

**A Brief History
of
John Kendall**

Born 28 November 1719, Springfield, Chester, Pennsylvania

Died 23 September 1795 in Wilmington, New Castle, Delaware



John Kendall

Franklin P. Mason II

John Kendall was born on 28 November 1719 in Springfield, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

John Kendall was the son of Thomas Kendall [born in about 1680 in England] and his wife Mary. His parents were married in about 1708 in Chester County.

Thomas and Mary Kendall had the following children,^{1,2} all of whom were born in Springfield, Chester County, Pennsylvania:

Jane Kendall, b. 08 November 1709

Mary Kendall, b. 28 January 1713

Thomas Kendall II, b. 23 May 1715

John Kendall, b. 28 November 1719

Eleanor (Ellen) Kendall, b. 16 May 1723

Thomas Kendall was a plasterer by trade.

John Kendall married Rebeccah Collier on 15 November 1739 at the Springfield Monthly Meeting in Chester County. Shortly after their wedding, John and Rebeccah moved to Wilmington, New Castle, Delaware.

Rebeccah Collier was the daughter of Isaac Collier and Ruth Hughes. She was born on 14 March 1720 in Springfield, Chester County.

John Kendall was a cordwainer by trade. "A cordwainer is a shoemaker who makes new shoes from new leather. The cordwainer's trade can be contrasted with the cobbler's trade, according to a tradition in Britain that restricted cobblers to repairing shoes."³

¹ *Chester Monthly Meetings Births 1677-1884*, p. 41. Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College, <http://www.swarthmore.edu/academics/friends-historical-library.xml>

² *Genealogy of the Smedley Family*, compiled by Gilbert Cope, Wickersham Printing Company, Lancaster, PA, 1901, p. 298.

³ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordwainer>

U.S., Quaker Meeting Records, 1681-1935 for Rebecca Collier

Pennsylvania > Chester > Chester Monthly Meeting > Marriages, 1692-1782, Removals, 1704-1733

(1767)

Whereas John Kendale son of Thomas Kendale of
the County of Chester and Province of Pennsylvania - and his wife
deceased and Rebecca Collier daughter of Isaac Collier of Springfield
in the County and Province aforesaid and Ruth his wife having de-
clared their intentions of Marriage with each other before several Monthly
Meetings of the People called Quakers at Providence in the County aforesaid
according to the Good order used amongst them and having Consent of
friends and Relations Concerned their said Proposal of Marriage
was allowed of by the said Meetings NOW these doe to Certifie whom it
Concerns that for the full accomplishing their said intentions this fif-
teenth day of the month of November in the Year of our Lord one thousand
seven hundred and thirty nine They the said John Kendale and
Rebecca Collier appeared in a Publick Meeting of the said People at
Springfield aforesaid and the said John Kendale taking the said
Rebecca Collier by the hand did in a Solemn Manner openly declare
that he took her the said Rebecca Collier to be his wife Promising to
be unto her through Divine Assistance a faithfull and Loving
Husband untill Death should Seperate them AND then and there in
the same Assembly the said Rebecca Collier did in like Manner de-
clare that shee took him the said John Kendale to be her Husband
Promising through Divine Assistance to be unto him a Loving and
faithfull Wife untill Death should Seperate them AND MOREOVER
The said John Kendale and Rebecca Shee according to the
Custom of Marriage assuming the Name of her Husband and a further
Confirmation thereof did then and there to these presents set their
hands and wee whose Names are hereunto also subscribed being
Present at the Solemnization of the said Marriage and subscriptions
in manner aforesaid have as witnesses therunto set our hands
the day and Year above written

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Samuel Leys | Margaret Preston | John Kendale |
| Bartholomew Coppock | Phoebe Coppock | Rebecca Kendale |
| Jonathan Maris | Elizabeth Barham | Thomas Kendale |
| John Maris | Susannah Maris | Isaac Collier |
| Richard Maris | Jane Maris | Hannah Collier |
| Thomas Sabrel | Elizabeth Gleave | Thomas Kendale |
| John Gleave | Mary Fell | Thomas Hall |
| Thomas Cummings | Marcy Thompson | Benjamin Kendale |
| Robert Williamm | Ann Shipley | Ruth Collier |
| Job Yearnall | Alice Cummings | Elizabeth Kendale |
| Benaniuel Lornes | Hannah Williamm | Mary Hall |
| George Lornes Jr. | Ann Lornes | Eleanor Kendale |
| | Mary Allin | |
| | Elizabeth Lornes | |
| | Mary Lornes | |
| | Jane Dodson | |
| | Mary Bran | |
| | Susannah Forester | |
| | Mary Vanlee | |

