

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 16 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.

*Brotherston  
Perth, Co. Ont.*



after the P.M.



Dear Sir  
I received yours of Oct 1, <sup>no 05.</sup> - I have been  
very unwell for some time & especially since your arrival  
and for some time I was unable to attend to my work  
in my office - But I am better again - And I am glad  
to hear that you send this Request of me - I have been for some  
time wishing and even Praying That I had some secret  
Friends to Tell my secrets. Too. And I Believe - That you  
are The said Man - But I wish I could see you face to face -  
and spend some time with you - That we might help each  
other. - and all others, in this world - and perhaps make a  
difference when we; Rest from our Labours & our works do  
follow us - as John says, he was to write to The People he  
should meet with here on this Earth. &c. But John had  
to stop, writing, and close his Book. And He tells them the  
reason. "Because This world - would not hold the Book;" &c.  
I have written a great deal too - and some times I think  
It is enough; and try to stop - But I find that every day -  
Brings its own work as it does again to day. I have  
written very much since <sup>it was</sup> 18 years old - I'm England - I think  
I have written my share &c. - I have worked hard all my  
life - from the cradle - till to day - and I find I have not  
done yet - I am 81 years, last Septer the 27 - I was Born Sept  
27<sup>m</sup> 1824 - on the ocean. on bord of a ship called the  
Montgomery (an American vessel) on our way to -  
Philadelphia - and named after That vessel -  
and I was named Montezuma. Brothers - The vessel was  
named after The Indian Chief of Mesico - How He came  
to be called That I do not know - This was about -  
the days of Andrew Jackson - President of the U.S.  
But I can give you much Information If you can  
spare time - to come and ~~spare~~ see me at The -  
Brotherstown P.O. - at Brotherstown I will make  
you welcome - and give you bits that you  
never seen yet. I never forget I will Be very



2/ be very glad to Commune with you when  
I can benefit Both you and yours & Perhaps many  
others - when a nother 100 years has past and gone  
as it is to day with Nelsons anniversary - or if you  
will I can show you back to Abraham Newbards Day  
and before that In King Johns day &c &c &c &c &c.  
come and see me - And I will help you if you help  
Thus Bearing one anothers Burden - And fulfill the  
Law of God - I invite you then to come & see me -  
if I live to see you - My old Friend the Quaker  
Mr Joseph Elkington have had much writing betw  
us for some years - He started to come to see  
me on behalf of the Dutchbors - started to come to  
see me but only got as far as Toronto - and was  
then called to some dying friends at home -  
He came again to my home at Brothersville He  
got here - But I was away - To Manitoba in to  
see some of my Relatives - in that Part of the world  
so I missed him both times - But we kept up correspon-  
-tion - so long till he died - He was a great Friend of  
mine - now I must go as I am called to attend to  
other business - But Oh for a better acquaintance

Montezuma Brothers -

P.S If we cannot meet here - we shall meet else  
where like Lazarus & The Rich Man that  
Both died in one night - follow them further &  
follow them Threw And that will give all of  
us a nought to Do M. B.

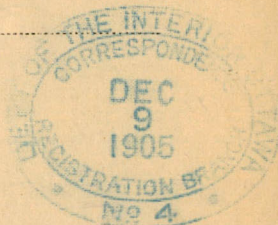


40 P/15

# Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, NOV 20 1905



DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of \_\_\_\_\_ respecting the derivation of certain place-names, as below, and am much indebted to you for your courtesy.

Yours truly,

*"Brotherston"*

JAMES WHITE,  
Geographer.

*W. M. Brothers P.M.  
Brotherston  
Ont*

*Brotherston*



Brotherston Dec 7<sup>see</sup> 1905

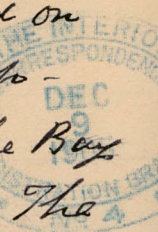
In reply to th<sup>r</sup> letter on the other side I acknowledge -  
 this from you But I am short of writing paper -  
 I am by times absent minded and have much to  
 bother me by - and I think I am almost done for  
this world. So I will put this inside your own envelope  
 and return it - so as to gain time &c &c - And would  
 wish to say that I do wish you you could come & see  
 me - and spend what time you could spare with  
 me. That we both might benefit our selves - There  
 must soon be a change in my office and my time is at  
 hand I am in my 83<sup>rd</sup> and soon cross the lines again  
 for a nothe year - and will gladly lay my corner  
 by - I have a large family in number & many other  
 others connect with us by their own names - I have  
 done a great deal of writing & reading in my time - But I  
 do not expect to live much longer - and I may say -  
 even now that the grasshopper is a burden - I have my  
 life mostly written - And many things surprise me  
 about my self Since Queen Victoria was crowned  
 I have had many burdens to bear - But God is my help  
 er on whom I can depend - Please come and see me  
 that we may both be profited - I believe that God  
 tells me to call in the Elders - and promises me -  
 there help - and I say Amen. Thy will be done - that  
 I may have done some things wrong - But God is my  
 Judge & my All. And with out Him I am nothing at all.  
 And I Pray God to send you to see me & mine - and  
 to pay all your expenses. Ever on The Kings High way's  
 Then come - come if you can. And all be honest - -  
 and it will pay us both - I am hardly able to be up  
 only a little at a time - It is a beautiful day & the  
 sleighs are running & Buses too - and I can only see them  
 out of the office window. It is too cold for me -



Brotherston Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 1805.

I want to talk of my past  
life from the cradle: rocked on  
The Ocean, on board The Ship  
Montezuma. on entering the Bay  
of Delaware - Bound for The  
City of Philadelphia W. S. of  
North America - And I can call  
my self a cosmopolite - a citizen  
of The world since Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 1824  
And here I am yet to tell you  
The rest of The weary some trail  
of my Life down to This moment:  
of which I have most of it in  
writing down to the Pen in my  
Hand This moment - And I do  
not ask to live it over - But, it  
seems as if I do, when I remember  
it - inch by inch to this minute  
And yet - I can lead you back to  
King Johns Time before his row  
with France before the Bank  
of England's Time step by step  
Till now & c. & c.

Come with me and make us three -  
Father - You and your 2 more -  
I don't know we are near  
Ported Bk 7  
not even in Plymouth  
Montezuma B.



Come and see and read the Book -  
 And copy off what you think best  
 And Thus we both may rested be -  
 Both here and in Education - m.B  
 Read ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> of John. 4<sup>th</sup> c from 19<sup>th</sup>  
 and do not Hurry it off - give it  
 time and thought -  
 From Montezuma Brothers

p. 9.

I have just now got a nervous  
 Head ache from the Sun shining  
 and must close - Good by  
 Till we meet.