

ANALYSIS OF THE PROBATE INVENTORY OF  
MOSES PORTER

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Kari:

This is an excellent analysis. The kind of interpretation that was slighted in your first paper is found here in abundance. You really go beyond what I had expected.

You do a thorough job of pointing out the significance of a variety of different types of personal possessions ranging from clothing to ceramics, and riding chairs to furniture. (You could have pointed out the presence of a wig and its significance.) You make very good use of secondary works such as Judd's History of Hadley and the Great River catalogue to support your interpretations. References to the house and to surviving objects such as the wedding dress are well integrated into your analysis. By drawing upon secondary works and physical survivals to flesh out the inventory, you create a detailed and convincing portrait of a wealthy country gentleman.

DRY

(A)



Moses Porter, born January 13, 1722, was the grandson on one of the founders of the town of Hadley, Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup> His father, Samuel, was the second or third wealthiest man in town and could be considered one of the Connecticut Valley "River Gods". He was a farmer and also owned a still valued at nine pounds in 1752.<sup>2</sup> In 1731, Samuel was placed at the top of the real estate listing for the town of Hadley.<sup>3</sup> When Samuel Porter died in 1748, his son Moses was the sole executor of his estate and inherited almost all of his real estate. Between 1749 and 1753, Moses Porter spent at least 838 pounds to purchase land in Hadley.<sup>4</sup> By 1752, He owned almost all of the tract of common land called "forty acres and its skirts".<sup>5</sup>

The early Porter residences were situated along the broad village street within the stockade. By 1752, however, the fear of Indians on the outskirts of town had ceased. Then, Moses Porter was the first man to construct a house outside of the <sup>village</sup> stockade, two miles north of the Hadley meeting house.<sup>6</sup> In December of that year, he moved into the new home with his wife Elizabeth and five year old daughter Elizabeth or Bette as he called her.

Moses was a farmer with a strong interest in town and military affairs. He was Hadley town constable in 1749 and selectman in 1752. He was the only captain from Hadley in the service during the Sixth Indian War in 1755.<sup>7</sup> His regiment, commanded by Colonel Ephriam Williams, was attacked by the Indians near Lake George, New York. On September 8, 1755, <sup>many</sup> most of the men were killed, including Moses Porter, then only 33 years old.<sup>8</sup> He left his young family alone in the big new house that he had built for them. Exactly sixth months later, on March 8, 1756, Enos Nash, Samuel Smith, and Eleazor Porter came to the house to take ~~an~~ inventory of his estate.

This inventory is unfortunately not listed room by room and the house as it stands today underwent extensive changes in the 1790s. However, the original house is said to have been four over four rooms with a pitched roof and kitchen ell. It has since been enlarged, but was certainly of ample size when it was first built. Moses Porter was an ambitious young man, making quite a statement by building this large <sup>home</sup> so far from the center of town. (2)

The house and barn, standing on 61 acres of farm and 50 acres of skirt, were valued at 665 pounds. In addition, Moses Porter owned more than 535 acres of land in the Inner Commons, Fort River Pasture, Fort Meadow, swamps, and <sup>prime</sup> land in South Hadley. In 1753, he had purchased a seventh part of a saw mill from

Benjamin Smith for eleven pounds.<sup>9</sup> After his death, the share was valued at nine pounds, six shillings, eight pence and he also had logs there worth three pounds, 13 shillings.

The Porter farm was quite large and well equipped, raising a variety of crops and livestock. Moses owned a negro man and a negro girl, which, aside from his house and land, were his most valuable possessions, worth 53 and 33 pounds respectively. This was quite a luxury, considering that in 1755, there were only 18 slaves living in the entire town of Hadley.<sup>10</sup> That Moses Porter had two of the 18 shows that he was certainly living well above the town average. These two people would have done a great deal of work running the farm and house, but the Porters must also have had some other servants or farm hands. However, there is no clear evidence of this; only that Elizabeth in a letter to Moses dated August 9, 1755, mentions "our people" as having seen men skulking about the house at night.<sup>11</sup> This could indicate that they had other workers living in the house with them.