15 November 1739: Record of the wedding of John Kendall and Rebecca Collier

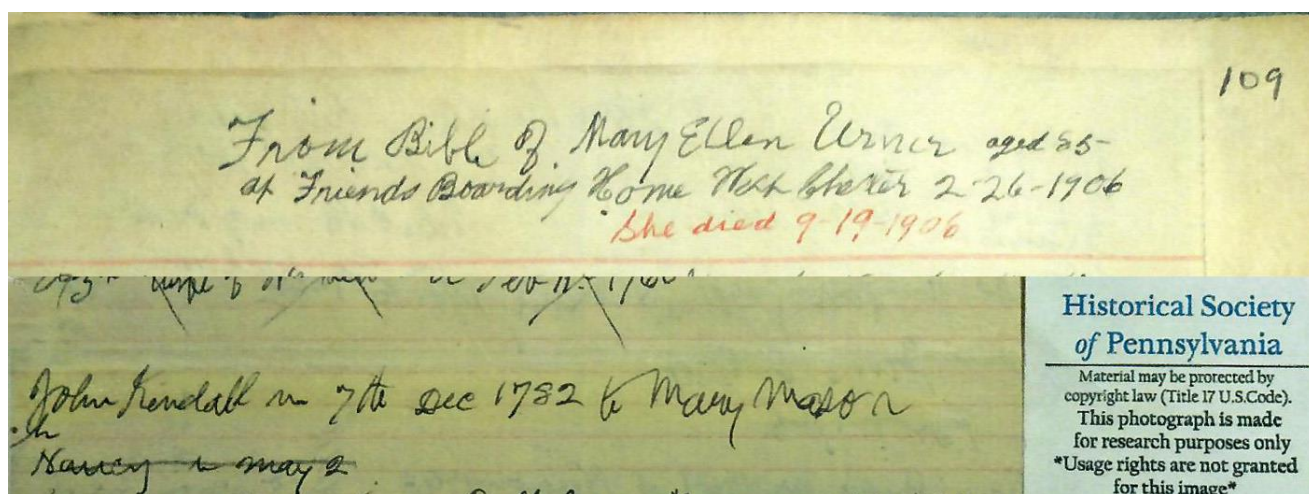
John and Rebeccah Kendall had the following children, both of whom were born in Wilmington, New Castle, Delaware:

Jesse Kendall, b. 11 November 1741

Hannah Kendall, b. 07 September 1746

Rebeccah Collier Kendall died at the age of 58 years on 19 August 1778 in Wilmington. At the time of their mother's death, Jesse was 37 years of age and Hannah was 32. Thus, they were already on their own. John Kendall remained a widower for four years, until 1782.

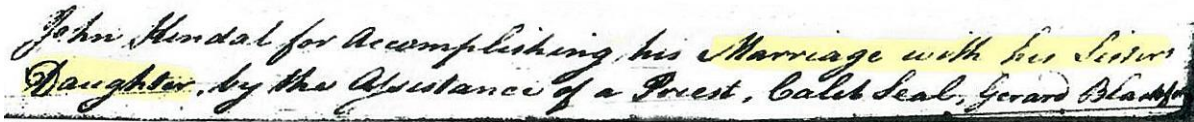
On 07 December 1782, John Kendall married Mary Mason. At the time of their marriage, John was 63 years of age and Mary was 37. For John, it was his second marriage, and for Mary, it was her first marriage.



Record of the marriage of John Kendall with Mary Mason. Detail from the Bible of Mary Ellen Kendall Orner, the granddaughter of John and Mary Kendall. From the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

