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# Department of the Interior,

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, ..... MAR 27 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.

*Grand Valley*

Dufferin Co., Ont

Leather

The village is called after the name of the  
river on which it is on "Grand River." The word  
~~valley~~ <sup>river</sup> changed to valley. It went by the name of  
Luther for a long time and also was called  
Little Toronto. It was called Luther because  
it is in the Luther Township. But the name  
of the Post Office has been changed now for about  
20 years. Still it is not long ago since a letter  
reached here addressed "Little Toronto" and they  
came yet to Luther village which was the real name  
of the Post Office then. "Little Toronto" was merely a nickname.

There is a large marsh about 5 miles from  
here, it is now owned by a Co who intend man-  
ufacturing peat but is a question when it will  
start. It is about 1000 acres in extent or more.  
The supply would be almost inexhaustible.