

THOMAS¹ OF WOBURN

Fourth Generation

No. 6625

NAME: Thomas⁴ Chamberlain

Father: Thomas³ Chamberlain (No. 6570)
[Samuel² (Thomas¹)
and Elizabeth (—?—) Chamberlain]

Mother: Abigail Hildreth

Born: 21 June 1714, Chelmsford, Middlesex Co., MA

Died: 25 Nov 1781, Royalston, Worcester Co., MA

Buried:

Married: — 1737 (record damaged), Littleton, Middlesex Co., MA

Other Marriages:

No. 13821

SPOUSE: Lois Waters

Father: Richard Waters (of Salem and Sutton, MA)

Mother: Martha Read

Born: bp. 16 May 1714, Salem, Essex Co., MA

Died: 6 Feb 1782, Royalston, Worcester Co., MA

Buried:

Other Marriages:

CHILDREN

M 6749 Thomas⁵, b. 16 Sep 1738, Littleton, Middlesex Co., MA. Married Charity Roundy, 3 July 1760, Sutton, MA. In 1790, they were living at Barnard, VT. +

F 6750 Mary⁵, b. 23 Sep 1741, Littleton, Middlesex Co., MA. She was probably the Mary Chamberlain who published an Intention to marry William Shapley, 4 Oct 1768, Sturbridge, MA, but the marriage probably did not take place. A Mary Chamberlin taught school at Royalston as did her uncle Simeon (erroneously called her father by the *History of Royalston*). In 1774, a Mary Chamberlin of Richmond, NH. (adjoining Royalston across the state line), married Edmund Hoad, of Little Hoosick, NY, and is probably identical with this woman.

M 6751 Joseph⁵, b. 29 May 1743, Sutton, Middlesex Co., MA. Married Susannah Newell, 16 Jan 1766, Sturbridge, MA. In 1805/06, he was living at Barnard, VT. +

F 6752 Hannah⁵, b. 12 May 1745, Sutton, Middlesex Co., MA. Probably married Ephraim Bacon, 28 May 1767, Sturbridge, MA. Ephraim Bacon was related to her brother Joseph's wife.

M 762 John⁵, b. 9 Nov 1747, Sutton, Middlesex Co., MA. Married (1) Grace Goodale, about 1774, perhaps Worcester County, MA; (2) Mrs. Anna (Leach) Eaton, 19 Feb 1793, New Salem, MA. Died 3 Jan 1830, Exeter, ME. +

F 6753 Sarah⁵ (Sally), b. About 1749-50, Sutton, Middlesex Co., MA. Married Deacon Jacob Estey, 17 Mar 1772, probably Royalston, MA. Died 2 Feb 1829, probably New Salem, MA. +

BIOGRAPHICAL

Thomas Chamberlain, of Littleton, sadler, and Lois, his wife, received her share of the property left by her brother Ebenezer Waters, late of Sutton, in a division made 29 Dec 1741. (Lois's father had purchased a large tract of land at Sutton, and when her brother Ebenezer died at Havana in Admiral Vernon's expedition against Cuba, she inherited a share of his property at Sutton, and there they moved.) Lois also received her portion of the estate of her father, 16 Nov 1750.

He resided at Littleton until about 1742, when he removed to Sutton. In Sutton Thomas and Lois both joined the Baptist church. In 1743, Thomas administered upon the estate of his deceased brother John Chamberlain, "late of Leicester, MA., husbandman." His signature, as "Thomas Chamberlin," appears in John's probate records.

They lived at Sutton until 1764, when he went to Sturbridge, buying land there of Isaac Newell, whose granddaughter, Susanna, was shortly to become their daughter-in-law. According to Prentiss Glazier, Thomas apparently preceded his wife and children to this new town, and "commuted" until their settlement. He sold the Sturbridge property, 30 June 1766, and afterwards removed to Royalston, following his brother Simeon and his son Thomas, where he bought the south part of Lot No. 27, consisting of 99_ acres of land, on 12 Feb 1770.

Thomas Chamberlain probably preceded his family to Royalston, where he was surveyor of the highways as early as 1765. Thomas and Lois were again active in organizing the Baptist church in that town. He sold 2_ acres of the tract in Royalston on 8 May 1778, the deed being witnessed by Simeon and John Chamberlain, his brother and his son. Prentiss Glazier states that he was alive as late as 3 Jan 1784, when he acknowledged the deed of land conveyed in 1778. This contradicts his death date of 1781, as supplied by the record of his daughter Sarah. The Royalston records need to be rechecked to clarify these discrepancies.

According to the narrative of their daughter Sarah, wife of Jacob Estey, Thomas and Lois made their home with her for about three years and six months before his death on 25 Nov 1781; Lois died "about 10 weeks after," on 6 Feb 1782, etc. This narrative plus much correspondence between Sarah, her brother John, and his children (Zenas, Stillman and Susan) provide many details of this family. This material was still extant and in possession of John's descendants according to the Chamberlain Association manuscript (circa 1910-20). If these documents could now be located, their careful re-examination would probably reveal many more details about other members of the family.

The *History of Royalston* contains ambiguous statements that Thomas and Lois may have been buried near his brother at Royalston, in graves marked only by rough field-stones.

PREPARATION OF THIS RECORD

This record was prepared by the late David C. Chamberlin Sr., using data obtained from various sources as listed. Comments and additional information are welcome and should be sent to the World Chamberlain Genealogical Society. < www.chamberlain-society.org >

Email: CorrSec@chamberlain-society.org

Chamberlain Association of America, Mss Gen., New England Historic Genealogical Society, SG/CHA/49-14, RC317-19 (#30)

Chamberlain Families, Vol. II, P. 8-9, Prentiss Glazier

Vital Records, Chelmsford, MA [SN 148]

Vital Records, Littleton, MA [SN 211]

Vital Records, Sutton, MA [SN 257]

History of Royalston, MA, by L.B. Caswell, 1917 (RC 345)

[DISK ID LN6625]