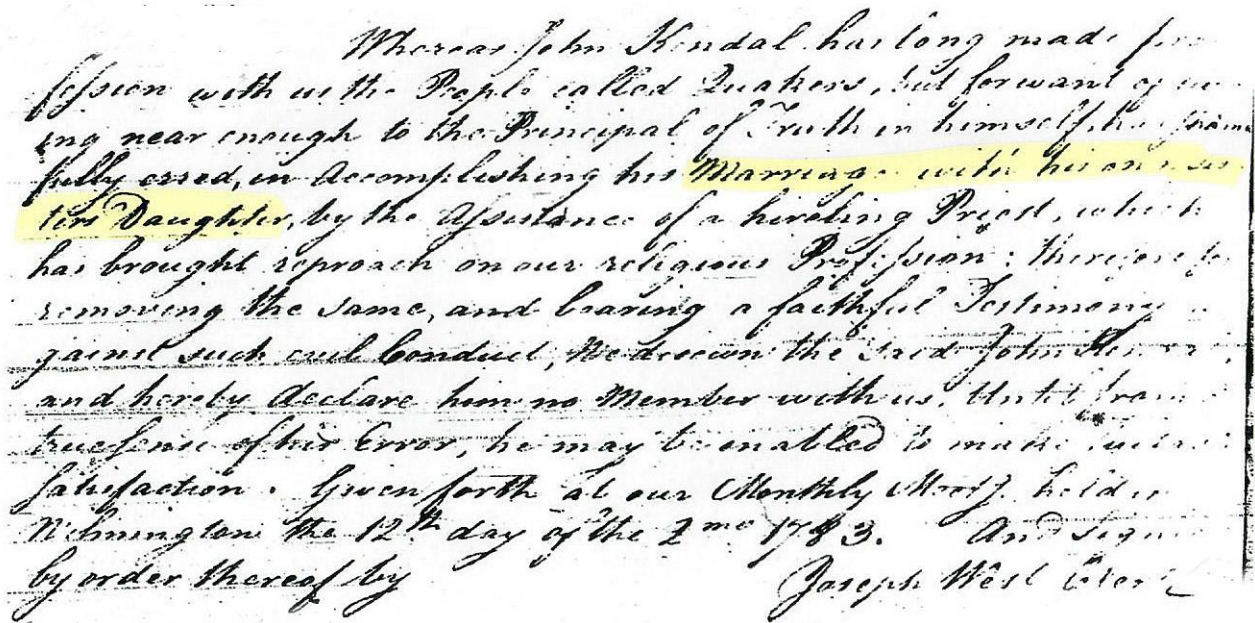
The marriage between John Kendall and Mary Mason was unusual because Mary Mason was John Kendall's niece,⁴ the daughter of his sister, Eleanor Kendall and her husband John Mason.

Uncle / niece marriage was not allowed by the Quakers. Thus, first there was a complaint filed.⁵ Then, John Kendall was disowned by the church for this alliance.⁶



John Kendall for Accomplishing his Marriage with his Sisters Daughter, by the Assistance of a Priest, called Seal, Gerard Black

15 January 1783: Complaint filed against John Kendall: "John Kendall for accomplishing his marriage with his sister's daughter, by the assistance of a Priest."



Whereas John Kendall has long made profession with us the People called Quakers, but far want of being near enough to the Principal of Truth in himself, has fully erred, in Accomplishing his Marriage with his Sisters Daughter, by the Assistance of a heretical Priest, which has brought reproach on our religious Profession: therefore for removing the same, and bearing a faithful Testimony against such evil Conduct, We do now the said John Kendall, and hereby declare him no Member with us, until from a true sense of his Error, he may be enabled to make his satisfaction. Given forth at our Monthly Meeting held in Wilmington the 12th day of the 2nd mo 1783. And Signed by order thereof by Joseph West Clerk

12 February 1783: John Kendall disowned: "John Kendall . . . marriage with his sister's daughter . . . and hereby declare him no member with us . . ."

⁴ Marriage between an uncle and a niece is called an "avunculate marriage". It is not currently permitted in the USA, except under extraordinary circumstances. It is, however, permitted in Norway, Chile, Argentina, Australia, Canada, Finland, Malaysia, The Netherlands, Germany, and Russia. It was frequent in Ancient Egypt, at least among members of ruling dynasties. And such marriages were prominent in the House of Habsburg. Refer to: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avunculate_marriage

⁵ Wilmington Monthly Meeting, Men's Minutes, 1776-1792, Box PH-650, p. 172 (15 D 1 M 1783). From the collections of Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College.

