

# Three Generations of Family Registers for the Porter Family of Farmington, Connecticut

*submitted by Richard Hall* <sup>[1]</sup>

Three family registers, two in the possession of Kathy Russell-Regan (russell-regan@live.com) and her brother Robert Russell, and one in the possession of the Farmington Historical Society, provide genealogical information on three generations of the Porter family of Farmington, Connecticut.

## William and Sarah (Lusk) Porter Family Register (Generation 1)

The family register for William and Sarah (Lusk) Porter is currently in the possession of Kathy Russell-Regan and her brother Robert Russell. It was probably created between 1805 and 1868. The handwriting and ink are the same for all the names, birth dates, and death dates through 1805. The = sign is also used as a separator in most of those dates. Death dates from 1868 through 1881 appear in various handwriting and ink. There are no dates on the register between 1805 and 1868 despite two of their children having died during this period. The two children with missing death dates are Ursula and Sidney who died 26 September 1854<sup>[2]</sup> and 8 February 1848<sup>[3]</sup> respectively.

William Porter and Sarah Lusk were married at Farmington, Connecticut, 26 or 30 May 1776.<sup>[4]</sup> William Porter was the son of David and Annah (Judd) (Moodey) Porter of Farmington.<sup>[5]</sup> Sarah Lusk was the daughter of James and Sarah (Pater-son) Lusk of Farmington.<sup>[6]</sup>

### Family Register

Mr. William Porter was born Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 1745

Miss Sarah Lusk was born Nov 24<sup>th</sup> 1755

Married May 26 = 1776

Children's Names	Births	Deaths
Elizur Porter	July - 2 <sup>[illegible]</sup> 1777	March = 17 <sup>th</sup> = [1781]
Eunice Porter	February 27 <sup>th</sup> = 1779	February = 22 <sup>d</sup> = 1805
Romanta Porter	December = 22 <sup>th</sup> <sup>[sic]</sup> 1780	February 29 <sup>th</sup> 1872
Ursula Porter	April 9 <sup>th</sup> = 1783	[blank]
Cynthia Porter	April 29 <sup>th</sup> 1785	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup> 1881 <sup>[7]</sup>
Sidney Porter	November - 5 <sup>th</sup> = 1787	May = 2 <sup>d</sup> = 1789

**Children of William and Sarah (Lusk) Porter, continued:**

Children's Names	Births	Deaths
Sidney Porter	February = 2 <sup>th</sup> [sic] = 1790	[blank]
David Porter	June = 18 <sup>th</sup> = 1792	June 20 <sup>th</sup> 1868
Elizur Porter	October = 22 <sup>th</sup> [sic] = 1794	August 14 <sup>th</sup> 1874
Annah Porter	July 31 <sup>st</sup> = 1797	Jan'y 14 <sup>th</sup> 1876
John Porter	February = 24 <sup>th</sup> = 1800	Mch 3 <sup>d</sup> 1875
Mr. William Porter Died March 1826		Mrs. Sarah Porter Died Dec 1832

**Romanta and Rachel (Webster) Porter Family Register (Generation 2)**

The family register for Romanta and Rachel (Webster) Porter is a sampler that hangs in the Staples House at Farmington, Connecticut, and was initially wrought by Romanta Porter's daughter Cornelia in 1834.<sup>[8]</sup> The death dates for the children other than Nathaniel were clearly added by someone other than Cornelia, who died in 1861.

**Family Register**

Mr. Romanta Porter was born Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> 1780

Miss Rachel Webster was born Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1783

Married May 12<sup>th</sup> 1808

Names	Births	Deaths
Nathaniel Porter	April 13 <sup>th</sup> 1809	May 10 <sup>th</sup> 1809
Wales S Porter	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup> 1810	Aug 31 <sup>st</sup> 1891
Martin Porter	August 27 <sup>th</sup> 1812	March 23 <sup>d</sup> 1904
Alpheus Porter	Dec 23 <sup>d</sup> 1814	March 23 <sup>d</sup> 1904
Ephraim Porter	Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> 1817	Aug 8 <sup>th</sup> 1890
Cornelia Porter	Oct 7 <sup>th</sup> 1823	March 24 <sup>th</sup> 1861
William Porter	May 1 <sup>st</sup> 1827	May 14 <sup>th</sup> 1914
Eliza Porter	May 21 <sup>st</sup> 1829	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup> 1886

Rachel Porter died Oct 23<sup>d</sup> 1859  
Romanta Porter died Feb 29 1874 [*sic*]<sup>[9]</sup>

Cornelia Porter  
Wrought at West Avon, Conn. July 1834

### **Wales S. and Martha (Montague) Porter Family Record (Generation 3)**

The family register for Wales and Martha (Montague) Porter is currently in the possession of Kathy Russell-Regan and her brother Robert Russell. The original form for the family record of Wales S. and Martha (Montague) Porter's family is from *Gleason's Pictorial Drawing-Room Companion*, 7 January 1854, p. 12. The names of the parents and children were probably added sometime in 1854 or shortly thereafter. The event dates and locations appear to have been added later, based on the handwriting differences and dates involved. Most of the dates and locations look like they originated from the same source as the Montague genealogy published in 1886.<sup>[10]</sup> There is information in the deaths column written on top of a faint entry that takes up most of the column. This faint entry describes the service and imprisonment of Henry and Charles Porter during the Civil War. The information also appears in the Montague genealogy.<sup>[11]</sup>

