

November 3, 1916  
Ladoga, Indiana

Mrs. Robert Riggs  
Pigeon Cove, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Riggs:

I am not the Andrew Potter you are seeking. I was not born in the North nor am I descended from Northern Potters. My father was Nathan Potter from North Carolina and my mother was Nancy Bennett of that same place. I was a son in my father's third family. He had been married to two others before my mother and they had died.

The John Potter you are seeking might just be one that settled in Clay County, Indiana. He was a harness-maker and a good one. He had been in the army during the war and came to Indiana after the war. He died in 1910 just after the first of the year. He had got a lot of carbuncles on his neck (a common malady for harness-makers who carried the harness on their necks) and it had finally carried him away. He left two children, girls, and a widow. One of the girls was already married and the other married soon thereafter and the widow went to live with her. She is now in California but has a severe goiter and will not be around for long. I will try to get her address for you.

I notice that you spell it "Eber" instead of "Hebor" as our family does. My uncle Hebor went to California and dies there, leaving children and grandchildren. I am going out to see them soon.

I appreciate the information you sent me on the Pottes but I am now so interested in finding out where they came from as I know there must be several horse-thieves in the pack and I am not so anxious to find it out. I come from a very large family and we have enough trouble keeping track of our own but thank you for the stuff you sent. I will send it to my sister and I am sure she will make good use of it. I will pass your name and address on to her and I am quite sure she will be getting in touch with you for she is very interested in the Potter family background.

Thank you again for your letter. There is one other thing which might help you with finding out about the John Potter you are seeking information on. He had a brother (the one that come to Clay County) by the name of Abner who was afflicted. He walked with a shuffle and drooled all the time. He had something wrong with him. But he was an expert brass monger. He could make brass parts for harness or anything else which was needed. He could make up brass from its components and could work it with a passion. He was a real craftsman. I hope this might help.

Very truly yours,

Andrew G. Potter

AGP/sw