

310/12

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... OCT 17 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 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.

*Kraubaushere  
Simcoe Co. Ont.*

# Maubanshene -

This is an Indian name - up to 1861 it was called Bashene or Bauskene - In 1861 Mr. Hall who built a saw mill here changed it to Maubanshene or Maubanshene

It is a Chippawa or a of Ojibawa Indian name meaning as we have been told, narrow, rocky, channel, or water - The last syllable I understand means water. If you would consult this Indian dictionary I presume you might get the proper definition. This explanation of the name has been given to me by Mr. W. L. Loring of Coldwater who has lived in these parts for sixty or seventy years.

Yours obedt servant.

W. N. F. Russell

Postmaster

Maubanshene  
Oct 24<sup>th</sup> / 57