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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 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.

*"Cardigan Bridge" - Row Cardigan
Reference*

Kings Co.

P.E.I.

Cardigan Bridge P.E.I

Dec 23rd 1905-

Dear Sir - Cardigan Bridge is the name given to the village built around the ~~the~~ Bridge over the Cardigan River at the head of navigation. Country tradition says that the three rivers Cardigan, Brudenell and Montague, as well as the bay into which they flow were named after three English Lords. This, I think is correct. They were in all probability, given their names by Lord Holland, who in his "Report of the Survey of St John's Island" ¹⁷⁶⁵ describes the bay and the three rivers entering it, under the above names. The choice of the names was, I think purely an arbitrary one as I cannot find that any of the above-mentioned noblemen were in any way connected with the history of this Island. Perhaps I for would look up Lord Holland's report of 1765 - you might find some information bearing on the choice of names. I have not a full copy of his report.

I might mention that Dr Caven of the Ch town Customs has collected much information regarding settlements on these rivers during the French occupation of the Island.

I am Sir
Yours Resp

James White Esq.
Geographer
Dept. of Interior Ottawa

Peter M. Grant
Prin. Cardigan School