

40 P/16

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, APR 12 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.

Spies ^{with} *Guafaya Sp.*

Wellington Co. Ont.

The Name of Spires was the Result of a
Compromise it is a Country P.O. in West-Garapata
When I was circulating a Petition to have it established
I was in the Wellington Hotel Fergus kept by Wm Spires
When the Subject of a name was Best up a mail Clerk
named Kelly suggested the mans name under whos Roof
we were. I accepted the name but said we would call
it after the City of Spires in Germany where some
important Historical events occurred. This was carried
Nem-Com

The Sp. in which it is situated viz
Garapata has no Prototype in name that I know of
a Legend is. When it was being surveyed by Rykman P.L.S
in Camp one Night one of the surveying Corps was Late for
supper at which they often had Sassafras tea. Being somewhat
of a Stutterer bried out when he came along: There it is that
is a name for the Township Garapata:
for the truth of which Deponent saith
not

Yours

Forbes Moir

Spires. P.O.