

# Ancestor of Three US Presidents

- John Porter

The Line of Robert and Bridget White became ancestors of USA Presidents Grant, Cleveland and Ford through their daughter Anna who married John Porter.

Through the marriage of daughter Mary White and Joseph Loomis came the 13th USA President Millard Fillmore, Joseph Smith, founder of LDS church, and Roy O. Crutcher family.

Robert and Bridget were also ancestors of Reverend Solomon Williams, father of 'signer' William Willams and of author Richard Henry Dana through same daughter.

## John Porter

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John Porter was baptized on 21 June 1594 in Holy Cross Church, Felsted, co. Essex, England.<sup>4</sup> He was the son of John Porter and Sybil Vessey. He married, at age 26, Anna White, age 20, daughter of Robert White and Bridget Allgar, on 18 October 1620 in All Saints Church, Messing, co. Essex, England.<sup>5</sup> He died on 21 April 1648 in Windsor, Hartford Co., Conn., at age 53, buried the next day.<sup>6</sup>

Immigration: By 1638, possibly with the Rev. Huit party which came to Dorchester on the "Susan and Ellen" and arrived July 17, 1638.

Education: Signed his name.

Occupation: Merchant.

Public Office: Constable 1639; Town Clerk 1640; Grand Juror 1643; Deputy to the General Court of Connecticut, 1639, 1646, 1647.

Residence: in 1620 of Felsted, Essex, England.

John Porter was born in Felsted, Essex County, England where he married, in Messing, Anna White in 1620. Both were of fairly prosperous families. They had nine children born in Felsted and the marriage and birth records are found in Essex County records. In 1638, when John was 44, the family emigrated to New England, probably with the Huit party on the "Susan and Ellen", and removed soon to Windsor.

In April of 1639 John acquired a home lot in Windsor on the Island. He resided next door to Joseph Loomis, whose wife, Mary White, was a sister to John's wife. Both John and Joseph were influential and prosperous men in Windsor and by 1641 John had grants from the town totaling 400 acres, ranking among the top quarter in Windsor. John Porter and Joseph Loomis were also brother-in-laws to William Goodwin and John White, both influential men in Hartford.

John had two more children born to him in Windsor and was active in the community serving in both town and colony offices. He was involved in the merchant trade, probably in cloth, and probably traded with his son James, who was a merchant in London. James would also eventually act as agent of the Colony of Connecticut in London.

Children of John Porter and Anna White

- Ann Porter+ b. 22 Sep 1621, d. 1653
- John Porter Jr.+ b. 9 Feb 1622, d. 2 Aug 1688
- Sarah Porter b. 15 Mar 1624, d. 19 Mar 1695/96

- James Porter b. 20 Feb 1627
- Rebecca Porter b. 16 Sep 1630, d. 9 Jan 1682/83
- Samuel Porter b. 26 May 1632
- Rose Porter b. 24 Jun 1633, d. 1649
- Samuel Porter b. 2 Jun 1635, d. 6 Sep 1689
- Mary Porter b. 1 Oct 1637, d. 16 Dec 1681
- Nathaniel Porter b. 19 Jul 1640, d. Jan 1679/80
- Hannah Porter+ b. 4 Sep 1642, d. 19 Sep 1677

#### Citations

- [S100] NEHGR, (1901), 55:22-31, "Children of Robert White" .
- [S154] Newton H. Winchell and Alexander N. Winchell, Winchell Gen., p. 516.
- [S141] TAG.
- [S125] Charles Edwin Booth, One Branch of the Booth Family, 73.
- [S278] NEHGR, "Children of Robert White of Messing", 55(1901):29.
- [S220] Connecticut Historical Society, Matthew Grant Records, 57.
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## John Porter

### John Porter

b. circa 1560, d. between May 1623 and November 1625

Relationship=11th great-grandfather of Norbert Raymond Bankert. Charts Ancestor Chart for Norbert R. Bankert

John Porter was born circa 1560 in Little Baddow, co. Essex, England.<sup>1</sup> He married Sybil Vessey, age 25, daughter of Thomas Vessey, on 12 September 1587 in the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Little Baddow, co. Essex, England.<sup>2</sup> He died between May 1623 and November 1625 in Felsted, co. Essex, England.<sup>1</sup>

None of the children of John and Sybil appear to have been baptized at Little Baddow, so the Porters must have left that parish soon after their marriage. Where they lived between 1587 and 1593 is still unknown, though presumably they did not leave Essex. In 1593 they are located in Felsted, co. Essex when their daughter Margaret is baptized. The Porters probably continued to live in Felsted for the next 30 years.

