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# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,.....OCT 19 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.

*St. Jacobs  
Waterloo Co. Ont.*

St. Jacobs. Post office.  
Waterloo County Ontario,

25<sup>th</sup> October 1905.

Sir

In reply to yours of the  
19<sup>th</sup> instant, I beg to state  
that the name of the above  
Post office was named  
After Jacob C. Snider <sup>senior</sup> of the  
village of Waterloo, at that time,  
who owned property here and  
built a large Flouring and  
Grist Mill here, occupied  
and later owned by his son  
Jacob C. Snider Jr.

The old man died in 1865,  
and the younger Snider was  
killed by the Railway accident  
at Disjardaus Canal at  
Hamilton I think in 1856.

Yours Respectfully  
John L. Wideman  
Postmaster

To James White Esq  
Post Office Department  
Ottawa.