

Chapter 1 : The Life of Mary Lyon

Mary Lyon was an educator and the founder of the first women's college, which is now known as Mount Holyoke College. Synopsis Mary Lyon was born on February 28, , in Buckland, Massachusetts.

The Lyon family lived in Buckland, a town in the hills of western Massachusetts. Her father, Aaron, fought in the Revolutionary War. Aaron Lyon died when Mary was five, leaving his wife, Jemina, to raise seven children and manage a acre farm on her own. She cooked on the open hearth, baked bread, spun and dyed wool from the family sheep, wove coverlets, sewed clothes and embroidered linens, preserved fruits and vegetables picked from the family garden, churned butter, made cheese, jam, soap, and candles, cured meat, washed clothes, and swept floors. Now, self-supporting, she kept house for her brother, Aaron, who ran the family farm. He paid his sister a weekly wage of one silver dollar. Pin cushion and thimble owned by Mary Lyon. Mary Lyon began her education at age four in the village school, about a mile from her home. When the school was moved three years later to a more distant location, she left her family and lived for the school term with relatives and local families. She did chores to pay for her room and board. Mary Lyon was fortunate--girls could attend the Buckland school year-round. The school year was typically ten months long and divided into winter and summer terms. In some towns, girls could only attend during the summer, when boys were needed to do farm work. As early as , the Massachusetts Bay Colony made education compulsory for children. By the eighteenth century, most towns in Massachusetts had public elementary schools, which were called common schools. Some even had academies--the term used for high schools--which prepared young men for college. Their schooling was uneven, at best, and frequently nonexistent. Many people felt that girls did not need to be educated to become wives and mothers and caretakers of the house. Although she left school when she was 13, Mary Lyon had more education than most girls, who knew little more than the basics of reading, writing, and math, and often not even that much. Nights and winter days are dark. Candles and whale oil lamps provide the only artificial light. Roads are dirt, and often muddy. Macadam roads are introduced in , but rural roads remain mostly dirt. There is no paper money until Coins are made of gold, silver and copper. Few people receive mail, and if they do, they have to pay the postage. Stamps, purchased by the sender, were not sold in the U. People travel by foot, horseback, carriage, stagecoach, and, in winter, sleigh. Quill pens made from the shaft of a feather are used for writing. Few people own books other than the Bible. Many, especially women and girls, do not have sufficient literacy skills to read a book or a newspaper or write much more than their name. In , the U. Do you know what it is today?

Chapter 2 : Mary Lyon | blog.quintoapp.com

The Life of Thomas Paine Author of Common Sense, Rights of Man, Age of Reason, &C., &C, With Critical and Explanatory Observations of His Writings and an Appendix, Containing His Letter to Washington, Suppressed in His Works at Present Published in This Country by G. Vale.

In the midst of the panic of , an economic depression which left many Americans jobless, homeless, and helpless, Mary Lyon opened a new school to educate young women. Though the institution, known as Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, was not filled to capacity, she would not be discouraged. A descendent of hardy New England pioneers, Lyon saw examples of courage on both sides of her family. After completing his studies at Cambridge University , her maternal ancestor, the Reverend Henry Smith, journeyed across the Atlantic to become a minister in Connecticut. Chileab lived to see the birth of his great-granddaughter Mary Lyon on February 28, , in Buckland, Massachusetts. The bright, inquisitive blue-eyed girl was described by an early biographer as: Through glad eyes she looked at the world and found it good, and the people in itâ€¦. Her laugh lay very near her lipsâ€¦. Realizing that besides improving her style of classroom management she needed to acquire more education, at age 20 Lyon began studying in earnest at Sanderson Academy in Ashfield, Massachusetts. To mind and heart that institution was what the mountain airs are to the physical powers. By this time, having alternated between teaching and attending school at both Sanderson and Amherst Academy, Lyon was ready to devote herself to full-time study. The experience at Byfield was intellectually rewarding. She forged close ties with Zilpah Grant, a faculty member who would later invite Lyon to become a teacher at the Ipswich Female Seminary where Grant would serve as principal. Lyon also underwent a religious conversion and joined the Congregational Church; religion, together with learning and family, thereafter played an important role in her life. As both head of the school and a gifted teacher, Emerson was very influential, telling his students: The use of discussion as a teaching tool appealed to Lyon, and in , when she established her own school, the Buckland Female Seminary, she had her students discuss articles from contemporary magazines. She became a popular and gifted teacher. In , Lyon embarked upon what was then considered a long journey, traveling to Philadelphia, Detroit, and western New York , where she was reunited with a brother she had not seen in many years. When she returned to Massachusetts, she was determined to open a new school. Now 36, Lyon possessed an impressive resume. Both her education and teaching career were interrupted by typhoid fever in but, once recovered, she devoted her energy to helping Zilpah Grant raise funds for the Ipswich Academy and for a seminary they hoped to create for the training of teachers. These efforts were unsuccessful; the seminary was never established, and Ipswich Academy was ultimately forced to close in Envisioned as a nonprofit Christian institution charging tuition and fees low enough for "the daughters of the common people" to obtain a liberal education, Mount Holyoke was endorsed by New England ministers, but the seed money for the new school was furnished by women. In keeping with the concept of "republican motherhood," well-educated women were deemed better able to raise the next generation of citizens, and Lyon hoped to see the influence of such women spread beyond the household. But first, a considerable amount of money would be required for her new school. Her enthusiasm and a rapid-fire explanation of her new educational venture caused donors to loosen their purse strings. But the discovery of quicksand at the location and the collapse of a brick wall slowed construction of the four-story Georgian style building. Finally, in the fall of , Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, which derived its name from a geographic feature of the area, was completed. When I look through to November eighth it seems like looking down a precipice of many hundred feet, which I must descend. I can only avoid looking at the bottom, and fix my eye on the nearest stone, till I have safely reached it. The excitement of opening day was tempered by the panic of Initially only 80 students enrolled, but a few months later there were over girls, age 17 and above, in attendance. To keep costs low and create a family atmosphere, students, along with the founder, performed the domestic work. From basement to attic she was in constant request. The celebrity of her movements was almost equal to the gift of multipresence, and yet she could hardly answer the calls for her aid and counsel. While her dedication set the tone for life at Mount Holyoke, both outside and inside the classroom, it was in

