ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Place-nomenclature.

1. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE PLAN FOR A GENERAL HISTORY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

To this first paper of the series I have little here to add. I would call the third period of our history The Acadian (rather than the French) Period. I have been unjust in my comments (on page 98) upon existent works dealing with New Brunswick Indians, which I meant to describe as inadequate. And F hope now to carry out in full the plan outlined in this paper.

11. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE MONOGRAPH ON PLACE-NOMENCLATURE.

The figures prefixed refer in all cases to the pages of the original menograph.

181. The discussion of the methods of origin of place-names, on this page, is incomplete. A fuller list of methods is given by Johnson in his article on place names in Canada, in "Canada, an Encyclopedia," 1897, Vol. I. A thorough study of the origin of place-names is a study in psychological philology, a subject which will receive more study in the future than it does at present.

In general it may be said that place-names originate in one or the other of four somewhat distinct ways. First, they are repetitive of earlier or aboriginal names, adopted for convenience usually without question of their significance. Second, they are descriptive, either of a physical peculiarity, of resemblance to a familiar object, of geographical location, of an associated person or event, or of ownership. To this class belong the great majority of place-names, including practically all those of aboriginal or unlettered peoples, as will be found illustrated later, under page 211. They are never given deliberately, but arise as descriptive phrases, which by repetition become transformed into proper names. Third, they are commemorative and deliberately chosen to honour some person (saint, king, patron, official), or to recall some place. Such names never arise naturally, but are given by persons in authority, explorers, rulers or legislators, and are more frequently applied to artificial than to natural geographical features or divisions. Fourth, they are associative, or suggestive of some fanciful or sentimental feeling, legend, or idea, or of good omen. Found to a slight extent among the names given by simple peoples, they reach their highest development where there is a deliberate striving for effect in names, as at pleasure resorts.