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Wikwemikong April 10th 1906

The Geographer  
Department of the Interior  
Ottawa

Dear Sir

In response to yours of 26th ult re name of  
"Wikwemikong" I beg to state - The literal translation is "Beaver  
Bay and according to the genius of the Indian Language it has the  
following meaning at - in - near - by - on - upon - about Beaver  
Bay - The word is thus composed Wikwe - Bay - Anik - Beaver  
with the termination ong rendered by above given prepositions  
The origin of the name is self-evident viz. the presence of  
large numbers of Beavers in former times.

The village Wikwemikong is sometimes called "Holy Cross  
Mission" It having been founded by R. C. Missionaries the fruit  
of whom died some 30 years ago at Toronto where he was well  
known as Revd Father Proulx His successors at Wikwemikong  
built about the fifties of last ~~century~~ century a large stone church  
at Wikwemikong which church is named after the "Holy Cross"  
hence the <sup>above</sup> given name.

The Bay is also called "Smith Bay" after a former trader  
about these regions, who died some 15 or 20 years ago  
at Owen Sound I believe.

There is also a small Village some 8 miles distant  
from Wikwemikong called Wikwemikonging which  
simply means "the lesser Wikwemikong" = the small Beaver  
Bay I hope these informations will answer your purpose

Wikwemikong respectfully yours  
out Place-names J. Koelwstedt

Mr. B. because attempts - at a time I heard or from  
who he may have been I do not know, give the meaning of the village  
of "Manitowaning" which was altogether unintentional; if you may  
desire to get a true meaning of that name I shall be glad to  
assist you.