



MATILDA

EFFECT



Pionierinnen der Forschung **Female Pioneers of Research**

Pt.28

Dorothea Erxleben





Dorothea Erxleben (1715-1762)

First female doctor of medicine in Germany

Taught in medicine and natural sciences by her father together with her brother, she turned to Frederick the Great in 1741 to request permission to study and earn a doctorate at the University of Halle. She completed her doctorate in 1754 with highest grade.





In 1742, her first work appeared under the title *Thorough Investigation of the Causes that Prevent the Female Sex from Studying, in Which Their Insignificance Is Demonstrated, and It Is Explained in Detail How It Is Possible, Necessary, and Useful for This Sex to Pursue Scholarship.*



Until her early death at the age of just 46, she worked as a licensed physician and enjoyed great recognition. However, throughout her life, she was attacked by male colleagues and accused of 'quackery'.

In addition to numerous schools, clinics, and learning centers named after her, a postage stamp featuring her portrait was issued in 1987.

