

31^D/3

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, OCT 20 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.

Queensville
York Co. Ont.

Queenville. Ont.

The place of its name, was settled about the year 1800 if not earlier, Captain Jeremiah Travis, of Irish descent, came from Nova Scotia, near New Brunswick, to Upper Canada and settled on lot 20 in the 3rd con East Gwillimbury, in the Horse District, then Upper Canada. Thomas Dunkham, of English descent, came from New Brunswick to Canada, about the year 1800, and settled on lot 17 in the 4th con. East Gwillimbury in a good locality. Daniel, and Wm Travis, came also with these first names, and settled near them. James Aylward, of Irish Descent, settled on lot 20, in the 2nd Con of this Township. Jacob Belfry, of French descent, came from Quebec, to Markham, and from there to this place, and settled on the rear of lot 22 in 2nd Con of E. Gwillimbury, half a mile north of this place. He raised a family of 16 children who all grew to be men and women. Alexander Arbuthnot, came from Scotland and settled on lot 17 in the 3rd con. about a mile south of this place. Then other early settlers of this place were: Jesse Eaves, Joseph Hollinshead, Wm Brittenden, Wm Pegg, James Breckon, John Fletcher, Ira Doan, James Milne, Wm Nelson, Silas Fletcher, Wm Fenton, John Lewis, John Lepard, John Smith, John Peregrine, H. D. Stiles, These very early settlers are all passed away. Our village place then was known as the four corners. James Aylward, built on his land at one of the corners, and let it to Wm Hacking who began store keeping. - date unknown. In 1841 Mr Hacking, had to vacate this store, and James Aylward occupied it in store keeping. Mr. Hacking began a second store, it continued about 8 or 9 years, afterward he moved to Listowel Ont. The Post Office of Queenville began May 21. 1851. James Aylward was the Post Master, he died in 1875, and his son James H. Aylward, is his successor and the present Post Master. It was raised to a Money Order Office in 1892.

In 1843, The Temperance people then numerous, required a name for the corners. Suggestions were various: but Mrs Aylward, said Queenville would be convenient; for the street on which it, situated was called "Queen Street". This name was unanimously adopted, and has so remained. It is in a fine locality and farming country, the soil being productive. The village is homelike and beautifully situated on dry land, having an attractive appearance. It has a splendid cemetery, half a mile northward, containing fine Monuments, a dead house and six acres of land. Lake Simcoe, can be seen from this place. Queenville, has 1 Hotel, 1 Veterinary, 1 Auctioneer, 1 Hearse maker, 1 wheelright, 1 Shoe maker, 1 Harness maker, 2 Doctors, and 3 general stores, 2 Blacksmith shops. A Presbyterian brick clad Meeting house. 1 Preacher. A Methodist brick clad Meeting house, well suited for meetings, 2 Preachers. In 1906 a Railway will be running to our village for our convenience.

Nov-3. 1905.

P. De Guere writer.

There is here also, a Telegraph Office, and five Telephone Offices. Population 300.

Queensville Ont Nov 3rd 1857.

Deputy Minister of the Interior:

Sir, I beg to say that after ^{writing} up the paper attached, in looking it over it was apparent that some things were in it that could be left out, and some things I wanted to insert, there was no room to put them in. I therefore have written it a second time in a condensed form on ruled paper.

2^d The date of decease of the early settlers, I can only give in one instance. Thomas Dunham, died in Sept 16th 1850, aged 87 years 5 months 12 days. He was my Grandfather. Daniel, and Jeremiah Traviss, both lived to about the same age, and their decease was in years not far apart, or from the year 1850.

We are $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Newmarket, on the Grand Trunk Railway. We have been deprived of Railway convenience for over 100 years. But there is a Railway nearly now built that comes ^{to} this place when it will doubtless look up a little.

P. De Guerre