

WILLIAM¹ OF WOBURN

Fourth Generation

No. 8650

NAME: James⁴ Chamberlain “Captain”

Father: Joseph³ Chamberlain (No. 8542)
[Clement² (William¹)
and Mary (—?—) Chamberlain]

Mother: Mary Johnson

Born: 11 Feb 1734/35, Mansfield, Windham Co., CT
Bp. 31 Mar 1734, Mansfield, CT

Died: 28 Apr 1812, Amherst, Hampshire Co., MA, “aged 78 years”

Buried:

Married: 27 Jan 1757, Coventry, Windham Co., CT

Other Marriages:

No. 14585

SPOUSE: Abigail Boynton

Father: Zachary Boynton

Mother: Sarah Wyckham

Born: 17 June 1729, Coventry, Windham Co., CT

Died: 5 Mar 1814, Amherst, Hampshire Co., MA, “Aged 85 years”

Buried:

Other Marriages: (1) John Palmer, 7 Sep 1748, Coventry, CT

CHILDREN

- M 8871 Joseph⁵, b. 4 Nov 1757, Coventry, Windham Co., CT. He was drowned in a large kettle used by the family, 12 June 1759, Tolland, CT. He is buried by the side of his younger brother Joseph in the old Tolland Cemetery where a double headstone with a full inscription marks the spot. *The New Chamberlain Association of America* (NCAAN) gives his birth date as 4 Nov 1758.
- F 8872 Mary⁵, b. 7 Aug 1759, Coventry, Windham Co., CT. Married Rufus Cleveland, 9 Sep 1779, Ellington, CT. Died 13 Nov 1807, Winsted, CT. +
- F 8873 Sally (or Sarah)⁵, b. 12 Aug 1761, Coventry, Windham Co., CT. Married Roswell Paine, 1782, Ellington, CT. Died 25 June 1835, Hadley, MA. +
- M 8874 Joseph⁵, b. About 1763, Coventry, Windham Co., CT. He was drowned in a large kettle used by the family (the same as his brother before him) on 3 June 1766, Coventry, CT. He is buried by the side of his older brother Joseph in the old Tolland Cemetery where a double headstone with a full inscription marks the spot.
- M 8875 James⁵, b. 24 July 1766, Coventry, Windham Co., CT. Married Annah Watkins Babcock, 25 June 1788, East Windsor, CT. Died 22 Feb 1814, Amherst, MA. +

F 8876 Naomi⁵, b. 19 Nov 1769, Coventry, Windham Co., CT. Married Joseph Hilliard, 1787, East Windsor, CT. He was b. 18 Aug 1765, Tolland, CT; d. 22 Nov 1830, Colebrook, NH. Naomi died 26 Apr 1867, Canaan, VT. One child known: Gennette Hilliard (1810-1889), m. Samuel Weeks, 1829.

BIOGRAPHICAL

On 12 April 1768, James Chamberlain of Coventry, was appointed as the guardian of John, Abigail and Mehitable Palmer, minors of Coventry. John Palmer on 1 January 1773 conveyed land inherited from his father John Palmer in Coventry to his father-in-law [stepfather], James Chamberlain of Coventry. In 1775 John's sisters, Mehitable, wife of Andrew West and Abigail, wife of Oliver Edgerton in 1779, did the same thing.

Captain James Chamberlain commanded a troop of cavalry during one or two tours of duty during the American Revolution. *Lineage Books*, Vol. 66, supplies the year of his and her deaths, and says he commanded a company in Col. Samuel Chapman's 22nd Regiment of the Connecticut Militia, in 1780.

James lived in Coventry, Tolland and East Windsor, CT. He became the guardian of his wife's children by her first husband, John Palmer. James moved to Tolland about 1772, where he lived in the southeast corner of the town, near the line of Coventry. He owned land in Coventry as well as in Tolland. He represented Tolland in the General Assembly of Connecticut in 1775. He raised a volunteer company of 30 horsemen, joining Colonel Chapman's regiment, the 22nd Connecticut militia, where he served as Captain and was in the Battle of Long Island. His name appears on the regimental returns dated at Harlem Heights, 18 September 1776. By a memorial to the Connecticut legislature in 1786, James secured reimbursement for moneys advanced during this campaign.

James moved to Warehouse Point, East Windsor, Connecticut in 1779. Four years later he received a charter for the ferry across the Connecticut River, where he also had a store. He has been described as of cut fine personal appearance, standing six feet in his stockings. He was frequently chosen as an umpire or arbitrator in town dealings.