The farm was not all specialized, but rather raised a variety of crops popular in Hadley at the time. Grains stored in the house when Moses died included wheat, barley, beans, peas, Indian corn, oats, malt, wheat meal, and hay. These may not all have been grown there on the farm. Some may have been received through trade, but it does seem likely that they would have been growing most of these things on such a large farm. The time of year when the inventory was taken must also be noted. By March, stores would have been getting low and the family certainly had more food on hand when Moses actually died in the fall.

This lapse of six months between death and inventory may also have affected the number of livestock possessed by the family. Elizabeth Porter hires an Amherst man to oversee the farm, but it is possible they might have sold some animals to cut down on the size of the farm. In any case, the Porter's owned many more than average. In Hadley in 1771, only a few men owned three or four horses and the most cows anyone had was nine.<sup>12</sup> So 16 years earlier, Moses' three horses and a colt, two steers, a bull, four heifers, and four cows with calves constituted a rather large farm. He also had a sow, a hog, and pigs. Only two sheep doesn't seem to coincide with the size of the farm, but it is not so surprising considering how difficult it was to keep them safe from predators on the outskirts of town.<sup>13</sup> No chickens or other fowl were listed, as is typical, because they had such short lifespans and low values.

Porter's yoke of oxen would have been used to pull his plow and cart. The horses would have been for riding, though with only two saddles and bridles,



they wouldn't all have been ridden at once. They would also have pulled his chair, which he had imported and drove about in.<sup>14</sup> Riding chairs had a sort of chaise like body without a top and they appeared in Boston in 1713. Each year between 1753 and 1757, there was a carriage tax in Massachusetts. In 1753, 992 chairs in the province were taxed at two shillings each.<sup>15</sup> Only two were owned in Hampshire County and one of them was Moses Porter's, which was valued at three pounds, six shillings, and eight pence in 1756. He also owned a sleigh, which was another up to date, modern item, though not as expensive as a chair. The first mention of a sleigh in Hampshire County was in Hadley in 1733. By the late 1750s, sleigh boxes were being made in town.<sup>16</sup> So Porter was probably one of the first men to own one of these too.

The farm was well equiped for many tasks. Moses Porter seems to have owned everything he needed to run the farm, without sharing and borrowing from neighbors as other men had to do. The pitchforks, spade, shovels, hoes, plow, scythes, hay and peas hooks, corn harrow, riddle, and flails show that he was definitely sowing, harvesting, and processing corn, peas, hay, and wheat. The ax, timber chains, hammer, chisel, and logs at mill show that wood was cut and processed on the Porter farm and saw mill. The inventory lists a hog, two pigs, beef, and two hides sold. The Porters were selling livestock and their products, as well as grains raised in their fields. This, along with his military career and inheritance, was enough to make Moses Porter a very comfortable man.

Textiles were some of the most expensive items in homes at this time and this family owned a fair quantity of them. Moses was quite a well dressed man, with clothing of both home made and imported fabrics. He owned two great coats, which were loose fitting garments worn over other coats for warmth in winter. These were so highly valued that people advertised rewards for them if they were lost.<sup>17</sup> Moses Porter's two were his most expensive items of clothing, valued at 24 and 14 shillings each. Porter was not a man forced to wear the same suit of clothes day after day. He had five coats, five waistcoats, three pairs of breeches of broad cloth, fustian, camblet, and Kersey. He owned three ruffled shirts, two of which were new, two woolen shirts, and five others. These could be adorned with four neck clothes, one of which was silk.

A tailor was often needed for cutting and fitting a man's coats, while shirts were more likely made at home.<sup>18</sup> Moses owned at least ten pairs of stockings and more were still in the process of being made when he died. The inventory listed many unused textiles such as checked linen, tow cloth, cambrick, callico, and Kersey, as well as thread and yarn. So the women may have been sewing things

themselves and knitting things like Moses' stockings.

