per acre.

The following statistics are carefully gathered from the census taken in the year 1901, and indicate accurately the material and economic conditions of the county in the preceding year:

Rural population.....	12,091
Urban ".....	1526
Number of dwelling houses.....	2560
" " families.....	2590
" " occupiers of farms of five acres or more.....	2300

In 1900 the following areas and yields, on farms not less than five acres, are reported:

Spring wheat: 2836 acres, yield 49,797 bushels, average per acre 17 bushels.
Barley: 249 acres, yield 5828 bushels, average per acre 23 bushels.
Oats: 8021 acres, yield 208,050 bushels, average per acre 26 bushels.
Buckwheat: 355 acres, yield 8041 bushels, average per acre 22.5 bushels.

The number of acres under potatoes was 2002 yielding 208,626 bushels or an average to the acre of 104 bushels.

On the larger farms, lots less than five acres not included, over 38,000 tons of hay was raised on 36,850 acres.

The number of bearing apple trees was 13,707, yielding 17,571 bushels of good quality.

FARM ANIMALS.

Number of horses.....	32,236
" " horned cattle.....	23,105
" " sheep.....	24,886
" " swine.....	2258
" " poultry.....	33,332
Cattle killed for domestic use or for exportation.....	5673
Sheep killed for domestic use or for exportation.....	11,458
Swine killed for domestic use or for exportation.....	3021
Poultry killed for domestic use or for exportation.....	5517
Total lbs. wool.....	67,886
" " butter.....	367,925
Egg production.....	141,088 dozen.

Nine cheese factories manufactured 148,580 pounds of cheese from 1,526,210 pounds of milk, the total value of cheese so manufactured being \$14,734.00.

Value of all farms, not less than five acres, including implements and machinery, is given in the census returns as \$2,542,096.00. Value of live stock is given as \$591,220.00. Total value of all products sold off the farm for the year 1900 was \$930,384.00; total value of forest products \$70,420.00.

The value of the county's fishery products for the year is not to hand; but as the aggregate value for the whole Province (eighteen counties) is given as \$7,262,671.00 it will be readily seen that the county's contribution to this enormous sum must be very considerable.

While the motives that prompt emigration are innumerable, it cannot be denied that the dominant one is the desire to improve one's position socially, materially and morally. The great West, with its boundless wheat fields, certainly offers many inducements to the emigrant, but it cannot be denied or doubted that it has its drawbacks. Life in the west is, necessarily, as in all new countries, a pioneer life, and is beset with the difficulties and discomforts that are inseparable from frontier conditions. In older Provinces of Canada, society is, in most cases, highly organized. Comfortable and Christian homes abound on every hand. The various refining influences of modern civilization have full scope. A healthy, social, intellectual and moral life is to be found everywhere, side by side with material comfort, personal freedom and opportunities for self-advancement. These are considerations which the old-world emigrant should carefully consider before choosing his

home in the new. And of all the older Provinces, the beautiful Atlantic Province of Nova Scotia, holds forth as good inducements, to say the least, to the emigrant as any other Province in Canada.

WARDEN OF ANTIGONISH CO., N.S.

Bay of the Sea from