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A

LIST OF MICMAC NAMES

OF

PLACES, RIVERS, ETC., IN NOVA SCOTIA.

COMPILED BY

ELIZABETH FRAME.



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CAMBRIDGE:

JOHN WILSON AND SON.

University Press.

1892.





## NOTE.

THE following list of Micmac names of places, rivers, etc., in Nova Scotia and neighborhood was compiled, at my request, by Miss Elizabeth Frame, of Shubenacadie, for the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and was duly presented at the meeting on June 9, 1892. She was aided in her labors by a Micmac Indian, as well as by the published works of Mr. Gesner and Dr. Rand. It is now printed at the expense of a gentleman of Cambridge, who is interested in Indian philology.

BOSTON, August 20, 1892.

S. A. G.



THE Micmac left no sculptured gods,  
No temples made of stone;  
In misty caves, in storm-tossed clouds,  
Manitou dwelt alone.

But names remain on hill and plain  
Of this once powerful race,  
And in those liquid Micmac words  
Their presence yet we trace

Where Aspatogon lifts her brow,  
Unblushing, to the sea;  
Where crashing ice-cakes dash and break  
On lonely Scatarie;

Where turbid waters seethe and foam  
Round Glooscap, Chebooktook;  
On Tusket's Isles where sea-gulls rest,  
And heron on Panuke;

The rushing tides in Pesiquid,  
And Shubenacadie;  
The level meads of Tantramar;  
The falls of Konomee.

No Micmac now on Cobequid  
Hunts moose or caribou;  
And alien races change the names  
Which first were named by you.

E. F.

## SOUND OF LETTERS IN MICMAC.

THE consonants are sounded as in English: **g** is always hard, as in *go*, *egg*, and **c** exactly like **k**; **ch** as in *church*; **h** following a vowel in the same syllable (as in **āhk**) is a soft guttural, like the German *ch* in *Ich*. There is no *f* in Micmac; when attempting to pronounce French or English words which contain this letter, the Indians give it the sound of *b* or *p*.

The vowels are sounded thus: **a**, as in *father*; **ā**, as in *fate*; **ǎ**, as in *fat*; **â**, as the second *a* in *abast*; **e**, as in *me*; **ě** as in *met*; **ei**, as *i* in *pine*; **ī**, as *i* in *pin*; **o**, as in *no*; **ō** as in *not*; **u**, as in *tube*, *use*; **ū**, as in *tub*; **oo**, as in *fool*, *move*; **ōō** as in *good*, *wood*; **ow**, as in *now*. When any vowel is doubled, as **aa**, **āā**, **ee**, **ōō**, the usual sound is prolonged, and takes the accent, but the place for the accent is the penult. **'M** or **'N** at the beginning of a word with the accent marked, is sounded without a vowel.

The following are examples of the peculiarity termed "holophrastic," where a single word stands for a sentence:—

**Boon**, the sitting place, the cross-piece on which the paddler sits.

**Boosenēch**, let us take a trip by water, let us go in a canoe.

**Ĕpkwōse**, I have a shelter from the rain over my head.

**Kamâtk**, bushes yonder, beyond a cleared place.

**Nēspe**, to be stopping in the wigwam to take care of it, while the others are away.

**Newōpskitk**, the bed of the river is dry, and the rocks are bare.

**Wōpk**, the morning light,—“the opening of the eye of the morning.”

# LIST OF MICMAC NAMES

OF

PLACES, RIVERS, ETC.

