

Transcribed by Peter Arthur Chamberlin
From files of George Richard Chamberlin

APPLICATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSION OF PHINEAS¹ &
REBECCA CHAMBERLIN

Application No. 1716

New York 24.634

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Phineas Chamberlin Chautauqua in the State of New York who was a private in the Company commanded by Captain Moore of the Regiment commanded by Col. Herrick in the Mass min for 16 months.

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Entered on the Roll of New York at the rate of 53 Dollars 33 Cents per annum to commence on the 4th day of March 1831.

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Certificate of Pension issued the 25th day of January, 1834 and sent to Hon. A. Hazeltine

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|--|--------------|
| Arrears to the 4 th of September 1833 | \$ 133.33 |
| Semi-annual allowance ending 4 March 34 | <u>26.66</u> |
| | \$ 159.99 |

Revolutionary Claim
Act June 7, 1832

Recorded by W. L. Williams, Clerk
Book C Vol. 4 Page 130

¹ Line of descent: Phineas (5), John (4), Jacob (3), John (2) and Edmund (1). Baptism 1759 per Hopkinton, MA records. Born 11 September 1760, Hopkinton, Middlesex, MA; died 22 March 1847, Cheteuga, New York. Lived Hopkinton, MA, Jaffrey, NH, Reading, VT, Litchfield, NY and Murig, NY. Information provided by James Baldwin Parker.

New York

Rebecca Chamberlin widow of Phineas Chamberlin who served in the Revolutionary War, as a Private

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Inscribed on the Roll at the rate of 53 Dollars 33 Cents per annum, to commence on the 4th day of March 1848.

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Certificate of Pension issued the 20th day of June 1850 and sent to Hon. E. Risley

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Recorded on Roll of Pensioners under Act of July 4th, 1848, Page 70 Vol (?)

**AFFIDAVIT OF
PHINEAS CHAMBERLIN
June 25, 1833**

State of New York

Chautauqua County s.s.

On this twenty fifth day of June in this year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty tree, personally appeared in open court before the judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Chautauqua now sitting, being a court of record of said county having by law a seal and clerk, Phineas Chamberlin of Harmony in the county of Chautauqua and state of New York, aged ninety two years, who, being first duly sworn according to the law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain benefit of the act of congress, passed June 7, 1832 that he was born as he is informed and verily believes at Hopkinton in the County of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts on the eleventh day of September, 1760, that he has no record of his age in his possession but there is a record of the time of his birth in the office of the clerk of the town of Hopkinton, as he verily believes, his having a distant recollection of having seen such record when about twenty two years of age, that he entered the service of the United States in the year 1775, when about fifteen years of age, having enlisted for eight months into a regiment of Massachusetts militia or state troops. He enlisted at Hopkinton, his native town and was marched immediately to the vicinity of Boston which was then in the hands of the enemy – was there when Boston was evacuated by the British and was marched into town when they left it and was stationed principally at Dorchester at which place he was discharged as (sp) he can recollect about a month after the evacuation of the town by the British. His colonel was one Herrick who resided at Milton, not far from Boston – the major was one Frost of Mindon or Milford. His captain was Seth Moore of Westbury, the lieutenant James Gould of Hopkinton, the ensign one Winchell of Framingham. He had served the whole period of his enlistment when he was discharged. In April or May 1777 he cannot state with positiveness which, he enlisted again for four months at Hopkinton and was marched to Liveston (sp) in the State of Rhode Island, where he remained during the period of his enlistment, served out his time and was discharged. This was in the Massachusetts militia. His officers were Col. Brown of Reading, Massachusetts, major Frost aforementioned and the same company officers as in his first term of service. Immediately on his return from Rhode Island, he volunteered to go to the (sp) for the term of four months under Colonel Brown under whom he had served at Tiverton. The major was James (sp) of Hopkinton – the captain was one Winchell of Framingham, the lieutenant James Gould of Hopkinton, the ensign Jonathan (sp) of Sutton – was marched to the north through Hadley and Partridge Field to Bennington in the State of Vermont, when he arrived the day after the battle was that place – staid there a short time and then went to Pawlet, where he was drafted as one of a corps of five hundred to go and scout under Col. Brown – went six days through the woods – the night of the sixth day were informed that they were within a short distance of the enemy and the next day had an engagement with them near Lake George. Went up Lake George by water for the purpose of taking a party of the British that were encamped on Diamond Marsh but did not (sp), returned down the lake, burned our craft and