the academic area that she made her most important contribution. When the school first opened, she taught chemistry and logic herself. In time, visiting professors were added to the faculty and students were encouraged to stretch themselves intellectually, culturally, and physically. At the same time, they were urged to cooperate with one another. Out of this came something known as the "Holyoke spirit," consisting of "alertness, democracy, sincerity and an unobtrusive helpfulness. Others became missionaries, a calling Lyon praised in her book, *A Missionary Offering*, published in 1842. Two of her favorite nieces went off to the Far East as missionaries; their departure from South Hadley saddened Lyon, who had also lost her mother in 1835 and a nephew to suicide in 1837. Within a few months, she died. But, in accordance with her original plan, the school continued to prosper, for unlike earlier institutions with which she had been associated, Mount Holyoke was not dependent upon any one individual. It was a nonprofit corporation with a board of trustees who could ensure a smooth transition from one administration to the next. This was exactly what Mary Lyon had envisioned when she wrote: Uncommon talents are very convenient, but they are so rare an occurrence that any establishment, so organized that it be sustained and prosper only by such talents, would ever be in danger of falling by its own weight, and of being crushed by its own ruins. Yet, Lyon was a person of uncommon talents. An extraordinarily effective teacher, she was warm, encouraging, and readily accessible to her students and the many visitors to Mount Holyoke; she was also a first-rate administrator who created the illusion that the operation of the seminary was effortless. In reality, careful planning and strenuous efforts characterized her undertakings, setting a supreme example for those who followed her at Mount Holyoke and the numerous other schools that derived inspiration from her achievements. Further Reading Gilchrist, Beth Bradford. *The Life of Mary Lyon*. University Press of New England, The American Tract Society, *Mary Lyon Through Her Letters*. History of Mount Holyoke Seminary. Mount Holyoke Seminary, *Women Who Led the Way: Eight Pioneers for Equal Rights*. Crowell, Cole, Arthur C. *The Evolution of Educational Ideal*. Yale University Press,

Chapter 3 : Sell, Buy or Rent The Life Of Mary Lyon online

Mary Mason Lyon (/ ɛː l a ɛː. ɛː m n /; February 28, - March 5,) was an American pioneer in women's blog.quintoapp.com established the Wheaton Female Seminary in Norton, Massachusetts, (now Wheaton College) in

