

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa,.....NOV 15 1916

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 who 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.

Mileville

Quebec Co., Que. *e*

Neilsonville P.Q. Dec. 1905

To James White, Esq
Geographer - , Depart. of The Interior,
Ottawa

Dear Sir.

I beg to reply in the following categorical manner to your questions as numbered in your communication of the 15th ult:

- No 1 — No
- " 2 Yes, this post office and the vicinity is called Neilsonville after and in memory of the late Honourable John Neilson who came to reside here in 1792. He was for 54 years proprietor, publisher and editor of the old Quebec Gazette; he was the nephew and heir of William the founder of this paper in 1764 and of printing in Canada. He was elected member of the Legislature for the County of Quebec, during nearly 30 years - In 1837-1840 he was appointed member of the Special Council which governed the County during the Rebellion. He was twice deputed to London to plead the cause of the French Canadians and he was considered by them their most steadfast and trusty friend. His grandson Colonel J. H. Hulbert Neilson M.D. late Director General of the Medical Services - is the present proprietor of and resides on the old homestead named Conduet after the former family lairdship in Scotland.
- " 3 - None.
- " 4 - In the earliest days this locality was included in and formed part of the domain of Silley. later it formed part of and is still attached to the parish of St. Goye for religious purposes - It was also known as the Cape Rouge road - (The village of Cape Rouge is 2 3/4 miles to the West).

N.B

At Neilsonville is the north west end of the Great Quebec Bridge new building - eight or nine lines of Railway will concern here, and the locality will in consequence increase in population and importance.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your's very respectfully
Mary Anne Moss
Post Mistress