In the 18th century, Connecticut Valley farms grew flax for linen and raised some sheep for wool. These were often processed and spun in the home.<sup>19</sup> Most weaving was done by professionals though. Some farmers in Hampshire County are said to have learned the trade of weaving and they practiced it part of the year in shops built for that purpose.<sup>20</sup> This agrees with the information found in Moses Porter's inventory. It lists sheep shears, unprocessed flax, and two spinning wheels, but no loom. The women were processing wool and flax into yarn, but the weaving must have been done elsewhere. Between 1745 and 1772, Samuel Gaylord 2nd of Hadley wove such things as tow cloth, fine linen, sacking, linsey-woolsey, plain and fine woolen cloth, checked linen and woolen, diaper, diamond table linen, blankets, and coverlids.<sup>21</sup> Said to also be woven in the Connecticut Valley were druggat, camblet, and Holland cloth. Broad cloths, callicos, silk, and worsted were imported from England.<sup>22</sup> The Porters owned some local and some imported textiles. Of course, the imported materials of the callico bed curtains, broadcloth coats, and worsted stockings and caps were more expensive. So the family owned many more items of local manufacture.

That the Porters had so many textiles in the home shows that they were quite well-off. However, there really is nothing extremely fancy like the silk clothing worn by the <sup>European</sup> aristocracy of the time. Moses owned only a silk neck cloth. In the colonies, though, the women were more likely to wear silk than the men and Elizabeth Pitkin Porter did own a silk wedding gown made in 1742 of cloth from England or Holland.<sup>23</sup> Unfortunately, women's clothing was not recorded in <sup>her husband's</sup> inventories, so we cannot know what other clothes Elizabeth was wearing. It is unlikely that she would have had more than one, maybe two silk dresses.

Completely absent from the inventory are window curtains, rugs, carpets, and upholstery. These things would have been extremely uncommon in the 1750s, even in the homes of the well-to-do. The floors would have been bare and the Porter house had interior sliding shutters instead of curtains. So it is often a misconception when museums show these textiles in a room of this period. Only the very richest people would have had them.

The textiles of the inventory are all counted together, so one cannot tell <sup>what</sup> ~~which~~ rooms they were used in. This is also true for the beds and bedding, which certainly would not all have been in the same room of such a large house. There appear to have been beds for five or six people. With a family of only three, the hired help or even slaves must have slept on feather beds.



However,

Because beds were often shared, it would be incorrect to assume that the number of beds indicates the number of people living in the house. The beds were quite comfortable for the time, with all the possible furnishings, including feather mattresses, under beds, bolsters, pillows, sheets, blankets, and quilts for each bedstead and rope. Even today, 18 sets of sheets, five quilts, and 11 blankets seems like a lot for a family of three. True to their comfortable beds, the family had three and a half suits of bed curtains of callico, china or cheeney, and linsey woolsey, valued at a total of 11 pounds, 18 shillings, 8 pence. These curtains could probably have been used on the beds of family members for warmth and privacy, though privacy was not likely a problem with such a small family in this large house. The callico curtains and feather bed worth four pounds each must have been part of Moses Porter's best bed. It could, at this time, have been located in the best parlor, though there is no indication of this in the inventory. Tradition has it that Elizabeth was notified of her husband's death, as his sword was passed through the window one night while she was putting her daughter to bed. If this is true, Bette must also have slept on the first floor. Perhaps the slaves and any servants had rooms upstairs. *Good use of a traditional set up or in the garden.*