But thanks to Mary Lyon, a pioneer in the struggle to establish institutions of higher education for women, women found a place to receive an education equal to that of men. Mary grew up in the Christian faith passed down to her from generations. One of her great-grandfathers was a Congregational minister while another was a lay patriarch of the local Baptists whose faith he had planted there and whose right to worship without taxation he had won in after a long struggle. When Mary was a child in the early 19th century, schooling for girls was considered by many to be a waste of time. A girls education was uneven, at best, and frequently non-existent. Most felt that girls did not need to be educated to become wives, mothers, and caretakers of the house. In most New England towns the school year was typically ten months long and divided into winter and summer terms. In many towns girls could only attend school in the summer, when boys were needed to do farm work. Mary was fortunate that the school in Buckland allowed girls to attend school year round and, though she left school at the age of thirteen, she had more education than most girls, who knew little more than the basics of reading, writing, and math, if that much at all. In , when Mary was only five years old, her father died, leaving his wife to raise seven children and run the family farm. She cooked on an open hearth, baked breads, spun and dyed wool from family sheep, wove blankets, sewed clothes, preserved farm produce, churned butter, made cheese, jam, soap, and candles, cured meat, washed clothes, and swept floors. Mary was considered a grown woman at thirteen! Mary stayed on at the family farm and kept house for her brother, Aaron, earning a weekly wage of one silver dollar, much of which she saved to further her education. In , when Mary was just seventeen, she was offered her first teaching job at a summer school in the nearby town of Shelburne Falls. At that time teachers needed no formal training, only a good reputation as a student, which Mary had. It was a difficult job teaching children from the ages of four to ten in the crowded one room school house, and it was even worse on rainy days when the older boys came in from the fields to attend school. However, Mary worked hard to improve her teaching skills and her ability to keep order in the schoolhouse. Her experience teaching became the catalyst for Mary to seek to further her own education, which was no small task for a nineteenth century woman who had little money. While there were some private female schools springing up in New England, women of modest means, like Mary, could not afford their tuition. Though there were obstacles in her path, related to both finances and gender, Mary was determined to further her education. She spent the next several years partly in front of the classroom as a teacher and partly struggling to find a place for herself in classrooms and lecture halls so she could learn more and fill in the gaps of her education. She sometimes traveled three days by carriage to enroll at a school. Against the advice of her family Mary also cashed in a small inheritance from her father to pay for her education. Since she lived very frugally Mary was able to save a portion of her small salary and trade homemade blankets for her room and board as well. For the next twenty years she taught at schools in Massachusetts and in New Hampshire. She became an authority on the education of women and it was during these years that Mary developed her educational philosophy and gained experience in managing a school. During this time she taught at the Sanderson Academy, opened her own school in her hometown of Buckland, spent summers teaching at the Adams Female Seminary in New Hampshire and then became the assistant principal at Ipswich Female Seminary. Her struggle in obtaining a good education gave Mary a new idea. Mary decided to establish an affordable college for women with an advanced curriculum equal to that available to men; one that prepared women for more than homemaking and teaching. In she left Ipswich to begin the fulfillment of her dream. In pursuit of her dream Mary traveled and fundraised to win support for her ideas and in she opened Mt. Eighty students were in that first class and the next year women applied for 90 available seats. The cause of female education had entered a new era. An educator ahead of her time, Mary required seven courses in the sciences and mathematics for graduation, a requirement unheard of at other female seminaries. She also introduced science-laboratory experiments to the women, which they performed themselves, often collecting their own

specimens for lab work from field trips. She also invited distinguished scientists to lecture at the school and inspired women to pursue careers in the sciences as college teachers and researchers. Mary herself, taught chemistry, one of her favorite subjects. Mary Lyon sought no affiliations with a specific religious denomination or wealthy sponsor. Instead she formed a Board of Trustees, a group of dedicated male supporters, who donated their time to help Mount Holyoke succeed. Students were required to attend church services of their choice, chapel talks, prayer meetings, and Bible study groups. Twice a day teachers and students spent time in private devotions. Every dorm room had two large lighted closets to give roommates privacy during their devotional time. The success of Mount Holyoke proved that women were as intellectually capable as men and opened the doors of higher education for women. It also proved that a school for women offering a regular college curriculum could survive financially. Mary Lyon served as the principal of Mount Holyoke for 12 years, during which time the curriculum and the school was expanded. It remains, today, as one of the leading institutions of higher education for women in the United States.