#### **Family Record**

<b>Family Names</b>	<b>Births, when &amp; where</b>	<b>Marriages, when &amp; where</b>
[Deaths have been moved to page 20 of this issue due to space limitations]		

#### **Parents**

Wales S Porter	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup> 1810 Farmington	Wethersfield
Martha M Porter	Wethersfield 1812 <sup>[12]</sup>	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup> 1837

#### **Children**

Rienzi D Porter	Tryon Mountain NC	<del>Minneapolis</del> [crossed out]
Alpheus G Porter	Greenville S Carolina	Farmington Conn
Henry Clay Porter	Rutherfordton N Carolina	
Charles G Porter	Farmington Conn	Westport Ct
Catharine Maria Porter	West Cornwall Conn	

## Wales S. and Martha (Montague) Porter Family Record (Generation 3), Family Record, continued:

Family Names	Deaths, when & where
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### Parents

Wales S Porter	[blank]
Martha M Porter	May 7/77 Unionville Ct

### Children

Rienzi D Porter	Mineapolis [sic] Minn
Alpheus G Porter	Lincoln Neb. Nov 7 <sup>th</sup> 1894 <sup>[13]</sup>
Henry Clay Porter	Wilmington NC
Charles G Porter	Brooklyn, NY
Catharine Maria Porter	Unionville Ct

### Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Richard Hall, richhall@famouskin.com, is a frequent contributor of articles to the *Mayflower Descendant*. He has also written for *American Ancestors* and made significant contributions to Gary Boyd Roberts's 2020 publication *The Mayflower 500*. He is the founder of FamousKin.com.
- <sup>2</sup> FindaGrave.com, memorial #82986619, photograph of gravestone at Greenwood Cemetery, Avon, Conn.
- <sup>3</sup> FindaGrave.com, memorial #28836302, photograph of gravestone at First Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Greensboro, N.C.
- <sup>4</sup> *Farmington, Connecticut, First Church of Christ (Congregational) Records, 1652-1938, Vol. 3*, online at FamilySearch.org [FHL 4199687, image 266], marriage of William Porter and Sarah Lusk. The family register gives the marriage date for William Porter and Sarah Lusk as 26 May 1776; however, church records state the couple married 30 May 1776.
- <sup>5</sup> Farmington Deeds, 34:489 [FHL 8465902, image 599]; William Porter, husband of Sarah Lusk, sold land in Farmington on 1 Feb. 1802 to Benjamin Belden of Bristol, Conn., that was described as William's "proportion thereof which is owned by Hon[ore]d. Mother Annah Lewis ...." Barbour, citing Farmington Vital Records, LR2:98 (Ann's birth), LR:13 (14 Oct. 1731 marriage of Ebenezer Moodey and Anne Judd), LR7:46 (26 July 1744 marriage of David Porter and wid. Anna Moodey), and LR 11:576 (9 March 1758 marriage

- of Ezekiel Lewis and wid. Annah Porter). Annah (Judd) (Moody) (Porter) Lewis, wife of Ebenezer Moody, David Porter, and Ezekiel Lewis, was born at Farmington 15 Oct. 1712, daughter of Samuel and Anne (\_\_\_\_\_) (Hart) Judd.
- <sup>6</sup> *Connecticut, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1609-1999*, online at Ancestry.com, will of James Lusk, dated 22 April 1806, proved 28 December 1809. Sarah is identified in her father's will as Sarah Porter.
- <sup>7</sup> The last digit of 1 in 1881 is written over a 2.
- <sup>8</sup> An image of the sampler was provided by Joanne Lawson of the Farmington Historical Society.
- <sup>9</sup> Romanta Porter died in 1872. See previous family register for William Porter and Sarah Lusk. FindaGrave.com, memorial #44542759, photograph of gravestone at Riverside Cemetery, Farmington, Conn.
- <sup>10</sup> George Wm. Montague and William L. Montague, *History and Genealogy of the Montague Family of America* (Amherst, Mass.: Press of J. E. Williams, 1886).
- <sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, 132, 141.
- <sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, 132, gives Martha's birth date as 25 February 1813. William Holcomb Webster and Rev. Melville Reuben Webster, *History and Genealogy of the Gov. John Webster Family of Connecticut* (Rochester, New York: E. R. Andrews Printing Company, 1915), 882, gives Martha's birth date as 25 April 1813.
- <sup>13</sup> *Nebraska, U.S., Grand Army of the Republic, Burial Records, 1861-1948*, online at Ancestry.com, gives Alpheus's death date as 23 November 1893.