

FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

Female Ancestor Number: 134

Name: Bartlett, Mary (Field) Blatchley

Dates: (15 Nov 1699 - 13 Dec 1792)

Colonial Society: CT Date added to ROA: May 14, 2024

Service: Midwife, began c. 1739

Authority: Connecticut Journal (New Haven), 10 January 1793, page 3.

Biography:

Mary Field Blatchley Bartlett was born on November 15, 1699, to Ebenezer Field, a Sergeant in the Connecticut Militia, and his wife Mary. Little is known about Mary's early life, but it is evident that she developed a deep interest in women's health. This calling led her to dedicate her life to the practice of midwifery.

She married Joshua Blatchley (1692–1742) on November 22, 1721, in Guilford, and following his passing, she married Ebenezer Bartlett (1704–1770) on September 1, 1743.

Known in later years as Mrs. Marcy Bartlett, she practiced midwifery for nearly five decades, continuing until just four years before her death at the remarkable age of 94. According to her obituary in the Connecticut Journal (New Haven), dated January 10, 1793: "She was in the practice of midwifery about 50 years, in which she continued till about 4 years before her death and had been at the birth of 1400 children."

The same death notice paid her this final tribute: "Her mental faculties continued to her decease, and she sustained an excellent character."

Mary Field Blatchley Bartlett passed away on December 13, 1792, leaving behind a legacy of compassion, service, and strength that began with her midwifery work in 1739.