

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, APR 12 1906

31 D/7

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.

*Cawbray
Victoria Co. Ont.*

Cambray, Ont.

16th April 1906

Mr. Jas. White
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir

I have been requested by our
Postmaster to answer the attached circular.

Cambray is situated in the
township of Fenelon which was named
after Bishop Fenelon who was bishop
of Cambray in Belgium. This at least
is the derivation of the word I have heard
given by my father who was one of the
early settlers here.

Yours truly
P. J. Wilkinson

31 D/7

Fénelon township, Victoria county, Ontario, was so named in 1823 after a Sulpician missionary, on the bay of Quinte in 1668, who was a brother of the celebrated Archbishop of Cambrai. Possibly in the belief that the township commemorated the Archbishop, the name Cambray was given to a post office which was opened in it in February 1853. The fortified town on the Scheldt in French Flanders which Canadian troops entered 9 October, 1918, is best known as Cambrai, but the unusual spelling Cambray was adopted in 1853

for its Canadian namesake and is still in use for the village today.