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Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa,.....

MAR 28 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.

Birdell

Grey Co. Ont.

Birdell April 16th 1906

The Township of Proton County Grey Province of Ontario Canada is mostly Farming, Carried on, and but a few small villages Hoperville on the 12th Con. and when I came to Canada in the year (1869) it was called Ronaldsea and in about 1873 the Name was changed to its present name Hoperville, and the oldest settler in that section is now living Mr Joseph McArdle, in the village of Hoperville there are one (1) saw Mill two (2) Stores two Blacksmiths shops one Hotel one Post office and one Telegraph and Telephone office Swinton Park in the 16th Con. a very small place one P. O. one (1) store one (1) School House one Church, The Postmaster Mr John Martin named the Place Swinton Park after a Place of the same Name in Ireland, he is still living, There are no mountains in Proton but two Rivers the Mattin and the Saugeen and many sawmills along its Banks,

at Proton Station there are a small village three General Stores one (1) Sawmill one (1) Church one (1) School House, on the Line of the C. P. R. Rail Road

The thriving village of Dundalk is on the same Line of Rail Road as Proton Station C. P. R. and is the Market Village of this section of the Country and is doing a large Trade; Dundalk is named after a place of the same in Ireland,

Birdell P. O. is a small office in 17th Con. Named after the Writer;

The three last named places, Swinton Park,
Proton Station village and Dundalk and
the C. P. R. Rail Road has all been built since
I came to the Township of Proton in the year (1869)
and besides those places mentioned there are three
Brick Making Plants in full swing every summer
and all the Log Houses that were built when I first
came to the Country are gone and Brick Houses in their
places; and most all of the old or first Settlers are
passed away. I have often wondered that something of
this kind was not looked after years ago,

Dear Gentlemen I donot know whether I have answered
your request as you may have wanted but I have done
the best I could if there are any thing else that I
have neglected to do please let me know and I will
try and ^{do} it; this is the first time I have ever been
Called upon to do the like,

Yours Most Respectfully

Hy. Bird

Birdell P. O

County Grey

ontario

Canada