

In continuing and extending the name Greenland we have but followed the plan adopted in Canada as well as in other countries. The country through which the St. Lawrence River flows was at first called New France; then as Cape Diamond (so called by Cartier because he picked up a stone which he thought was a diamond) was the great fortress of the region and as the river there become narrow for a short distance, widening out above and below, the place soon came to be known by the Indian name *Kepee*, a strait or narrow passage. It was natural, then, to call the whole region the Government of Quebec, as was done in the proclamation of George III under the Treaty of Paris, 1763. In our own day we have seen a similiar extension of a place-name in the case of the place-name "Canada," which word was employed in the Quebec Act of 1774 to designate the King's French-speaking subjects—"All His Majesty's Canadian subjects within the Province of Quebec." Then it came to be applied to the two provinces separated by the Act of 1791—Upper and Lower Canada. Then under the Union Act of 1841 the two sections were called Canada East and Canada West, till the word was applied by the Union Act of 1867 to the four provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Quebec, and is now applied to all the northern half of the continent, excepting Greenland on the east, Alaska on the west and Newfoundland.

Having satisfied ourselves about the way in which Greenland became one of the most ancient place-names of the continent we will not have far to search for the meaning of Greenland's place-names. They are of Scandinavian origin. They come to us from the old Vikings who gave place-names to the shores and bays and mountains and rivers of the British Isles. It is the one bit of Scandinavia there is in this new world. Here and there are isolated place-names of the same origin. There are Hecla, Husavick, Baldur, Thingvalla and others in Manitoba, named by the Icelanders, whose first settlement in the prairie province was in 1875, and of whom there were, in 1891, according to the census, 3,746 who were born in the Scandinavian countries, besides a goodly number born of Scandinavian parents, but whose birth-place is this Canada of ours.