

**Transcribed by Peter Arthur Chamberlin
From files of George Richard Chamberlin**

PENSION APPLICATION OF MARY CHAMBERLAIN ¹
Widow of Cat Abner Chamberlain and Nathaniel W. Seaver

W. 22764

MAINE No 3105

Mary Chamberlain formerly widow of Nathaniel W. Seaver who died in the year 1790 of York Co in the State of Maine who was a Sergeant in the company commanded by Captain Seelye of the Regt commanded by Col. Warner in the Vt. Line for 2 years.

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Inscribed on the Roll of Maine at the rate of 120 Dollars 0 Cents per annum to commence of the 4th day of March 1834.

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Certificate of Pension filed the 7th day of Nov, 1834 and sent Hon. A. H. Parris, Present.

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Arrears to the 4 th of Sept. 1839	\$ 1,020.00
Semi-annual allowance ending 4 (sp)	<u>60.00</u>
	\$ 1,080.00

Revolutionary Claim Act July 4, 1836
Section the 3

Recorded by D.A. Addison, Clerk
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¹ Former widow of Nathaniel W. Seaver, widow of Capt. Abner Chamberlain, born October 4, 1745, Hebron, Tolland, Connecticut, died 16 August 1832, Cayuga County, New York. Married Mary Bush. Line of descent Abner (5), John (4) John (3) Benjamin (2) and Richard (1).

Town Clerk's Office, Norwich, Vt, October 30th 1838

State of Vermont
Windsor County s.s.

Be it remembered that at Norwich in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont on this 10th day of November in the year of our Lord 1805 Capt. Abner Chamberlain of Scpio in the County of Cayuga and State of New York and Mary Seaver of Norwich afforsaid were duly joined in marriage by me.

Hezekiah Goodrich, Justice Peace

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of account of the marriage of Abner Chamberlain and Mary Seaver and it remains on record in this office.

Attest: (sp) Town Clerk

AFFIDAVIT OF
JOSIAH W. SEAVER

I, Josiah W. Seaver of the Town of Berwick in the County of York and State of Maine being aged fifty-nine years depose testify and say that my father Nathaniel Seaver late of Norwich in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont in the year seventeen hundred ninety left the State of Vermont and soon after went to Canada where we heard that he died and have no doubt that he did so die as he has never since been heard from – that my mother after having remained a widow from the time of my father’s death till the tenth of November in the year eighteen hundred and five when she was again married to the Mr. Abner Chamberlain that the said Abner Chamberlain her said husband died the ninth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and thirty two, and that my mother the said Mary Chamberlain has remained a widow and unmarried ever since. Soon after the death of the said Abner Chamberlain she removed into my family where she now resides.

I further testify depose and say that when a boy I often heard my father the said Nathaniel Seaver say that he was in the army of the revolution during the Canada Campaign – that he went to Canada and afterward marched back with his regiment to Ticonderoga – was taken prisoner in his attempt to retreat after the Battle of Hubbardston was carried back to Quebec as a prisoner of war. While a prisoner on board a prison ship, he attempted to escape and for this offense was put in irons and kept in such situation that he was obliged to be on his back and was so long kept in that position, that he wore the skin off his back and otherwise endured great hardships. Finally, a British officer of superior standing came on board the prison ship, saw his condition, severely reprimanded the keeper for his cruelty and ordered my father released from his irons. He was then so weak that he could not stand.

I have often heard my father say that he was a sergeant in Capt. Bush’s company of Militia, and went out on duty as a soldier at the time Royalton was burnt by the enemy. My father said he commanded an advance guard of twelve men, when the indians made an attack on him at Royalton and cut him off from his men and he escaped with great hazard.

From infancy, I have known Benjamin Burton, John Barnard (sp) and Hezekiah Goodridge, as I was born in Norwich and lived there with them till I was twenty one years old and since that time I have known their reputation and standing in society. They are all men of truth and veracity, and their statements under oath and are otherwise entitled to full credit. Hezekiah Goodridge was a justice of the peace representative of the town of Norwich in the general court, and he, Burton and Barnard were members of the Presbyterian church of good standing and were in every respect worthy and good men.

