

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

31 F/11

Ottawa,.....OCT 3 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.

Clayton
Lanark Co Ont

Post Office Clayton
10th October 1905

James White Esq.
Sir

In answer to yours of 3rd Inst
I beg to submit the following re. the Post Office
here, by consulting the Old Books of Lists
of Post Offices in Canada.

I find that this Office was formerly called
Bellamy's Mills. It was changed to Clayton
in the year 1858 it took the former name
after the late Edward Bellamy who erected a
Flour Mill here in the early Twenties and
a Saw Mill at a later date the late Mr Bellamy
died in the year 1859. I have no certain knowledge
as to why it was changed to Clayton as all
the Parties who interested themselves in having
the name changed have all passed away
and I do not now remember of ever having
heard any of them say or assign any
reason for the change. I do not think
it was named after any natural feature
of the Place.

I Remain

Your

Humble Servant

O'Rourke

Make card for
Bellamy's Mills