marched through the woods to Skenesborough then to the Hudson River and joined the northern army the day before the Battle of Bemis's Heights, joining the scout above described the party with which he moved took five hundred prisoners and released a party of our troops that had been taken by the British. He was present at the surrender of Burgoyne and went with the prisoners to Albany, then down the river by water to Terrytown – then through White Plains to Kingsbridge and remained in that vicinity until the beginning of winter when he was discharged and returned home to Hopkinton. This was also in the militia of Massachusetts. He never received any written discharges. The only regular officers under whom he served that he knew was General Gates & Arnold. He has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. His residence was at Hopkinton aforesaid at the several times he entered the service of the United States. Soon after he left the service he removed to Jaffrey in the state of New Hampshire where he lived two years, then he removed to Reading in the state of Vermont where he resided four years then to Litchfield in the county of Herkimer in the state of New York where he lived about thirty two years thence to Murray in the county of Orleans, where he lived about ten years – thence to his present residence where he has lived upwards of two years. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. He served the whole time was in the service with an embodied (sp) corps – and the named corps in which he served was called into service by the authority of Massachusetts, and (sp) he was in service he was not engaged in any (sp).

Phineas Chamberlin

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court.
Artemas (sp) one of the judges of Chautauqua, Livingston court.

**AFFIDAVIT OF
THOMAS GRINNELL AND AARON BALDWIN**

Mr. Thomas Grinnell, a clergyman residing in the Town of Sherman in the County of Chautauqua and in the neighborhood of Phineas Chamberlin named in the annexed declaration and Aaron Baldwin residing in the Town of Clymer in the county aforesaid hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Phineas Chamberlin who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be ninety two years, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Thomas Grinnell
Aaron Baldwin

Subscribed and sworn the day and year aforesaid.
Artemas Herrick, a judge of Chautauqua courts.

**INTERROGATION OF THE COURT
OF PHINEAS CHAMBERLIN**

Interrogation proposed by the court to the aforementioned applicant –

1. Where and in what year were your born? I was born in Hopkinton in the county of Middlesex and the State of Massachusetts on the 11th day of September A.D. 1764.
2. Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it? I have none in my possession, but there was a record of it at Hopkinton in the office of the clerk of that town.
3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live? I lived at Hopkinton when called into service since that time I have lived at Jaffrey, New Hampshire, Reading, Vermont, Litchfield and Murray in the State of New York. I now live in Harmony in the County of Chautauqua in the State of New York.
4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute, for whom? He enlisted twice as stated in his declaration. He served as a volunteer during his third term of service.
5. State the names of the regular officers who was with the troop where you served which continental and militia regiment as you can recollect, and the general circumstance of your service. I recollect only General Gates and

Arnold of the regular army. The names of the officers under whom served and the circumstances of my service are set forth in my declaration.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service? And so, by whom was it given and what has become of it? I never had any written discharge.
7. State the name of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their believe of your services as a soldier of the revolution. Thomas Grinnell, Aaron Baldwin, Joel (sp) and Robert Clark.

AFFIDAVIT OF REBECCA CHAMBERLIN
December 17, 1849

State of New York
Chautauqua County s.s.

On this seventeenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and forty nine personally appeared before me, Abner Lewis, Judge of Chautauqua County Courts, Rebecca Chamberlin, a resident of the Town of Clymer in said County aged eighty three years who first being duly sworn according to law doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 29th 1848: relating to pensions.

That she is the widow of Phineas Chamberlin of the State of New York who was a private in the Revolutionary War and according to her best recollecton, her husband the said Phineas Chamberlin served in the said war, as such private aforesaid for the space of more than one year, but the precise length of time she does not know, and begs have to refer to the Commissioner of Pensions to the declaration made by her said husband in order to procure a pension, and which declarations setting forth the time he served in now on file in the office of the Commissioner of Pensions in the city of Washington.