Other furniture actually makes up the smallest class of items on the inventory, though some of the values are high, ~~Like the beds and textiles,~~ all the pieces are listed together with no indication of their placement in the house. The four chests and five trunks were for storage. No cupboard or press is listed. These had become old fashioned by the mid 1700s and were replaced by the case of drawers as the focal point for conspicuous consumption.<sup>24</sup> Moses Porter owned a case of draws worth two pounds, 13 shillings and a chest of draws worth 13 shillings, four pence. These reflect the introduction of cabinetmaking into the area that occurred during Moses' lifetime. He owned six tables, one of which was round and one was a tea table. In owning one of these, ~~Porter~~ *Porter table* Porter was very up to date, as they were just appearing in the area in the mid 18th century.<sup>25</sup> He also had 39 chairs, which seems incredible, even today. There is no description of these, but they appear to have been in five different sets. The purchase of chairs in sets of six or twelve was popular from the 1740s, down the River in Whethersfield.<sup>26</sup> *early standard throughout the colonies.* Different sets were often placed in different rooms, indicating the use and importance of the room.<sup>27</sup> Moses Porter had probably purchased at least one new set of chairs for his new house. He was also very up to date in owning five looking glasses, reflecting their increasing affordability and availability. One was valued at two pounds and was probably new and fancy. It was much more expensive than the average value of two to six shillings.<sup>28</sup>

*I have always found this puzzling because of the mid eighteenth century dressing table in the northwest chamber. See West River p.*

Moses Porter did not, however, own any candle stand, dressing table, or clock. This shows that even a wealthy man did not own one of everything.

He did possess a tea table, tea dishes and plates, two tea pots, a cream cup, and tea kettle, indicating that he was taking part in the prestigious custom of tea drinking. His tea equipment was probably fairly new, as it had just become more affordable in the mid 1700s. Between 1758 and 1765, Jonathan Warner and Eleazer Porter were licensed to sell tea, coffee, and china ware in Hadley.<sup>29</sup> So many people in the area could have acquired them. Still, taking time out from work to drink tea and chat was something not everyone could afford to do and this shows that the Porters did have the leisure time to spend.

The tea dishes could have been ~~from~~ from China, but this seems unlikely, as they are not valued highly on the inventory. The appraisers did not record the material of which the dishes were made and this is unfortunate. The 31 plates, nine platters, bowls, quart cups, basins, two tea pots, pitcher, two punch bowls, and tea dishes could have been made of delft, red earthen ware, or salt glazed stoneware, at this time. Some could have been pewter or even wood. The ceramics would all have been imported, except for possibly the utilitarian earthen ware pieces, which are the only ones specifically described.

The majority of estate inventories do show glass bottles, but not until the mid 1700s were glass drinking vessels increasing in numbers.<sup>30</sup> Moses Porter owned quite a lot of glass, with flasks, vials, a decanter, crewet, beakers, a case of bottles, and Venice glass. These would also probably all be imported.

Cooking was done in metal pots and pans including tin pans, four iron pots, a dish kettle, frying pans, three skillets, a chafing dish, a tea kettle, five old brass kettles, a brass pan, and a copper coffee pot. Brass and Copper kettles were much more costly than iron, but were worth the investment, because they didn't crack and break easily.<sup>31</sup>

Silver was becoming more common in the homes of well to do farmers, during the 18th century. Among Moses Porter's most valuable possessions were a silver tankard worth eight pounds, a pepper box, and silver spoons for five pounds. These along with his textiles, slaves, horses, case of drawers, and looking glass were his most expensive belongings. He had little cash on hand, only eight shillings and eight pence and this does not seem like much for a man of his wealth. However, he did have a fortune invested in the house and land.

*This was very unusual but almost everyone of the River Gods owned one.*



Moses Porter owned many expensive and up to date items, but there are a number of things he did not have. The house was finely furnished, but the many rooms would not have been as full as museum houses often tend to show. Porter was a well-off man. However, he had invested his money in the land and new house. At his young age in life, it would have been more important to acquire real estate and establish a successful farm. His age should, in fact, be considered when interpreting his inventory. Had Moses Porter lived longer, his family would have grown and he would have purchases more and more luxuries for his fine home. SP

