

January 2016

Charles E. Waterman Correspondence

Charles Elmer Waterman 1858-

Maine State Library

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WATERMAN, Charles

WATERMAN, Charles E.

Born in Oxford, Maine, March 2, 1858, son of Samuel B. and Abbie (Millett) Waterman. He was educated in the public schools of Oxford and Hebron Academy. He learned the publishing business in the office of The Oxford Democrat, Paris, Maine, and has been reporter on The Lowell (Mass.) Times and Boston Herald. City editor of The Auburn Gazette and editor of The Mechanic Falls Ledger. He has contributed to magazines and published A History of Mechanic Falls, The Watermans of Maine (a genealogy), The Promised Land (a volume of short stories), The Oxford Hills, and A City on a Hill. He was married at Paris in 1882 to Miss Clara E. Garland. She died in 1930.

Old Corner House,

Paris, Maine.

Sept. 6th 1922

To
The Librarian of State of Maine
Library
Dear Sir -

I am mailing you
on my own initiative a copy
of Maine Gun - Shot and asking
that it be placed with the works
of Maine authors. The writer

Mr. Watman is connected with
the Oxford Journal - &c. Paris Man.
I do this without Mr. Watman's
knowledge - because of appreciation
of the Monograph and because
of a certain knowledge which
I chance to have of our State
gens - Very truly yours
Wm. L. Shaw

Mechanic Falls, Maine, Jan. 28, 1937

Rev. H. E. Dunnack
State Librarian
Augusta Maine

Dear Sir:-

I am sending you today under
separate wraps, a copy of A City on
a Hill for the State Library, and
one for your own library.

Yours truly

Charles E. Waterman

C O P Y

February 4, 1931

Mr. Charles Waterman,
Mechanic Falls, Maine.

My dear Mr. Waterman,

Thank you for the two copies of your new book, "A City on a Hill," which you sent the library last week. We shall wish to place one of the copies in the Maine Author Collection, and for that purpose we should like to have it autographed and inscribed, so we are returning it to you. Will you autograph it and send it back to us as soon as is convenient for you to do so? We enclose return postage.

We shall wish to mention your book in the next issue of the Bulletin, and we should like to have a little more detailed information about you than we have in our files at present. Will you please tell us when you were born, and where? It would be interesting, also, to know something about your writing. We shall be interested in any information about yourself which you care to send us.

Very truly yours,

By MCF

Mechanic Falls, Maine, February 5, 1931.

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,
State Library,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

In response to your letter of February 4, I am inclosing a brief biographical sketch of myself, of which you can use as much as you see fit. I have also autographed the book you returned and send it to you in this mail.

Very truly yours,

Charles E. Waterman.

March 26, 1931

Mr. Charles E. Waterman
Mechanic Falls, Maine

My dear Mr. Waterman;-

The April issue of our Library Bulletin which contains a note on your book "A City on a Hill," is now in press and we hope that we shall be able to send you a copy of it in a few days.

Thank you for your prompt response to our request for biographical information about yourself. We are keeping your letter and the biographical sketch in our Maine Author files.

I enjoyed reading your little book. I should think that it might find a ready sale among the many visitors to lovely Paris Hill.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY MCF

C O P Y

May 15, 1931

MR. CHARLES E. WATERMAN;

MECHANIC FALLS, MAINE

MY DEAR MR. WATERMAN:*

Thank you very much for the two copies of your new book, "Measured Fancies", which came this morning. I have placed one copy in the Maine Author Collection, and I am very glad to have the second copy to add to my own library. I am keenly interested in our Maine authors, and it gives me great pleasure to own examples of their work. In connection with the Library Exhibit at the meeting of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs at Lewiston tomorrow we are exhibiting some recent books by Maine authors and I am taking your little book to be exhibited with other autographed volumes from the Maine Author Collection.

We are very glad to send you a copy of the January Bulletin. I am glad that you liked the April notice.

I think that Measured Fancies is a very pleasing collection of verse. Your lovely dedicatory poem reminds me of Bridges's poem to his "lost angel", one of the finest things he ever wrote. Doubtless you know it; it begins, "Long are the hours the sun is above, But when evening comes I go home to my love". The Chickadee poem is especially charming, I think the best one I have seen about this much versified bird.

Very truly yours

(Signed MCF)

Mechanic Falls, Maine, May 14, 1931.

