Subjectmatter: Linguistic Analysis of Place-names of Canada.
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Topical Importance: The given paper deals with the analysis of geographical names of Canada. Names of places form an important part of Canadian history. They stand as memorials of men and events in the past. They throw light on the scenes and movements of former ages, and therefore cannot be neglected in our study of the development of this country. There are two important defining characteristics of Canadian toponymy. First, the place names of Canada are derived from numerous and distinct cultural roots. Major influences come not only from the French and English settlers who peopled the region over the course of several centuries, but also from the area’s original Native inhabitants, most of whom were Indians and Eskimoes. Spanish, Portuguese, Scottish, and American influences are also to be found, though in less significant degrees. Second, Canada’s toponymy offers a fascinating example of the linguistic development of the country, and one that demonstrates the implications of cultural shifts in the area.

Goals: To examine place-names of Canada as a linguistic and cultural phenomenon, analyze peculiarities of their structure, origin, and function.

Tasks: This paper provides a complex study of place-names of Canada. In Canada, place names represent an essential site of the cultural mediation that both shaped this country’s past and defines its present. Canada’s settlement has come in waves, and those waves have more often than not been on cultural lines. The original Native inhabitants gave way to French settlers who gave way to British immigrants; over the course of its history, the names of its places have changed, sometimes retaining qualities of their original designations, and sometimes being completely renamed.

Theoretical value and practical applicability: To understand the toponymy
of Canada, then, it is important to remember that the features and regions of Canada had Native names long before European settlers began their own projects. Most of these names are still used today, sometimes in near literal translations and sometimes in adaptations by other cultures. Place names and the history of toponymy in Canada present a unique situation, although the development of the study of Canadian toponymy has been rather slow. Very few studies dealing exclusively with Canada exist. This research paper contains informative theoretical and practical material about various aspects of Canadian toponymy. The material collected and analyzed in the paper may be used for practical purposes in various courses of lexicology and history of English.