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CANADIAN KODAK CO., LIMITED, Toronto, Canada.

Names of Provinces

Interesting Bits of History in Place Names.

THE Abenaki and Micmac Indians who inhabited Prince Edward Island before its discovery by Europeans called it Abegweit (resting on the wave), a beautiful and descriptive name. Early Europeans who visited the island (tradition says Cabot on St. John's Day, June 24th, 1497) named it the Island of St. John. In 1799, the Legislature decided to change the name to Prince Edward Island, in honour of the Duke of Kent, Queen Victoria's father, who was then in command of the British forces at Halifax.

The Atlantic Provinces.

Nova Scotia formed a part of the early Acadie. Sir William Alexander, the Earl of Stirling, received from King James in 1621, a charter granting him an immense tract of land in North America including Acadie. This was called Nova Scotia, a name which afterwards was confined to the peninsula or province now so called. The "Baronets of Nova Scotia" were entitled to a grant of land three miles broad on payment of £150 sterling each. The difficulty of infeoffing (investing with a freehold estate) the Knights in their distant possessions was overcome by the mandate of King Charles, whereby a part of the soil of Castle Hill, Edinburgh, magically became the soil of Nova Scotia.

When New Brunswick formed a part of the grant of Sir William Alexander, it received the name of Alexandria in his honour. New Brunswick, its present name, was given in 1784, in honour of the reigning dynasty of the House of Brunswick.

Quebec and Ontario.

Since 1867 the name of Quebec has been given to the province formerly called Lower Canada.

According to tradition the promontory of Quebec was known to the Indians as Kebec, meaning a narrow channel. The early missionaries, who best understood the Indian language said that the word Kebec means a narrowing.

Ontario is an Indian word, "O-nota-ri-o," meaning "Beautiful Lake." The province formerly called Upper Canada, was named after Lake Ontario.

Like Ontario, Manitoba is named from a lake. The name Manitouba (Manitou, the great spirit, and "ba," passing), is from the Cree language and is said to mean the "Passing of the Great Spirit."

At one point in the lake, the shores of which are generally low and marshy, there is a limestone bluff at which the Indians in paddling past found a strong echo, which they thought the voice of the Great Spirit, and hence called it Manitou-ba. The name of this locality became attached to the lake and afterward to the province.

Saskatchewan comes from a Cree word meaning "Swiftly Flowing River."

Alberta takes its name from Her Royal Highness, Princess Louise Caroline Alberta, wife of the Duke of Argyll and sixth child of the late Queen Victoria.

The old provisional district of Alberta was created in 1882, during the Marquis of Lorne's administration as Governor-General of Canada. During his term of office Their Excellencies visited the Northwest, and were entertained by Lieutenant-Governor Laid, at Battleford, which was then the territorial seat of the Government.—*The Educational Review.*