

ROBERT WHITE (1560-1617) ae. 57

BRIDGET ALLGAR (1562-after 1623)

Erkstine Norman White published a work on the White ancestry in 1905. He is a descendant of Robert and Bridget (Allgar) White through a son, John White (brother of Anna, (3-2) who immigrated to Massachusetts in 1632 in the ship "Lion" and settled in Hartford, Conn., after traveling from Boston with the company led by Rev. Hooker. Erkstine N. White's book was very helpful in writing what little can be said of Robert White and Bridget, his wife. Some of his words include:

"Robert White, as is manifest from his Will, was a man of wealth for his day, occupying a position of substantial influence. Of his ancestry nothing has as yet been certainly discovered.

"As a matter of curious interest, if nothing more, it may be noted that there is extant in the family of one of John White's descendants, an old coat-of-arms, engraved some time in the eighteenth century, and used as a book plate, which is practically identical with the coat-of-arms of a John White who was a Mayor of London in 1563...This John White of London had a son, Robert, but as yet, beyond the above coincidences, there is no proof connecting his family with that of Robert White of Messing." 1

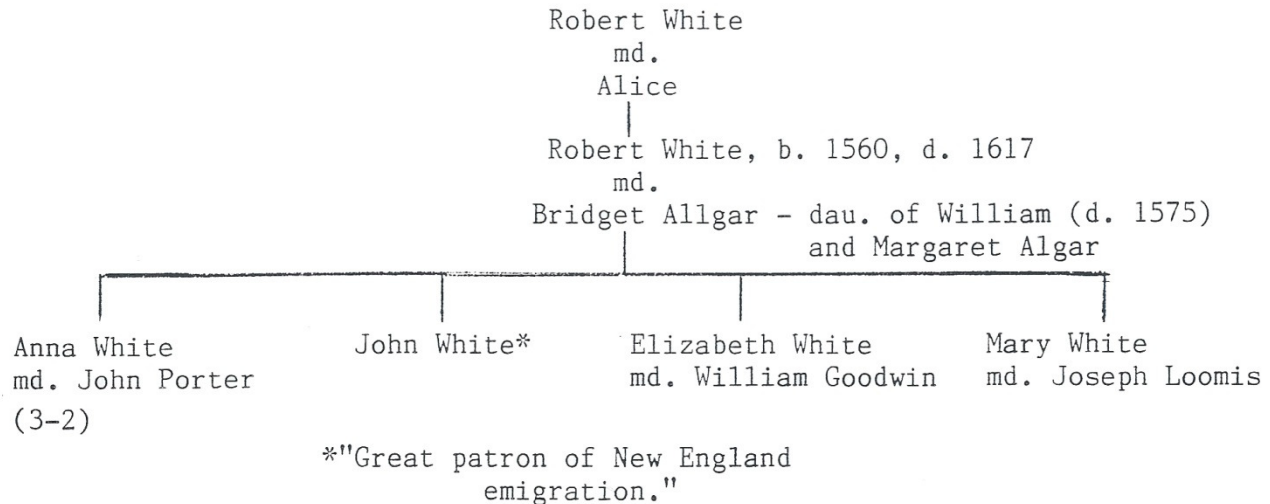


COAT OF ARMS

Used as a bookplate in the eighteenth century by a descendant of Elder John White. The motto, "Maximum-praeli-impetum-et-sustinere," was not upon the original plate, but has been added from another coat of arms of somewhat similar design, also in possession of a descendant.