In 1615, John Porter, probably the same, was named executor in the will of Thomas Brett of Bromfield and Terling, co. Essex. Thomas called John a cousin, he was also an uncle of William Pynchon, the founder of Springfield, MA.

Children of John Porter and Sybil Vessey

- William Porter
- Rose Porter
- Francis Porter b. c 1588, d. May 1635
- Thomas Porter b. c 1590, d. a 1635
- Margaret Porter b. 17 May 1593
- John Porter+ b. 21 Jun 1594, d. 21 Apr 1648

#### Citations

- [S141] TAG, "John Porter of Windsor, Conn., and His Parents", 18(1941):58.
- [S141] TAG, "John Porter of Windsor, Conn., and His Parents", 18(1941):57, from the Parish Register of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Little Baddow, Co. Essex "1587 John Porter and Sible Vessey the daughter of Thomas Vessey of Little Baddow were married ye xii daye of September".
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## The Porters of New York State

BIO: Porter Family; Buffalo, Erie co., NY. Surname: Porter, Taylor, Dunlap, Breckenridge, Miller, Morris Transcribed by W. David Samuelson

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\*\*\*\*\* MEMORIAL

AND FAMILY HISTORY OF ERIE COUNTY NEW YORK VOLUME I, BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENEALOGICAL, ILLUSTRATED, PUB. 1906-8 THE PORTER FAMILY. Illustrious in the annals of the Niagara Frontier the name Porter has also a distinguished place in Colonial history and in that of the Revolutionary epoch. The well-known Porter family of Western New York is of Norman-English ancestry. Its descent is traced from William de la Grande, a Norman knight, who acquired land at the time of the Conquest, near Kenilworth, England. His son Roger (or Ralph) was "Grand Porteur" to Henry I., and from that office the name of Porter is derived. John Porter, sixteenth in descent from William de la Grande, was the founder of the Porter family in America. He came to this country from England in 1637 and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son Samuel, was a merchant and lived in Hartford, Conn., and afterward in Hadley, Mass. Nathaniel Porter, son of Samuel, joined the army in time expedition against Canada in 1708-9. He was the father of Nathaniel Buell Porter, who was a merchant in Lebanon, Conn. Col. Joshua Porter, son of Nathaniel Buell Porter, graduated from Yale College in 1754. Early in life he settled in Salisbury, Litchfield County, Conn. He served for more than forty sessions as a member of the State Legislature, was Judge of Common Pleas thirteen years, and Probate Judge thirty-seven years. As Colonel of the 14th Connecticut Regiment, he participated in the battles of Long Island, White Plains, Saratoga, Monmouth and other engagements in the Revolution. GEN. PETER BUELL PORTER, son of Col. Joshua Porter, was one of the greatest military leaders of the War of 1812. He was as eminent in civil affairs as in soldiership and in the Perspective of history, stands forth as the central figure of the memorable military and civic dramas enacted on the Niagara Frontier during the first three decades of the last century. Among the dauntless, indefatigable toilers of that formative epoch none left a deeper impress on this section of the State than Peter Buell Porter, soldier and statesman. Gen. Porter was born in Salisbury, Conn, August 14th, 1773. He was educated at Yale College, graduating in 1791, and studied law with Judge Reeves in Litchfield, Conn. In 1795 he removed to Canandaigua, N. Y., and the same year was admitted to the bar. In 1797, he was elected Clerk of Ontario County, and in 1802, was chosen a member of the State Legislature. When later elected to Congress he was Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, and in this capacity he advocated with great force and eloquence the necessity of war with Great Britain, also presenting a report in favor of a declaration of war. In 1810 he removed to Black Rock, and the same year he was a member of the committee to investigate the route of the proposed Erie Canal, of which project he was always an able and earnest supporter. Upon war being declared, Mr. Porter left Congress and recruited