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I wish to thank you for the April Library Bulletin which you sent me; also for your nice personal notice. I wonder if you have a spare copy of the January Bulletin which ypu would send me?

I am sending another little book for the Maine authors Department, duly autographed; and another for yourself personally, if you would like it; if not, you can put it in the circulating department of the library.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

Charles E. Waterman

Mechanic Falls, Maine, June 8, 1931.

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,

Augusta, Maine.

My Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I am in receipt of two letters from you, both of which gave me pleasure.

I did not expect Measured Fancies to be at the women's literary meet in Lewiston May 16th, but I heard from it from several of my women friends who were there. I would have liked to have gone down and seen the collection, but I did not get your letter until Saturday noon and it found me in the midst of some work I could not very well leave.

I would have liked, also, to have got a glimpse of Mrs. Fuller, who has said several nice things about me, which I appreciate; but perhaps I may see you at some later time.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours;

Charles E. Waterman

Mechanic Falls, Maine, October 2, 1931.

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,

State Library, Augusta, Maine.

My Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I Am sending the State Library another of my little books. To use a slang expression, I do not want to "ball" the library all up with them, but my vanity is working enough to want this one with the others in the state collection of local writers; but take courage, I do not think there will be another for some time.

I am also sending one to you personally. I don't know as you will care for it specially, as it is semi-juvenile; if so, you can put it in the circulating department of the library.

I had rather thought I would be in Augusta a day or so during the early fall, when I intended to call on you; but I shall not go at present.

I was near the local library when the Bookmobile came into the place, so I visited it and talked with the young lady attendants. It's great institution.

Thanking you for all favors received, and hoping this will find you in good health, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Charles E. Waterman

Copy.

October 8, 1931.

Mr. Charles E. Waterman,
Mechanic Falls, Maine.

Dear Mr. Waterman;-

Thank you very much
for the two copies of your new book. We are glad to add the
White Fawn to the Maine Author Collection and I am very grate-
ful to you for sending me a personal copy. I found it very
interesting, although quite unlike your other books, It must
add to one's interest in writing to be able to write in several
veins and pursue a number of subjects.

I hope that you have had a pleasant summer. Your
writing must keep you busy most of the time, but I have no
doubt that you enjoy it.

Thank you again for the attractive and interesting
little books.

Very truly yours,

(Signed MCF)

Mechanic Falls, Maine, November 28, 1932.

Hon. Henry E. Dunnack,
State Librarian,
Augusta, Maine.

My Dear Mr. Dunnack:

I am sending the State Library an autographed
copy of my new book just issued, Carib Queens. I
am also sending one for your private library. I
hope you will like it.

Sincerely yours,

Charles E. Waterman

Mechanic Falls, Maine,

May 25, 1933.

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

In reply to your letter of inquiry of the 24th, will say that we have postponed the publication of my History of Oxford County for a time. Although the Library Committee of the last Legislature gave a report of "ought to pass" to the resolve to purchase one hundred volumes of the history, it was held up by the finance committee on the ground of lack of funds; so we have concluded to wait awhile on the publication, hoping the state will not feel quite so poor when another legislature meets. It will cost quite a lot of money to issue the book, with the purchasing public uncertain, so we had relied on this state sale to help finance the publication.

You were not present at the Federation and Bates Literature Day this year. I did not go, but I inquired of some of my newspaper friends, and they said you did not preside over the state library exhibit as usual.

Very truly yours,

Charles E. Waterman.

Copy

May 27, 1933

Mr. Charles E. Waterman;-

Thank you for your prompt response to my inquiry about your History of Oxford County. I am glad to have this information so that we can answer inquiries about the publication of the history. I am sorry that the publication of it has had to be postponed and I trust that the state's financial condition will improve before the meeting of the next session of legislature.

As usual, we had a collection of recent books by Maine authors or about Maine at the Federation Literature Day and I sent your "Carib Queens". I was sorry that I could not be there.

Very truly yours,
MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY MCF.

Mechanic Falls, Maine,
January 30, 1934.

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine.

My Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I have just committed one more piece of
of foolishness and published another book. I am
sending one to the State Library for the author's
department, and another for you personally. I
don't know as there is anything in it you will
care about, and if not, you can turn it over to
the library's circulating department.

