

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

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Ottawa, AUG 17 1905

DEAR SIR,

I wish to obtain information respecting the derivation of the place-names of Canada—of the names of the villages, towns, cities and of the natural features, such as rivers, lakes, capes, bays, mountains, etc.—and shall be much obliged if you will give me any information that you may possess or can procure, respecting the below-mentioned name and also respecting the names of any other features in the vicinity of your residence concerning which you have knowledge.

In many localities, the older generation is passing, or has passed away, and unless steps are taken to collect this information, it will, in many instances, be too late. In most communities there are persons who take an interest in things of this nature or that have been connected with the early settlement of the locality. If there are any such in your neighbourhood, will you kindly submit this to them.

Below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information and also the commoner derivatives of place-names in Canada :—

(1.) Whether named after a village, town, or city, or natural feature in any other province or country ; if so, the name of province or country in which the original locality is situated.

(2.) Whether named after a person ; if so, the person's name, occupation, spelling of name as rendered by the person and any details of interest respecting him (or her) such as (a) Whether alive or, if dead, approximate year of death ; (b) Whether at any time a resident of the locality and, if so, whether still living there.

(3.) Whether named after a natural feature ; if so, any details respecting the origin of the name as applied to the feature and the geographical position of the latter.

(4.) Whether the town, village or city ever had any other name or names ; if so, at what dates, approximately, and the origin of these obsolete names.

Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a courtesy.

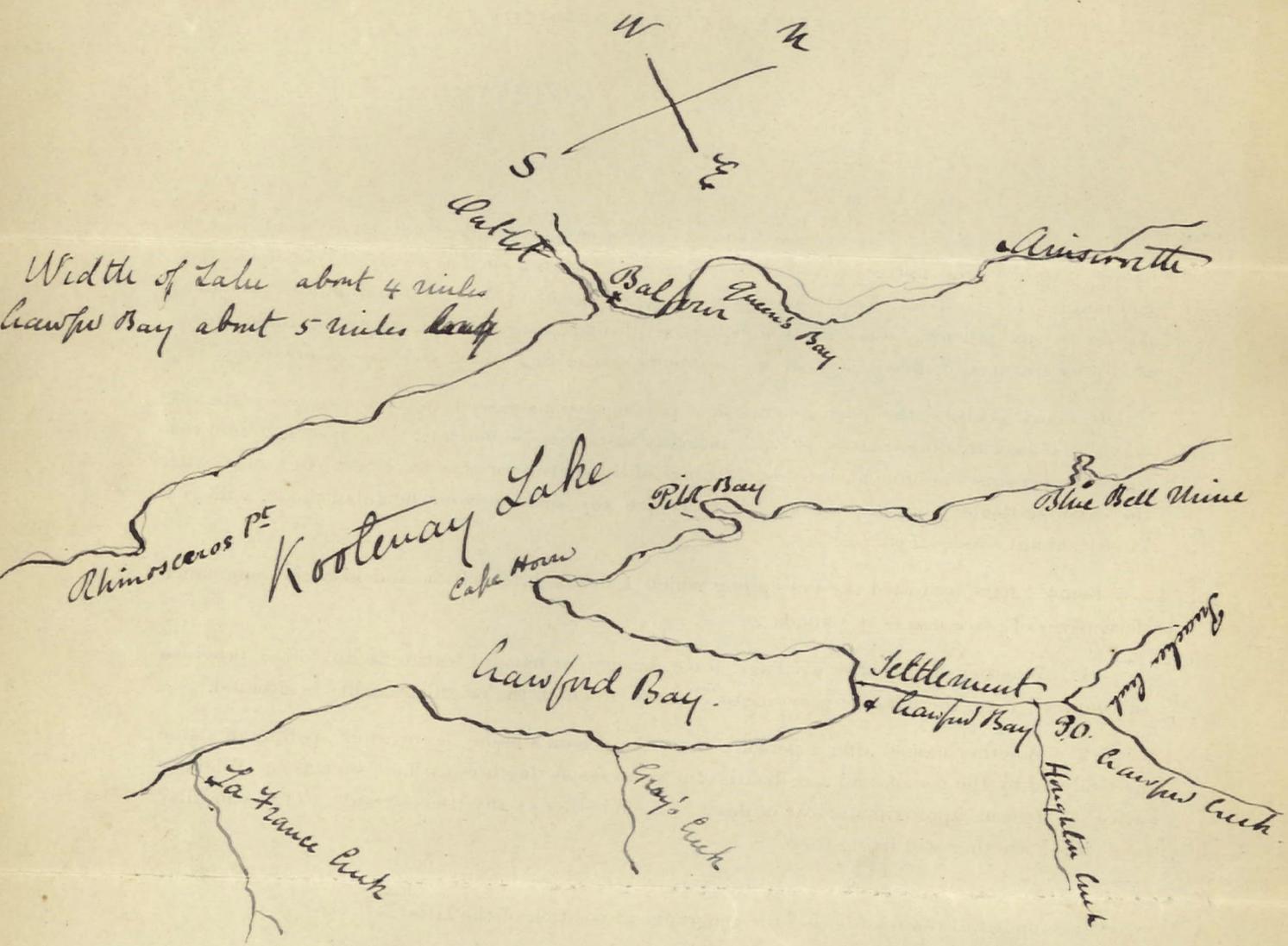
Yours truly,

JAMES WHITE,
Geographer.

Kindly write your reply on the attached sheet.

To ensure free transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

"Crawford Bay" BL
Kootenay Dist. Asek'a



James White Esq
Geographer to the Government
Ottawa.

Crawford Bay 20
Aug 27th 1855.

Dear Sir

I have received your letter asking for information as to the derivation of the name of this place & other matters of interest.

This name Crawford is originally Crawford's Bay was called so I have been informed after a man named Crawford. No one that I have questioned seems to have known or seen the man. One story is that Crawford was an employe of the Hudson Bay Co, which many years ago had a post at a place on the Kootenay River, which flows into Kootenay Lake at the southern end, called Achonook (Indian name) & now called Pat Hill. Crawford being sent by the Factor to a point on the lake where there was a large deposit of lead (now the Blue Bell Mine) to bring some of the mineral back for making bullets rowed up the east shore & being his first trip, & owing to fog or smoke from forest fires, he failed to notice that instead of following up the main shore of the lake, he had got into the bay that now bears his name, & so came to the head, which he thought was the end of the lake. He returned to the post reporting failure to find the lead, since which this bay was called Crawford's.

Cawpud Creek naturally has same derivation -

Small tributaries - Houghton Creek named after W. Houghton, a settler here, & Preacher Creek because a preacher or supposed minister had a mineral claim on the bank, He went back to the States, I believe.

Gray's Creek after a man named Gray, still living near Nelson. He used to cut timber on the creek -

La France Creek also from a man named the same -

Rhinoceros Point, because looking south from a point north of it, the point has a sort of resemblance to the head of a rhinoceros.

Cape Horn from the famous S. American cape, probably too because it is a very stormy point to weather, when a gale from the south is blowing -

One of the ~~oldest~~ ^{first} steamers built on the lake & called the "Arisworth" went down near this point some 7 or 8 years ago & several people were drowned.

What legends, names & so on the Indians have of this locality, I do not know - There are none living in this part & they rarely come here.

What little of interest there is I think I have mentioned: I have drawn a rough map to explain matters, & trust what I have written may be of service -

Respectfully yours

J. E. Houghton Plu. Cawpud Bay.