a brigade of New York and Pennsylvania troops. In 1812 he was appointed Quartermaster-General of the New York State Militia, and upon the election of Governor Tompkins he was commissioned by the latter Major-General of New York State troops. General Porter's part in the campaign of 1813 began with the occupation of Fort George, when he acted as volunteer Aide-de-Camp to the American commander, Gen. Lewis, later being placed in command of the troops and Seneca warriors gathered at Buffalo. Afterward in several engagements he led the Indians to victory. He was known among the red men as "Conashustah," and they had a current saying, "Where Conashtustah leads we follow." Gen. Porter was one of the principal officers of the American army which, after the burning of Buffalo by the British and Indians in 1813, reoccupied the place and in 1814 prepared for the invasion of Canada. When the march on Canada began, Gen. Porter was in command of a volunteer brigade, reconnoitered Fort Erie and assisted in concerting the plan which resulted in its surrender. The battle of Chippewa was the first, during the War of 1812, in which a large force of British regulars was defeated in the open field, and was one of the most decisive engagements of the war. The next act of the great drama of the Niagara Frontier was the siege of Fort Erie, and to General Porter was committed the formidable task of relieving the fortress. He accomplished it, and the achievement was the crowning one of his military career, there being no other case in history where a besieging army had been routed by one sortie. The raising of the siege of Fort Erie practically closed the war on the Niagara Frontier. To Gen. Porter's skill and valor high honors were accorded. In 1811 Congress voted him a gold medal, and the State of New York presented him a sword. The Governor of New York brevetted him Major-General, and in 1813, President Madison commissioned him Major-General of the United States Army, also appointing him Commander-in-Chief, but the latter position he declined. In 1815 Gen. Porter was made Secretary of state, but declined the place, desiring to serve out the rest of his term in Congress. In 1816 he was appointed one of the Commissioners, under the treaty of Ghent, to determine the boundary line between the United States and Canada. In 1821 he was chosen one of the Regents of the University of the State of New York. In 1828 he became Secretary of War in President John Quincy Adams' Cabinet, his administration of the affairs of the War Department being marked by the strong practical efficiency characteristic of the man. Besides his military and public life, Gen. Porter has an important share in the business development of Western New York. He was senior member of the firm of Porter, Barton & Company, of Black Rock. In 1818 Gen. Porter married Laetitia Preston Breckenridge, who was of Scotch and English ancestry, being a daughter of John Breckenridge, a descendant of Alexander Breckenridge, who was among the early settlers of the Blue Ridge Region of Virginia. The children of Gen. Porter were Elizabeth L., who was born April 19, 1823, and died January 28, 1876, and Peter A. Porter. Gen. Porter removed to Niagara Falls in 1839, and lived there during the rest of his life, his death occurring March 10, 1844. COL. PETER AUGUSTUS PORTER, son of Gen. Peter Bueli Porter, in a brief but heroic career nobly maintained the traditions of patriotism, and valor which were his by inheritance, and sealed with his life his devotion to his country. Col. Porter was born in 1827 at Black Rock, Erie County, N. Y. After a careful preparatory education he graduated from Harvard College in 1845, later going to Germany where he studied at the universities of Heidelberg and Breslau till 1849.

