

Transcribed and edited by George Richard Chamberlin

JUDAH CHAMBERLIN

In His Own Words

(And the words of his wife, Phebe Mead)

born: April 21, 1761,

“At Cherry Valley they erected a fort (at the time called Fort Alden), which had before commenced, at which was an old stone church, which was used as a guard house. During their stay at Cherry Valley the fort was attacked by a party of the enemy, chiefly Indians commanded by Branett (Chief Joseph Brant) and (a British Colonel) Butler. When the attack commenced (Colonel) Alden and (Colonel) Stacy, with some others, were in a tavern kept by one Jones outside the fort, (the home of Judge Robert Wells), The former was killed and the latter made prisoner. The fort was then attacked and *after a desperate effort* to take it which lasted about an hour or an hour and a half, *the enemy was finally repulsed* and driven away.”



Judah Chamberlin

Declaration for Pension

Dated: May 2, 1837.

JUDAH CHAMBERLIN

Born April 21, 1761

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dedication: Martens Dennis Chamberlin	Page 4
Foreword	Page 5
Judah Chamberlin Family Information	Page 6
Introduction to Revolutionary War Pensions	Pages 7-8
The Declaration for Pension dated May 2, 1837 by Judah Chamberlin	Pages 9-13
Affidavits of Allen Mead and Ira Page	Pages 13-14
Interrogatories for Judah Chamberlin dated May 2, 1837	Pages 15-16
Phebe Mead Information	Pages 17
The Declaration for Bounty Land dated June 2, 1855 By Phebe Mead	Pages 18-19
Affidavits of Polly Chamberlin and Lansing Chamberlin	Pages 20-21
Closing Comments	Page 22
Appendix: Part One Copy of handwritten Declaration, affidavits and Interrogatories for Pension for Judah Chamberlin with transcription	Pages 23-39
Appendix: Part Two Copy of handwritten Declaration, affidavits for Bounty Land for Phebe Mead with transcription	Pages 41-49

Acknowledgments	Page 50
Author: George Richard Chamberlin	Page 51
Bibliography	Pages 52-53
Index of Names	Pages 54-56
Index of Places	Pages 57-58
Parting Comment	Page 59

DEDICATION

This biographical booklet is dedicated to my uncle, Martens Dennis Chamberlin, 12th Generation from the immigrant, Henry of Hingham and great (4) grandson of Judah Chamberlin.

Marty served his country with distinction during World War II. His war record is second to none, earning a designation described by his nephew as a, "Genuine American Hero." His humble temperament is such that he would deny that accolade, however, any one reading his story would agree with Marty's nephew.



On January 22, 1944, Tech Sergeant Martens Dennis Chamberlin, gunner, navigator, and bombardier on a 12th Air Force Marauder unit, returned to the United States after flying 64 combat missions in all capacities on numerous B-26 Marauders, including the B-26 known as the *Frisco Kid*, combat and non combat, Marty flew a total of 104 missions. Twice he was burned or wounded. His most serious wounds occurred while he was on a combat mission over Salerno, Italy, in early October, 1943.

A few years after returning from World War II, Marty met Freida Nilsen. The couple married in New York in 1952. Marty and his wife Freida presently reside in Ocala, Florida. Marty is a son of Harry Dennis Chamberlin and Marguerite Kuhn Chamberlin. Marty and Freida have no children.

George Richard Chamberlin
13th Generation

FOREWORD

Judah Chamberlin, In His Own Words, is a compelling autobiography of an American Revolutionary War soldier.

On May 2, 1837, Judah Chamberlin applied for a Revolutionary War Veteran Pension. Judah's Declaration for Pension was under oath and his interrogatories were under oath. The facts contained in his Declaration and Interrogatories are his own words describing his war time service.

The discerning reader and genealogist should note that every word in a declaration, interrogatory or affidavit, entered into a court or legal proceeding, carries with it the presumption of truth, and in some cases, is the highest and best evidence of existing facts.

In genealogical research, all words are not equal. Words by ancestors long gone under oath in a legal proceeding providing relevant life revealing information is rare, beautiful, and with value beyond measure.

On June 2, 1855, Phebe Mead Chamberlin, Judah's second wife, applied for a Revolutionary war widow's bounty land. Her declaration was also under oath pursuant to a legal proceeding. The facts contained in her sworn testimony are not as plentiful but are treasured.

On July, 1839, Judah Chamberlin was awarded a pension of \$20.00 per annum. On June 21, 1856, Phebe Mead Chamberlin was awarded bounty Land of 160 acres.

What you are about to read is a typed transcript of the file of Judah Chamberlin consisting primarily of a Declaration for pension of Judah Chamberlin dated May 2, 1837, and a Declaration and Affidavit of his wife, Phebe Mead Chamberlin, in her efforts to establish rights to bounty land on June 2, 1855.

Here is the story of Judah Chamberlin and his second wife, Phebe Mead through their own words and through my footnotes. Judah Chamberlin is my great (5) grandfather.

George Richard Chamberlin

JUDAH CHAMBERLIN

Born: Apr. 21, 1761, in Colchester, New London , CT

Baptized: Apr. 25, 1761, First Church, Colchester, CT

Married: @ 1790, Chautauqua Lake, Ontario, Co., NY or
Amenia, Dutchess County, NY

Wife (1): Diadamia Howard Warner, b. abt. 1772, d. Aug 14, 1795.

Wife (2): Phebe Mead, m. Abt 1807, d. Aft 1858.