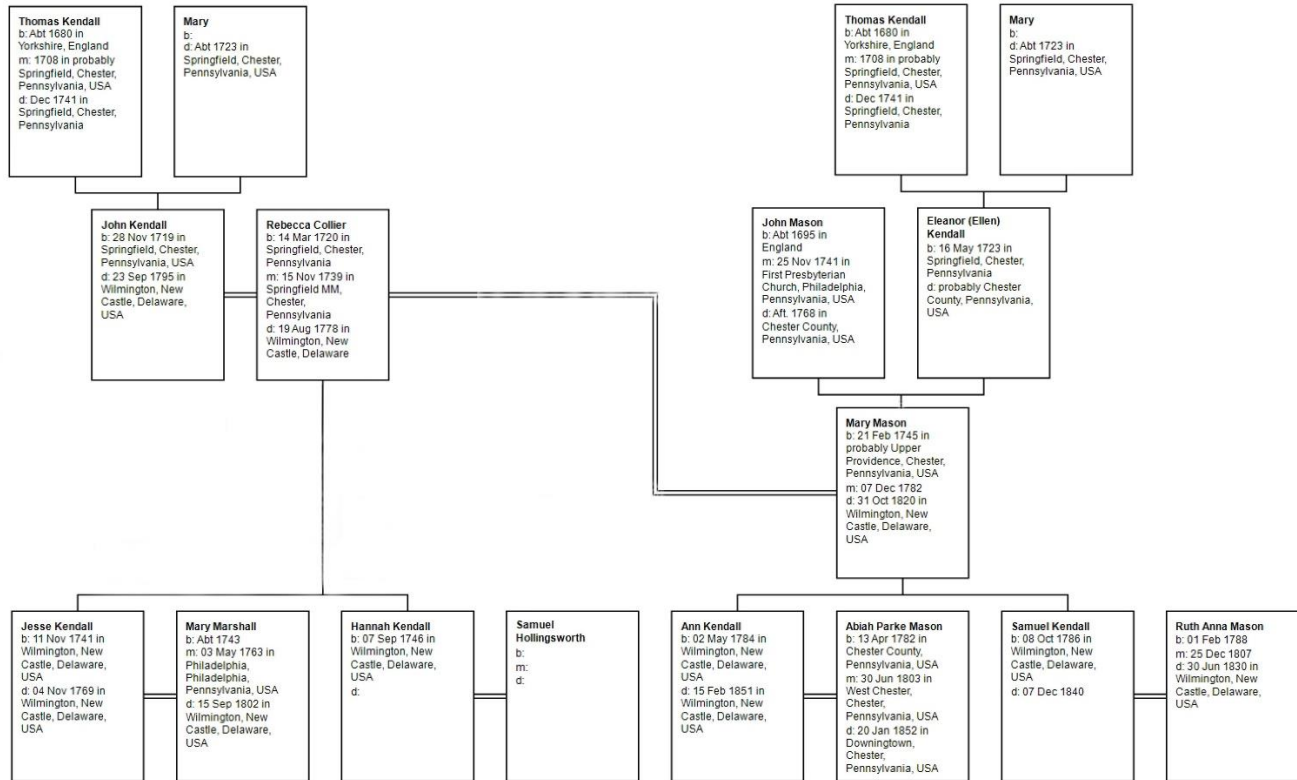
⁶ Wilmington Monthly Meeting, Men's Minutes, 1776-1792, Box PH-650, p. 174 (12 D 2 M 1783). From the collections of Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College.

John and Mary Kendall had the following children, both of whom were born in Wilmington, New Castle, Delaware:

Ann Kendall, b. 02 May 1784

Samuel Kendall, b. 08 Oct 1786

Thus, John Kendall had two families, about 40 years apart!



John Kendall's two families: Jesse and Hannah (born in the 1740s) by his first wife, Rebecca Collier and Ann and Samuel (born in the 1780s) by his second wife, Mary Mason

John Kendall died at age 75 years on 23 September 1795 in Wilmington.

JAMES STROUD, Abel Glassford.
John Kendall. Cordwainer. Bor. of Wil. Sept. 23, 1783. May 27, 1795. O. 85. Dau.-in-law, Mary Kendall, widow of son, Jesse Kendall; three grandchildren, Isaac, John and James; brother-in-law, Isaac Collier; son-in-law, Samuel Hollingsworth; dau., Hannah. Exc. wife, Mary. Cod. May 5, 1792, son, Samuel; dau., Ann.
Andrew Miller Red Lion Hd Apr 26 1794 June 23 1795 O

Abstract of John Kendall's will

“Mary Kendall” was Mary Marshall, the wife of Jesse Kendall, John Kendall's son by his first wife.

“Isaac, John, and James” were the children of Jesse and Mary Marshall Kendall.

“Isaac Collier” was the brother of Rebecca Collier, John Kendall's first wife.

“Samuel Hollingsworth” was the husband of Hannah Kendall, John Kendall’s daughter by his first wife.

“Hannah” was John Kendall’s daughter by his first wife.

“Mary” was Mary Mason Kendall, John’s second wife.

“son Samuel” and “dau. Ann” were John Kendall’s children by his second wife, Mary Mason Kendall.

Mary Mason Kendall died at age 75 years on 31 Oct 1820 in Wilmington, 25 years after the death of her husband. At the time of her death, Mary had two children and as many as 15 grandchildren.