Josiah W. Seaver

Sworn to and subscribed by the said Josiah W. Seaver, Esquire this sixteenth day of January in the year eighteen hundred thirty nine.

Before me Wm. A. Hayes, Just. Peace. I certify tat the before named Josiah W. Seaver

AFFIDAVIT OF
MARY CHAMBERLAIN

State of Maine
County of York s.s.

On the first day of January in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty nine personally appeared before William Allen Hayes, Esquire, Judge of the Court of Probate being a court of probate within and for the County of York in the State of Maine, Mary Chamberlain a resident of South Berwick in said County of York, aged seventy eight years, who by reason of great age and bodily weakness is unable to travel and attend court, and who being first duly sworn according to law do (sp) her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by act of Congress dated July the 4th A.D. 1836, and the act esplanatory (sp) of said act passed March the third A.D. 1837 – that she was married to Nathaniel Seaver of Norwich in the County of Windsor in the State of Vermont who was a soldier in the revolutionary war.

In the summer of the year seventeen hundred and seventy five, I believe in the month of July the said Seaver enlisted into a company of United States troops belonging to Col. Seth Warner's regiment for the term of two or three years. Immediately after his enlistment he entered on duty in Captain Field's Company and served in that company and Capt. Seelye's Company in Col. Seth Warner's Regiment as a Sergeant. He was out all or nearly all the Canada Campaign at Montreal and other places in that region. He was one of those soldiers called Green Mountain Boys and during the said campaign was exposed to many perils and suffered many hardships. After the evacuation of Ticonderoga by General St. Clair and his army Col (sp) and said Warner's Regiments commanded the (sp) the retreat and at the Battle of Hubbardston on the seventeenth day of July 1777, the said Nathaniel Seaver was taken a prisoner with a great many American soldiers and was carried to Quebec and thence to Halifax as a prisoner of war. He was (sp) kept a great while on board a prisoner ship and a very considerable time in irons and endured many and very great hardships. He so remained a prisoner of war more than a year and finally in the latter part of the summer or first of the autumn of the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight the said Seaver was released from his obligations as a prisoner and served for the remainder of the term for which he enlisted had expired.

In the month of May in the year seventeen hundred and eighty the indians made an incursion into the State of Vermont and threatened an attack upon the Town of Royalton in that State and the said Nathaniel Seaver again enlisted into a company of Vermont Militia commanded by Capt. Timothy Bush to go and defend Royalton. The said Seaver was again appointed Sergeant and went out and served eight or ten days was present when Royalton was burnt by the common enemy and then immediately after as sergeant of the same company commanded by the said Captain Bush marched to Strafford in Vermont to defend that town against the indians and tories and then served a short campaign of eight or ten days more and was honorably discharged and returned home to Norwich.

She further declares that she was married to the said Nathaniel Seaver by the Rev. Lyman Potter then a Presbyterian Minister in the Town of Norwich on the fifteenth day of October in the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight and in the year seventeen hundred and ninety the said Nathaniel Seaver went off to Canada and never returned. I learned afterwards he died and I have no doubt he did so die as he has never since been heard from and after remaining a widow fifteen years on the tenth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and five, she was married to Abner Chamberlain and that the said Abner Chamberlain died on the ninth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and thirty two and that she has remained unmarried ever since; and that she was a widow on the fourth day of July A.D. 1836 and still remains a widow as will more fully appear by the proof hereto (sp).

Mary Chamberlain

Sworn to and subscribed by the said Mary Chamberlain on the day and year before mentioned.

Before me Wm. A. Hayes, Judge of Probate (sp) Maine

I certify that the said Mary Chamberlain by reason of her great age and bodily weakness is unable to travel and attend court.

William A. Hayes, Judge of Probate