Died: May 29, 1847, in Union Twp, Logan County, OH

Buried: Row 9 Plat 29, McCracken Cem., Liberty Twp., Logan County, OH
Revolutionary War Veteran, Farmer



Children of Judah Chamberlin and Diadamia Howard Warner:

Harriet Chamberlin: b. Jul. 18, 1791, in Chautauqua Lake, Ontario Co., NY
Or Amenia, Dutchess Co., NY.

Fanny Chamberlin: abt. 1793, in Livingston, Columbia Co., NY.

Calvin Chamberlin: b. Apr. 8, 1795, near Oxford, Tioga (now Chenango) Co., NY

Children of Judah Chamberlin and Phebe Mead

Fanny Chamberlin: b. 22 Oct. 1802, near Oxford, Chenango Co., NY.

Lansing Chamberlin: b. 20 Oct., 1806, near Oxford, Chenango Co., NY.

Vincent Chamberlin: b. 4, Sep., 1808, prob. Hamilton Co. OH

Judah Chamberlin, b. 3 Mar 1810, prob. Harmony Twp., Clark Co., OH

Warren Chamberlin: b. 30 Nov 1813, Harmony Twp., Clark County, OH.

Polly Chamberlin: b. 1815, Harmony Twp., Clark County, OH.

Parents and Chamberlin Grandparents:

Son of: Jehu Chamberlin and Sarah Day(niece), (5); William Chamberlin I and Sarah Day, (4); Joseph Chamberlin and Mercy Dickinson, (3); William Chamberlin and unnamed wife, (2); Henry Chamberlin and J(anne), (1).

Introduction to Revolutionary War Pensions

In the first two decades following the Revolutionary War pensions were granted to veterans, or their survivors, who had been disabled or killed in the war. Nearly all of these early pension and bounty land declarations were destroyed in fires in 1800 and 1814.

In 1818, an Act was passed authorizing pensions for veterans who served at minimum, nine months in the continental army, and *who were in financial need*. Only Continental service qualified under the act. In 1818 the youngest veterans would have attained the age of 58 years. In 1830 the average life expectancy of a male was under 50 years of age.

On June 7, 1832, fifty seven years after the Revolutionary War commenced, the United States Congress passed an Act authorizing pensions for military service. This Act allowed a pension for any man who served at least six months on active duty in any military unit, including levies and militia units. This Act removed the necessity of financial need. In a series of Acts that followed, Congress extended benefits in 1836, 1838, 1848, 1853, and 1855, to widows of veterans who qualified under the Act of 1832. In 1832 the youngest Revolutionary War veterans would have attained the age of 72 years. In 1855, the youngest Revolutionary War veteran would have attained the age of 93 years.

Only a small percentage of veterans ever applied for pensions. In a recent article appearing in *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, William J Parry, PhD, ¹ wrote, “Using the list of 274 men who served Colonel Anthony Van Bergen’s militia regiment, I was able to identify 28 of these men who applied for pensions or bounty land.... eighteen men applied, on the basis of their militia service, under the Act of 1832, six of these applications, or 33 per cent were rejected. Widows of five men applied under the Acts of 1836 or 1838. Three of these applications, or 60 percent, were rejected.” ²

If the Parry research is correct, only 4.3% of this militia unit received pensions under the Act of 1832, and less than 1% of the veteran’s widows received pensions or bounty land under the Acts of 1836 and 1838.

¹ Department of Anthropology, Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, New York, New York. Email wparry@hunter.cuny.edu.

² In an article entitled, *Revolutionary War Service Records Hidden in the Pension Files*, by William J. Parry, PhD., found in *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Volume 136, Number 1, (The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 122 East 58th Street, New York, New York, January, 2005). pages 3-17.

If the Parry research is correct, the pension journal of Judah and Phebe, *in their own words*, is a remarkable account for Judah Chamberlin ³ was one of the few awarded a Revolutionary War pension pursuant to the Act of 1832, and, Phebe Mead was one of the few widows, ⁴ awarded bounty land under the Act of March 3, 1855. ⁵ If Judah had not married a young bride this could not have been possible for Phebe was born after the Revolutionary War had ended.

The Declaration for Pension, the application for bounty land, the answers to interrogatories and supporting affidavits, all under oath, and all obtained pursuant to court hearings, are evidences of the highest order.

My footnotes are my words or the words of other, not under oath and not made pursuant to a legal proceedings. These footnotes are offered for the purposes of clarification, amplification and context. Most of the footnotes are well documented, however, all of the footnotes can be further clarified, amplified or offer clearer context. Only the words of Judah and Phebe shall stand the full test of time as to veracity of the facts contained therein.

Further note, in the transcription of the words of Judah and Phebe some punctuation has been added and some names and places have been highlighted and occasionally a descriptive phrase or full name has been added for clarity. It is the sincere desire of this author that none of those amenities alter or modify the thought of a sentence or a fact as stated. If so, I profoundly apologize.

³ Judah Chamberlin is my great (5) grandfather. Judah is the father of Harriett Chamberlin, the mother of Sophronia Bouton Hanford, the mother of Henry Hanford Chamberlin, the father of Joseph Leroy Chamberlin, the father of Harry Dennis Chamberlin, the father of George Leroy Chamberlin, the father of this author.

⁴ Phebe Mead is my great (5) step-grandmother. My great (5) grandmother, first wife of Judah, was Diadama Howard Warner.

