

February 24, 1941.

Miss Beulah Waterman,
White Point Beach,
Nova Scotia.

Dear Beulah:

I have received your letter of the 27th of January. I am not sure just how much information you want. To answer your question even fairly well would make a very long letter.

The founder of the Waterman family of Nova Scotia was Zenas Waterman, of Kingston, Massachusetts, whose Waterman ancestors had lived in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, from the time Robert Waterman arrived at Plymouth in 1630. The mother of Zenas was Hannah Rogers. She had eight children who attained the united age of over 695 years, or an average of nearly 87 years. - And she herself lived to be nearly eighty-four. Is it any wonder the early pioneers of Queens were of sturdy stock?

When the American colonists rose in revolt against taxation without representation, like most of his neighbours, Zenas Waterman joined one of the Massachusetts volunteer regiments. He was a mere boy at the time, not old enough to carry a gun, but he was a good musician and played the flute in the drum corps. Later he enlisted as a private and then again as a corporal. He was at Dorchester when the British left Boston. Late in life and until his death he received a pension in gold from the United States Government for such service.

As almost always is true after peace has been declared, to find satisfactory employment was not easy. Zenas had two relatives who had been among the first shareholders of the town of Liverpool, but they did not make Liverpool their home. You will find their names in More's History of Queens County.

Long before the American Revolution, men of Massachusetts sailed along the coast of Nova Scotia bringing manufactured articles like furniture and hardware and taking back to Massachusetts fish and lumber. Immediately after the war, Zenas Waterman sailed with an uncle who had a vessel in such trade, and in the course of their voyage they landed at Liverpool for supplies. Liverpool had been settled almost entirely by people from the shores of Massachusetts. Correspondence and visits back and forth made Liverpool seem like home. But there was one difference between Liverpool and Massachusetts. Massachusetts had become irritated by the acts and the attitude of the officials of the Crown and were in sufficient number to have strength. The residents of Liverpool and other such towns

in Nova Scotia, being small in number and isolated, were not so much bothered and of course had much less ground for dissatisfaction. Most people both of Great Britain and of America now feel that the uprising of the colonies was justified. I write all this to make it clear to you that the very principles for which both the British Empire and the United States now stand, true democracy as now existing in England and Canada and in the United States, were the very principles for which your ancestor Zenas Waterman stood, when he became a soldier.

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 So when Zenas Waterman landed in Liverpool he was among his friends. He himself told my father many times, and my father repeated to me when I was a boy, this interesting story: It was Sunday when the vessel landed at Liverpool. Zenas and his friends went to church. There was no organ. The minister announced the number and asked if someone would start the hymn. It was started too high and they broke down. Zenas then started the hymn on the right note. After church the members of the congregation asked who he was and where he came from and how long he was going to stay in Liverpool. He stated that the vessel sailed the next day. One of the men of the church invited him to his home for dinner. It was there that he met the young woman who was to become his wife. He was persuaded to give up his voyage and remain in Liverpool and teach music for the winter. In June 1784 he was married to Eunice Deane, the daughter of James Deane. The graves of both father and daughter can be found in the Old Burying Ground at Liverpool. Many years ago I went there to see if I could find those graves. I found the place neglected and grown deep in bushes and brambles. I went to the late good man Abram Hendry of Hendry, Ltd., an old school mate of my father at Pleasant River, and persuaded him to organize a committee and make the place respectable. The present beautiful, well-kept Cemetery is the result of that interview and his energetic supervision.

Zenas Waterman and his wife Eunice had eight children born in Liverpool, James Deane, Zenas, Uriah, Peleg, Hannah, Eunice, Nancy and Thomas; and the youngest child, John, my grandfather, born at Pleasant River. Zenas (1st) learned the blacksmith's trade and established his own shop on the west side of the road between the present railroad station and the bridge, near the shipyard. I have a pair of andirons he made for my great-grandfather Josiah Smith, who bought the farm at South Brookfield from William Burke.