*He was a country gentleman*

## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup>Arria S. Huntington, Under a Colonial Rooftree (Syracuse, New York: 1905) p. 15.
- <sup>2</sup>Sylvester Judd, History of Hadley (Springfield, Mass.: 1905) p. 66.
- <sup>3</sup>James Lincoln Huntington, Forty Acres (New York: 1949) p. 3.
- <sup>4</sup>Deeds involving Moses Porter. From the Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation collection.
- <sup>5</sup>James Lincoln Huntington, p. 4.
- <sup>6</sup>Arria S. Huntington, p. 16.
- <sup>7</sup>Judd, p. 338.
- <sup>8</sup>James Lincoln Huntington, p. 5.
- <sup>9</sup>Deeds.
- <sup>10</sup>Judd, p. 385.
- <sup>11</sup>Correspondence from Elizabeth Porter to Moses Porter, August 9, 1755. From the Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation collection.
- <sup>12</sup>Judd, p. 385.
- <sup>13</sup>Ibid., p. 372.
- <sup>14</sup>Alice Morehouse Walker, Historic Hadley (New York: 1906) p. 56.
- <sup>15</sup>Judd, p. 383.
- <sup>16</sup>Ibid., 381.
- <sup>17</sup>The Great River (Hartford, Conn.: 1985) p. 389.
- <sup>18</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>19</sup>Ibid., p. 372.
- <sup>20</sup>Judd, p. 387.
- <sup>21</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>22</sup>The Great River, p. 372.
- <sup>23</sup>Ibid., p. 385.



<sup>24</sup>Kevin M. Sweeney, "Furniture and the Domestic Environment in Wethersfield, Connecticut, 1639-1800", Connecticut Antiquarian (December 1984), vol. XXVI, no. 2, p. 24.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid., p. 22.

<sup>26</sup>Ibid., p. 24.

<sup>27</sup>Ibid., p. 25.

<sup>28</sup>Ibid.

<sup>29</sup>Judd, p. 386.

<sup>30</sup>The Great River, p. 415.

<sup>31</sup>Frances Phipps, Colonial Kitchens, Their Furnishings, and Their Gardens (New York: 1972) p. 83.

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From the Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation collection.

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	Samuel Bridgman	5. 6. 10	Sam Smith	11. 10. 00
	Samuel Clary	10. 5.	Jonathan Allis	48. 1. 1
	David Gracks	2. 7.	Abel Bonmore	105. 00
Abraham	Zechariah Billing	3. 7. 10	Lieut Gen. Dickinson	187. 13. 7
	Daniel Graves	13. 17.	Micha Allis	48. 4. 00
Parker	John Honsden	1. 8.	Wm Morton	1. 00
	The whole of the Debt that are brought in in old Tenor is			<u>1129. 3. 10. 4</u>
	Lois <sup>her</sup> Parker Adm <sup>r</sup>			

Hampshire Court of Probate, Southampton July 18<sup>th</sup> 1757. Lois Parker  
 Adm<sup>r</sup> on the estate of Abraham Parker late of Northfield in said County. Do  
 presenting the foregoing Acc<sup>t</sup> of Settlement from the Estate of said Deceased  
 both that it is a true and perfect Acc<sup>t</sup> of said Estate as far as has already come  
 to her knowledge & that if more Debt should appear from said Estate hereafter  
 appear she will readily make discovery of the same to the Judge of  
 Probate for said County or his Successor in the Office from Time to Time  
 Jurat in Curia *George Wright* Judge