⁵ Interestingly, Judah is not my only Chamberlin great grandfather receiving a Revolutionary War Pension. Elias Chamberlin, was awarded a pension pursuant to the Act of 1832. Amazingly, his second wife, Eunice Ursley was awarded a pension pursuant to the Act of February 3, 1853 and bounty land under the Act of March 3, 1855.. See Chamberlin, George Richard, *The Life and Times of Elias Chamberlin*, (Self Published, Ocala, Florida, 2005) and also Chamberlin, George Richard, Judah Chamberlin, In *His Own Words*, (Self Published, Ocala, Florida, 2005). Elias is the father of Isaac Chamberlin, the father of George Clinton Chamberlin, the father of Henry Hanford Chamberlin, the father of Joseph Leroy Chamberlin, the father of Harry Dennis Chamberlin, the father of George Leroy Chamberlin, the father of this author. Cousins married when George Clinton Chamberlin, grandson of Elias, married his cousin, Sophronia Bouton Handford, granddaughter of Judah Chamberlin

Declaration for Pension and Affidavit of Judah Chamberlin ⁶

The State of Ohio
Clark County

Personally comes in open court in the Court of Common Pleas of Clark County, Ohio, before the Judges thereof now sitting: ⁷ the said court being a court of record, having a common seal. **Judah Chamberlin**,⁸ a resident of the **township of Union**, in the county of Logan in said State, ⁹ and late a resident of the **township of Harmony**, in the said county of Clark, ¹⁰ aged seventy-two years ¹¹ who being duly affirmed, according to the law doth on his affirmation make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. ¹²

That he entered in the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: He resided with his father ¹³ in what was then the County of Albany, in the State of New York, in the year 1776, ¹⁴ in what was then called **Spencertown**, ¹⁵ about 30 miles South East from the town or city of Albany. ¹⁶ In the autumn of that year the people of that vicinity were called together in Spencertown to ascertain who would turn out to protect the country against the depredation of the Tories, who were then very troublesome in that part of the State. Applicant was one of those who volunteered to go, being urged thereto by his parents, ¹⁷ although he was then but in his sixteenth year. ¹⁸ At the time of his service the Regiment ¹⁹ was commanded by **Colonel**,

⁶ Judah sought his pension under authority of the Act of Congress of June 7th 1832.

⁷ This is the official record summarizing a court hearing held for the purpose of determining the award, if any, of a military pension for an alleged veteran of the Revolutionary war, to wit: Judah Chamberlin. The date of the hearing was May 1, 1837.

⁸ Judah Chamberlin is the father of Harriet Chamberlin the wife of Henry Hanford. Henry Hanford is the father of Sophronia Bouton Hanford, the wife of George Clinton Chamberlin. George Clinton Chamberlin is the father of Henry Hanford Chamberlin, who is the father of Joseph Leroy Chamberlin, who is the father of Harry Dennis Chamberlin, who is the father of George Leroy Chamberlin, who is the father of the author, George Richard Chamberlin.

⁹ Judah purchased land from a Mr. Sprague in Union Township, Logan County, Ohio, on March 10, 1834.

¹⁰ Judah purchased land before Clark County was incorporated in 1818. At that time this part of Clark County was located in Champaign County.

¹¹ Judah was born April 21, 1761, in Colchester, Hartford County, Connecticut.

¹² This Act of Congress was passed to provide benefits for the veterans of the American Revolution.

¹³ Judah's father was Jehu Chamberlin, born January 10, 1716, in Colchester, Hartford County, CT. Jehu moved his family to Spencertown, Albany County, NY about 30 miles southeast of Albany

¹⁴ The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776.

¹⁵ Spencertown is presently in Columbia County, New York. Columbia became a county in 1786. Before that date Columbia County was a part of Albany County. Columbia County is north of Dutchess County and South of Albany County.

¹⁶ The City of Albany is the present Capitol of the State of New York.

¹⁷ Judah's father was Jehu Chamberlin and his mother was Sarah Day Chamberlin.

¹⁸ Judah was born April 21, 1761. He was thus 15 ½ years old on October 21, 1776.

David Pratt,²⁰ the Company in which he served was commanded by **Captain Abner Hawley**,²¹ **Eleazor Spencer**,²² was Lieutenant of the same Company. A **Mr. Phelps**²³ acted as Major in the same Regiment.²⁴ In this service applicant acted as a fifer -- (In the picture entitled the Spirit of Seventy Six shown three soldiers consisted of two drummers and a fifer) and whilst he was engaged in it the Company in which he served acted in cooperation with another Company commanded by a **Captain Tamer**²⁵ which was raised in the same vicinity and **Colonel Pratt** headed both companies. They first marched to **Kinderhook**,²⁶ about fifteen miles from where they were raised, and encamped in the vicinity of the village from which small detachments were sent out daily for the purpose of making prisoners of such principal ones as could be found. We remained at Kinderhook about two weeks or a little longer, from that place we marched to **Livingston Manor**,²⁷ where we were engaged in the same service for about the same length of time and then returned home having been engaged in the service for about a month, and the principal object for which we were engaged having been accomplished we were then discharged.

In the spring of 1777, two companies were formed in applicant's neighborhood for the purpose of assisting in protecting the northern frontier and keeping up a line of

¹⁹ Judah's regiment was with the Albany County Militia (Land Bounty Rights Militia) known as the Ninth Regiment, New York.. Judah also served with the Dutchess County Militia, known as the Associated Exempts. He was an enlisted man in both units.

