

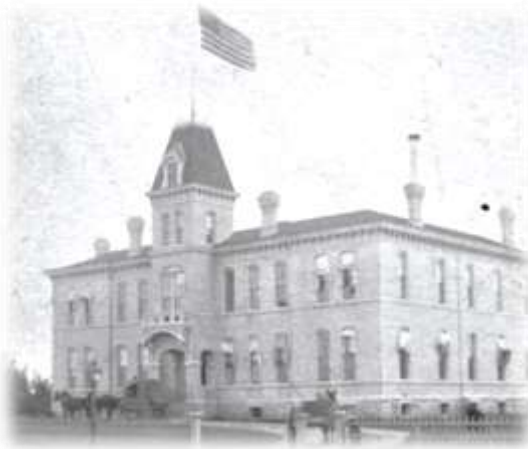
**Frances Kingsbury Mason**  
**1844-1913**

One of the charter members of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Minnesota, Frances was the daughter of Lansing Kingsbury and Frances Mary Montague Kingsbury, born in 1844 in Marshall, Michigan. Lansing was the innkeeper at the Marshall House in that town. He died suddenly of a fever in 1850, and the three children were raised separately; each son was raised by one of their father's sisters, while Frances remained with her mother.

Frances graduated from the Livingston Park Seminary in Rochester, New York in 1864, and remained there as a teacher. In 1867, she married Edwin C. Mason on the grounds of the seminary. He was a career military officer, serving as Brigadier General in the Civil War and serving in several Indian campaigns.



**Figure 1: Livingston Park Seminary in Rochester, NY, where Frances was schooled, later taught, and was married.**



**Figure 2: Fort Snelling headquarters building, #67, between 1880 and 1900, when Edwin served there. Courtesy Minnesota Historical Society.**

Frances and Edwin had four children, three daughters and a son. They moved frequently following Edwin's military career. Eldest daughter Kathro was born in Ft. Bliss, Texas, in 1868, Mary in Minneapolis in 1870, Frances in Ft. Vancouver, Washington in 1874 and Charles in Ft. Sanders, Washington in 1881. Edwin's last post was Fort Snelling, where he commanded the Third Infantry. They moved to Ft. Snelling in 1888 and upon his retirement in 1895 they lived at 554 Holly Avenue in St. Paul. Edwin died in 1898. Frances and the family moved East for a time, returning in 1900.

Frances' two brothers moved to Minnesota as well: her oldest brother Charles Kingsbury became a printer in St. Cloud and middle brother David, who was raised by his father's sister and came with her family to Monticello, Minnesota in 1856, became Assistant Librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Frances moved to Pasadena, California by 1907, living with her daughter Kathro, who later served as a nurse in World War I. Frances helped to found a Colonial Dames chapter in Pasadena and was active in the D.A.R. there, as she was in St. Paul. She died in 1913 in Pasadena and is buried in Springfield, Ohio in her husband's family plot.



**Figure 3: Frances' passport photo from 1911, Pasadena California**

### **Colonial Ancestor: Constant Southworth**

Frances' Colonial Ancestor was Constant Southworth, 1615-1678/9, her fifth great grandfather on her mother's side. Constant's mother Alice, a widow with two sons, came to Plymouth Colony in 1623 and married William Bradford, becoming his second wife. Constant and his brother Thomas followed in 1628 and grew to adulthood in the Bradford household. Constant moved to Duxbury by 1639 and served in many capacities: assistant to the governor, treasurer and deputy for Duxbury to the Plymouth court. He also owned a grist mill. He married Elizabeth Collier and they had eight children.

Frances is descended from Constant and Elizabeth's youngest son William, who was commissioned Ensign from Little Compton in Rhode Island and Providence Plantation, and whose Revolutionary War service included lieutenant of a train band in 1779 and major in the Second Battalion of Rhode Island in 1781.

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