

401/15

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 3 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.

*Putnam
Middlesex Co. Conn*

Betheden

35 Valmor Road

Toronto Oct. 18th 1905.

Dear Sir:

I fear I cannot help you much. I only know
that "Robnam" was said to have been named from my uncle
Thomas Subnam, who lived in a large house on the hill.
I cannot vouch for its correctness, and I do not know
the address of his sons. I might refer you to Mrs
H. D. Cameron, Emerald Street, Hamilton, who is a
daughter.

Yours faithfully
Chas. Harris.



Dear Sir

Mr Putnam had left
Putnam before I came
here to live, and
the (Within written)
is the best I can.

As in the matter

H Mackenzie

Postmaster

Putnam

Oct 21

1905

Department of the Interior

GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, October 25th, 1905

Putnam
Out

Dear Madam,

I have been referred to you by the Rev. Elmore Harris, Toronto, for information respecting the derivation of the name "Putnam" as applied to the village near London. Could you kindly let me have a memo respecting the following:

1. Name of person after whom named *Thomas Putnam*
2. Country in which he was born. *Ontario - Canada (near London)*
3. Year of death *Mar. 26th 1880*
4. Occupation *Farmer, ~~Gen'l. Store~~ merchant, Lumber and Flour Manufacturer*

Thanking you in advance.

Yours truly,

James White
Geographer

Mrs. H. D. Cameron,
Emerald Street,
Hamilton, Ont.

Ans'd