On his return to the United States until the beginning of the Civil War, he took an active part in the business and social life of Niagara Falls. In 1861 he was elected a member of the New York Legislature, and the same year, after he had joined the army, was tendered the nomination of his party for Secretary of State. A brilliant political career was opening before him, but the national crisis was with him a consideration paramount to all others, and he declined the civic honors within his grasp. The military career of Col. Porter began in 1861, when he raised a regiment which was organized as the 129th New York Volunteer Infantry. In 1863 it became the 8th New York Heavy Artillery, of which he was commissioned Colonel. At his earnest solicitation he was sent with his troops to the front in 1864, the regiment being incorporated with the Army of the Potomac, under General Grant, and took part in all the battles of the Wilderness campaign, and Cold Harbor. In this terrible battle Col. Porter met his death. He fell pierced by six bullets, while gallantly leading his regiment up to the rebel entrenchments. For two days Col. Porter's body lay in front of the enemy's works, and could not be recovered. On the second night five brave soldiers of his command bore back his remains to the Union lines. Col. Porter was married March 30, 1852, to Mary Cabell Preston Breckenridge, daughter of Rev. John Breckenridge, and Margaret Miller. The issue of the marriage was one son, Peter A. Porter, born October 10, 1853. Mrs. Porter died August 4, 1854, and on November 9, 1859, Col. Porter married for his second wife Josephine M. Morris, daughter of George Morris, of Charleston, S. C. Their children were Laetitia H. Porter, born February 16, 1861, died October 17, 1864, and George M. Porter, born on the 7th of July, 1863. HON. PETER AUGUSTUS PORTER, son of Col. Peter A. Porter, is one of the leading men of the State, and has long been a central figure in the political, industrial and civic affairs of Western New York. Mr. Porter has the incentives to achievement which are the natural possession of the descendants of so illustrious a line, and has worthily maintained the prestige of the distinguished name he bears. Public spirit is one of his salient characteristics, and he is signally identified, both as a legislator and a citizen, with the development of the power resources of Niagara Falls. Mr. Porter was born at Niagara Falls, N. Y., October 10, 1853. he was educated at St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H., and at Yale College, graduating from the latter in 1874. His college course was followed by extensive foreign travel. On returning from abroad Mr. Porter actively identified himself with the business and municipal interests of Niagara Falls, his enterprise and initiative soon making themselves manifest as factors in the upbuilding of that city. In 1886 Mr. Porter was elected a member of the Legislature, and the following year was reelected. As Assemblyman he introduced and brought about the passage of the celebrated Niagara Tunnel Bill, which gave the sanction of the State to the utilization of the cataract for the development of electric power. The effect of this legislation has been far-reaching, the law and its outcome marking a memorable epoch in the industrial world. In the fall of 1906, Mr. Porter was nominated for Congress in the 34th District on an independent Republican ticket, being indorsed by the Democrats and the Independence League. His adversary was James W. Wadsworth, who for many successive terms had been returned to Congress from the district, and the normal majority which Mr. Porter would be obliged to overcome was estimated at from 7,000 13,000. Mr. Porter was elected by heavy pluralities, the rest being a significant tribute to him as a leader and a decisive indorsement of his

policy. Mr. Porter has always taken a deep interest in the wonderful conquest of nature at Niagara Falls. He was a prime mover in the negotiations incident to the establishment power plants at the Falls, and his tact and counsel material aided to reconcile conflicting interests. As an author he did much to place the project in a correct light, to enlist capital and to supply the public with accurate information. Mr. Porter has been a lifelong student of the antiquities of the Niagara Frontier, and is a distinguished contributor to the literature of that topic. His library relating to the subject the most extensive of its kind in the country. Mr. Porter is a prominent member of the Buffalo Historical Society and belongs to many other organizations. February 3, 1877, Mr. Porter married Alice Adele Taylor, daughter of Virgil Corydon Taylor and Harriett C. (Dunlap). Mrs. Porter is of an ancient family of English and Puritan lineage, being descended from Richard Taylor, who came from England to Massachusetts Colony in 1643. The children of the marriage are Peter A. Porter, Jr., born November 16, 1877; Cabell Breckenridge Porter, born April 8, 1881, and Preston Buell Porter, born March 13, 1891.

## The Descendants of John Porter of Windsor Connecticut, 1635-9

John Porter and his wife, Rose, had twelve children, 1620-1642, the first ten born in England.

The family immigrated to America ca. 1639 and settled at Windsor, Connecticut. He died in 1648 at Windsor. Descendants lived in Connecticut, New York, and elsewhere.

The descendants of John Porter of Windsor, Connecticut, 1635-9

by Henry Porter Andrews

Andrews, Henry Porter, b. 1822 (Main Author)

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Includes the Hopkins, Huntington, Loomis, Mills, Steele, Stoddard, White, Williams, and other related families.