"...it has been ascertained beyond any reasonable doubt, and largely through investigation of Charles A. White, Esq., of New Haven, that Elder John White of Hartford, Conn., came from Shalford or Messing, in Essex County, England, and was the son of Robert White, who married, June 24th, 1585, Bridget Algar, and removed from Shalford to Messing a few years before his death, in 1617. Three of Robert White's daughters came with their husbands to New England; namely: Mary, wife of Joseph Loomis, of Braintree; Elizabeth, wife of William Goodwin, of Bocking; and Anna, wife of John Porter, of Felsted, Essex, Eng..." 2

The above facts, together with further coincidences that show a close relationship of John Porter, who married Anna, daughter of Robert, to John White, who presumably was a brother-in-law, completes the proof that John White, Mary Loomis, Elizabeth Goodwin and Anna Porter were children of Robert and Bridget (Algar) White of Messing, Essex, England. (Map 1 #28)



John Porter appointed Mr. William Goodwin of Hartford and Elder John White of Hartford as "supervisors" of his Will, which further substantiates family connections, and which allow that Robert and Bridget had four children that came to America several years after their father's death in 1617, and that they came with their spouses and families of children.

It may well serve a purpose to give further information on Robert's son, John, who preceded his sisters in arriving in New England. He, no doubt, was instrumental and persuasive in inducing his three brothers-in-law to make the travel venture to the Boston Harbor and to follow his lead into the interior of Connecticut to settle in Windsor in the area of Hartford and Wethersfield.

Of Robert's son, John, there appears the following record:

"...His allotments of farm land were among the largest assigned to any settler. His home lot was on the east side of what is now called 'Governor Street', in Hartford. The famous Charter Oak, already past its maturity, and beginning in its decay to construct the hollow which preserved the Charter of Connecticut from the grasp of its enemies, stood on the neighboring lot of Governor Wyllys; and its lengthening shadows, as the evening sun went down, rested on John White's dwelling." 3 (Map #24)

Robert and Bridget, had they lived longer, would have cause to be proud of the contributions made by all four of their children, in the part they played in the settlement of a new land. (See 3-2)

"John's aid was required in the management of prudential affairs in all of the area under the jurisdiction of the General Court of Hartford which came to include all of Connecticut that in later years became a state. He was appointed to the office of a representative to the Colonial Legislature, which was in that day an indispensable pre-requisite to a



democratic system of government. Already the seeds of a great free nation were being sown.

"The office of ruling elder in the church, was one of great influence and importance, attendant to the government and discipline of the church. It required a grave, discreet and reliable man, one who had earned a good report of those without and those within the church. Such a one, in all respects furnished for his work, was this John White. (Brother of our Anna)

"He died either in December, 1682, or early in January, 1683, at about the age of eighty. His wife was Mary \_\_\_\_\_, and his children were six in number; four sons, Nathaniel, John, Daniel and Jacob; and two daughters, Mary and Sarah." 4

More on John's posterity is recorded in the author's writings of the above source.

A search made by Brainerd T. Peck in 1968, and submitted on a pedigree chart to the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc., indicates an acceptance of the facts given by the author, Erckstine N. White, used in this writing. Mr. Peck, genealogist and member of the Connecticut Society of mention, lives in Lakeside, Conn., on whom a great deal of confidence is placed by many writers. Making exception to many repetitions, I have gleaned the following information on Robert and Bridget White:

Robert was the son of Robert and Alice White, born May 17, 1560, probably in Messing, Essex, Eng. He was buried, 17 June, 1617, at Messing, Essex. He had lived, also, in Shalford, Essex. His wife was Bridget Algar (Allgar), daughter of William and Margaret Algar of Shalford, Essex, England. Their names are found recorded on the ancestor charts submitted by Brainerd Peck, mentioned above. Their residents in England is given as Shalford and Messing, Essex, where William died 2 Aug., 1575. There were seven children, but only Bridget's name is found recorded.

Bridget was bapt. 11 Mar., 1562, at Shalford. She was married to Robert White, 24 June, 1585, at Shalford in Essex, and was the mother of at least four children. She died sometime after 1623 at Messing, Essex, Eng. Robert and Bridget had lived in Shalford until a few years prior to their death when they had made Messing, a nearby town in Essex, their home. 5 (Map 1 #28)

1. #30, p.10, 11
2. ibid, p.9
3. ibid, p.12
4. ibid, pp. 12, 13
5. #2, Vol. 2, Chart (17-432)