

uncouth Indian name, which appears on the maps ; at the same time "Don" replaced an equally unmanageable Indian name, describing the river at the eastern end of our harbour. The interpretation of these two lapsed Indian names I am not able at present to give, but doubtless they were both significant. At the same time that the names "Humber" and "Don" were imposed upon these two streams, the name "Nen" was, by authority, given to the next river to the eastward, previously known as the Rouge or Red River. "Nen," however, became a lapsed name, and the Rouge retained, and still retains, its original appellation. "Nen," like "Humber" and "Don," was the name of a river in Yorkshire. It was the evident aim of the authorities to Anglicise the river names, and the notable river, still known as the Grand River, entering Lake Erie from the north, was enjoined to be known only as the "Ouse," another Yorkshire river name ; but again popular usage prevailed, and "Ouse" became another instance of a lapsed name. "Grand River," of course, had nothing distinctive in it, and every river of a considerable size was, amongst the French, a "Grande Riviere." The Mississippi was so par excellence among the Indians, such being, in an emphasized way, the signification of that word.

A widely-received French appellation for our Canadian Thames was La Tranche, until forcibly over-ridden by royal proclamation.

More than one lapsed usage in regard to the River Niagara may be in place here. Wherever the name occurs in early English verse, the metre obliges us to make the penultimate syllable long in quantity, showing that such was the prevailing pronunciation at the outset. Further, it appears from the early records, that an O has been dropped off from the beginning of this word, as has happened likewise in the case of other Indian appellatives ; thus we have Miami and Oniami, Swegatchie and Oswegatchie, Chouegon and Ochouegoñ (the modern Oswego), Mimico and Omimico, Chippeway and Ochipway, Tessalon and Otessalon, and some others. So Niagara was once Oniagara, a form of the word now entirely lapsed. There is reason to think that a like clipping off of an O has taken place in "Toronto," together with the suppression of a final N. Sagard, in his Huron, or rather Wyandotte vocabulary, gives both "Toronton" and "Otoronton." The expression signifies a large quantity, whether of human beings or of provision for their sustenance, both O and N probably representing a nasal sound very familiar to us in former days, in Indian viva-voce utterances. Another substitution in modern times of a short A for a long one in an Indian name, seems to be shown in Moore's "Uttawa's Tide" (read Uttah-wa's tide) meaning the River Ottawa, the first syllable of which name he evidently caught as U and not O.

We are slowly becoming accustomed to the style and title of "Niagara-on-the-Lake," used in modern times for the purpose of distinguishing the old town of Niagara from what is now designated as Niagara South, meaning thereby Drummondville, which is expected hereafter to become a lapsed term, although, of course, it will take a long time to bring that about. Old Niagara might have fallen back upon a lapsed name of its own, viz.: Newark, the name borne by its site when the first Parliament of Upper Canada was held there. The place we now call Queenston was known aforesaid as the "Carrying Place," the place of debarkation for the "Grande Portage" round the Falls of Niagara, in the voyageurs' route between Lakes Ontario and Erie. Another lapsed name for Queenston, in the same regard, was the "Lower Landing."

Burlington Bay, at the head of Lake Ontario, received that name by proclamation on July 16th, 1799. Previous to this date it had strangely borne the name of Geneva Lake ; so we are informed by the first Gazetteer of Upper Canada. The lapsed name, we may suppose, arose from the picturesque beauty of the sheet of water indicated.

On the north shore of Lake Ontario, close to Burlington Bay, a name has lapsed into disuse within the past few years. I refer to Wellington Square, now known as Burlington. The word "Square." I believe, referred originally to a square