²⁰ The Ninth Regiment, Albany County Militia was led by Lt Colonel David Pratt. Judah's brothers Wyatt Chamberlain and Guerdon Chamberlain both served under Captain Joel Pratt, one year earlier. See ancestry.com. New York Military in the Revolution, Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com 2000, Electronic reproduction of New York in the Revolution as Colony and State, Vol. II, originally published in 1897.

²¹ Captain Abner Hawley served in the Eighth Regiment, Albany County Militia..

²² Lieutenant Eleazor Spencer served in the Ninth Regiment, Albany County Militia.

²³ Major William Phelps. First name and rank provided by Ann Benston, Clark County, Ohio, Genealogical Society.

²⁴ Research has not yet revealed the full name of Mr. Phelps or Major Phelps in either the Eighth or Ninth Regiment.

²⁵ At this time there is no more information available concerning Mr. Tamer.

²⁶ The Village of Kinderhook in Columbia County, New York is the birth place of President Martin Van Buren. The Village is located in the northern portion of Columbia County, less than 10 miles from the Albany County line. Kinderhook is the home of the Columbia County Historical Society.

²⁷ The town of Livingston manor is also in Columbia County, New York. Livingston Manor is located one mile below Pouqkeepsie, on the bank of the Hudson. This was the home of Phillip Livingston, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Interestingly, just one mile away is the VanKleek house where the New York delegation gave assent to the Articles of Confederation on February 6, 1778. Ten years later, June 17, 1788, The New York delegation assented to the United States Constitution at the Van Kleek house.

communication with **Fort George**²⁸ then in the occupancy of the Americans. A man named **Gideon Potter**²⁹ was drafted for the service. He was a poor man with a family and in bad health and being a neighbor applicant's father was induced to permit applicant to go as a substitute.³⁰ Applicant did engage accordingly and marched to **Saratoga**³¹ under the command of **Captain Jonah Graves**.³² His brother, **Stephen Graves**,³³ was Lieutenant in the same Company. The other Company marched with that in which the applicant was attached, but applicant is not certain by whom it was commanded. He thinks, however, it was by a, **Captain Farmer** or by **Captain Fumer**,³⁴ before mentioned. While applicant was engaged in this tour of service the Company was chiefly employed in erecting barracks and fortifying the place which they occupied. During the period that applicant was at this station, scouts were sent out almost daily but they encountered no enemy. After the end of two months the company to which applicant belonged was supplied by other reinforcements and they were disengaged.³⁵ Applicant towards the close of this period was attacked by influenza and was taken home in a wagon. His sickness had nearly terminated in death.

In the year 1778, as deponent thinks, he enlisted for a period of three months in a company raised for the purpose of protecting the country from the depredations of the British who then occupied the City of New York. The Company then commanded by **Captain Ithamer Spencer**,³⁶ and **Hawley** before mentioned served as Lieutenant. The Company marched to the **Village of Fish Kill**,³⁷ in **Dutchess County**,³⁸ where they encamped. They were engaged principally in scouting the Country until the end of two months, when, there being a scarcity of provisions and their services being considered as unnecessary they were ordered to be discharged and were discharged accordingly. This

²⁸ Fort George is located on the South end of Lake George, New York.

²⁹ There was a Gideon Potter in Queensbury, Washington County, NY in 1790. Also a Gideon Potter served in Captain Wall's Company during the French and Indian Wars of 1757.

³⁰ Substitution was a common practice in the military in the American Revolution. This practice of paying someone else to fight in your place was also prevalent in the American Civil War.

³¹ In the Spring of 1777, Judah is in Saratoga with his unit preparing the area for one of the most important turning points of the American Revolution. The American victory at the Battle of Saratoga occurred on the 19th day of September, 1777.

³² Jonah Graves was a Captain in the Eighth Regiment, Albany County Militia.

³³ Stephen Graves was listed as an Ensign in the Ninth Regiment, Albany County Militia. Another brother, Josiah Graves was listed as a Captain in the Ninth Regiment, Albany County Militia.

³⁴ See footnote 28.

³⁵ It was these reinforcements that fought in the Battle of Saratoga.

³⁶ Captain Ithamer Spencer was born in 1733 and died 1 pr, 1825. He resided in Columbia County, NY at the start of the Revolutionary War and moved to Unadilla, NY in 1782.

³⁷ Fish Kill is located in the southwest corner of Dutchess County, New York, just south of Poukeepsie, New York.

³⁸ Dutchess County is the home of both of Judah's wives. His first wife, my grandmother was Deidamia Howard (Warner). She was born about 1772, in Oneida County, NY. Deidamia married Judah @1790 in Amenia, Dutchess County, New York. This couple birthed three children. Their oldest child, Harriet Chamberlin, is this author's great (5) grandmother. Deidamia died August 14, 1795 and is buried in Union Cemetery in Amenia, Dutchess County, New York. Judah married his second wife, Phebe Mead on February 15, 1801, in Oxford, Chenago County, New York, approximately 60 miles from Dutchess County. Phebe was also born in Dutchess County.

Company belonged to a Regiment commanded by, **Colonel Payne**,³⁹ and of which a **Mr. Smith**,⁴⁰ acted as Major.

