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DICTIONARY

Fourth Edition

Michael Agnes
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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port authority / Portuguese man- 1122

port authority a governmental commission in charge of the traffic and regulations of a port

port-cul-lis (pòrt kul'is) *n.* [ME *portcoles* < MFr *porte coleice* < *porte*, gate + *coleice*, fem. of *coleis*, sliding < L *colare*, to strain, filter] a heavy iron grating suspended by chains and lowered between grooves to bar the gateway of a castle or fortified town



PORTCULLIS

port de bras (pòr' da brá') [Fr, carriage of the arms] Ballet the positions or movement of the arms

Port du Salut (pòr' dōō sa lōō'; Fr pòr dù sà lū') [after monastery at Port du Salut, France, where orig. madel] a creamy, yellowish whole-milk cheese with a brownish crust

Porte (pòrt) *n.* [Fr, short for *la Sublime Porte*, transl. of Turk *Babı Ali*, chief office of the Ottoman Empire, lit., High Gate] the Ottoman Turkish government

porte-cochère or **porte-cochère** (pòrt'kō sher') *n.* [Fr *porte*, a gate (see PORT) + *cochère*, coach, fem. adj. < *coche*: see COACH] 1 a large entrance gateway into a courtyard 2 a kind of porch roof projecting over a driveway at an entrance, as of a house

Port Elizabeth seaport in S South Africa, on the Indian Ocean: pop. 303,000

porte-monnaie (pòrt mō ne', E pòrt'mun'ē) *n.* [Fr, carry-money] a purse or pocketbook

por-tend (pòr'tend') *vt.* [ME *portenden* < L *portendere* < *por-*, akin to *per*, through + *tendere*, to stretch; see THIN] 1 to be an omen or warning of; foreshadow; presage 2 to be an indication of; signify

por-tent (pòr'tent) *n.* [L *portentum* < *portendere*: see prec.] 1 something that portends an event about to occur, esp. an unfortunate event; omen 2 a portending; significance [a howl of dire portent] 3 something amazing; marvel

por-ten-tous (pòr'ten'təs) *adj.* [L *portentus* < *portentum*: see prec.] 1 that portends evil; ominous 2 arousing awe or amazement; marvelous 3 ponderous or pompous; self-important —*SYN.* OMINOUS —*por-ten'-tously adv.* —*por-ten'-tous-ness n.*

por-ter¹ (pòr'tar) *n.* [ME < OFr *portier* < LL *portarius* < L *porta*, gate; see PORT] 1 a doorkeeper or gatekeeper 2 R.C.Ch. [Historical] the lowest of the four minor orders

por-ter² (pòr'tar) *n.* [ME *portour* < OFr *porteur* < LL *portator* < L *portare*, to carry; see FARE] 1 a person who carries luggage, etc. for hire or as an attendant at a railroad station, hotel, etc. 2 an employee who sweeps, cleans, does errands, etc. as in a bank, store, or restaurant 3 a railroad employee who waits on passengers in a sleeper or parlor car 4 [abbrev. of *porter's ale*] a dark-brown beer made from charred or browned malt and produced by rapid fermentation at a relatively high temperature

Por-ter (pòr'tar) 1 Cole (kōl) 1891-1964; U.S. composer of popular songs 2 David 1780-1843; U.S. naval officer & diplomat 3 David Dixon (dik'sən) 1813-91; Union admiral in the Civil War: son of David 4 Sir George 1920-; Brit. chemist 5 Katherine Anne 1890-1980; U.S. short-story writer, essayist, & novelist 6 Rodney Robert 1917-85; Brit. biochemist 7 William Sydney see HENRY, O.

