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# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 3 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.

Belmont  
Middlesex Co Ont

Westminster  
4255  
8115



one of the first settlers in Belmont Ont  
was Joshua S. Odell <sup>who settled here</sup> about the year  
1832 at that time it was known as  
Kettle Creek until about 1849 it was  
called Plymouth until 1853 the Post  
office was established at Jacob J. Manning  
one mile north about the year 1849  
and was called Belmont Post Office  
and in order to get the office  
removed to Plymouth a meeting was  
called and the name was changed  
from Plymouth to Belmont and then  
Jas H. Waterbury who was a  
merchant here wrote to the Postmaster  
General and sent in a Petition to have  
the Belmont PO removed one mile south  
to the village of Belmont which was  
done and Jas H. Waterbury was appointed  
the P M in place of J. J. Manning  
this was about the year of 1854  
I suppose the P O Department suggested  
the name of Belmont