About the month of September in the 1779 or 1780, applicant is not certain which he volunteered to go on an expedition on the **Mohawk River** in a company commanded by **Captain John Salisbury**.⁴¹ The expedition was by **General Robert Van Rensselaer**.⁴² The different Regiments rendezvoused at Albany and then marched near to **Johnstown** on the Mohawk River near which was a fort commanded by **Colonel Williams**⁴³ called **Fort Stone Robbie**.⁴⁴ In passing by this fort on the opposite side of the river we heard the firing of an engagement between the enemy and the occupants of the fort which terminated in the capture of the latter and the massacre of the garrison. They then marched up the Mohawk Valley near to old **Scholarie**.⁴⁵ About this place a skirmish took place between **Van Rensselear** and the enemy consisting of British, Indians, and Tories. The skirmish commenced near dark. The enemy retreated leaving their baggage on the ground which was taken possession of by the Americans. The next morning **Governor George Clinton**⁴⁶ arrived and being dissatisfied with the conduct of **Van Rensselaer** the evening previous he assumed command himself and pursued the enemy in the wilderness and returned in two days without success.⁴⁷ The Regiment then returned except two companies including that to which the applicant belonged, which marched up the river about thirty miles further to the **Cherry Valley**.⁴⁸ This detachment was commanded by **Colonel Alden**⁴⁹ and **Lt. Colonel Stacy**. At Cherry Valley they erected a fort⁵⁰ which had before commenced, at which was an old stone church, which was used as a guard house. During their stay at Cherry Valley the fort was attacked by a party of the enemy, chiefly Indians commanded by **Branett (Brant)**⁵¹ and **Butler**.⁵² When the attack commenced **Alden and Stacy**, with some others, were in a tavern kept by one **Jones** outside the fort.⁵³ The former was killed and the latter made prisoner. The fort was then attacked and after a desperate effort to take it which lasted about an hour or an

³⁹ As of this date, I have not independently identified the full name for Colonel Payne.

⁴⁰ This is Adjutant – Brigade Major, William Smith.

⁴¹ At this time I have not identified Captain John Salisbury.

⁴² As a Colonel, Robert Van Rensselear was the Regimental Commander of the Ninth Regiment, Albany County Militia. The Regiment was known as the Rensselear Regiment. As General Rensselear had responsibility for an entire Army Division. Robert Rensselear was a New York State Assemblyman from Albany County, 1777-79 and 1780-81.

⁴³ At this time I have not identified Colonel Williams.

⁴⁴ Fort Stone Robbie is also known as Fort Stone Arabia.

⁴⁵ Scholarie is also located in the Hudson Valley.

⁴⁶ In 1777, George Clinton was elected the first Governor of New York. George Clinton served as Governor for 22 years. He was elected Vice-President of the United States from 1805 to 1812. He served under President Thomas Jefferson and also under President James Madison. He ran unsuccessfully for President in 1808. One of Judah's grandsons would be named after this gentleman, to witt: my great (3) grandfather, George Clinton Chamberlin.

⁴⁷ I have not yet identified where and when this took place.

⁴⁸ Cherry Valley is located in the Hudson Valley. See Footnote 54.

⁴⁹ Colonel Ichabod Alden was from Duxbury, Massachusetts.

⁵⁰ At the time called Fort Alden.

⁵¹ Chief Joseph Brant.

⁵² British Colonel Butler

⁵³ The home of Robert Wells: a well respected judge of the county

hour and a half, the enemy was finally repulsed and driven away.⁵⁴ After this engagement, the Company to which applicant belonged was received and they were discharged. Applicant having served in this tour (something) more than two months.

Applicant is not in possession of any written discharge nor of any document evidencing his service, and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify about service as above stated or any part thereof. He left the vicinity where he was raised about forty six years ago,⁵⁵ and has lived in this state more than twenty eight years⁵⁶ and he does not know of a single individual now living with whom he was acquainted during the period of the service above mentioned or at the earlier period, and for lack of such testimony he has deferred making his application until the present time.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares, that his name is not on the pension roll of the this agency or any State or Territory.

The reason why he makes his application in this County instead of that where his residence is, is that from his recent removal there and his long residence in this county,⁵⁷ his acquaintance is much more extensive and his character much better known here than there.



JUDAH CHAMBERLIN

Affirmed and Subscribed in open Court, May 2, 1837.

Attest: **SAUL HENKLE**,⁵⁸ Clerk

⁵⁴ This battle is referred in history as the Cherry Hill Massacre, November 10, 1778, in Cherry Valley, New York. An American force of 250 faced a combined British, Tory and Indian force of 700. Seventy Americans were killed and 33 captured.

⁵⁵ This would mean Judah left the area he was raised around the time he married Deidamia. He was 26 years old. Family records indicate his first child, Harriett, was born July 18, 1791, in Chapaqua, Winchester County, New York or at Lake Chatauqua in Chatauqua County, New York.

⁵⁶ This would indicate Judah entered Ohio in 1811. He may mean Clark County. Our independent information have Judah arriving in Marietta, Ohio in 1805, and then moving on to Hamilton County, Ohio a few years later.

⁵⁷ Judah moved from Clark County, Ohio, to Logan County Ohio in 1834/1835.

⁵⁸ Saul Henkle was the first settled minister of the Methodist Church in Springfield, having moved to Clark County in 1809. The first recorded act of the first session of the Supreme Court in 1819 was to appoint Saul Henkle Clerk, pro tem. That same year he was elected Township Clerk. From 1825 to 1833 he served as County Recorder. In 1830, he was elected to the office of Clerk of the Common Pleas Court.. Reverend Henkle died in 1837. Johnson, Zoe, *Saul Henkle, Pioneer Preacher Methodist*, Clark County Ohio's Fisher Family Library Archives, Springfield, Ohio, October 2, 1936.