---

- Ababe**, a boundary.  
**Abaktooë**, the great auk.  
**Abe**, a bow for an arrow.  
**Agamōk**, white ash.  
**Agoomākūn**, Apple River, Cumberland County.  
**Agoomākūnūk**, Sand River, Cumberland County.  
**Ah-mah-gops-ke-geek**, tumbling over rocks; Tangier River.  
**Ājeōk'chemin**, a blackberry.  
**Akkāda**, abundance of things; plenty of ground-nuts; hence *Acadie* (French).  
**Akūm**, a snow-shoe, raquette.  
**Amlamēkw'**, a mackerel.  
**Anesaak**, Salmon River.  
**Ansaakw**, New Harbor.  
**Apchechkūmoochwāākade**, Duck land. Hence the French name Canard River.  
**Āpsiboogwēchk'**, Port le Bear.  
**Aseedik**, Lunenburg.  
**Asooemanōkse**, a creeping blackberry vine.  
**Aspatogon**, a headland on the Atlantic.
- Bāktabā'**, a bay.  
**Banook**, the first lake as you ascend a river.
- Banoōpskek**, opening out through rocks, as Penobscot.  
**Banooskēk**, entrance into Bras d'Or Lake.  
**Banoskēk**, a water passage between two lakes.  
**Ba'pkoktē'k**, Argyle.  
**Bāpkook**, the birch bark will easily peel.  
**Bāslooāākāde**, St. Peter's Island, near Prince Edward Island.  
**Bookt**, the head of a bay.  
**Booktāwi'chk**, rum, from  
**Booktāoo**, fire; hence fire-water; alcohol.  
**Booktoulāygun**, fireworks; Toney River.  
**Booktowāāgūn**, Mill Creek on the River Hebert in Cumberland Co.  
**Boonāmookwōde**, Salmon River, Yarmouth.  
**Bōstoon**, America.  
**Bōstoonkāwaach**, an American.  
**Bōstoonkāwoo'lkw**, an American vessel.  
**Brooksake**, Charlottetown Harbor, Prince Edward Island.
- Cajj-booginek**, winding through the wilderness; River John.  
**Cālūgēt**, Carraget Harbor.

**Cansoke**, facing the frowning cliff ;  
Canso.

**Caskumpec**, flowing through the  
sand ; Cascumpec, P. E. Island.

**Caydybunnygek**, clam diggings ;  
Boot Island, Horton.

**Chebookt**, Halifax, from Ūkehe-  
bookt, the largest harbor or bay.

**Cheemā**, to paddle a canoe.

**Chegao**, bass, a fish.

**Chegūmakūn**, a rattle, an Indian  
tambourine.

**Chijikwtook'**, Cornwallis River.

**Chikchowwegūnehwā'-wōso-  
wēk'**, a rose.

**Chikchowwegūnejul**, roseberries ;  
also the name of an orange.

**Chipchowwēch'**, a robin.

**Cwesomallygeek**, Hardwood  
Ridge, Cumberland.

**Ebédēk**, Bedeque, P. E. Island.

**Ĕlmūnākūncheech**, Little Sevogal  
River.

**Ĕlsētkook'**, Bear River in Nova  
Scotia.

**Ĕmsūk**, Port Jolli.

**Eppayguit**, anchored on the wave ;  
Prince Edward Island.

**Ĕskūmāāgā**, to eat raw flesh ; hence  
the name of the *eskimo* Indians,  
eaters of raw flesh.

**Ĕskūmūnaak'**, Mount Skumunāk.

**Ĕskūmūnaak**, Point Skimenack, in  
New Brunswick.

**Ĕskwōdēk'**, Murray Harbor, P. E. I.

**Ĕspakūmegēk**, high land. Green  
Hill, Pictou County.

**Gaspēch**, Gaspé ; far into the wa-  
ter.

**Glooscap**, a manitou who dwelt in  
the Bay of Fundy, at Blomidon.

**Goolwagōpskooch**, Port George.

**Gul-wahgahgek**, the home of the  
sea-cow ; Quaco, New Brunswick.

**Inskoomādeedich**, Lakeland, N.S.

**Kābēm**, the border of a lake.

**Kāgwēamkēk**, Port Hood.

**Kakagwēk**, a place of dried meat ;  
now Hantsport, in Hants Co.

**Kākwōleegigūn**, a snow-bank.

**Kāleboo**, caribou.

**Kaleboode**, a shovel. Hence **Kalē-  
boo**, caribou, the shoveller, be-  
cause they shovel up the snow  
with their broad feet in digging  
down for the moss on which they  
feed.

**Katkooch'** and **Katkoolch'**, Brook-  
lyn, Queens Co., Nova Scotia.

**Keāskūnoo'gwējit**, a mighty chop-  
per, a fabulous being who cuts  
down trees ; you hear the chop-  
ping, the workman is invisible,  
but the tree falls.

**Kēbamkeāk'**, Bathurst, on the Bay  
of Chaleur.

**Kēbāpskitk**, the stream that con-  
nects two lakes.

The six lakes on the Liverpool  
River, as you go up stream :

1. **Panook.**
2. **Kēdooskēk'.**
3. **Pushūgook'.**
4. **Kējimkoojik.**
5. **Imūtkaak.**
6. **Toobeadoogook.**

Lakes on Salmon River, east  
of Halifax :

1. **Ūsoogomūsoogwēdām'.**
2. **Milpāāchk.**
3. **Utkoskwāāchk.**
4. **Kloocheowpāāch.**
5. **Nēmchenokpāāchk.**
6. **Noogoomkūbāāk.**
7. **Mtābēs-wāākāde** (where  
mud-catfish abound).