When the boys were old enough to look for work, privateers were calling for young men to fight against France or Spain with whom England was at war. The mother considered privateersmen pirates, and to keep her boys from such adventure persuaded the father to give up his business in Liverpool and start a new life out in the country on a farm. There was no road then between Liverpool and Brookfield. Surveys had been ordered by the Government and a route had been blazed through the woods. William Burke and others, including Zenas Waterman, had been through that country seeking the best route. When William Burke arrived at the river at South Brookfield he was delighted and told his companions that there he would make his home. He built a log cabin on land now occupied by Primrose Smith, between the houses of Mr. Smith and his nephew Oliver. Zenas Waterman went through the woods until he came to what is now Pleasant River, returned to Liverpool and applied to the Government for a grant of five hundred acres.

In 1802, shortly after William Burke established his home at South Brookfield, Eunice Deane Waterman, with her two boys, James, 16, and Zenas, 14, followed this forty mile trail to see for themselves the land which was to become their home. The mother rode horseback, the two boys walked. They stopped over night in the cabin of William Burke. They followed the course of what has been called the Old Road which in order to avoid bogs and meadows and need for bridges, went over the tops of all the hills, but there was no road then. They came to the river where it runs in rapids below the present railroad bridge, and the mother called it Pleasant River. They came to the brook. The horse was mired and nearly lost in the mud and they called it Deep Brook. They came to the large granite boulder which rests against the bank at the foot of the hill where my present driveway leaves the old road, and made camp for the night, and they called that granite boulder The Camp Rock. And so these places have been named all these years. The next day they followed the crest of the hill overlooking the meadows and decided to build a more permanent camp. The boys built a log cabin half way up the hill at the head of what afterward became the old orchard. They then returned to Liverpool and shortly afterward, laden with such supplies as would be most needed, the whole family left Liverpool over that roughly hewn road and became the first permanent settlers of Pleasant River. My grandfather, John Waterman, was born in that log cabin half way up the hill. As soon as material could be obtained a new house was built on what now is called the old cellar, on the top of the hill.

Zenas Waterman was then forty-two years old. His family grew up around him. Each son or daughter became established upon a farm of his own, so that for many years before his death the father could sit under the tree in his front yard and see the farms of eight of his children and their families spread out on the hills in a semi-circle around him, as his nearest neighbours.

Zenas Waterman lived to be ninety years of age. He had climbed a tree and was picking apples when the limb broke and he fell. His feet struck the fence and his shoulders the ground. My father, who was fourteen, and a school mate were near. They ran to him and helped him to his feet and with their help he walked into the house. They called the doctor. The doctor bled him and that night he died.

All the information I have concerning his life, his family and his associates, came direct to me when I was a little fellow, interested just as my father had been interested when he sat before the big fire place and listened to his grandfather.

Zenas Waterman as a boy lived in Massachusetts where Indian corn was plentiful. As he developed his farm he set aside a piece of land on the south slope of the hill for corn and called it The Corn Garden. All of the older people still know the west orchard by that name. There were until recently, (and there still is one, called the Joe Howe tree), four or five large apple trees on the top of the hill. Grafting of apple trees now is common, but Zenas Waterman was the first person to graft apple trees in Pleasant River. These grafts were sent to him by relatives in Massachusetts.

His sons and daughters settled in Pleasant River as follows:

- (1) James Deane Waterman married Mary Wile and settled on the

northeast half of his father's original grant, now occupied by Lynnville Herman.

(2) Zenas 2nd married Experience Freeman, lived first at the Twelve Mile, now called Middlefield, and later on the Brighton Farm at Pleasant River. He was at one time representative of his district in the House of Assembly at Halifax. (Wrong)

(3) Uriah married Polly Horton of Massachusetts and lived first at Bridgewater and later at Pleasant River on the farm recently occupied by Asaph Frank.

(4) Peleg, who was unmarried, lived at Pleasant River, later moved to Bridgewater.

