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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.

*Rosetta
Lanark Co. Ont*

Rosetta Ont. Oct. 20th. 05

Mr. James White

Geographer. Ottawa.

Dear sir.

In reply to your enquiry as to the naming of Rosetta, I beg to say that as far as I can learn ~~Mr James Dick~~ Mr Robert Dick was the one who might be said to have named this place. Mr. Dick was a minister by profession. He was living in Buffalo in 1890, but died since but the exact year can not be found out.

When Mr. Dick was living here, he was visited by another minister, who ~~arrived~~ arrived after night. When he came out in the morning he saw a pyramid shaped build which Mr. Dick him self had built, and turning to Mr. Dick he said, "I did not know before that I was in Rosetta" (in Egypt)
This was about the year 1847.

Yours truly

Geo. McFarlane

Postmaster, Rosetta.