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Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, MAR 29 1906

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.

Freeland

Leeds Co. Ont.

The name Ireland, of Ireland, Post-Office,
Ontario, is the name of the family who
have always kept the office in this loca-
lity. The late Mrs Wm. Ireland was the first
Post-mistress, the office being opened during
her life, and as no better name than Ireland
was suggested, and as the locality had never
been known by any legalized name, (excepting
that it was sometimes called the Eaton
appointment, from the fact that divine
service was often conducted in the school-
house, which was and is yet on land owned
by a family named Eaton), the residents
were quite willing this place should be called
Ireland. The son of the former Post-mistress
now is Post-master, and no change in name
has ever been considered. Said P.M. is a
farmer as was his father, who came from
Ireland. The name is not common here.

Ireland is situated near the portion of
the Rideau Lake - The Lower Rideau -
which is between the Narrows Locks and
Portland, and on the South shore. The
Rideau is a most beautiful lake and is
fast becoming famous as a summer resort,
rivaling the Muskoka lakes and more popular

places. The land in this surrounding country was surveyed by the late Captain Reuben Sherwood, who made his house on the shore of the Lake; an account of his life and work being given in the history of the county of Leeds. Among those in this vicinity who were conspicuous during the time of the "Battle of the Windmill"; were the late Horace Sheldon, the late Wm. Freeland, and the late James Eaton, whose descendants are all living here.

The early settlers were mostly either Irish, or English, many coming from the old countries and soon after taking up land here, and clearing it. Dairy-farming is the principal occupation.

Any further particulars I would gladly give if these are not adequate.

W. H. Freeland P. M.