(5) Hannah married Garrett Wile, lived first at Bridgewater, later at Pleasant River near the Brighton Farm.

(6) Eunice married James Lohnes and lived on the "Lohnes Farm" later occupied first by William Veinot and now by his son Sylvanus Veinot.

(7) Nancy married Philip Fancy and lived on the farm opposite the church at Pleasant River. (The old Congregational or present United Church)

(8) Thomas married Mary Gardner and lived on the west side of the road near the Brook at South Brookfield, at present occupied by Willard Waterman.

(9) John married Lydia Smith, the daughter of Josiah Smith of South Brookfield, and lived with his father on the Home Hill at Pleasant River.

(2) Zenas 2nd and Experience Freeman had children:

Freeman, your great grandfather, who lived on the farm a part of which has been occupied by the late George Colp.

Alexander lived on the farm at present occupied by Mrs. Charles Waterman and her son Raymond.

Also Maria, Rogers, Abigail, Phoebe, Zenas, Dan and John Allen.

Freeman Waterman 2nd, your grandfather, was one good man. I remember well hearing Mr. Libby, at the Gold Mine, say there was no check on the amalgamator, but there was no need for check on Freeman Waterman. My father was very fond of his early associates at Pleasant River. That covered a period from his days at school which then was at the southeast corner at the junction of the main road and the road that goes up to the Cemetery, and which, by the way, in consultation with Albert Morley, has been marked for permanent record, -- until my father left Pleasant River at the age of 20. Among his best friends was your grandfather Freeman Waterman and his brother William. My first visit in the United States at the age of 10 was to meet that William Waterman at Somerville.

In those early days there was very little contact with outside life. The Indians came up the river in birch bark canoes, sometimes just a squaw in the stern managing the canoe and a whole lot of little fellows on each side paddling, to trade. They usually camped near the church. An occasional trip over the rough road to Liverpool for the sale of lumber and the purchase of supplies like sugar, tea, coffee, molasses, and for luxuries like silver buckles for shoes and silk stockings, fine linen and dress goods, to arrange for shipment

from Halifax. I have in my possession a list of articles purchased by Zenas Waterman from Halifax, as follows:

Halifax, 19th Dec, 1792.

Mr. Zenas Waterman,
Bo't of Samuel Hart.

Zenas Waterman was living on South Avenue, Liverpool,
 before he had a blacksmith shop, when he bought these goods in 1792.
 Samuel Hart was a General merchant in Halifax. He had much business
 with Liverpool, and from 1793 to 1798 represented the Liverpool Company in the Assembly.

14 yds. Linen	5/3	2	5	6
1 Black Silk Handkf.	4/		4	
5 yds. Lavent Duck	10/		7	6
3 1/2 yds. Duffile	4/3		14	10 1/2
2 1/2 yds. do	4/		10	
3 1/2 yds. Elastic Coating	8/	1	8	0
8 yds. Purple Callico	2/		16	
8 yds. brown Sheeting	20		13	4
4 yds. Linen	10		6	
4 yds. Baise	2/		8	
4 yds. Scarlett Flannell	3/6		14	
1 1/2 yds. White do	3/		4	6
6 yds. Russett	3/3		19	6
1 pr. best Beaver Gloves	2/9		2	9
1 pr. Women's do.	2/		2	
1 yd. Blue Cloth	18/		18	
1 1/2 brown Durant	1/6		2	3
1 lb. Thread all colours	3/9		3	9
1/4 White do.	8		2	
1 oz. do do	10			10
11 yds. Sheeting	20		17	4
1 yd. Long Lawn	4/		4	
1/2 yd. Cambrick	8/6		4	3
27 1/2 yds. Check	10	2	1	3
4 dz. Buttons	10		3	4
4 do do	6		2	6
1 Hat 10/ 1 do 8/6			13	6
1 pr. Shoes 7/9 2 pr. do 11/6			19	3
2 pr. Women's Pumps	4/9		9	6
3 0 10 Iron	20/	4	6	6
35 1/2 lbs. Steel	10 1/2	1	11	1
do. yesterday 1 pr. Shoes	7/9			
1 pr. Buckles	6/0			
1 pr. stockings	5/6	1	1	5
1 Trap			7	6
19 lb. Salmon Twine	1/7	1	10	1
1 Large Blanket			15	
1 do Bible			13	
		27	7	2 1/2
1 pr. Hand Irons			5	0
1 Iron Pott			2	6
3 1/2 lb. Soap	7 1/2		2	0 1/2
		27	16	9
Balance of Old Acct.		4	15	2 1/2
		32	11	11 1/2

