

## DR. RAND'S LETTER OF TRANSMISSION TO DR. DAWSON.

Hantsport, Dec. 10, 1872.

Dear Sir:-

I herewith send you a few scores of Indian names. I am not at all satisfied with the arrangement I have adopted. To string together a lot of names in alphabetical order seems to be about as preposterous a thing as could well be done. Even were the English names thus arranged there would be more sense to it. But I had long ago taken them down thus, and the absurdity of the thing did not strike me so forcibly until I had got nearly through with the copying. I think a good large map drawn for the purpose, and then all the Indian names inserted in their proper place, with a list, in the margin, of the meanings, would be about the best plan. But so far and such as I have I give thee. I have been more successful in finding out the signification of the names than I had hoped. This cannot always be done, and when it is done, the meaning of the word is not sure to suggest the reason of the appropriation. Names are given in the most arbitrary manner everywhere, and the Indians are no exception.

An amusing instance of this came to light in the name "Pelekuloolk", name of a point near Debert river, Onslpw. One old Indian and I had deciphered it very satisfactorily. "Pelekuloolkek" is the same as "Welle-kuloolkek", which means "very beautiful". But alas for our poetry and romance. The instructor happened to know how the place got the name - which was of modern date. A certain old fat funny man, kind to the Indians, had learned two Indian words - one was "Wele-kuloolk", meaning "the day is fine", and the other was "Kawesin", "I am hungry", but which he supposed meant "are you hungry". Whenever he met the Indians he used to "let off" these words, to the great amusement of the Indians who were not slow in nicknaming the worthy old man, "Wele-kuloolk", and they used this name as much oftener than