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[log/supermainframeset.asp?display=titledetails&titleno=37577&disp=The+descendants+of+John+Porter+of+Windsor+Connecticut+1635-9&columns=\\*,0,0](http://www.familysearch.org/eng/library/fhlcata/log/supermainframeset.asp?display=titledetails&titleno=37577&disp=The+descendants+of+John+Porter+of+Windsor+Connecticut+1635-9&columns=*,0,0)

## John Porter (b. 1594) will from RootsWeb

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## The Genealogy of the Thompson/Cheney/Dustin/Rives Families

Index | Descendancy | Register | Download GEDCOM | Add Post-em

- ID: I07682
- Name: John Porter <sup>1</sup>
- Sex: M
- Reference Number: B537.12+M
- Birth: 21 JUN 1594 in Felsted, Essex, England <sup>1</sup>
- Burial: 22 APR 1648 Windsor, Hartford Co., Connecticut <sup>1</sup>
- Event: Founder Windsor, Connecticut
- Death: 21 APR 1648 in Windsor, Hartford Co., Connecticut <sup>1</sup>
- Note:  
[adgedge.ged]

! (1) "Genealogical Notes, or Contributions to the Family History of Some of the First Settlers of Connecticut and Massachusetts," by Nathaniel Goodwin (Hartford, CT, 1856) p.170. Cites : (a) Windsor, CT records.

(2) "A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records," comp. by Charles William Manwaring , Vol. 1, Hartford District 1635-1700 (Hartford, 1904) p.29. Cites: (a) Vol. 1, p.475.

(3) Wes Skinner. E-mail: WSkinn1@Christcom.net. Posting to <http://worldconnect.genealogy.rootsweb.com>, 12 Mar 2000.

(4) James K. Stanley, San Diego, CA. E-mail: jamkstan@juno.com (2002). Web site: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~stanfam/stanfam.htm> (2002). Cites: (a) "The Stanley Families of America as Descended from John, Timothy, and Thomas Stanley of Hartford, CT, 1636," comp. by Israel P. Warren (Portland, ME: B. Thurston & Co., 1887).

(5) "A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England, Showing Three Generations of Those Who Came Before May, 1692, on the Basis of Farmer's Register," by James Savage ( 1860-1862; rpt. "Savage New England Register," <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/vt/state/savage>, Nov 2000) Vol. 3.

(6) "The Great Migration Begins - Immigrants to New England 1620-1633," by Robert Charles Anderson (NEHGS, Boston, MA, 1995) 2:792. Cites: (a) "NEHGS Register," 55:24.

! Birth: (3,4) 21 Jun 1594, Felsted, Essex, England.

Marriage to Rose Anna WHITE: (1,5) Rose \_\_, England. (3) Rose Anna WHITE. (4,6) Anna WHITE . (4) 18 Oct 1620, Messing, England. [NOTE: Are two people being confused as one?]

Death: (4) 12 Apr 1648, Windsor, Hartford Co., CT. (5) 21 Apr 1648.

Burial: (1,5) 22 Apr 1648. (1,2) Windsor, CT. (2a,5) Will dtd 20 Apr 1648. (2a) Inventory of estate dtd 27 Apr 1648, Windsor, CT.

(5) 1638: Among the earliest settlers of Windsor [CT]. (6) Of Windsor, CT.

(5) 1640: Constable.

(5) 1646: Representative.

(5) 1647: Representative.

(2a) 1648, 20 Apr: John PORTER of Wyndsor wrote his will. Called himself weak and sick i n body. Gives to eldest son John PORTER 100 pounds. Gives to second son Jeames PORTER 60 pounds. Gives to other 6 children, Samuel PORTER, Nathaniel, Rebeka, Rose, Mary & Anne PORTER , 30 pounds each, which is to be raised out of my whole estate, as housing, lands, cattle, and household goods, and to be paid as they come to be 20 years of age, or sooner if my overseers see just cause, without whose consent I would not have them marry, which if they do it shall be in the power of my overseers to abate their portions and give it to the other that are more deserving. My son Joseph JUDGSON to take 20 shillings of Thomas THORNTON the next winter. Gives 50 shillings to the poor of Wyndsor church. Beloved friends to be the overseers of my last will, Mr. WARHAM of Wyndsor, Mr. GOODWYN of Hartford, Goodman WHITE of Hartford, Matthew GRANT of Wyndsor. Signed John PORTER. Wits. Henry CLARKE, Abigail BRANKER.

