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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 29 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.

Indian River
Prince Co. p 42

Indian River P.O. P.E. Island
Sept 5th 1908

James White Esq
Geographer
Ottawa,

Sir:
In reply to your letter of the 25th ult annexed herewith;
from information received on enquiry from the oldest inhabitant;
I am told that during the arrival and settlement of the first in-
habitants in this locality; Colonel Stewart endorsed the greater
part of Township No 18 including the land bordering on
the Indian River and ~~who~~ was also Indian Commissioner
The Indians who were squatters along the river were in
very destitute circumstances and found it a severe
trial to obtain a living. The Indian River containing eels and
shell fish in abundance; the Colonel forbid the white people
fishing on the river and ordered the same to be reserved
for the Indians from which circumstance the inhabitants
called the river Indian River from which the settlement
took its name

Yours Respectfully
John A. W. Swan
P.M.