We **ALLEN MEAD**,⁵⁹ a clergyman, and **IRA PAGE**,⁶⁰ residing in Clark County, Ohio, hereby certify that we are acquainted with **JUDAH CHAMBERLIN** who has subscribed and affirmed to the above declaration, that we believe him to be Seventy Six years of age,⁶¹ that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he lately resided in the County to have been a Soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

ALLEN MEAD
IRA PAGE

And the said Court does hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of this matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the war department. That the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states and the Court further certifies that it appears to them that **ALLEN MEAD** who has signed the preceding certificate is a clergyman residing in Clark County, Ohio, and the **IRA PAGE** who has signed the same is a resident of the same County and is credible and that their statement is entitled to credit.

SAUL HENKLE
Clerk, Court of Common Pleas

⁵⁹ . Allen Mead was born 20 Feb 1793, in Saratoga, New York and died 20 Jan., 1849 in Wolf Lake, Noble County, Indiana. He was a veteran of the War of 1812. He had eight children, five sons and three daughters. He married a Sarah, Scarlet Hardy, on December 24, 1817, in Champaign County, Ohio. Clark County was formed out of Champaign County a little after that. Allen Mead was a minister of the Freewill Baptist Society, See Clark County, Ohio, Marriage Book 1-B, March 21, 1832. Information in this footnote provided by Flossie Hulsizer, genealogist affiliated with the Clark County Genealogical Society, Springfield, Clark County, Ohio.

⁶⁰ **IRA PAGE** settled in Springfield, Ohio in 1814. Soon after his arrival Ira set up a woolen-factory that remained operational for more than 15 years. He served in the State Legislature in 1832 and 1833. He also served as Associate Judge of the Common Pleas. He died in July, 1847. Beers, W. H., *The History of Clark County, Ohio*, (Chicago, W.H. Beers & Co., 1881), p. 144.

⁶¹ This is further evidence of Judah's birth year, 1761.

Declaration for Pension of Judah Chamberlin

ANSWERS TO INTERROGATORIES

In answer to the interrogatories propounded to him he says:

1. That he was born in Colchester Township, Hartford County, Connecticut on the 21st day of April, 1761, according to his father's family record.⁶²
2. That he has a record of his own age in his possession, which was transcribed by him from his father's family record above referred to, from which he has been able to ascertain his age as above stated.⁶³
3. That he was living in Albany County, New York at the time he was called into service, where he lived until about 1790. He removed from thence to a settlement called Livingston or Livingston Manor in Columbia County, where he lived about four years,⁶⁴ from thence he removed to Chenango County in the same State, near the town of Oxford, where he resided until some times about the year 1806,⁶⁵ when he removed to Hamilton County, Ohio,⁶⁶ where he resided about three years, from thence he removed to the Township of Harmony in what is now Clark County, Ohio, where he resided until April, 1834, where he removed to his present residence in Logan County, Ohio.⁶⁷
4. He volunteered on one occasion, enlisted on another, and acted as a substitute in the third instance. In every instance he acted as a private soldier.
5. He served under Captain Hawley, Lieutenant Spencer and Colonel Pratt in the first instance. In the second instance he served under Captain Jonah Graves – and in the third instance he served under Captain Salisbury in the detachment commanded by General Van Rensselaer. He was also acquainted with Colonel Devons⁶⁸ and Colonel Keuster,⁶⁹ who were engaged in the expedition to the Mohawk which he has referred in his declaration.
6. He has never received a written discharge.
7. The following persons in his own neighborhood⁷⁰ may be referred to as to his character – Noah Z. McCullough,⁷¹ Robert Patterson, Esq.,⁷² Dr. Lord,⁷³

⁶² Judah's father was Jehu Chamberlin. This interrogatory is strong evidence of the exact date of birth for Judah and the exact place of birth.

⁶³ This record has not yet been located.

⁶⁴ This may be in Chatauqua County.

⁶⁵ In Oxford, Judah married Phebe Mead.

⁶⁶ He makes no mention of his land purchase in Chatauqua County, New York

⁶⁷ This is a great recital of residences. Judah died in 1847, a resident of Union Township, Logan County, New York.

⁶⁸ At this time I have no information concerning Colonel Devons.

⁶⁹ I do not know if I am spelling this name correctly. At this time I have no information concerning this gentleman.

⁷⁰ Although, Henry Hanford and his daughter Harriet are not in his, "neighborhood," they did reside in Washington Township, Logan County, Ohio, at this time. I find it curious that Judah does not list Henry Hanford as a character witness. Henry Hanford was the founder of the Town of Lewiston, Washington Township, Logan County, Ohio.

Thomas Armstrong,⁷⁴ Esq. Also General Samson Mason⁷⁵, Pierson Spinning,⁷⁶ Saul Henkle,⁷⁷ John Baron,⁷⁸ and Lucas Wallace⁷⁹ of Springfield, Clark County, Ohio.



Judah Chamberlin

Sworn to and Subscribed
In open Court this 2nd day
Of May, 1837.
Saul Henkle, Clerk

JUDAH CHAMBERLIN

⁷¹ NOAH L. MCCOLLOUGH: was a son of one of the first settlers in Logan County. Noah was born April 6, 1798, in Zanesville and was the first European child born in Muskingum County. He came to Logan County with his father in 1803. He held many public positions of trust including the office of Recorder, Auditor, Clerk of the Court, Probate Judge, and was Associate Judge of the Common Pleas Court. He was an ardent anti-slave advocate. He died in 1878. Kennedy, Robert P., *The Historical Review of Logan County, Ohio*, (Chicago, The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1903), ps. 39-40.

