

*Place-nomenclature.*

constitute a most welcome addition to our surviving Indian names. Other names of familiar aspect, such as *Baltic*, probably are slight corruptions of familiar words. But all of the remainder, and hence the great majority, are of the simplest possible type, and all obviously descriptive. The descriptive names are of two general kinds,—the many recalling some familiar object, and those possessives including some person's name. The reasons for the former are usually obvious enough, even though some imagination must be used to perceive the connection, while as to the latter, at least a possible explanation is equally obvious. Indeed, if one asks a lumberman the reason for a given one of these names, he usually responds by relating some incident connecting the person with the place, as when a person was the first to lumber there, or was drowned there, or had some adventure or misadventure. These explanations, may or may not be true, but certainly they are true in principle, if not in detail. While not affected by any form of literary influence, this nomenclature is affected by suggestion and recollection of other localities, for only thus can we explain the repetition of certain favourite names on several rivers. Thus, *Oxbow*, *Redbank*, *Spilt Rock*, *Narrows*, occur upon several rivers, as do *Governors Table*, *Hells Gates*, *Devils Elbow*, *Long Lookum*, *Big Hole*, *Chain of Rocks*, etc., while the expressive and familiar phrase for a bad rapid *Push*, (or *pull*), and *be damned*, occurs upon nearly all of them.

Summarising then this type of primitive nomenclature, it is plain that it is in part repetitive, thus retaining some Indian names, in part associative as shown by the more fanciful names, hardly, if at all commemorative, but overwhelmingly descriptive. It represents well, I believe, the typical mode of origin of names when they arise naturally.

212. A curiosity of place-nomenclature of New Brunswick is a rare post office directory of 1857. It gives, apparently, corrupted phonetic or vernacular names of a great number of New Brunswick Settlements. Of these names some are recognizable, such as *Jewaniel* (Juvenile), *Bonna Gonnea* (Bonhomme Gould), *Cannabec* (Canobie), *Grimmack* (Greenock), and others, while many, such as *Charwest Point* (Kings), *Saltash* (Gloucester), *Whillway* (Northumberland), and many others are now quite unrecognizable. The elucidation of these names forms a pretty puzzle!

212. We have in New Brunswick some descriptive names which are strikingly appropriate and pleasing as well,—notably *Green River*, *Red Rapids*, *Blacklands*, *Crooked Deadwater*, *Clearwater*, and (perhaps only accidentally appropriate) *The Wolves*.