

NATHAN FELLOWS PERRY

An illustrious name in the United States and Canada is the name Perry. It was Commodore Perry who commanded the American naval fleet and defeated the British in the famous battle at Put-in-Bay, and framed the historic despatch so often quoted, "We have met the British, and they are ours."



The family is descended from one David Perry, but it was his son, Sergeant Robert Perry, whom, after the American Revolution, settled in Ontario, near Bath, as a United Empire Loyalist. He was born at Bristol, Massachusetts on March 2nd, 1751. On March 19th, 1772, he married Jemima Washburn, who was born at Attleboro, Mass., U.S.A., on April 13th, 1754.

Ten children were born to Robert and Jemima, the fourth being Daniel, who married Jane Williams, and settled near Bath, Ont. The sixth child of Daniel and Jane was William, who married Jane Fellows, who was a daughter

of Nathan Fellows. An heirloom has been handed down that Nathan Fellows was an American newcomer, and was about to be arrested on a charge in connection with the Rebellion of 1837. Hearing of the charge, he left, but after leaving, he remembered some papers in his home that would convict him, so he returned, got the incriminating papers, and swallowed them. He was finally arrested, examined, no evidence, honourably discharged.

Jane Fellows died, and William married Eleanor Fraser, their second child being Nathan Fellows Perry, born on the 10th of October, 1839. He studied at the Newburg Academy, and articulated himself at surveying with Aylsworth Bowen Perry, and became a Land Surveyor on the 9th April, 1864.

He then went to the States, and entered Holy Orders. He married and had two children. The son was a linguist, a Professor in Greek in an American University, but was drowned while home on his holidays. The daughter, Gertrude, married a medical missionary in India. Rev. N. F. Perry, P.L.S., died in 1884, in St. Albans, Vermont, and his wife, Ella, died later.

Major-General Aylsworth Bowen Perry, ex-Commissioner of the Royal North-West Mounted Police, who was appointed to that position on account of his brilliant scholastic career at the Royal Military College, Kingston, is a half-brother to N. F. Perry, and Land Surveyor A. B. Perry was an uncle of Major-General Perry.

The fifth child of the pioneer, Robert Perry, was Hannah, who married Bowen Aylsworth, the forebear of all Canadian Aylsworths. After the War of 1812, Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry who is mentioned, as having defeated the British, took a notion to visit his uncle, Robert, the U.E.L., at Bath, so says John Ham Perry, grandson of Robert, born 1827, Registrar of Ontario County at Whitby; M.P.P., for Lennox, 1828 until 1836, and Provincial representative of the third riding of York from 1849 until the date of his death. When the American Commodore arrived at the threshold of his uncle Robert, frigidaires were then unknown, but something having the same effect was overwhelmingly in evidence, so that the family visit was brief. It is said that his cousin Hannah entertained him.

It is probable that N. F. Perry did not practice Surveying, other than with Aylsworth Bowen Perry.