⁷² ROBERT PATTERSON: Born in 1787, in Londonberry, Irland, he came to America in 1806. He was a Merchant in Lickling County and moved to Logan County in 1824, where he opened a trade store and was a leading businessman for years. At one time he was President of the Bellefontaine and Delaware Railroad. He died in 1863. Kennedy, Robert P., *The Historical Review of Logan County, Ohio*, (Chicago, The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1903), p. 60.

⁷³ ABIAL H. LORD: a resident of Bellefontaine, Logan County, OH., he engaged in the practice of medicine for sixty years. Kennedy, Robert P., *The Historical Review of Logan County, Ohio*, (Chicago, The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1903), ps. 66.

⁷⁴ THOMAS ARMSTRONG: was at one time Clerk of the Court for Clark County, Ohio, Beers, W. H., *The History of Clark County, Ohio*, (Chicago, W.H. Beers & Co., 1881), p. 268.

⁷⁵ SAMPSON MASON: United States Congressman. Born in New Jersey in 1793, he had the reputation of being one of the strongest lawyers in the Clark County area. He served in the State House and the State Senate. He was elected to Congress in 1834 and served eight years. He also served as United States District Attorney under the administration of President Millard Fillmore. He was a Major General in the State Militia. He also served as a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1850-51. He died February 1, 1869. Beers, W. H., *The History of Clark County, Ohio*, (Chicago, W.H. Beers & Co., 1881), p. 274-277. *Daily Advertiser*, February 3, 1869. *Yester Years in Clark County, Ohio*, Vol. 1, 1947 – Vol 2, 1948, (Reprinted by the Clark County Historical Society, 1978).

⁷⁶ No biographical information at this time.

⁷⁷ See earlier footnote.

⁷⁸ No biographical information at this time.

⁷⁹ No biographical information at this time, however he may be related to a James Wallace, who was a well known storekeeper in Springfield, Clark County around this time.

PHEBE MEAD

Born: 29 Jan 1783, in Dutchess County, NY
Married:): Judah Chamberlin, m. 15, Feb 1801, in Chenango County, NY,
Died: aft. 1858 very likely in Union Twp, Logan County, OH
buried: Unknown****
Widow of Revolutionary War Veteran *****



Children of Judah Chamberlin and Phebe Mead

Fanny Chamberlin: b. 22 Oct. 1802, near Oxford, Chenango Co., NY.
Lansing Chamberlin: b. 20 Oct., 1806, near Oxford, Chenango Cpo., NY.
Vincent Chamberlin: b. 4, Sep., 1808, prob. Hamilton Co. OH
Judah Chamberlin, b. 3 Mar 1810, prob. Harmony Twp., Clark Co., OH
Warren Chamberlin: b. 30 Nov 1813, Harmony Twp., Clark County, OH.
Polly Chamberlin: b. 1815, Harmony Twp., Clark County, OH.

Parents and Chamberlin Grandparents:

Not yet documented.

DECLARATION FOR BOUNTY LAND OF PHEBE MEAD CHAMBERLIN

Dated: June 2, 1855

STATE OF OHIO,
LOGAN COUNTY

On this 2nd day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Five, before me the subscriben, a Notary Public, duly qualified and commissioned to administer oaths in and for this County personally came PHEBE CHAMBERLAIN,⁸⁰ aged years ⁸¹ a resident of Logan County, Ohio, who being duly sworn according to law makes⁸² oathe that she is the widow of JUDAH CHAMBERLAIN,⁸³ who was a private in the Army of the Revolution, and she makes oath that she does not know the names of any of the officials under whom her late husband serviced and she has no means of informing herself and all she knows of the same is that her husband earned a pension for his services in said war – that on the 5th day of June, 1837 ⁸⁴ a Pension Certificate of that date was issued to her said husband entitling him to receive \$20.00 per annum during his natural life which certificate was made payable at Cincinnati, Ohio and recorded in Pension Office in Book # 2 Vol. ___ to which she refers for the proof of her right to recover bounty land as of March 30, 1855, (She also makes statement that said Pensioner was allowed in conformity with the laws of the United States of June 7, 1832.)

She also makes oathe that she was married to the said JUDAH CHAMBERLAIN on or about the 13th day of February, 1801, at Shenango ⁸⁵ County, in the State of New York by a clergyman whose names for reason of age and loss of memory it is impossible for her to tell ⁸⁶ and she also makes oathe that her name before her marriage was PHEBE MEAD. ⁸⁷ She also

⁸⁰ Phebe Mead was a widow who married Judah on February 13, 1801. Together they had no fewer than six children: Lansing, Vincent, Judah, Warren, Fanny, and Polly. Phebe was the second wife of Judah. Judah's first wife was Deidamia Howard (Warner) who had three children. Their oldest child, Harriett Chamberlin is my maternal grandmother, who married, Henry Hanford, a one time resident of Harmony Township, Clark County, Ohio, and the founder of Lewistown, Washington Township, Logan County, Ohio.

⁸¹ If the year of birth is accurate then at the time of making this affidavit Phebe is 72 years old. Phebe can be considered of, "aged years".

⁸² I really need help in transcribing the words scribbled on the original document.

⁸³ In this affidavit the name Chamberlin was spelled "Chamberlain." Phebe could not read or write. The writer chose the name Chamberlain. In 2004, this same thing happens to me on a frequent basis.

⁸⁴ This is the date Judah was issued his pension of \$20.00 per year.

