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# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... OCT 2 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.

*Corbett*  
*Huron Co Oth*

Corbett, Art.

(2.) Named after John Corbett Esq. Justice of the Peace.  
A resident of the place continuously, still since  
the year 1860. For thirty-two years ran saw-  
and grist-mills, and was one of the earliest  
settlers, and largest property holders in  
the vicinity. For thirteen years has  
been living more retired; formerly  
represented the municipality as Township  
councillor for twenty years, as Reeve of Mc Gillivray  
Township sat in County Councils for twelve years.

Was appointed Magistrate (by His Excellency,  
The Governor-General) for united Counties of Huron  
and Bruce, in the year 1855. Re-appointed  
Magistrate for the County of Middlesex, in the  
year 1863. Held rank of Captain in Militia.  
For several years under Lt. Col. Arthur.

Still living and Postmaster of Corbett.

Which is situated on the boundaries of the Townships  
of Mc Gillivray and Stephen and which is also Boundary  
line between the Counties of Middlesex and Huron.  
Exactly half-way between Parkhill and Grand Bend, (on "Mill  
Creek" or main route. John Corbett