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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 28 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.

*Black Bank
Dufferin, Co. Oct*

Black Bank Oct 14 - 06

This place was called Brittania by an English Miller who built a flour mill here and brought this water power into use about the year 1875 - at some time a general store and blacksmiths shop was started and the first church (Presbyterian) was built. about 1874 Black Bank P.O. was established two miles east. and after a short time failed to find a Postmaster. then Mr. H. Heitman who had the store here got the P.O. moved to here, and became Postmaster then the name Brittania was dropped as since it has been Black Bank. which was first named after a small village in Ireland. called Black Bank.

This water power is supplied by water of the North fork of the Pine River and at this place is so fresh that it does not freeze in the coldest winters.

The land here is good agricultural soil. but hilly and stoney. Mulmur Lake is about three miles S.W. from here being about twenty acres of water.

Jas R Bellamy P.M.

Black Bank
Ont.