On Port Medway River are :

1. **Banook.**
2. **Māligeāk'.**

- Kebbek**, narrows; Quebec.<sup>1</sup>  
**Kegūmoosk**, Little River, a branch of the Restigouche.  
**Kekwajoo**, a badger.  
**Kenomee**, Sandy Point, now Economy, in Colchester County.  
**Kesāpskūl**, Apesookaam Lake.  
**Kesegoo**, an aged man.  
**Kesegooaakw**, an aged porpoise or seal.  
**Kesegoo'e**, an aged bird.  
**Kesegooēesk**, an aged woman.  
**Kesegook**, an aged porcupine.  
**Kesegoo'msk**, an aged beaver.  
**Kesegoo'sūm**, an aged dog.  
**Kesegoo'tkw**, an aged cow, moose, horse.  
**Keskāāk**, the wood is broad.  
**Kēskoopāāk**, Little River.  
**Kēskūtkwēk'**, the river is broad.  
**Kesokūdēk'**, the neighborhood of Archibald's Mills at Truro.  
**Kesooskowōstoogwēk'**, Middle River, Pictou.  
**Kesooskwōstoogwēk**, Little River, a branch of Sheet Harbor River.  
**Kespaḃēgea'chk**, Big Kespebaedak'.  
**Keespoogwitk**, Land's End, Yarmouth.  
**Kīkcheboogwēk**, Cavendish, Prince Edward Island.  
**Kitpoo**, an eagle.  
**Kitpooāākāde**, Cape Shubenacadie.
- Kitpoo-aykadd̄y**, a place of eagles, near the river Shubenacadie, now known as the Eagles' Nest.  
**Kloopskeāākāde**, Bird Island.  
**Kobet**, a beaver.  
**Kobetēk'**, Aylesford Bog.  
**Koo'koogwes'**, an owl.  
**Kookūmijenagwānāk'**, Cape Dolphin.  
**Koolpesoo'n**, an anchor.  
**Koolpijooik**, Petpiswick Harbor.  
**Koospēm**, a lake.  
**Kow-week**, porcupine quills.  
**Ktādoosōk**, Saguenay River.  
**Kūlokwējook**, Mary Joseph, below Halifax.  
**Kūlūmoōjemanōkse**, bilberry.  
**Kwebēk**, the head of the tide, now Bedford.  
**Kwemoodeech**, Pope's Harbor.  
**Kwēsomālegēk'**, a hard-wood Point, now Fort Lawrence.  
**Kwēsow-wāāk**, a cape of land.
- Logūmkeegūn**, Shelburne.  
**Lūntook'**, deer.  
**Lūskūch**, Manadoo in Cape Breton.  
**Lustegooch**, Restigouche River.
- Māākān**, Maccan River in Cumberland County.  
**Mabou**, a river in Cape Breton.  
**Madawāāk**, a point where two rivers come together.

<sup>1</sup> This is beyond question the origin of the name of the city of Quebec. The French pronounce *Quebec* not *kwe-bēk*, as the English do, but *kēb-bēk*, the exact pronunciation of the Indian word. The "Narrows," above Halifax Harbor, and a narrow place in the Liverpool River just below Milton, are thus named by the Indians. The syllable *kēb* or *kēp*, which is the same exactly in meaning, means to stop or impede, to choke up, etc. Many words begin with this syllable; as, *kēbejokūm*, to stop a hole; *kēbejokteskum*, to shut a door; *kēbadagwā'*, to be hoarse, to have the voice impeded; *kēbaadoo*, to stanch blood; *kebāpskitk*, the stream is obstructed by rocks; *kēbāmkoogwēk*, the mouth of the river is obstructed by sand thrown in by the waves; *kēbe-skoonei*, my nose is stopped; etc.

