

114/7

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. *over*

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.

Riverton

P.S.D.

Riverton Lot 52 Kings County P. E. I.

Fifty years ago, this place - then a trackless forest) was settled by people of Scotch, and Irish descent, and was then called Morell Forks, because the head waters, South and West, branches, of the Morell River, meet here.

About thirty (30) years ago, the place being more thickly settled (than formerly) was called Hazel Green, and a Post Office established, But the new name led to a great confusion of mails, with those of Hazel Grove, Lot 22

Queens County, and the name was again changed to Ruskin, about Twenty (20) years ago,

The settlement being still too large, about Ten (10) years ago, another post office was found necessary to accommodate the increasing population, and a new post Office ^{was} established, and the place called Riverton, situated between the South, and West, branches of the Morell River, as above mentioned, and is therefore appropriately named after a "natural feature."

The land here is a rich clay loam, level, or gently sloping from the rivers edge, the farms are well tilled, the cattle are well bred and the farm buildings are as good as in any farming community of the Dominion.

We have grist and sawmills on the south and west branches, but none from here to its mouth at St Peters Bay a distance of 15 fifteen miles or thereabouts. The government hath reserved that for Salmon, Trout, etc. The river bed being gravelly makes an ideal spawning ground. The Morell being one of the finest fresh water rivers on the Island, in summer its banks are lined with sportsmen, native and foreign, and the government is talking of building a salmon hatchery in the remote future.