(2a) 1648, 27 Apr: Inventory of the estate of John PORTER of Windsor, CT, valued at 470-17-00 pounds. Taken by Henry CLARKE, David WILTON, William PHELPS, Thomas FORD.

(2a,5) 1649, 7 Jun: Will proved, Hartford, CT.

(2a) 1650, 7 Mar: One of the younger daughters of John PORTER had died, and an adjustment of the elder daughters' portions was recorded.

Marriage 1 Rose Ann White b: 13 JUL 1600 in Shelford, Essex, England

- Married: 18 OCT 1620 in Messing, Essex, England <sup>1</sup>

Children

1. James Porter b: in ,, England
2. Rebecca Porter b: in ,, England
3. Rose Porter b: in ,, England
4. Mary Porter b: in ,, England
5. Joseph Porter b: in ,, England
6. John Porter b: 09 FEB 1623 in Felsted, Essex, England
7. Sarah Porter b: ABT 1626 in ,, England
8. Samuel Porter b: 02 JUN 1635 in Felsted, Essex, England
9. Nathaniel Porter b: 19 JUL 1640 in Windsor, Hartford Co., Connecticut
10. Ann "Hannah" Porter b: 04 SEP 1642 in Windsor, Hartford Co., Connecticut

Sources:

1. Title: adgedge.ged

Note:

Source Medium: Other

Text: Date of Import: Sep 6, 2004

## John Porter's Will

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John Porter

b. 1600

d. 1648

m. Anna White

Dated April 20, 1648, proved 7 June 1649

I give to my eldest son John Porter 100 pounds, and to my second son James Porter I give three score pounds, and to my other six children to wit : Samuel Porter, Nathaniel Porter, Rebecca Porter, Rose Porter, Mary Porter, Anna Porter, I give to each of them thirty pounds apiece.....My son Joseph Judson is to take twenty shillings of Thomas Thornton the next winter. Also I give fifty shillings to the poor of WyndSOR church.

My desire is that these my beloved friends would be the overseers of this my last Will and testament. Mr. Warham of WyndSOR, Mr. Goodwin of Hartford, Goodman White of Hartford, Matthew Graunt of WyndSOR.

Witnesses. Henry Clarke.

John Porter.

Abigaill Branker.

His two eldest daughters Anna and Sarah thought the portions given them by their father at their marriage should be made the same as their younger sisters, as appears from the following report of the committee appointed to consider the matter.

March 7th, 1650



Upon the consideration of the business referred to our consideration touching the children of John Porter of Wyndsor, deceased, We finding some expressions of his that he would make the portions of his two eldest daughters as good as his younger; also we conceive the eldest were helpful to the estate and that the Lord hath taken away one of the younger daughters and that the rest of the children are disposed of without damage to their portion; our apprehensions are (if the Court see meet) that the two eldest daughters portions be made up thirty pounds apiece.

John Taillcott, William Westwood.

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## Plymouth Colony: Its History and People 1620-1691

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Plymouth Colony: Its History and People 1620-1691

Part One: Chronological Histories

Chapter 4: A Loss of Leaders (1643-1657)

Rehoboth

xxx At the 2 August 1642 Assistants' meeting, some men from Hingham—John Porter, Thomas Loring, Stephen Payne, and the Rev. Nicholas Baker—requested permission to settle at Seekonk. Though the records do not show how the request was answered, Payne, at least, was later living there, being chosen by the General Court on 4 June 1645 as constable. On 6 July 1641 the General Court had noted that the Bay Colony "would have Sicquncke from us." The Bay disputed Plymouth's right to Rehoboth, and the issue was referred to the Commissioners of the United Colonies to decide. At a meeting at Hartford on 5 September 1644, the commissioners decided in favor of Plymouth, unless Massachusetts could produce better evidence to support its claim. Richard Wright, a supporter of Governor Winthrop, was elected the first deputy from Rehoboth to the Plymouth Court, but refused to serve. One of the Plymouth Assistants, Mr. John Brown, played a leading role in Rehoboth's affairs, and some of the Massachusetts men left the town. On 28 October 1645, the General Court noted that the "townes" of Taunton and Rehoboth had been excused from sending men to fight against the Narragansetts "in regard they are frontire townes, and billited the souldiers during the tyme they were forth," and Rehoboth was not assessed with the other towns for the expenses of the campaign. At the same court meeting, Walter Palmer of Rehoboth was admitted a freeman and chosen a commissioner to represent Rehoboth at court meetings. Other early residents at Rehoboth included Richard Bowen [p.78] and Robert Martin. At the 2 June 1646 court meeting, Peter Hunt was chosen constable for Rehoboth, and Thomas Cooper was made a highway surveyor. There is no record of when Rehoboth was made a town, but the General Court's decision of 4 June 1645 "That Seacunck be called Rehoboth" has been taken as the official date.<sup>10</sup>