She further declares, that she was married to the said Phineas Chamberlin in March or April, one thousand seven hundred and ninety one, as near as she can recollect, but whether in March or April she does not now remember. She has no record of her marriage in her possession, or within her power to obtain it. That her husband the said Phineas Chamberlin died on the second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty seven.

She further declares that she is still the widow of the said Phineas Chamberlin, and has not intermarried since his death and that her husband received a pension certificate from the War Department some time in the winter of eighteen hundred and thirty four, and retained said certificate in his possession until he died and was afterwards returned by this declarant to the War Department and she further declares that the following is a true copy of said certificate.

“War Department, Revolutionary Claim. I certify that in conformity with the law of the United States of 4th June 1832, Phineas Chamberlin of the State of New York, who was a private in the Revolutionary War is entitled to receive fifty three dollars and thirty three cents per annum during his natural life commencing on the 4th day of March 1831 and payable since annually on the 4th of March and 4th of September in every years.

Given at the War Office of the United States the twenty fifty day of January one thousand eight hundred and thirty four

Lew Cass
Secretary of War

Examined and countersigned
J.L. Edwards
Commissioner of Pension

Rebecca X (her mark) Chamberlin

Subscribed and Sworn before me this seventeenth day of December 1849

Abner Lewis, Judge of Chautauqua County Courts

WAR DEPARTMENT
Pension Office 183

Sir, The evidence in support of your claim, under the Act of June 7, 1832 has been examined and the papers are herewith returned. The following is a statement of your case in tabular form. On comparing these papers with the following rules and the subjoined notes you will readily perceive that objections exist, which must be removed before a pension can be allowed. These points to which you attention is more particularly directed, you will find marked in the margin with a brace. You will, when you return your papers to this Department, send this printed letter with them; and you will by complying with this request, greatly facilitate the investigation of you claim.

A Statement, showing the Service of Phineas Chamberlin, Chautauqua County, New York

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|---------------|--------|---------|----------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Enlisted 1776 | 8 mos. | Private | Capt. Moore | Col. Herrick | To Boston | Middlesex County MA | Tradition |
| | | | Lt. Gold | Maj. Frost | | | |
| 1777 | 4 mos. | | | Col. Brown | To Rhode Island | | |
| | | | | Maj. Frost | Lake George, | | |
| | | | | | Took 500 | | |
| | | | | | Prisoners | | |
| | | | | | Bennington | | |
| | | | Capt. Winchell | Col Brown | Bemises Heights | | |
| | | | | | To Pawlet | | |
| | | | | | Saratoga | | |
| | | | | | To Skenesborough | | |

I am, respectfully, Your Obedient Servant, J.L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions

**RECORD DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau Of Pensions
Washington, D.C.
W.T. 1716**

In reply to you request of (date not stated), received (date not stated) for a statement of the military history of Phineas Chamberlin a soldier of the Revolutionary War, you will find below the desired information as contained in his (or his widow's) application for pension on file in this Bureau.

| Dates Of Enlistment Or | Length Of Service | Rank | OFFICERS UNDER WHOM SERVICE WAS RENDERED | | State |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------|--|---------|-------|
| | | | Captain | Colonel | |
| 1775 | 8 mos. | Private | Seth Moore | Herrick | Mass |
| April & May 1777 | 4 mos. | | Seth Moore | Brown | |
| Immediately after | 4 mos. | | Winchell | Brown | |

Battles engaged in, engagement near Lake George, Surrender of Burgyne

Residence of soldier at enlistment, Hopkinton, Mass.

Date of application for pension, June 26, 1833. His claim was allowed.

Residence at date of application, Harmony, Chatauqua, New York

Age at date of application: b. at Hopkinton, Middlesex, MA, Sept 11, 1760. d. Mch 22, 1849

Remarks: He mar. Mch or Apr 1791, Rebecca. She was al. pens on an appl. Executed Dec 17, 1849, while a resident of Clymer, Chatauqua (sp) aged 83 years. No further family data.

Very respectfully, Commissioner