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# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 28 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.

*Elizabethville ✓*  
*Durham Co.* *Oct*

Elizabethville

Was named after Elizabeth M<sup>c</sup>Murtry  
wife of Mr John M<sup>c</sup>Murtry J.P.

Mr M<sup>c</sup>Murtry ran a saw mill and flour mill and a general store, had his farm surveyed out in village lots, and named the place after his wife Elizabeth. She was born in Yorkshire England. She died in Peterborough in the year 1888. <sup>Went out to visit her son F.W. M<sup>c</sup>Murtry Dentist</sup> She was seventy eight years old when she died. She is buried in the Union cemetery Port Hope. Mr M<sup>c</sup>Murtry died in the fall of

1900 at Perrytown where they had been living for the last twenty years. He was 96 years old when he died. He was born in Co Down Ireland. Came to this country in 1820. He also is buried in Port Hope.

They raised a large family of children of whom several are dead. Four boys and three girls are still living. The eldest son now 75 years old lives here with his daughter. One son in Dunnville a dentist, one in Toronto a Patent Attorney and the son and daughter at Perrytown. The son a Painter one daughter in Ormerville and one in Barrie.

October 2<sup>nd</sup> 1900

F. M. Daugherty  
Postmaster  
Elizabethville

and took sick & died there

Elizabethville  
Ontario