**An Inventory of the Estate of Capt<sup>m</sup> Moses Porter late of Hadley**

taken March 8<sup>th</sup> 1756

Cash in hand 8/8	a sword 2	Caes hat 30/	a cane 4/	£ 4. 2. 2
a wig 16/	a great coat 24/	2 blue broad cloth coats 14/		6. 14. 8
Breeches 2	Scarlet waistcoat 2/4			
Camblet coat	2 waistcoats 2	2 brown broad cloth 2/32/		3. 12. 00
Old blue coat 10/8	black 2/4	waistcoat 1/4	2 breeches 14/8	1. 5. 4
Capt <sup>m</sup> Moses	Leasey waistcoat 4/	Leather breeches 4/8	Leather waistcoat 6/	15. 4. 00
	3 p <sup>r</sup> gloves 2/8	2 ruffled shirts 37/6	1/2 10/	2. 10. 00
Porter	3 shirts 10/8	12 6/8	2 woollen 2/10/8	2. 7. 8
	check linen shirt 10/8	3 shirts 1/2	3 long necked shirts 3/4	1. 9. 7
	2 2/2 holland caps 8/	2 silk necked shirts 3/	woolsted cap 1/4	1. 4. 11
	white cotton stockings 6/	2 woolsted stockings 5/4	2/8	1. 12. 00
	2 2/2 3/4	2 beaver 3/4	2 2/2 3/4	1. 11. 2
	2 2/2 3/4	2 2/2 3/4	2 2/2 3/4	1. 5. 8. 2
	2 2/2 3/4	2 2/2 3/4	2 2/2 3/4	1. 5. 1







2 pair of curtains 8/10 2 sets curtain rods 6/10  
 a Bedstead & rope 14/8 2° 6/12 1/4 2° 2/12 1/4 2° 6/12 1/4 2° 1/18  
 p fine sheet 14/8 2° 1/18 2° 18/8 2° 6/12 1/4 2° 2/12 1/4 2° 1/18  
 1° 2° 16/12 2° 12/12 2° 10/18 2° 12/12 2° 5/12 2° 8/12 2° 2/12 2° 1/18 2° 6/18  
 2° 6/18 one old 2° 1/14 p pillow coats 4/12 2° 3/16 2° 2/15 2° 1/14 2° 3/15  
 2° 3/15 2° 1/12 2° 2/12 2° 1/12 2° 2/12 2° 1/14 one 2° 6/12 2° 8/12  
 a Diaper table cloth 10/12 2° 14/8 2° 9/14 2° 8/12 2° 8/12 2° 5/14  
 Diaper napkins 9/12 1° 2° 1/12 2° 1/14 2° 1/12 2° 10/12 2° 4/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
 Diaper towel 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 3/14 2° 2/12 2° 2/12 2° 1/12 2° 2° 1/14  
 1/2 new check linen 8° new tow cloth 3/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
 Hamburgs 2/18 2° 2° 1/12 2° 2° 1/12 2° 2° 1/12 2° 2° 1/12 2° 2° 1/12  
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 a Negro man 53/6 6/8 Negro Girl 33/6 6/8  
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 2 pair heifers 6/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
 a Bay mare 2° 5/12 2° 5/12 2° 5/12 2° 5/12 2° 5/12 2° 5/12 2° 5/12  
 a roan mare 2° 9/12 2° 9/12 2° 9/12 2° 9/12 2° 9/12 2° 9/12 2° 9/12  
 a low 8 pigs 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
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 a Saddle 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
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 The 7<sup>th</sup> part of a Sawmill 2° 9/12 6/8  
 a Chest of drawers 13/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
 Tea table 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12  
 Chest 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12  
 Chest 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12 2° 3/12  
 Looking glass 5/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
 Cheese tub 4/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12  
 Meat chest 2/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12 2° 1/12

11. 12. 8.  
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Capt. Silas  
 Porter















2 lbs 1/4 peaches with honey 1/2 lb  
 1/2 lb 1/4 greater 1/2 lb  
 9 of bottles 4/9 1/2 atop bottles 3 partly pans of bread 1/2 lb  
 2 dishes 8 skimming dish 1/2 lb  
 1/2 lb 1/4 tub 1/2 lb 1/4 part 1/2 lb 1/4 1/2 lb 1/4 2 tubs 1/2 lb  
 Cheese ladder 2 1/2 sugar boxes 8 sugar 8 raisins 9 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2  
 10 lb indigo 1/4 2 shalms 1/4 1 lb 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2  
 2 chairs 2/8  
 2 perspective glass 1/4 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2  
 Books

a great Bible of Edwardson Just 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2  
 Willards 8 Williams 11 Mather 3 Mather 3 Willard 3 Watts 1/2 1/2  
 2 Balm books 6 1/2 Williams 1 1/2 Curran 7 30 pamphlets 6 1/2  
 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2  
 An old Law book  
 Real Estate

