

30 m/15

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 28 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.

Solvia
Durham Co. Ont. (See over)
23.

Soluna Oct. 11th 1905-

Sir In reply to your regarding the derivation of the name (Soluna) would say. from some little information I have gathered that it was first called pelehard town. so called by some of the first settlers who originally came from England.

Some time later it was found necessary to have a Post Office and also a name for the Post Office. so the six letters which comprise the name were selected and a committee appointed to ~~to~~ meet in the school house ~~and~~ upon a stated date for the purpose of arranging these letters so as to spell a word (suitable for a name) if possible. So after arranging and rearranging the letters they at last arranged them so as to spell the name of this place.

It is not named after any other place or after any person.

I am unable to give you much of the early history of Soluna as I have not been long acquainted with the place hope the few remarks will be of benefit to you

Yours Truly
B G Stevens
Soluna

Ottawa, October 20th, 1905

Dear Sir,

From your memo I infer that the six letters in the name of your P. O. were compounded from the initials or christion names of six residents. If I am correct in this assumption will you kindly let me have a memo respecting names of these residents.

Thanking you in advance.
Yours truly,

B. G. Stevens, Esq.,
Solina, Ont.

Geographer

Dear Sir: In reply to yours I beg to say that the six letters were simply chosen. They were taken from no feature what ever. simply taken and arranged into the name Solina.

Yours Truly
B G S.