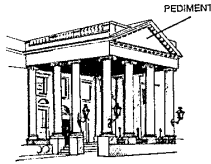
por-ter-age (-ij) *n.* 1 a porter's work 2 the charge for this **porter-house** (pòr'tar hōs') *n.* 1 [Historical] a place where beer and porter (and sometimes steaks and chops) are served 2 [said to be so named as a specialty at a former New York porterhouse] a choice cut of beef from the loin just before the sirloin; in full **porterhouse steak**

port-folio (pòrt fō'lē ō) *n., pl. -lios* [earlier *porto folio* < It *portafoglio* < *portare* (< L: see FARE), to carry + *foglio* (< L *folium*: see FOLIATE), leaf] 1 a flat, portable case, usually of leather, for carrying loose sheets of paper, manuscripts, and drawings; briefcase 2 such a case for state documents 3 the office of a minister of state or member of a cabinet 4 a) all the securities held for investment as by an individual, bank, investment company, etc. b) a list of such securities 5 a selection of representative works, as of an artist

port-hole (pòrt'hōl) *n.* 1 an opening in a ship's side, esp. a round one for admitting light and air, fitted with thick glass and, often, a hinged metal cover 2 an opening to shoot through, in the wall of a fort; embrasure 3 an opening shaped somewhat like this, as in a furnace door

Por-tia (pòr'shē) *n.* [L *Porcia*, fem. of *Porcius*, name of a Roman gens, prob. < *porcus*: see FALLOW] 1 a feminine name 2 the heroine of Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*

por-tico (pòr'ti kō) *n., pl. -coes* or *-cos* [It < L *porticus*: see PORCH] a porch or covered walk, consisting of a roof supported by columns, often at the entrance or across the front of a building; colonnade



PORTICO

por-tiere or **por-tière** (pòr'tyer', -tē er', -tir') *n.* [Fr *portière* < *porte*, door; see PORT] a curtain, usually heavy, hung in a doorway

por-tion (pòr'shən) *n.* [OFr < L *portio* (gen. *portionis*), portion < **partio* < *pars*, PART] 1 a part or limited quantity of anything, esp. that allotted to a person; share 2 the part of an estate received by an heir 3

the part of a man's money or property contributed by his bride; dowry 4 the part of experience supposedly allotted to a person by fate; one's lot; destiny 5 the part of a meal or quantity of food served to a person; serving; helping —*vt.* [OFr *portionner*, to divide, separate] 1 to divide into portions 2 to give as a portion to; apportion 3 to give a portion to; endow; dower —*SYN.* FATE, PART —*por'-tion-er n.* —*por'-tion-less adj.*

Port Jackson inlet of the Pacific, in E New South Wales, Australia: harbor of Sydney: 21 sq mi (54 sq km)

Port-land (pòrt'lənd) 1 [after the city in Maine] city & port in NW Oreg., near the confluence of the Columbia & Willamette rivers: pop. 439,000 (met. area, 1,240,000) 2 [after town and island in England] seaport in SW Me., on the Atlantic: pop. 64,000

port-land cement (pòrt'lənd) [from resemblance of the concrete made from it to stone quarried on the Isle of Portland, England] [sometimes P-] a kind of cement that hardens under water, made by burning a mixture of limestone and clay or similar materials

Port Lou-is (lōō'is, lōō'ē) seaport & capital of Mauritius, on the NW coast: pop. 144,000

portly (pòrt'le) *adj.* —*iller, -li-est* [PORT + -LY] 1 large and heavy in a dignified and stately way 2 stout; corpulent —*port'-li-ness n.*

port-man-teau (pòrt man'tō, pòrt'man'tō) *n., pl. -teaus* or *-teaux* (-tōz) [Fr *portemanteau* < *porter*, to carry + *manteau*, cloak; see PORT + MANTLE] a traveling case or bag; esp., a stiff leather suitcase that opens like a book into two compartments

portmanteau word [coined by Lewis Carroll in *Through the Looking-Glass*] a coined word that is a combination of two other words in form and meaning; blend (Ex.: *smog*, from *smoke* and *fog*)

Port Moresby (mòrz'bē) capital of Papua New Guinea: seaport on the SE coast of New Guinea: pop. 193,000

