

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 23 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.

Blackwood
Wsa
Sask

Blackwood is situated near the Duaffle valley which is a fine & splendid wheat raising district. The valley is a splendid place for hardy stock. To the north of Blackwood is Kenlis P. O. Store Blacksmith Shop and Boarding House Church school and private residences. To the north of Kenlis 8 miles is the Kerbell Branch at a point abnormally a large village, frequented by all traders. To the east of Blackwood in the Duaffle valley is a small village called Elsbrough call after Mr El's still living there prof of the general store to the east of Elsbrough lies the crooked Lakes. where there is an Indian reserve to the west of Blackwood is a place called 8 miles Katepwa known for its splendid scenery along the large lakes west of that is the Industrial Indian school and west of that is Fort Duaffle this valley would be a splendid route for a Branch line of the G. F. R. and a fine canyon north of Fort Duaffle is Lumsden where the Prince Albert Branch crosses. on its way to Saskatoon I might say there is a large settlement asking the G. F. R. to put in a Branch line to Fort Duaffle and from there to Regina

In writing you this I say as well give you
an idea of our crops our summerfellers are very
heavy and all laying down and hard to cut them
all one way. I believe most of them would go
50 bus to the acre if all the wheat was gathered
But that is almost impossible. about half of the
wheat in the district is cut and delayed with
a heavy rain to dry. Roots of all kinds
are good and the cattle in the valley rolling
fat. the wheat is a splendid sample.

to the south of Blackwood is situated 10 miles
on the C.P.R. South West of Blackwood is the
town of Indian Head also the Gap Farm.

Blackwood

Sep 1th 1905-

Mr James White

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a small
information which you ask for.

I have been in this district for
23 years. I had $\frac{3}{4}$ sec of land
worth about 10,000 dollars.

I was as far west as Battleford
last summer and saw a fine
country which is fast settling up.

I shall esteem it a favour
if you make any use of my
statement to send me a
copy of the same, as I would
like to send it to England.

I remain yours truly

W B Beckin P. M.
Blackwood