

30 N/14

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,.....

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,

Bloomfield, Ont.

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.

Prince Edward Co.

Mr. Herbert Bull, postmaster here gave me your communication and asked me to comply with your request as I have been engaged in work of this kind and I hope I have satisfactorily replied.

Yours cordially,

Mrs. Jonathan Talcott

I wish to express my appreciation for the donation of the historical records of the village of Talcott, Vermont, which you have so kindly placed at my disposal. It will give me the information that you may desire or that you may wish to have for the benefit of the village of Talcott, Vermont, and also for the benefit of the other villages in the vicinity of your residence concerning which you have knowledge.

In many localities the older records are being lost or are being kept in such a way that they are inaccessible. It is most desirable that the persons who take an interest in things of this nature or that have been entrusted with the early settlement of the locality, if there are any such in your neighborhood, will you kindly submit this to them.

Below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information and also the character of the information in (bracketed) places.

(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 recorded by the person and any details of interest such as date of birth, death, etc.; whether alive or if dead, approximate year of death; (3) Whether named after a resident of the locality and if so whether still living there.

(4) Whether named after a natural feature; if so, any details respecting the origin of the name as applied to the locality and the geographical position of the feature.

(5) Whether the name indicates any other name or names of former times; if so, at what date approximately, and the origin of these former names.

Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a contribution.

JAMES WHITE, Bloomfield, Vt.

Kindly send your reply to the address above. It would be most desirable if you could send me a copy of the records which will come free of charge.

Prince Edward Co.

The name "Bloomfield" was given to this village about 80 years ago. I get my information from the oldest resident of the village, John Bull now in his 90th year. He says he was a lad of ten or twelve years when he went with his father, John Bull, to the only store in the place, where there was to be a conclave of the best men in the place to consider the question of a name for village. It had not been known by any name.

Those who met for this purpose were the following persons. John Bull, senior, John P. Williams, Jonathan Clark, Isaac Beadle, Philip Clark, William G. Clark, Cornelius White, Cornelius Bowerman, James Barker (and John Bull, aged 10) Several names were suggested, James Barker's choice "Bloomfield" was unanimously accepted. The vicinity was rich in wild flowers and is still, and the name was doubtless suggested because of this fact. Bloomfield was named before there was a postoffice here. It sprang up in the heart of the forest. The first clearing was made by Thomas Bowerman and his descendents are still in the vicinity. Next William Christy made a clearing, then came John Bull, Sr., who had come from Dutchess Co. N.Y. three years previous to taking up land, about 1792. There never was for Bloomfield the days of "log houses" reared and found in many counties. The excellent timber and the many streams invited milling industries, 3 saw mills were running in this vicinity 75 years ago. Thomas Bowerman put up the first saw mill and John Bull Sr., followed and some one else; consequently log houses were few in this locality.

The first schoolhouse was "log" and Uncle John who is 91, tells me there were probably 6 log homes stretching over the length of the village. Indians were quite numerous and had their "Campus" pretty well in the heart of the village. A Friends burial ground now covers the spot. Bloomfield was from the first a Quaker hamlet and today the influence of the early Friends is seen in many ways. In fact, 3/4 of the inhabitants today are of Quaker ancestry. We have the greatest natural feature (excepting Niagara of course) on the Continent. "The Great Sand Banks" A wonder to all who have seen them a marvel to the wondering mind- and still a mystery unsolved. The sand has encroached upon adjoining farms, covering acres, swallowing up trees and primitive houses and many a wonder is covered from our sight by these magnificent dunes of sand. That it comes from the bottom of Lake Ontario we know- but the nature of the sand is such as to give rise to various conjectures as to the geological formation of Lake Ontario bed.

We have, just eight miles from Bloomfield, a "Lake on a mountain" quite a lake this, oval in shape, very deep, supposed to be fed from Lake Erie, no visible outlet nor inlet, 200 feet above Lake Ontario- just below it. You can stand near Lake on the mountain and behold Lake Ontario 200 feet below. This lake is at Glenora, a name quite recently (10 years ago) given to the place. Bloomfield is in Prince Edward Co. The most fertile county in Ontario. The most picturesque of all counties in the province. Bloomfield has a population of 600 (not sure) with 3 canning factories. 1 saw mill, 1 flouring mill, 3 Friends churches and a modern M.E. church, a branch of the Standard Bank about to open.

Mrs Jonathan Talcott