

Fort—was Fort Rouillé, so-called after the officer who superintended its erection as a set-off against Fort Oswegatchie or Oswego. "Adjoining to this situation there is a deep bay receiving into it the river Humber, between which and all the head of Lake Ontario, the Tobyco—spelled T-o-b-y-c-o,—the Credit and two other rivers, with a number of smaller streams form that immense body of water. These abound in fish, particularly in salmon, the *salmo trutta*, or salmon-trout, is, of course, here meant, for which the Credit is celebrated; a house of entertainment (of which more hereafter) for passengers is established on the banks of this river. The tract of territory between the Tobyco and the head of the lake, is frequented only by erratic tribes of Mississagas, which descend from the northward."

I called your attention just now to the name Etobicoke, as expressed by Mr. Heriot, who was Postmaster-General of Canada at the date of his visit to the Western Province, and an educated man, by the spelling Tobyco. Proper names more than any other words are distinguished by a universal comparison in their spelling, they are for the most part of arbitrary formation in themselves, governed by no rules of the language of the nation or people to which they belong, and in consequence each person who finds it necessary to express them either officially, as in documents, or in literary connection as travels, &c., gives the sound he has caught phonetically, and every observer must have seen how extraordinarily the human ear differs even among the same people in properly catching sounds. I have had the opportunity afforded me by the courtesy of Mr. Bain, Chief Librarian of the Public Library, of Toronto, who placed at my service a volume of letters to the Surveyor-General, 1793-1802, of amusing you a little with the wonderful variations of the name Etobicoke accomplished in these official communications of the Government to Hon. D. W. Smith, Surveyor-General.

A letter dated 17th July, 1798, spells the word as we do at present, E-t-o-b-i-c-o-k-e, but on the 7th Dec. of the same year, Capt. Stephenson requests of His Honour, the President, to be allowed to locate 75 acres of the military lands allowed him in the Township of *Tobisco*.

On the 24th Dec., 1798, Henry Hutchins, a discharged Ranger, asks His Honour's permission to locate his 300 acres in Vaughan, the Township of *Tobecoak*, being very full.

How desirable this fertile township appeared to the settler even at that early date is thus evident.

Next, William Taulton Farewell—step-son of Sergeant Crandford—prays your Honour's permission to locate his 200 acres, for which he has conformed with all the regulations in No. 10, *tobicoke*, the initial capital letter being neglected.

His Honour, Peter Russell, then President of Upper Canada, had a very business-like method of dealing with such applications as the above, unless the applicants were men who had some exceptional claim on his attention. On the ordinary request he merely wrote on the application itself "Allowed"