



Charles H. Hutchings.

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that I received permanent benefit. A single box of these pills freed me from headaches, and I am now a well man."

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A FARM IN MONTICELLO, ME., Containing 120 acres, over 100 acres cleared, a good orchard, well watered, a good two story house containing 12 rooms, horse barn and sheds. Situate 1 1/2 miles from the B. & A. R. R., this is a splendid chance to secure a good property at a low rate. Satisfactory reasons for selling. Write to or call on the undersigned.

April 17th, 1895. E. M. BOYER, AGENT. Woodstock, N. B.

### INDIAN NAMES

#### OF RIVERS IN YORK, CARLETON AND VICTORIA.

Woolastook, Looshtook, Nagootcook, Mooknek, Obmutquatook, Shiktehawk, Becagumic.

[No 43]

For years the pioneer settlers were obliged to use the St. John river as the only means of communication with the outside world, and in the course of their frequent trips upon its waters they became familiar with all its natural features. From the Indians they learned the names by which they designated the principal tributaries, and these names when not too unpronounceable, the whites generally adopted, so that the memory of the red man, as the original owner of the soil, will have an enduring memorial for all time in the names of our rivers, lakes and mountains. In some cases the original Indian names have since given place to modern ones, but in the counties of York, Carleton and Victoria most of the rivers and lakes still retain their old Indian names. Much interest naturally attaches to the interpretation of Indian place names, but the subject is beset with much greater difficulty than is commonly supposed. Many accepted interpretations are now known to be incorrect, but while this is so it is at the same time often very difficult to determine with certainty the real meaning of an Indian name. To find a meaning is not a difficult matter, but when it comes to deciding amongst half a dozen dozen different explanations which is the right one is a hard thing.

At the meeting of the Educational Institute in St. John, last summer, nearly 300 teachers were in attendance, and no paper seemed to be more heartily enjoyed than that of Principal Mullen, of the Normal school, on "Names of Places in New Brunswick; their Origin and Associates." The subject is one of great and growing interest.

One can well understand the pardonable desire in a young country like our own to perpetuate anything that savors of antiquity. Not only are aboriginal names carefully preserved on the maps of our province but in some instances old Indian names disused have been restored. This sort of thing however may degenerate into a farce. As a case in point, there was once a certain station east of Sussex on the present Intercolonial railway, known as "Stone's Brook," but as most of the stations along the line had Indian names, "Stone's Brook" seemed rather prosaic, and some bright individual hit upon the idea of translating it into Indian. It was ascertained that the word for "stone" was *penobsq* and the word for "brook" was *quis* and thus "Stone's brook" became *Penobsqquis* and as such will probably remain till the end of time.

Many Indian names of places have been interpreted by the late Dr. Gesner, Mr. Edward Jack, Dr. W. F. Ganong and others, all of whom admit the great difficulty in absolutely determining the meaning of many words.

The fact that most of the Indian names of rivers, etc., date back to the time—more than two centuries ago, when the Micmacs occupied the valley of the St. John, renders it impossible to get much assistance in the interpretation of names from the Malisets who now live upon the river. The latter frankly admit that they do not know the meaning of the greater number of the names by which they call the various lakes and streams of the upper St. John region.

In attempting to explain the meaning of some of the names of well known streams in the counties of York, Carleton and Victoria, the writer must disclaim any pretension, to pose as an authority in the matter, and at the same time express his obligations to Mr. Edward Jack and Dr. W. F. Ganong for much of the information contained in this article. Having said this much by way of introduction we proceed to consider the origin of some familiar:

#### INDIAN PLACE NAMES.

*Wool-as-took*.—This is the Indian name of the St. John river and according to most authorities signifies "long river". Dr. Ganong prefers "good river" that is a good river for canoes.

*Chik-un-ik-pe*.—The Indian name of Grand Falls: it means "a destroying giant."

