

John Newton Porter

1839-1863

The brother of Rosanna Porter Thorpe, my great-grandmother, was born in Hampden, Maine. Great-great uncle Porter lived in Belmont, N.Y. when he enlisted for 3 years duty. He had previously worked in Franklin, Pa. in lumbering and made a trip through N. East in the fall of 1860 by train.

He participated in two or more major battles including Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. A dispatch was sent his sister July 20th, 1863 telling how he had been captured July 1 and perhaps may be in Indianapolis. He was probably a casualty of prisoner life.

Porter was in Co. H. 154th New York State Volunteers and served in Maj. General O. O. Howard's XI Corps.

In Oct. 1862 he was at "Arlington Heights" the Lee home (or what is now Arlington National Cemetery) "within sight of the Capitol." In March '63 near Stafford C.H., Va. In May describes Chancellorsville as "the worst fix I ever was in." Jan. 17, '63 was near Fredericksburg working on pontoon bridges across the Rappahannock. In Nov. 62 was in Sigels Corps and Steinwehr's Division.

Uncle John started from Jamestown, N.Y. one of 945 men.

(Battle of Fredericksburg Dec. '62. May have been in it also)