<http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?rank=1&new=1&>

MSAV=1&msT=0&gsfn=Thomas&gsfn\_x=1&gsln=Porter&gsln\_x=1&rg\_81004010\_\_date=162

0&msbpn\_\_ftp=Felsted%2c+Essex%2c+England&rg\_81004030\_\_date=1697&msdpn\_\_ftp=Farmington%2c

+Hartford+County%2c+Connecticut%2c+USA&\_8000C000=John+Porter&\_80008000=Anna+White&\_80018

000=Sarah&\_80014000=Sarah%2cThomas%2cDorothy%2cJoanna%2cRachael%2cDorothy%2cRuth%2cMartha&rg

## John Porter

**John PORTER Jr. [Parents]** <sup>1, 2, 3</sup> was christened on 21 Jun 1594 in Felsted, Essex Co., England. He died on 21 Apr 1648 in Windsor, Hartford Co., CT. He married <sup>4</sup> Anna WHITE on 18 Oct 1620 in England.

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From the Genealogy & Personal Memoirs of William R. Cutter, Vol. 2, pg.1328-1329 we find something about the origins of the Porter name. The ancestry of John Porter of Windsor, has been traced through sixteen generations from him to William de la Grande, a Norman knight, who went to England with William the Conqueror in the conquest of A.D. 1066 and acquired lands near Kenilworth in Warwickshire. His son, Ralph or Roger, became "Grand Porteur to Henry I from A.D. 1120 to 1140 and from this circumstance came the surname of Porter as now derived. The ancient coat-of-arms of the family is: Argent on a fesse sable between two or three church bells of the first. Crest: a portcullis argent chained. Motto: Virgilantia et Virtuti.

John Porter of Windsor, Connecticut, is the emigrant ancestor of this line and a 7th great grandfather of Florence Bertha Miles. It is said that "he came to New England with his wife and nine children from Felsted, County Essex, England, probably in the ship 'Swan and Ellen,' 17 July 1638," and in company with his brother-in-law Joseph Loomis. He was one of the first settlers of Windsor, CT, although he settled briefly at Dorchester. We find accounts of him migrating from there to Connecticut accompanying Rev. Ephraim Hewitt. In Windsor he was a man of some wealth and property, as well as ability and character. His home lot was on the "Island" extending east and west of the road, and included part of the "Plymouth Meadow." His house was east of the road.

John received a large land grant in Windsor and was appointed constable in 1639/40, a juror in 1640, a grand-juror in 1643 and deputy to General Court in 1646 and 1647. He was generally a prominent man in the community. His last will and testament is dated April 20, 1648 and can be found in the Connecticut Colonial Records. He died in Windsor a day later and was buried on the 22nd. His will, however, was not probated until June of the next year.

The marriage of John Porter of Felsted to Anna White of Messing, 18th October, 1620, is found in the Parish Register of Messing. The baptism of their children, beginning with Anna, September 21, 1621, their first born, down to Mary, October 1st, 1637, the last one there baptized, are recorded in the Parish Register of Felsted. They probably went to Messing soon after this date, as the baptism of their daughter Anna (who is supposed to have died in infancy), November 4, 1638, is there recorded. The facts taken in conjunction with the information concerning his family contained in the will of John Porter, and also in the Town Records of Windsor, are regarded as good and sufficient authority for the statement that this John Porter of Felsted and John Porter of Windsor, Conn., were the same person.