*Loosh-took*.—Indian name of the Aroostook, signifying "smooth river" or "good river"—probably another form of "Woolastook"—an appropriate name, the Aroostook being the largest tributary of the St. John and, with the exception of a few miles broken by rapids near its mouth, flowing with a remarkable smooth, even current. The French called it "Riviere Jacques" and it is so named in the oldest map in the Crown Land office at Fredericton. The present word Aroostook is an attempt at restoring the old Indian name.

*Na-goot* (or *Na-goot-cook*).—The Indian name of the Tobique. In the old Crown land office map just referred to this river is called *Tobed Nigarlegah*. Tobique, savors of French origin but it is very doubtful if the word in the first instance was French. A very old form of the spelling is *Tobec* which, with the accent placed on the first syllable, corresponds with the pronunciation of the early settlers. The river was probably so called by the whites after a prominent Indian family living upon it in the middle of the last century. The Abbe Le Loutre mentions in one of his letters that in the war party assembled at Fort Beausejour in the year 1754 was one "Toubick, Chief of the Medoctec savages." The relatives and descendants of this old Indian warrior are supposed to have lived chiefly at the mouth of the Tobique, and the river to have been named after them in the same way that the Renous, Barnaby's, Cains, and other rivers in various parts of New Brunswick have derived their names. There are some however who are of opinion that the Indians just referred to derived their name from the river and not the river its name from the Indians. Be this as it may there was undoubtedly often a curious coincidence in names borne by Indians and by the rivers on which they paddled. There is now in the writer's possession an old document that

shows that in the year 1790 there lived at Sheffield an Indian and his squaw who bore the names respectively of Joseph Meductic and Mary Tobec.

There is now a large Indian village at the mouth of the Tobique the inhabitants of which call their river *Na-goot* (or *Na-goot-cook*) but strange to say do not know the meaning of the word. Tobique, they say is not Indian at all but is "a white man's word."

*Am-wa-neck*.—This is the river known as the Muniac, which appears, according to Mr. Edward Jack, to be a corruption of *Am-wa-neck*. The meaning is obscure. There is some reason to think, however, that Muniac may be derived from *Moonick* (or *Muinek*) meaning "the bear place." There is marked near it on Wyld's map a "Bear Mountain."

*Ob-mut-qua-took*.—This is the Indian name of the Manquart, which probably is a corruption of *Abmutquatook*. It signifies "leaving the river at a sharp angle."

*Shik-te-hawk*.—Written *Sigtohacto* in the old plan in Crown land office. The name is said to signify "where he killed him," and to apply to a famous single combat that took place here between two rival chiefs of the Malisets and Mohawks in which the latter was slain. Another meaning for *Shiktehawk* sometimes given is "a flat (or delta) at its mouth."

*Sus-koot-cook*.—This old Indian name has disappeared and is replaced by *Presqu'isle*, a word of French origin meaning "peninsula." In all probability the large island opposite the mouth of the stream and which is still a peninsula in the summer season was formerly united by a neck of land to the adjacent shore.

*Becagumic*.—This word has been variously spelled and pronounced and the same remark applies to nearly all words of Indian origin. Rev. Frederick Dibblee in a letter written in 1790 speaks of a considerable Indian settlement at that period at "Backagimock." The name of the river according to Edward Jack is derived from *A-bek-a-gimick* meaning "a branch coming down," but Dr. Ganong was unable to establish confirmation of this derivation and in conversation with an old Indian was told that *Gumic* means "Salmon bed" (of which there was formerly a famous example at the mouth of the Becagumic) and that *Becca* means merely "going to." A white man hailed an Indian in his canoe and asked "Where are you going?" The Indian pointing to the mouth of the river answered *Becca-gumic*, meaning he was going to the Salmon bed, but the white man supposing this to be the name of the river told other white men so and thus the name was established. Whether such a theory as this is to be credited is certainly doubtful but there are many who would accept such a statement at the mouth of an Indian without hesitation but unfortunately it does not always answer to take the assertion of an Indian. It depends largely upon the Indian. There are those who have intelligent ideas as regards the meaning of Indian names and who can impart valuable information. One of these was the late Newell Paul who died on the Indian reserve three miles below the town of Woodstock, April 2nd 1893. Other Indians know little or nothing on the subject and frankly admit their ignorance. But there are others again equally ignorant who delight to cram the credulous fisherman or tourist with the grossest fabrications.