Porto (pòr'tō) *Port. name for* OPORTO

porto- (pòr'ta) *combining form var. of* PORTA- [*portophone*]: also sp. **port'-o-**

Pôrto Ale-gre (ā le'grā) seaport in S Brazil: capital of Rio Grande do Sul state: pop. 1,263,000

por-to-bello mushroom (pòr'tē bel'ō) a dark mushroom, strong in flavor, having a broad, flat cap that is often grilled and eaten: also **portobello n., pl. -los**

Port of call a port that is a regular stopover for ships, esp. cargo ships

port of entry any place where customs officials are stationed to check people and foreign goods entering a country

Port-of-Spain (pòrt'əv spān) capital of Trinidad and Tobago: seaport on NW Trinidad: pop. 58,000: also **Port of Spain**

Porto Novo or **Porto-Novo** (pòr'tō nō'vō) capital of Benin: seaport on the Gulf of Guinea: pop. 178,000

Porto Rico (pòr'tā rē'kō) former name for PUERTO RICO —**Porto Ri'-can**

Pôrto Ve-lho (pòr'tō vā'lyō) city in W Brazil: capital of Rondônia state: pop. 228,000

Port Phillip Bay inlet of Bass Strait, in S Victoria, Australia: harbor of Melbourne: 762 sq mi (1,974 sq km)

por-trait (pòr'trit, -trāt) *n.* [MFr, pp. of *portraire*: see PORTRAY] 1 [Obs.] a drawn, painted, or carved picture of something 2 a representation of a person, esp. of the face, drawn, painted, photographed, or sculptured 3 a description or dramatic portrayal of a person

por-trait-ist (pòr'tri tist) *n.* a person who makes portraits

por-traiture (pòr'tri chər') *n.* [ME *purtreiture* < MFr: see fol.] 1 the process, practice, or art of portraying 2 a portrait 3 portraits collectively

por-tray (pòr'trā) *vt.* [ME *purtreien* < MFr *portraire* < L *pro-trahere*, to draw forth < *pro-*, forth + *trahere*, to DRAW] 1 to make a picture or portrait of; depict; delineate 2 to make a word picture of; describe 3 to play the part of as in a play or film —*por'-tray'-able adj.* —*por'-tray'er n.*

por-trayal (pòr'trā'əl) *n.* 1 the act of portraying 2 a portrait; description; representation

por-ress (pòr'tris) *n.* a woman porter (doorkeeper)

Port Royal town in Jamaica, at the entrance to Kingston harbor: the original town, former capital, was destroyed by an earthquake in 1692

Port Said (sā'ēd', sā'id) seaport in NE Egypt, at the Mediterranean end of the Suez Canal: pop. 461,000

Port-Salut (pòr'sa lōō'; Fr pòr sà lū') *n.* PORT DU SALUT

Ports-mouth (pòrts'məth) 1 seaport in Hampshire, S England, on the English Channel: county district pop. 175,000 2 [after the city in England] seaport in SE Va., on Hampton Roads: pop. 104,000

Por-tu-gal (pòr'chə gəl; Port pòr'tō gāl') country in SW Europe, on the Atlantic: formerly a kingdom, it became a republic in 1910: 35,456 sq mi (91,831 sq km); pop. 9,863,000; cap. Lisbon

Por-tu-guese (pòr'chə gēz', -gēs'; pòr'chə gēz', -gēs') *adj.* of Portugal or its people, language, or culture —*n.* 1 *pl.* —*guese* a person born or living in Portugal 2 the Romance language spoken chiefly in Portugal and Brazil

Portuguese East Africa former alt. name for MOZAMBIQUE

Portuguese Guinea former name for GUINEA-BISSAU

Portuguese India former Portuguese overseas territory consisting of three enclaves in India: see GOA

Portuguese man-of-war any of a genus (*Physalia*) of large, colonial, warm-sea siphonophores having a large, bladderlike sac, with a sail-like structure on top, which enables them to float on the water, and long, dangling tentacles that have powerful stinging cells