

Africa Hamlin was chosen moderator, town clerk, first selectman and assessor. Eleazer Hamlin was moderator in 1798, selectman in 1799, and moderator again in 1801 and 1802. Hannibal Hamlin was moderator for three successive years, 1804, 1805 and 1806, and Representative at Boston in 1809 and 1810. In this latter office he was succeeded by Calvin Farrar, a trader, who kept the place for six years. Waterford voted against separation in 1819, 42 to 52; but afterward accepted the decision of the Portland convention, 35 to 23. Most of the Waterford people were of Massachusetts birth, and the prevailing sentiment of the town was in favor of maintaining the old relations. The Maine people who vehemently favored separation were the descendants of the original settlers, who had no fondness for Plymouth rock.

The first appropriation made by the new town in 1797 was \$108 for preaching; the second, \$100 for schools; then the town meeting began to consider what should be done about the roads, which were bad enough. The Rev. Lincoln Ripley preached in Waterford in 1797 and 1798, and was settled there in 1799. The meeting house, costing \$3000, was built in 1802. It cost a tenth of the valuation of the town. A barrel of rum and 100 pounds of sugar were provided by the town, on the day when the site of the church was graded, and it was agreed that whoever got drunk that day should come the next morning and dig a stump. Tradition says that four or five men appeared to fulfil this agreement. Mr. Ripley remained until 1821 when he was followed by the Rev. John A. Douglass.

The solid men of Waterford were not very heavily taxed in 1802. The heaviest assessments were David McWain \$8.39, Oliver Hale \$4.95, Hannibal Hamlin \$4.29, Jona. Robbins \$4.28, Samuel Plummer \$3.58, Lieut. Thos. Green \$3.71, Josiah Dudley \$4.42, Capt. Stephen Jewett \$3.93, Samuel Warren \$3.41. The number of taxpayers was 109.

Eli Longley built the first tavern in 1797 and the first