

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,.....

AUG 21 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.

l
Rocauville

~~Asa~~

Asa

Asa

Honore Rocan born at St. Vincent de Paul 4 May 1842,
at school at above place, St. Eustache & St. Laurent,
at 14 y. entered a Wholesale Wine &c. firm Montreal
Firm found Honore too long and named me Auguste
being the name of father had no objections.

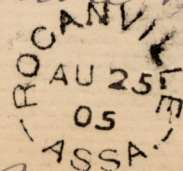
In 1862 or 3 entered the Hudson's Bay Co. Service
& came in this Nor-West. Territory remained with
above Company 21 years English changed my name into
Henry.

When leaving the H.B.Co. I took land on Sec 6-17-
31. N. 1st M. The P.O. ^{named after me} was opened on my place &
myself as P.M. remaining there until this
branch of Ry. was built. The Company put
up a station 3 miles S.E. of my place and
named it as the Old P.O. "Rocanville" the
old office was closed and transferred along with
myself to the station, now on S. 21. 16. 31 N. 1st M.

The surname or alias Bastien, I presume comes
from generations long passed originating in ~~step~~
father, as a widow with children marrying
a second time and her children going under the
name of last husband until the children were old
enough to assume their proper names. and now
although my name in the register in St. Vincent
de Paul Church is simply "Honore Rocan"

I sign

A. H. Bastien



it stands for Auguste Henry Rocan Bastien

Dear sir:-

Rocaville is not called after any town or city that we know of. we believe that Mr Bastien named Rocaville a good many years ago, he is the present Postmaster and has been for a long time, Rocaville never had any other name, hoping that this information will be of use to you,

I remain

Samuel Ried
Gierndale
Sack

Rocaville Sack

Place-names

Sack