In 1790, James Chamberlan was living in East Windsor, Hartford Co., CT, heading a family of 2-1-1-1 (2 males 16 years of age and upwards, 1 male under 16 years of age, 1 female, 1 other free person).

In 1800, James Chamberlin was again living in East Windsor, Hartford Co., CT, heading a family of 01011-0111 (1 male between the ages of 10 and 16 years, 1 male between the ages of 26 and 45 years, 1 male aged 45 years and upwards, 1 female between the ages of 10 and 16 years, 1 female between the ages of 16 and 26 years, 1 female between the ages of 26 and 45 years).

James was active in the establishment of an Episcopal Church in East Windsor, and on 11 Oct 1802, he was elected Church Warden. In 1809 he purchased a farm of 70 acres at Amherst, MA.

James is not found in 1810, when he and his wife were probably living with one of their children.

After his death, James' son, James Chamberlain was appointed administer of his estate. On 19 Oct 1813, a dower was set off to his widow Abigail. Abigail died before 27 Apr 1814 when her dower lands were divided between her son James Chamberlain and her daughters, Naomi Hilliard and Sarah Paine, and the heirs of her daughter Mary Cleveland then deceased (Hampshire County, MA, *Probate Court Records*).

Abigail's first husband, John Palmer, was the son of Benjamin & Rebecca (—?—) Palmer, b. 14 Feb 1725, Coventry, CT; d. there, 26 Jan 1755. By Mr. Palmer, Abigail had four children as follows: (1) Hannah Palmer, b. 21 May 1749, m. Joel Chamberlain (son of Joseph Jr. [LN 8862] & Elizabeth (Delano) Chamberlain; (2) John Palmer, b. 22 June 1751, m. Ruth Chapman (daughter of Dea. Chapman), Tolland, CT. They both died in Charlotte, VT, he on 8 July 1834 and she on 13 July 1853, six children; (3) Mehitabel Palmer, b. 13 July 1753; m. Andrew West, of Tolland, CT, and removed to Oneida Co., NY. (4) Abigail Palmer, b. 22 July 1755; m. Oliver Edgerton, son of Hezekiah Edgerton, of Tolland, CT.

The two little sons, both named Joseph, were both drowned between the ages of 1½ and 3 years in a large kettle used by the family. They are buried side by side in the old Tolland Cemetery where a double headstone with a full inscription marks the spot.

Glazier suggests checking the "Camp Collection," at the Connecticut Historical Society, also to see Stiles' *Windsor*.

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

"William Chamberlain of Billerica, MA, and his Descendants," by George Walter Chamberlain, M.S.,
Chamberlain Association of America Annual Report, 1908-1910, P. 144 [SN 85]
"Descendants of William¹ Chamberlain of Billerica, MA," *Chamberlain Families*, by Prentiss Glazier, Vol. II, P. 55 [SN 934]
"Chamberlain Families in Connecticut Census of 1790," *Chamberlain Families*, Vol. I, P. 43, by Prentiss Glazier, 1973 [SN 934]
"Chamberlain Families in Connecticut, Vital Records Prior to 1800 & Notes," *Chamberlain Families*, by Prentiss Glazier, Vol. I, P. 53 [SN 934]
Windsor Genealogy, by Stiles [Glazier reference; not seen]
Cleveland Genealogy, 1879 [SN 994]
Lineage Books, Vol. 66, 109 [SN 998]
New Chamberlain Association of America Newsletter, Vol. 7, No. 3, pp. 4-5 [SN 1581]
Hampshire County, MA, Probate Records, Estate of James Chamberlain [not seen] [SN 1284]
Archive Sheet, Family History Library (Genealogical Society), Salt Lake City, Utah, Submitted by Lucian Mormon Mecham, 335 North Fraser Drive East, Mesa, AZ, about 1971, based upon records of Coventry, CT (974.64/C1 V2d), History of the Boynton Family (929.273B 711b, P. 7), Palmer Groups (929.273 P 1821, P. 20) [This archive sheet is very incomplete and inaccurate.] [SN 1523]
1790 Federal Census, East Windsor, Hartford Co., CT. NAM M-637, Roll No. 1 (FHLN #568141), P. 413 [SN 1]
1800 Federal Census, East Windsor, Hartford Co., CT. NAM M-32, Roll No. 1 (FHLN #205618), P. 346 [SN 17]

[DISK ID LN8650]