- Mâgëpskegëch'k**, tumbling over large rocks; Gaspereaux River, in Horton, King's County.
- Mâjëöktëligün Lütkaamün**, an arrow.
- Mâkpāāk**, Malpeque, in P. E. I.
- Mâkpāāch'k**, first and second lakes on Moses River.
- Mālipkānch'**, a hazel-nut.
- Maskwe**, general name for bark.
- Maycobegilk**, end of the flowing (meaning the bound of the rushing water, the tide or bore); Cobequid, Truro, now Salmon River.
- Megāmaage**, Nova Scotia; land of the Micmaes.
- Mëgwā'jijik**, the Red Indians of Newfoundland.
- Mëgwas-ā'**, Belfast in P. E. Island.
- Mëmkāā'k-kwë'sawā'**, Pandora Point.
- Më'nagwë's**, St. John, N. B.
- Men'ich'k**, a berry.
- Menoody**, a bay; Minudie, Cumberland County.
- Mëowch'**, a puss, a cat.
- Mës-adë'k**, Long Island, Horton, Nova Scotia.
- Mëseebākünük'**, Sambro Cape.
- Mëspāāk**, Cape Mispek.
- Migoonaasit**, the out-spreader; a peacock.
- Mijeogün**, St. Lawrence River.
- Miläsük**, Bridgeport.
- Miläpskegëch'k**, third lake on Moses River.
- Milchëgaach**, Meander River in Newport, Hants County.
- Mimkwökün**, an acorn.
- Mimkwönmoose**, the oak.
- Misëgümisk'**, Scraggy Lake.
- Mistogook**, Mistouche River.
- Moināwā**, bear's meat.
- Moo-āümook**, he is from home.
- Mooin**, a bear.
- Mooinei'**, a bear-skin.
- Moosëgisk'**, the atmosphere.
- Mootpoon**, an animal's bed.
- Mpögün**, a bed.
- Misookweel**, the bark for building a canoe.
- 'Mtabân'**, mud bridge; Wolfville, Nova Scotia.
- Mtäe**, a beaver-skin.
- Mtoodook**, Little River, Mira, Cape Breton.
- Münagë'sünook'**, the Magdalen Islands.
- Münā'pskw**, a ledge of rocks.
- Mündoo**, Satan. This is the Algonkin name for the Great Spirit, but applied to the devil by the first Christian missionaries.
- Mündooāpskw**, Devil's Rock, now Jeddore Rock.
- Münëskooch'k'**, Muddy Creek, Prince Edward Island.
- Münkwön'**, the rainbow.
- Musquodoboit**, sparkling water, a river in Halifax County.
- Nābüdagwën'igün**, a basket handle.
- Naookteboogooik**, big pond.
- Napan**, Napan in Cumberland Co.
- Napüşkwa'**, to string beads.
- Nebe**, a leaf.
- Nëbëltook'**, Bartibog, name of a place.
- Negwë'k**, Negwak Island.
- Nelegākünë'k**, Newport River.
- Neliksaak**, Arichat.
- Nëmcheboogwë'k'**, Middle River, Cape Breton.
- Nëmtakayāk'**, Nemtage River.
- Nepigiguit**, on Chaleur Bay.
- Neseām'k'**, Sable River, Nova Scotia.
- Nictah'k**, forks; Nictau.
- Noel**, where the ice-cakes float loosely.



**Noogoomkeâk'**, Moses River.  
**Noos-abon**, the river Noosaboon.  
**'Ntooa'gwâkûn**, Lot 49, Prince Edward Island.  
**'Ntûbloo**, an army.  
**Ogomkigeôk'**, Liverpool River, Nova Scotia.  
**Oochaadooch**, Margaree River's mouth, Cape Breton.  
**Oochogûm**, a point covered with oak.  
**Oolâstook**, St. John River, New Brunswick.  
**Oonban**, a moose's bed.  
**Oonegûn**, portage.  
**Oonikskwômkook**, Point Miskwe.  
**Owoolâkûmooëjit**, Famine, figuratively represented as an evil being.  
**Owwôkûn**, Portage River, Miramichi, New Brunswick.  
**Paakwaak**, stop here, you cannot go any further; Pockwock Lake.  
**Pâjedoobaachk**, Oyster Pond.  
**Pâlamooâ' Seboo**, Salmon River, Truro.  
**Paspêge'âk, Paspebeek**, Prospect.  
**Pedeâdêk**, ignis fatuus.  
**Pege**, a side of meat, including all the ribs.  
**Pêmâmkeâk'**, Sand Island, Miramichi.  
**Pentagouët**, a river in New Brunswick.  
**Pessyquid**, flowing squarely into the sea; Avon River in Windsor, Hants County.  
**Pêtikootkweâk'**, Peticodiac River.  
**Petoobôk**, Bras d'Or Lake in Cape Breton.  
**Pijenoosikâk**, La Have River.  
**Piktook**, Pictou.  
**Piktoo'jûk**, Martin's River, Colchester, Nova Scotia.

