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Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, OCT 19 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 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.

*Jerseyville
Wentworth Co Ont.*

Jerseyville Ont. Dec 1st 06,

Dear Sir.

During ~~After~~ The American Revolution of 1776 many thousands of Americans of English descent refused to take up arms against England. Consequently they left the United States, many returned to England while others came across the border and settled in different parts of Canada. It is owing to the fact that Jerseyville derived its name, a band of United Empire Loyalists left New Jersey State about the year 1782 and came to Canada to find ~~new~~ a suitable place to make new homes for themselves. These people were among the most prosperous, intelligent and loyal inhabitants of New Jersey. The land being very fertile here and the weather free from extremes of hot or cold together with other ~~good~~ ~~apparent~~ ~~possibilities~~ ~~for~~ a new prosperity this group of itinerant home-seekers pitched their tents in this vicinity and named their new home Jerseyville after the name of the State which they had left. New Jersey. The party composed of Howells, Miseners, Van Sickle and others, descendants of whom live here today, many of them on the farms granted to their ancestors as a reward from the Crown.

Jerseyville is ten miles east of Brantford, and fifteen miles west of Hamilton. It has ~~about~~ a population of about 300, on the line of the T. H. & B. Ry has two stores, Telephone, Blacksmith shop, Gustmill, Saw mill, undertaker, pumpshop, Express Office and live stock market. The post-office is a money order office. There are two churches. Methodist & Baptist.

Yours truly,

J. A. Wait. P. M.