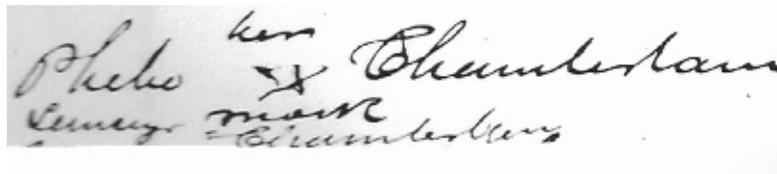
⁸⁵ The County is spelled incorrectly. This should be Chenango County.

⁸⁶ We have not yet researched Church records extant for Chenango County on this date.

⁸⁷ This does not say Mead was her maiden name, however her age would indicate this was very likely her first marriage. If her birth year is correct, she is 18 years old at the time of this marriage.

makes oathe that she knows of no person of knowledge of said marriage known she can procure -- She also makes oathe that her said husband died in Logan County, Ohio, on or about the 29th day of May, 1847. ⁸⁸ She also makes oathe that if her said husband had any discharge from said service she knows nothing about.

She makes this application for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land ⁸⁹ to which she may be entitled to under the act of March 3, 1855, and she also declared that previous to this she never made application for bounty land under any Act of Congress and never received any bounty land whatsoever. She makes oathe that she has not been remarried and still continues a widow.

A handwritten signature in cursive script. The name 'Phebe' is written on the left, followed by an 'X' mark, and then 'Chamberlain' on the right. Below 'Phebe' is the word 'Suzer' and below 'Chamberlain' is the word 'Brambleton'.

Her

PHEBE X CHAMBERLAIN

Mark

⁸⁸ This may be the most authoritative source for the date of death for Judah Chamberlin.

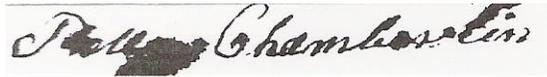
⁸⁹ In Judah's effort to gain a pension he waived his right to Bounty Land in 1837.

**POLLY CHAMBERLAIN and
LANSING CHAMBERLAIN
Witnesses, June 2, 1855**

We POLLY CHAMBERLAIN ⁹⁰ and LANSING CHAMBERLAIN ⁹¹ of Logan County, Ohio, do make oathe that the above declaration was signed and acknowledged by the said PHEBE CHAMBERLAIN in our presence and we also make oath that we personally know she is the person she represents herself to be, that we have seen the personal certificate above described in her possession and we know that it was her husband who drew the pension then authorized.

We do also make oath that we have been well acquainted with the said JUDAH CHAMBERLAIN for 30 years and know that during all that time they resided together as man and wife and were always so considered and regarded in the neighborhood --- That they raised a large family and bore the best character in the neighborhood. We also make oathe that the said JUDAH CHAMBERLAIN died at Logan County, Ohio, on or about 29th day of May, 1847, as witnesses well known as they were present at his funeral and saw him buried. ⁹²

We also make oathe that we have known the said PHEBE CHAMBERLAIN intimately since the death of her said husband that she has not since remarried and still continues a widow. ⁹³



POLLY CHAMBERLIN



LANSING CHAMBERLIN

⁹⁰ Most likely this is Lansing/w wife, POLLY CHAMBERLIN, married on March 16, 1837. However, Judah and Phebe had a daughter, POLLY CHAMBERLIN, born in Harmony District, Clark County, Ohio, in 1815. Judah and Phebe's son Vincent married a POLLY. Judah and Phebe's son Warren married a POLLY GUNN.

⁹¹ Lansing married his Polly in Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, March 16, 1837. He was the oldest son of Judah and Phebe. He was at one time a brick maker in Bellafontaine, Logan County, Ohio. He is not on the 1850 census in Logan County, Ohio. A Lansing Chamberlain is listed as a Township official for Marcelles Township, Wyandot County, in 1849, 1851. See History of Wyandot County, 1884, Chapter VI.

⁹² Judah was buried in Row 9, Plat 29, McCracken Cemetery in Liberty Township, Logan County, Ohio.

⁹³ Considering her age, it is unlikely she ever remarried.

The foregoing declaration and affidavit been sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and the year above written and I certify that I know these affiants to be credible persons and that the claimant is the person she represents herself to be and Clerk I have no interest in this claim. The words of May interlined before signing.

JAMES WALKER
Notary Public
Logan County, Ohio

AUTHOR'S CLOSING COMMENTS

With fear of being redundant, I submit for your consideration a fundamental premise for this writing and the style of writing offered. For historical and genealogical research purposes there are no more important words than those directly attributable to the historical personality or ancestor than that individuals own words, under oath attached to a legal proceedings. When available these words are the ultimate source of fact built. In this writing we have the words of Judah Chamberlin and his wife, Phebe Mead Chamberlin, as well as Lansing Chamberlin and his wife Polly. To those of us, including this author, descended from any of these individuals, we are most fortunate.

Now I encourage you to investigate Appendix "A" and Appendix "B" where you may view and review the actual handwritten copies of the legal documents referred to above. Please note, the transcription of each page I provided on the page opposite the handwritten page. I only hope you enjoy this approach to family history I have I now feel I have heard a "war story" directly from my great (5) grandfather who died ninety nine years before I was born. I can hardly believe I can write that sentence, but I actually feel my great (5) grandfather Judah told me the story of what he did in the Revolutionary War, *in his own words!*

George Richard Chamberlin
Great (5) Grandson of Judah Chamberlin