Chapter 4 : Lyon, Mary () | History of Missiology

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It was a co-ed dormitory and only the first and second floors were used for living space. The third floor was vacant and only the employees of the Physical Facility Department had keys to enter that story. The building was made of limestone. It housed 81 students; three of the 81 were residence hall agents and there was only one hall adviser. The Office of Residence Life at the university keeps tracked of who lived in the building and who worked there. In spring and summer of some work was done to re-wire the electricity so that the building was safer and able to support new technology. Therefore, in order to understand why Mary Lyon is a significant name for this residence hall, one must understand the values of Western College to imagine what activities used to occur at the Mary Lyon Building. Mary Lyon Hall was demolished in It is built on ground received from the Patterson Estate. Mount Holyoke was unique for its strong values, operation and administration, and its purpose. Mount Holyoke was highly regarded and was modeled by numerous schools. Western College was often referred to as the "Mount Holyoke of the West. He was married to a Holyoke graduate, and he came to Miami University in He was excited about the level of education at Miami, and wanted to help establish a similar seminary for women that would also focus heavily on solid academics. He believed in higher education for women. So, he found land and gave a lot of energy toward creating it. By he incorporated a governing board of "The Western Female Seminary. Tenny became president of trustees, and said he could do so because he was a pastor. In when it opened, there were pupils. The teachers were graduates and former staff from Holyoke itself. Plans for a new residence hall were drawn in In the hall was finished and named for Mary Lyon. There was an honorary ceremony on the buildings opening. A Dedication Hymn that was sung in by Marison F. Villson and Edgar Stillman Kelley [7] was: From out the tower, oh bells, send forth, The triumph of your song, Till far beyond the hills of home Your echoes float along. Love taught your tongue to pray, Ring out, oh bells, and challenge, Life unto a nobler day! So may we who have heard your voice Strive on to right the wrong, That in your lives the world may hear The echo of your song. Therefore, the habits of the residents at Mary Lyon Residence Hall were suited for longevity and vitality in life. Rigorous courses required, including seven math and science classes. The women were made to walk one mile after breakfast each day, and winters to just walk 45 minutes. They also did calisthenics in empty hallways until there was a gymnasium. Mary Lyon also wanted the Mount Holyoke Seminary to have visible means of grace— one example of this was the "recess meetings" or short "seasons" of prayer at 8 pm each night. To have mentors and close personal attention and guidance, the Western students were to be divided into sections; each section with its own teacher, this way the teacher can instill her or his personal values and have a personal mentor relationship with the student. Accommodations for boarders 2. Teachers to be modest and receive modest salaries 3. Neat, plain, simple lifestyle promoted 4. Domestic work done by students 5. Board and tuition placed at cost—keep prices low 6. Whole plan to be conducted under the principles of the missionary; no surplus income to teachers It was common to find the women cleaning Mary Lyon, and having social time to play games in the basement rooms where they had tables and chairs and pianos available. The Top 10" , 20 August Retrieved on 3 July Sixteen Years of Miami Memories: The Presidency of Phillip R. The Yale of the West. Miami University King Library: The Republican Publishing Co. Western Archives, Western College for Women. Miami University Oxford Ohio. Life and Labors of Mary Lyon. Recollections of Mary Lyon:

Chapter 5 : Mary Lyon Residence Hall - Wikipedia

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Early life[edit] The daughter of a farming family in Buckland, Massachusetts , Lyon had a hardscrabble childhood. Her father died when she was five, and the entire family pitched in to help run the farm. Lyon was thirteen when her mother remarried and moved away; she stayed behind in Buckland in order to keep the house for her brother Aaron, who took over the farm. Lyon was eventually able to attend two secondary schools, Sanderson Academy in Ashfield and Byfield Seminary in eastern Massachusetts. Joseph Emerson, and his assistant, Zilpah Polly Grant. Lyon then taught at several academies, including Sanderson, a small school of her own in Buckland, Adams Female Academy run by Grant , and the Ipswich Female Seminary also run by Grant. She also provided the first principal, Eunice Caldwell. Wheaton Female Seminary opened on 22 April , with 50 students and three teachers. The college was unique in that it was founded by people of modest means and served their daughters, rather than the children of the rich. She was especially influenced by Reverend Joseph Emerson, whose Discourse on Female Education advocated that women should be trained to be teachers rather than "to please the other sex. Calisthenics "a form of exercise" was taught by teachers in unheated hallways until a storage area was cleared for a gymnasium. These tasks included preparing meals and washing floors and windows. Emily Dickinson , who attended the Seminary in , was tasked with cleaning knives. Lyon anticipated a change in the role of women and equipped her pupils with an education that was comprehensive, rigorous, and innovative, with particular emphasis on the sciences. She introduced women to "a new and unusual way" to learn science"laboratory experiments which they performed themselves. She organized field trips on which students collected rocks, plants, and specimens for lab work, and inspected geological formations and recently discovered dinosaur tracks. She was raised a Baptist but converted to a Congregationalist under the influence of her teacher Reverend Joseph Emerson. She played a major role in the revival of the thought of Jonathan Edwards , whose works were read more frequently then than in his day. She was attracted by his ideas of self-restraint, self-denial, and disinterested benevolence. Built in on the site of the former Seminary Building, the hall houses college offices, classrooms, and a chapel.

Chapter 6 : Mary Lyon - Wikipedia

Mary Lyon was the first principal of the 'Mount Holyoke Female Seminary' and remained in the post for twelve years. The successful progress of 'Mount Holyoke Female Seminary' opened new vistas in the field of women's education.

Chapter 7 : Mary Lyon | American educator | blog.quintoapp.com

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