

31 D/6

# Department of the Interior,

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, OCT 20 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.

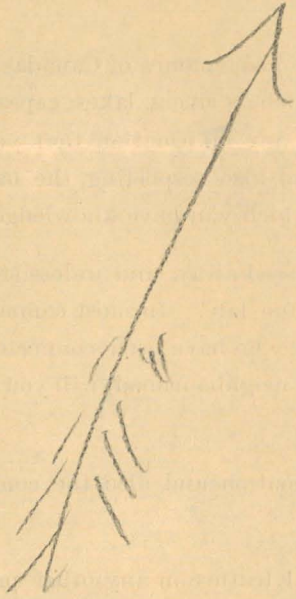
To ensure free transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

Pefferlaw  
York Co. O.H.

Ans d

see note  
good ✓

I have in my possession a diary written  
by Lusk Johnson from 19<sup>th</sup> July 1818 when  
he sailed from Greenock Scotland for  
Lusitania up to his death in March 1857



W.H.I.

means "beautiful hill"

Pefferlaw Oct-27/05

Mr Jas White

Ottawa. Dr Sir. This town was originally called

Johnston's Mills after its founder the Late Lieut  
Johnston of the British Army. Came here from Berwick  
on Tweed Scotland in 1818. When the name was  
was changed at the time a P.O. was established  
it was christened Pefferlaw by a brother of the  
Johnstons who still resides in Scotland. The name  
Pefferlaw I have been told by my father once was  
Hillside and was the name given to one  
of the first on the Johnston homestead in  
the old land.

The river running through the valley  
and emptying into Lake Simcoe now called  
the Black River from the dark color of the  
water was called by the Indians the  
Muckatoo.

Yours truly

W. H. Johnston

Isam

Grandson of Lieut Johnston