

ROBERT AMBLER

Robert Ambler was born on March 12, 1836 in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. His parents David Ambler and Margaret Hallowell were Quakers (as was Robert) and they were married in Plymouth Monthly Meeting, Montgomery County, PA in 1815. Quaker meeting minutes record the movement of members from one meeting to another, and in 1853 there is a record of David and Margaret Ambler with their family moving from Gwynedd Meeting in Montgomery County, PA to Little Falls Meeting in Harford County, Maryland with no other movement that I've seen. With that information and a census record stating Montgomery County I assume that Robert was born in Montgomery County, PA. His birth date is recorded on the back of his parents marriage record in the Quaker records and in his death certificate and his Find A Grave Record. Robert is the 10th of 12 children born to David and Margaret.

The first government record I have that lists Robert by name is the 1850 Federal Census. Here he is listed with his parents and siblings in Gwynedd, Montgomery, Pennsylvania.

Robert Ambler married Mary L Bartleson about February 26, 1857 as reported in the Public Ledger Newspaper out of Philadelphia, PA. It states that Alderman Martin married Robert Ambler and Mary Louise Bartleson.

The Quaker records do add some information on this marriage. In the Little Falls Meeting minutes in 1857 there is a note that two friends were sent to talk with Robert Ambler about a marriage he had accomplished via an alderman of Philadelphia and that they believed him to be "guilty of unchastity". The next minutes report that the committee had visited with Robert with a good degree of satisfaction and there had been no breach of testimony.

In April of 1859, the Little Falls Meeting records that Robert Ambler has asked for a certificate to Gwynedd Meeting.

In the 1860 Federal Census Robert is listed in Plymouth, Montgomery, Pennsylvania where he lists his occupation as a farmer and the value of his personal estate at \$628. His wife Mary and two sons David Horace and Mark B are living with them.

On April 11, 1866 Robert married Sarah W Hamilton as recorded in Pennsylvania Marriages with whom he had five children.

Robert Ambler, Sarah and their children are listed in the Green Street Monthly Meeting with Robert arriving in 1867.

The 1870 Federal Census shows Robert in Philadelphia Ward 13 District 39, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He lists his occupation as milk dealer and personal real estate valued at \$1500. What is interesting in this census is that Robert has his oldest son from his first marriage, David Horace with him with his new wife and their oldest child. His second son

with Mary is living with his Grandfather Mark Bartleson, and the only daughter from his first marriage is living with Robert's sister Sarah Ambler Conard.

In the 1880 Federal Census Robert is reported in 597, Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He lists his occupation as "Flour Business". In this census he is shown with his second wife Sarah, her children and his daughter Mary E. His son Mark B was still living with his grandfather Mark Bartleson.

The 1900 Federal Census shows Robert and his family in District 1704, Philadelphia Ward 29, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He lists his occupation as "Merchant - Provisions" and states that they rent their home. Sarah lists that she has had 5 children with 4 living. All four of Sarah's children are with them at this point. We also see with them Ruth Hamilton who is listed as a sister-in-law.

Robert died on February 2, 1910 as listed in his death record and his Find A Grave Record. His death record records his parents. Robert is buried in Plymouth Meeting Friends Cemetery in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Robert's death is recognized in the Philadelphia Inquirer on Feb 9, 1910, but no details in an obituary.

Robert and Mary L had the following three children

- **David Horace Ambler (1857-1879)**
- **Mark Bartleson Ambler (1859 - 1934)**
- **Mary Ellen Ambler (1860 - 1891)**

Robert and Sarah had the following five children

- **Harry F Ambler (1868 - 1911)**
- **Jesse H Ambler (1870 - 1954)**
- **Lewis C Ambler (1874 - 1874)**
- **Elizabeth Lewis Ambler (1876 - 1952)**
- **Anna Margaret Ambler (1885 - ?)**

MARY L BARTLESON

Mary Bartleson was born in about 1840 in Pennsylvania as recorded in census records and what is believed to be her Find A Grave Record. Mary is the daughter of Mark Bartleson and Mary McKnight. Mary is the 6th of 8 children born to Mark and Mary and is the only daughter.

We can only identify Mary in a few records to date. She is seen in the 1850 Census in Radnor, Delaware, Pennsylvania with Mark Bartleson.

Mary is also seen in the 1860 census with Robert Ambler and two children. The third, Mary Ellen was born after the 1860 census was taken.

I believe Mary died in March 1865 and is buried in the Radnor Friends Cemetery on March, 19, 1865 as recorded in the Pennsylvania Church Records in Ancestry. I have yet to confirm that this Mary Ambler is the wife of Robert Ambler, but the evidence points to that being the case.

I completed a research project in February of 2026 to positively identify the parents of Mary and have solid evidence that this is the correct family for her. I would love to fill in more details of Mary's life. Possibly another research project will uncover a few additional details.