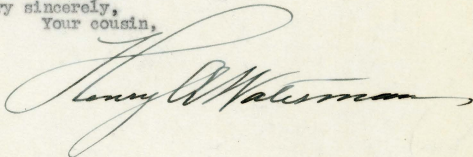
These people who had come into this new country had been accustomed to associations of education and culture and good living. They now found it necessary to produce nearly all of what was required for the family. It was not long before other settlers came into that district, and then trade and purchase among themselves became more common and life was more interesting. Religious meetings first were held in their homes when some minister would

come into the neighbourhood. The first church was erected at the location of the present United Church. It was stipulated that it was not to be in control of any one denomination but that any minister in good standing should have the privilege of preaching in the order in which application was received. That arrangement was broadminded and helpful. In later years the Congregational Church of Liverpool by solicited petition took over the control of the independent church of Pleasant River.

In 1858 my grandfather John asked my father to build him a new house at the foot of the hill, the one in which Stephen Waterman and his wife Dena Wile lived all their married life and which I now have moved up to the top of the hill. When the new house was built down below, the old well, dug in 1804, was filled and it disappeared completely. In 1930 I decided if possible to make the old well a part of my new arrangement. I could find no one who knew where it was. And then I remembered that thirty years before I had asked my father if he knew how I could find it. I had written in my book that he said if I would stand in the doorway of the ell of the old house and take so many paces and stop, I would be there. I started from the foundation of the old cellar where the doorway would have been, walked the suggested distance, and in the open field, where there was no sign of any excavation, we uncovered the ground and hit the spot exactly. The well had been filled with round granite boulders about two feet in diameter. I made a hoist and removed those stones. In the very bottom of the well we found the old spice-mill, badly rusted and out of service completely of course, which had been fastened to the beams of the old fireplace when the house was first erected in 1804. This well had been closed for seventy-two years and for a long time forgotten. The water is as clear as crystal and supplies the full need of the present house.

There, Beulah, I have written this outline because I thought you would be interested and because I have rather liked to do so. I hope it will give you pleasure and some benefit.

With the best of good wishes,
Very sincerely,
Your cousin,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Tony Waterman". The signature is written in a cursive style with long, sweeping flourishes, particularly on the "y" and the final "n".



HENRY A. WATERMAN
YARMOUTH

August 25, 1945.

Mr. Thomas H. Raddall,
Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

I received your letter of the 9th of June and I was glad indeed you had an opportunity to visit the old Waterman farm at Pleasant River. I only wish I could have been there to make sure your attention was called to particular points of interest. I have been so fully occupied on public affairs this summer that I have made only very short trips to the farm, and few of them.

Referring to your question concerning the camp of the Indians at Pleasant River. You will note that on page 159 Mr. More states that "on coming near to the large meadow he recognized the spot where the Indians encamped." This camp of course was not on the meadow; it was near the meadow, probably on his left as he approached from Liverpool, soon after he crossed the Pleasant River bridge and had passed the Waterman Road and before he reached the meadow on his right and John Payzant's house on his left. There is a large meadow in the angle formed by the Main Road and the old Waterman Road, now the New Elm Road, with the home field of the old Philip Fancy farm in the corner. The part of this meadow toward Bridgewater no doubt belonged to John Payzant, for it became the property of David Freeman. The part of the meadow near the Waterman Road was part of the Philip Fancy farm which I now own and which contains the camp ground on the river between the Mill Privilege and the road, - a very interesting spot, too. I enclose a rough sketch to show the relation of the different properties.

