



FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

Female Ancestor Number: 189

Name: Pennell, Mary (Morgan)

Dates: c.1678-10 May 1764

Colonial Society: PA

Date added to ROA: 11-21-2024

Service: Quaker Minister

Authority: "Mary Pennell Memorial," Western Quarterly Meeting, held 19th of 8th mo. 1765, p. 24, Haverford College, Haverford, PA; Larson, Rebecca, Daughters of Light: Quaker Women Preaching and Prophesying in the Colonies and Abroad, 1700-1775, Alfred A. Knopf, 1999, p. 314.

Biography:

Mary Morgan was born in Radnorshire, Wales, into the Church of England. At the age of 13, she went with an elder sister to a meeting of Friends where it is said she had a great religious impression and became "convinced of the Truth." It wasn't until three years later in 1694, that Mary traveled to Pennsylvania to live with a Quaker family. Her sister also became a Quaker, but apparently stayed in Wales. Her sister's son, John Griffith, the imminent Quaker minister was born in Radnorshire in 1713. Mary certainly met and spent time with her nephew as he traveled back and forth from Britain to America.

Mary married John Pennell (in 1703) at about age 24. Pennell was a middling yeoman who resided at Concord Meeting. It would be another 19 years, and presumably after she had raised her six children, that Mary became a Quaker minister. She traveled up and down the east coast and back to Britain and Ireland. While in England in 1733, she was described by another Quaker as "*a notable good woman... from Pennsylvania.*"

Mary and John would later relocate to East Caln township. Her death was recorded in the Woodford Monthly Meeting in 1764. Her husband died just before her. She lived a meaningful 86 years of life.

See [Gaynor Roberts](#) for further info on the Welsh Tract in Pennsylvania.)