I hope you have been able to keep warm
during the past month? I have scarcely been able
to, and I am glad January is going to leave us.
February is apt to be a sickly month, and as a
general thing I don't like it; but I shall be glad to
welcome it this year. I feel about it a good deal as
the Arizona woman did about the bandit she was
going to marry. When the officiating
clergyman asked her if she would take the man
for better or worse, she replied she would take
him for better--he couldn't be any worse. I'll
take February. I don't think the month can be
any worse than January.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Waterman

Charles E. Waterman,
Mechanic Falls, Maine.

C O P Y

January 31, 1934

Mr. Charles Waterman,
Mechanic Falls, Maine

Dear Mr. Waterman;-

Thank you for the two copies of "Apiata" which arrived at the library this week. I have recorded the Maine [^]Author Collection copy and placed it with your other books-a pleasant and interesting assembly which must be a source of great satisfaction to the writer.

You are very kind to send me a copy of the book for my own library and I am delighted to own it, as well as read it. It shall have a place beside the copy of Maeterlinck's beautiful book which I have loved since girlhood. Yours is a charming volume; a book that is blue and square makes a special appeal to me and my enjoyment of your "little essays on homemakers" is enhanced by their attractive format.

Did you have a letter from Mrs. Alma Pendexter Hayden of Rochester, New York? She saw a Bulletin note about one of your books and wrote me that she used to know you. She is one of the many Maine authors whom I have never met but with whom I have had much pleasant correspondence.

(Signed) MCF

15 Oak Street,
Mechanic Falls, Maine,
February 5, 1934.

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,
Augusta, Maine.

My Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I am replying to your recent letter, which I received Saturday, with the pleasant things you said about me. Many thanks. I shall certainly consider it a great honor to have my little book placed beside Maeterlinck's masterpiece on bees, for he is my favorite author too.

I have two reasons for replying so early,-- the first because I enjoy hearing from you, and is an excuse for replying (I have pleasant memories of my little call on you last winter), and second because of your inquiry about Mrs. Alma Pendexter Hayden. Yes, I knew her once, and hear from her once in a while. She is an old school teacher of mine, and when she writes she signs herself "your old teacher." She is an old lady now, (in her eighties) but she was scarcely more than a girl when I was her pupil. Once when she wrote me she ended rather ~~suddenly~~ abruptly with "Your old teacher is tired." She is a sister to Hugh Pendexter, the Norway author, and a aunt to Charles Durell, a Maine author, and a native of Oxford.

All the Pendexter books are gathered in the public library of Oxford, where they all lived at one time. Mrs. Kate Starbird, the librarian, is very much interested in her library work--much better than the average country librarian, and has a case of town authors' books, of which there are several; also a museum of old things once used by people residing in the town--including several wedding dresses about a hundred years old; also photos of the people long since dead. She is working on a history of Oxford and has a mass of material. I think you know her. She told me once she had the pleasure of sitting beside you at a banquet of a library convention.

I am sorry the ground hog saw his shadow Friday, for I am tired of this kind of a winter.

Hoping this will find you in good health, I am as ever

Sincerely yours,

Charles E. Waterman.

54 Elm Street,
Mechanic Falls, Maine,
February 10, 1936.

Dr. H. E. Dunnack,
State Librarian,
Augusta, Maine.

My Dear Doctor:

Henry Harrison, the New York publisher, has just issued an anthology of Maine poets, containing 142 different bits of verse from 39 budding, full blown or gone-to-seed poets.

Inasmuch as this book is about Maine people, I thought you would want a couple of copies for the State Library. I have them for sale. The retail price is \$2.00 per copy; I can give you the wholesale price of \$1.50 per copy.

Hoping I shall receive your order, and thanking you in advance for the same, I am as ever,

Yours sincerely,

Charles E. Waterman

Charles E. Waterman.

February 17, 1936

Charles E. Waterman
54 Elm Street
Mechanic Falls, Maine

Dear Mr. Waterman:

Your letter of February 10 has been received, and while we want the book, MAINE AND VERMONT POETS, we have already placed our order with the publisher for our needs.

We are glad to notice that your poems are included in the volume, and glad to notice, too, that the public is becoming more acquainted with Maine writers. Such a number in one anthology is indeed gratifying, especially when the poems are of the fine calibre here represented.

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

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Secretary