Anna White was the daughter of Robert White of Messing, a village about ten miles from Bocking in Essex. Her baptism is recorded in the Messing Parish Register, July 13, 1600. The mother of Anna White was Bridget Allgar, daughter of William Allgar of Shalford, Essex County, England. Robert White died in 1617 and it has been said that "he cannot have been an old man at the time of his death, for he had at least five children unmarried, and apparently only one of them over twenty-one." His daughter Elizabeth married William Goodwin, and his daughter Mary married Joseph Loomis, both of them coming to New England, and well-known in its history. Anna is mentioned in her father's will in the following clause: "I give and bequeath unto my daughter Anna White the summe of one hundredth markes of like lawfull mony: to be paid unto hir upon

ye day of hir marriage; yf soe be she shall bestow hir selfe in marriage, accordinge to the likings and consent of my two fornamed sonnes in law, and my wife, as is aforesaid. But yf soe fall out, as that she my said daughter Anna shall marrye without the consent and approbation formerly mentioned, then I give and bequeath hir only the summe of thirtey pounds of like lawfull monie." There is no doubt that the necessary approval was given and that three years later the bequest constituted her marriage portion.

Abstract of the Will of John Porter, dated April 20, 1648, proved June 7, 1649: I give my eldest son John Porter 100 pounds, and to my second son Jeames Porter I give three score pounds, and to my other six children, to wit: Samuel Porter, Nathaniel porter, Rebecca Porter, Rose Porter, Mary Porter, Ana Porter, I give to each of them thirty pounds apiece. . . . My son Joseph Judson is to take twenty shillings of Thomas Thornton the next winter. Also I give fifty shillings to the poor of Wyndsor church."

My desire is that these my beloved friends would be the overseers of this my last Will and testament. Mr Warham of Wyndsor, Mr. Goodwin of Hartford, Goodman White of Hartford, Matthew Graunt of Wyndsor. (signed) John Porter

Witnesses. Henry Clark. John Porter. Abigail Branker

His two eldest daughters Anna and Sarah thought the portions given to them by their father at their marriage should be made the same as their younger sisters, as appears from the following report of the committee appointed to consider the matter.

March 7th, 1650. Upon consideration of the business referred to our consideration touching upon the children of John Porter of Wyndsor, deceased. We finding some expressions of this that we would make the portions of his two eldest daughters as good as his younger; also we conceive the eldest were helpful to the estate and that the Lord hath taken away one of the younger daughters and that the rest of the children are disposed of without damage to their portion; our apprehensions are (if the Court see meet) that the two eldest daughters portions be made up thirty pounds apiece."

John Tallcott, William Westwood.

Conn. Col. Rec. Vol ", pp. 475-6."

Anna and John became the ancestors of Presidents Grant, Cleveland and Ford.

Anna WHITE [Parents] was christened on 13 Jul 1600 in Shalford,Essex Co.,England. She died in Jul 1647 in

Windsor,Hartford Co.,CT,USA. She married <sup>1</sup> John PORTER Jr. on 18 Oct 1620 in England.

They had the following children:

FiAnna PORTER was born on 22 Sep 1621. She died on 21 Jul 1653. MiiJohn PORTER was christened on 9 Feb 1622/1623. He died in Aug 1688. FiiiSarah PORTER was christened on 15 Mar 1624/1625. She died on 16 Mar 1696/1697. MivJames PORTER was born about 20 Feb 1627. He died on 29 Sep 1727. FvRebecca PORTER was born on 16 Sep 1630. She died on 9 Jan 1682. FviRose PORTER (youth) was born on 24 Jun 1633 in Felsted,Essexshire,England. She was buried on 12 May 1648 in Windsor,Hartford Co.,CT. MviiSamuel PORTER was born on 2 Jun 1635. He died on 6 Sep 1689. FviiiMary PORTER was christened on 1 Oct 1637. She died on 16 Dec 1681. MixJoseph PORTER (infant) was born in 1644 in (prob) Windsor,Hartford Co.,CT. He died in 1648. MxNathaniel PORTERwas born on 29 Feb 1640. He died on 14 Jan 1680. FxiHannah PORTER was born on 4 Sep 1642. She died on 20 Sep 1677.

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