**Pogûmkêk'**, Pomket Harbor.  
**Põnhôôk**, the first lake in a chain.  
**Poogûnikpêchk**, Pictou Harbor.  
**Pookudapkwôde**, Cape Porcupine, on the Strait of Canso.  
**Pootâleâwâ'**, a basket.  
**Pugooôpskook**, Owl's Head in Hants County.  
**Pûlâmoo**, salmon.  
**Pûlowecha Mûwego**, Partridge Island.  
**Pûlow-wech**, a partridge.  
**Saa-gaa-bun**, the Micmac potato.  
**Saa-gaa-bun-akady**, the place where the Micmac potato grows (Shubenacadie).  
**Sakpulkweâk**, there is wet snow and ice there.  
**Sâsageem**, a bare foot.  
**Sâsoo Goole**, Jesus Christ.  
**Sebiskadâkûncheech**, Miscou Gully, Cape Breton.  
**Seboo**, a river.  
**Sëbûnisk'**, Lockport, Nova Scotia.  
**Sëgûbûnâkâde**, Shubenacadie.  
**Sesetkook**, Chezetcook.  
**Sesip** or **Sesipcheech'**, a bird.  
**Ses-mogûn**, sugar.  
**Sigûnikt'**, Chignecto.  
**Simkook**, Petite River in Lunenburg.  
**Skûdakûmoochoowte**, Milky Way; the spirits' road.  
**Stewiacke**, where the fresh water joins the salt; a river in Colchester County.  
**Sûmskwës'**, Pumpkin Island.  
**Sûnow'**, sugar maple.  
**Tabooëtootûn**, Rustico, P. E. I.  
**Tâooôpskik**, the river runs out between rocks. Hence the name of the Annapolis River, Tâooôpskik.  
**Tâwitk**, Petite Passage, N. S.  
**Team**, a moose.

- Tēsogwōde**, Pirate's Cove, on Can-so Strait.
- Tooetūnook'**, Avon River, Hants County.
- Tūlūgādik**, Grand Lake, Halifax County.
- Ūkcheseeboo**, a large river.
- Ūktākūmkook'**, Newfoundland.
- Ūkwtākūn**, starvation; in the Indian legends represented as a *quasi* demigod, whose howling and approach indicate death and destruction.
- Ūlgēdoo**, a mushroom.
- Ūlgēdook'**, Port Medway.
- Ūlnoo**, a man, as distinguished from all other animals.
- Ūlnooe**, to be a man, an Indian.
- Ūlnoojech**, the eyeball, the little Indian, manikin.
- Ūmkoome**, ice.
- Ūpkoo**, gum.
- Ūpkwaweegān'**, Oak Point in Cornwallis.
- Ūpskāmkkook**, Petite River in Hants County.
- Ūtkūbōk**, Chebogue.
- Wāgobāgītk'**, literally, the bay runs far up; hence Cobequid.
- Wēchkwēmkeāk'**, Mizzen Point.
- Wēdāwēlāk'**, the rain patters on the roof.
- Wegoon**, a bean.
- Weijooik**, Sheet Harbor.
- Weiōpsk**, a bead.
- Weisis**, a beast.
- Wējowtik**, Point Prim.
- Weūkūch'**, Margaree River, Cape Breton.
- Wiskūsōk**, **Milpāgēch'**, **Nēnāsākūnēk'**, and **Pēdāwikpāāk** are Tangier Lakes.
- Wisūnawōn**, Gay's River, in Halifax County.
- Wōbabooōkchūk**, white waters, Elm Tree River.
- Wōbeākāde**, literally Swan land, now Broad River Lake.
- Wōjeech**, Pereaux in Cornwallis.
- Wokūloopskūsow'**, Marble Head.
- Wōkūmeāk'**, Nine-Mile River in Hants County.
- Wokūmūtkkook**, Middle River, Nova Scotia.
- Wōlūmkwākā'gūnūch**, Port Mulgrave.
- Wōlunkāk'**, Beaver Harbor.
- Wōnpaak**, Cole Harbor.
- Wōsetūmooēk**, Newel River.
- Wōsoksegēk'**, Martin's Point, near Londonderry, Colchester County, on Debert River.
- Wōsōgwēsoo-gwōde**, Petite in Hants County, on the bay.
- Wōspēgeāk'**, Shoal Bay.
- Wōspooijiktook**, among the seals; Herring Point, New Brunswick.
- Yap Team**, a bull moose.



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S. J. C.

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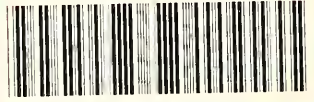








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