The consideration of the Indian names of rivers emptying into the St. John from the Meduxuakic to the Nashwaak must be deferred for another article.

W. O. RAYMOND.

For the complexion use Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It brings blooming health to wan cheeks.

Costigan and The T. V. Railway.

An Ottawa dispatch to the St. John Sun says:—

At the public accounts committee on Thursday Mr. Costigan repeated his statement of the previous day that when the dominion subsidies were granted to the Tobique Valley Railway company and rearranged, he had no property whatever along the line. However, in 1890 a gypsum property on the line was offered him for \$2,500, and was accepted. This property was about one hundred acres in extent. Except for one or two other private properties in the vicinity all the rest of the gypsum land was held under lease from the provincial government of New Brunswick by a local company in which Mr. Costigan was not interested.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lister, Mr. Costigan said he bought the property on May 20th, 1890, and on May 13th the government asked parliament to vote a second subsidy of \$35,000 to the Tobique Valley Railway Co. Mr. Lister said that Hansard showed that when this subsidy was asked for, Mr. Mulock asked who held gypsum fields, and Mr. Costigan replied that they were held chiefly by the provincial government and one or two private parties.

Today Mr. Costigan said that the statement was correct.

Mr. Costigan asserted that he had no other object in seeking the subsidies for the railway company than to discharge his duty to his constituency. He admitted there was no doubt that the construction of the railway would increase the value of the gypsum mines. He transferred his property in 1893 to the Tobique Valley Gypsum Mining and Manufacturing Co., getting as a consideration \$20,000 of paid up stock in the company. The total stock was \$31,000, so that he owns a major portion of it.

The cross-examination was continued by Mr. Lister with a view to showing that Mr. Costigan knew the supplementary subsidy for the road was to be brought down to the house and that this subsidy would go far to completing the chief portion of the line, while the original owner of the gypsum field bought by Mr. Costigan had become weary of waiting for the completion of the road, and so sold the property at a sacrifice price.

The Telegraph gives the following list of stockholders in the Tobique Gypsum Mining and Manufacturing Co., Ltd.:

Name	No. of shares	Amt.
John Henev, Ottawa	5	\$ 500
G P Brophy, Ottawa	20	2,000
Hon A R Angers	5	500
Wm Poupore, Morrisburg	5	500
F B Hayes, Ottawa	5	500
Hon H A Connell, Woodstock, N B	5	500

J T A Dibblee, Woodstock, N B	5	500
J N W Winslow, Woodstock, N B	5	500
W Kitchen, Fredericton, N B	5	500
E R Burpee, Bangor, Me	5	500
W M Scott, Ottawa	3	300
Wm Hutchinson, Ottawa	3	300
John P Dunn, Ottawa	2	200
J B Lynch, Ottawa	2	200
M F Walsh, Ottawa	1	100
Fred Moore, Woodstock, N B	5	500
Mr Shaughnessy, Montreal	10	1,000
J Hearn, Quebec	5	500
Adolph P Caron, Ottawa	5	500
Thos Temple, Fredericton, N B	2	200
J C Patterson, Ottawa	5	500
John Haggart, Ottawa	5	500
H K Egan, Ottawa	5	500
Jos Kavanagh, Ottawa	5	500
Jas Isbester, Ottawa	5	500
W J Baskerville, Ottawa	5	500
A Stewart, Ottawa	4	400
Senator Ferguson	5	500
Hugh Ryan, Toronto	10	1,000
John Connor, St John	5	500
F McDougall, Ottawa	2	200

Hon John Costigan	165	16,500
Balance (not disposed of)	175	17,500
	500	\$50,000

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