I always have been told and I never have heard any statement to the contrary, that the Indians had two camping places in Pleasant River, one on the level ground east of the river and north of the Bridgewater Road immediately below the falls at a point called the Old Mill Site, the other lower down the river just south of the road and east of the river in the immediate vicinity of the old Congregational

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Church, now the United Church, of Pleasant River. Many of the early settlers owned shares in that mill, but the property, which for many years has belonged to me, was the original farm of Ann, called Aunt Nancy, the daughter of the first Zenas Waterman and the wife of Philip Fancy. I do not know of any earlier owner of the so-called Philip Fancy farm which borders the east side of the river for several miles up-stream. Immediately to the east of this Philip Fancy farm, not bordering the river at any point, was the original grant to John Payzant which later became the farm of David Freeman, which on the death of David Freeman was divided between his daughter who married Rufus Handry and her brother Joseph Freeman who came back to Pleasant River from Greenfield where he had been teaching school. Your description of the journey of the Indians is interesting and seems quite possible.

Here is a quotation from a record of dictation by my father:

(Beaubien?)

"The Indians in the old days camped in the level field below the Mill Privilege on the east side of the river north of the road to Bridgewater, sometimes down the river back of the Meeting House. I don't know whether the Indians cleared that ground or camped there because it was cleared. There was an old Indian "Peter Bobbyeye", then there was Francois Glode and his son young Francois. I often went moose-hunting with young Francois. He was not much older than I. They camped at Brookfield, sometimes at Pleasant River, and went down-stream to Liverpool. Old Francois and his family were pure-blooded Indians. One of them was chief of his tribe and held court. The women wore blankets and brought baskets for sale. If the Indians were traveling through and came near they came to our house. They were given supper and lay on the floor before the big fireplace in the back kitchen. They never expected a bed. They were off in the morning before we were up."

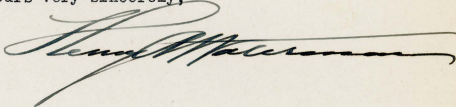
My father was born in 1838 in the old house on the top of the hill. He lived there with his grandfather, the first settler, until he was fourteen, and remained with his father until he left the farm at eighteen to work hard to secure an education and learn his trade. One day I was driving through from Caledonia to Annapolis. It was at the time they were rebuilding that highway when chains were almost as necessary as gasoline. Pulling out of the mud up on solid ground at Maitland Bridge, an old gentleman

of about ninety came from his house to watch the operation of removing the chains. He asked my name and I told him. He said he only knew one Waterman well and that was when he was a boy stream-driving on the LaHave River, and "he was all right". I asked his name, and it was my own father. The old man was delighted.

I have two sets of miscellaneous record typewritten from dictation by my father, covering his boyhood, experiences and associations. They never have been put in order and there are many repetitions. Some day if you wish I shall be glad to send you a copy of them. They may not be of much value but I am sure you would find them interesting.

With kind regards and best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. A. Waterman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

H. A. Waterman.



Yarmouth,
April 18, 1945.

Mr. Thomas H. Raddall,
Box 459, Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Raddall:

You will remember our conversation at the Province House when, while I was praising the picture of those early days in Nova Scotia as outlined in "His Majesty's Yankees", much to my surprise I was told that you had written the book. When you stated that you knew something of the Watermans of North Queens and would like to know more of them, I offered to send you a copy of a letter which I had written some years ago to one of my young and distant relatives, covering that early settlement at Pleasant River. I now enclose a carbon copy of that letter, thinking it may be of some interest as a story even if it is not of much value as record.

With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

H. A. Waterman,
M.L.A., Yarmouth.

Answered
Apr. 21st