An house Barn & the farm on which it stands at 61  
 Acres & 6 50 Acres of Kirtland adjoining } at 665

Lot in first meadow 46 13 1/4 about seven Acres

1 <sup>st</sup> Division lot in the Inner Commons	141 acres 47 rods	46.13.4
2 <sup>d</sup> Do	69 Do 113 Do	113.6.8
3 <sup>d</sup> Do	58 Do 57 Do	28.
4 <sup>th</sup> Do	61 Do 140 Do	19.6.8
5 <sup>th</sup> Do	88 Do 123 Do	24.8
6 <sup>th</sup> Do	14 Do 4 Do	23.12
7 <sup>th</sup> Do	18 Do 134 Do	4.
Port river lot	20 Do	5.
Port river pasture		9.6.8
at lot in the 3 <sup>d</sup> Division East parish		24.
		13.6.8

Capt. Moser  
 Porter



About eight Acres at South Hadley

28 99. D 9. 5. 8  
 28 100. 11. 6. 8  
 20. 5. 6

Elisabeth Porter Adm<sup>r</sup>

Inos Nash  
 Sam Smith } Appraisers  
 Eleaz Porter Jun<sup>r</sup>

Capt. Moses  
 Porter

County of Hampshire July 20<sup>th</sup> 1757 M<sup>rs</sup> Elisabeth Porter Adm<sup>r</sup> in the State of  
 of Capt. Moses Porter late of Hadley in County of Dep. presenting the  
 foregoing Inventory of the Estate of said Dec<sup>d</sup> made with the best true  
 & perfect Inventory of said Estate as far as has already come to her  
 Knowledge & that if more of said Estate hereafter appears she will cheer-  
 ily make Discovery of the same to the Judge of Probate for County or  
 his Successor in the Office from time to time  
 Jurat: Cor. Jur: att<sup>d</sup> Dwight Jun<sup>r</sup> Secy

An Inventory of the Debts & Credits of the Estate of Capt. Moses  
 Porter Dec<sup>d</sup> made A<sup>d</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1756

The Estate D <sup>t</sup> to Deac Simpson of Boston	L 3. 11. 9. 2
To Samuel Bullard of Sherburne	3. 6. 8
To Thomas Johnson of Middletown	2
To Capt. Tim Dwight	2. 2
To Will <sup>m</sup> White 1/9 <sup>ths</sup> to Eliab Alvord 4/5	6. 2. 2
To Gilligan 4/5 To Reuben Dickinson 3/10 <sup>ths</sup>	8. 3. 1
To Constable Smith for rates	2. 6. 10
To Reuben Kellogg 24/5 to N Smith 3/20 <sup>ths</sup>	1. 7. 4. 1
To the Heirs Rev <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Williams	27. 8. 5
Capt. Moses } To M <sup>r</sup> Benj <sup>m</sup> Smith	3. 13. 1
Porter } To Hon. Eleazar Porter Esq	22. 5. 9. 1
Porter } To Eleazar Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	8. 3. 1. 1
Porter } To Richard Crouch Esq	6. 8. 7. 1
Porter } To Deac Sam Smith	1. 8. 4. 2
Porter } To Deac Inos Nash	10. 3
Porter } To mad <sup>m</sup> Duckley at Little	22. 1
Porter } To Caleb Kirtlett 32/1	1. 12



of Capt Moses Porter late of Bradley in W County Dec presenting the  
 foregoing Inventory of the Estate of said Dec made with the best care  
 & perfect Inventory of said Estate as far as has already come to her  
 knowledge & that if more of said Estate hereafter appears she will readi-  
 ly make Discovery of the same to the Judge of probate for W County or  
 his Successor in the Office from time to time  
 Jurat Cor Jus: att: Dwight Jun: Reg

An Inventory of the Debts & Credits of the Estate of Capt Moses -  
 Porter Dec made 8<sup>th</sup> 1756

The Estate D <sup>t</sup> to Deac Simpson of Boston	£ 3. 11. 9. 2
To Samuel Bullard of Sherburne	3. 6. 8. —
To Thomas Johnson of Middletown	2. —. —. —
To Capt Tim Dwight	2. 2. —. —
To Will <sup>m</sup> White 1/9 <sup>th</sup> to Ulyah. Alwood 4/5	—. 6. 2. 2
To Gilligan 4/5 To Reuben Dickinson 3/10 <sup>th</sup>	—. 8. 3. 1
To Corstable Smith for Rates	2. 6. 10. —
To Reuben Belding 24/2 <sup>o</sup> to N Smith 3/2 <sup>o</sup> 1/4	1. 7. 4. 1
To the Heirs Rev <sup>m</sup> Williams	27. 8. 5. —
To M <sup>r</sup> Benj <sup>m</sup> Smith	3. 13. 1. —
To Hon. Eleazar Porter Esq	22. 5. 9. 1
To Eleazar Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	8. 3. 1. 1
To Richard Crouch Esq	6. 8. 7. 1
To Deac Sam <sup>l</sup> Smith	1. 8. 4. 2
To Deac Inos Nash	—. 16. 3. —
To mad <sup>m</sup> Duckley at Little	22. 1. —. —
To Caleb Bartlett 32/	1. 12. —. —
To Dit <sup>o</sup>	—. 13. 4. —
To Jon <sup>n</sup> Morton 3/9 <sup>th</sup> To Isaac Town 7/10	—. 10. 10. —
To Thomas Hulbert 10/11 <sup>th</sup> To Oliver Warner 2/10 <sup>th</sup>	—. 12. 8. —
To Rev <sup>m</sup> Anne Porter	7. —. —. —

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To rec<sup>d</sup> Mr Samuel Porter 2/4  
 To John Montague 10/5 To Nathl<sup>l</sup> Church 22/4  
 To Deac John Smith on a note  
 To Joseph Hubbard on a note  
 To George Hooge

1. 4  
 1. 4  
 2. 1. 9  
 3. 1. 1  
 5. 17. 4  
 1. 10

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Elizabeth Porter Adm<sup>r</sup>  
 The Estate of Capt Porter  
 Due from Capt Olcott  
 From Ephraim Kellogg  
 From John Fitch  
 From Edward Smith  
 From Aboliah Wilder  
 From Capt Ebenezer Kellogg  
 From M<sup>r</sup> Williams's Hair  
 From W<sup>m</sup> Mills  
 From Daniel Pratt  
 Rec<sup>d</sup> for wages Gun & blanket

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 5  
 16  
 1. 3. 5  
 2. 10  
 5. 4  
 1. 1  
 99. 2  
 9. 14. 8  
 12. 3  
 23. 7. 5

Capt Moses  
 Porter

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Elizabeth Porter Adm<sup>r</sup>  
 Hampshire July 20<sup>th</sup> 1757 M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Porter Adm<sup>r</sup> on the Estate of  
 Capt Moses Porter late of Hadley in said County Dec<sup>r</sup> presenting the  
 foregoing Acc<sup>t</sup> of Debts due to & from the Estate of said Dec<sup>r</sup> make oath  
 that it is a true & perfect Acc<sup>t</sup> of said Debts as far as has already  
 come to her knowledge & that if more of said Debts hereafter ap-  
 pear she will readily make Discovery of the same to the Judge  
 of probate for said County or his Successor in the office from time to  
 time.

Jurat Cor<sup>o</sup> Jus. att<sup>o</sup> Dwight Jun<sup>r</sup> reg

An Accompt of money rec<sup>d</sup> by the widow Abigail Hastings as Adm<sup>r</sup> on  
 the Estate of Dea<sup>r</sup> Waitstill Hastings late of Hatfield Dec<sup>r</sup>  
 June 15<sup>th</sup> 1757 rec<sup>d</sup> of Townshend for his bond I 59. 14. 8