

GENEALOGICAL  
AND  
FAMILY HISTORY  
OF  
WESTERN NEW YORK

A RECORD OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HER PEOPLE IN THE MAKING  
OF A COMMONWEALTH AND THE BUILDING  
OF A NATION

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COMPILED UNDER THE EDITORIAL SUPERVISION OF

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III - Albert -  
Johannes v  
Maria Vedder 660

IV - Johannes - son of

Hester Van der Bogart  
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II  
Johannes -  
Son of  
Albert v  
Maria Glen.

land. In 1661, as agent for Dirk De Wolfe, merchant of Amsterdam, he erected a salt kettle on Coney Island, New York, which being claimed by the people of Gravesend he brought suit before the governor and council to make good his claim, and being beaten abandoned the enterprise. In 1663 he leased his "bouwery" at Schenectady to Simon Groot for six years. In 1668, being in Holland with other merchants from the province of New York, he purchased goods and chartered the ship "King Charles," and obtained permission from the King of England to send the ship and goods to New York. In 1667 he lived in Albany. In 1672 he bought land in Schenectady. In 1673 he was one of three magistrates for Schenectady. He purchased the village lot of the heirs of Reiner, son of Dominie Schaets, of Albany, after his massacre by the Indians in 1690. The following children of Harmen Vedder were living in 1715: Harmanus, Arent, Albert, Johannes, Corset, Angenietje, wife of Jan Danielse Van Antwerpen.

(II) Albert, son of Harmen Albertse Vedder, was born May 10, 1671. He was carried away by the French and Indians to Canada, February 9, 1690, but returned to the Mohawk Valley, where he died prior to 1715. He married Maria, daughter of Johannes Sanderse Glen.

Children: Anna, Johannes (of further mention), Harmanus, Catherina, Alexander, Arnout and Arent.

(III) Johannes, son of Albert Vedder, was born August 20, 1702. He married, February 1, 1731, Maria, daughter of Pieter Lymouse Vedder. She was born November 29, 1706, and died March 27, 1731. Child: Albert (of further mention).

(IV) Albert (2), son of Johannes Vedder, was born July 27, 1732. He married, October 30, 1756, Hester, daughter of Frans Van Der Bogart. He died November 18, 1805. She died May 12, 1813, in her eightieth year. Children: Johannes, Maud, died young; Maria, Hester, Frans Van Der Bogart (of further mention), Barber, Neeltje, Engeltje Class, Annatje.

(V) Frans Van Der Bogart, son of Albert (2) Vedder, was born January 1, 1764, died April 3, 1811. He married, December 15, 1788, Lena, daughter of Thomas Bronwer, born May 5, 1769, died April 7, 1834. Children: Annatia, Albert, Jacob (of further

mention), Johannes, Esther, Margarieta, Nicholas, Elizabeth C. ~~Johannes~~ <sup>Wachtel</sup> ~~Vedder~~ <sup>van Der Bogart</sup> ~~Vedder~~, was born April 30, 1796, died January 17, 1855. He married Margaret ~~Gouverneur~~ and settled in Ellicottville, Cattaraugus county, New York, where he died. Among his children was a son, Commodore Perry (of whom further).

(VII) Commodore Perry, Vedder, son of Jacob and Margaret (Gouverneur) Vedder, was born in Ellicottville, Cattaraugus county, New York, February 23, 1838, died there December, 1910. His career was a most remarkable one. Born in a log house on a newly settled farm, he obtained such education as the district afforded and worked at home until he was thirteen years of age. At that age he became a driver boy on the Erie canal and a year later was raftsman on the Alleghany river, going to Pittsburg and down the Ohio to Cincinnati. From the latter city he made his way to Cleveland, Ohio, where he shipped before the mast on the brig "Alert," bound for Chicago. He followed the life of a sailor on the lakes for three years, becoming first mate, and in 1858 and 1859 commanded a vessel, being yet under legal age. He saved his money and, returning to New York, entered Springville Academy to complete his preparatory education, intending later to enter college. During the winters of 1859-60-61-62 he taught school, and in 1861 began the study of law with Judge David H. Bolles. The civil war changed all his plans, and leaving all his prospects behind he went to the defense of his country's flag. He enlisted in August, 1862, as a private in the One Hundred and Fifty-fourth Regiment, New York Infantry, and for gallant conduct was promoted first lieutenant and later captain. At the battle of Lookout Mountain he was brevetted major by President Lincoln in the regular United States army "for gallant and meritorious conduct," and also received four other commissions for bravery. At the battle of Rocky Face Ridge he was wounded, but declined to accept a furlough after leaving the hospital. Not being able yet for field duty, he was appointed by President Lincoln to examine applicants for commissions in colored regiments, with headquarters at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Again taking the field with his regiment, he was in the bloody battle of Chancellorsville, where he was taken prisoner and for two weeks was



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confined in Libby prison at Richmond. He was paroled and while under parole was detailed by the secretary of war to take charge of the camp of paroled prisoners near Alexandria, Virginia. In the fall of 1863 he was transferred with the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in the battles: Chancellorsville, Wauhatchie, Lookout Valley, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face Ridge, siege of Savannah, and was with Sherman on his celebrated march from Chattanooga to Knoxville, Tennessee, to relieve General Burnside. He was also with Sherman from "Atlanta to the Sea." He was promoted as before stated, and for "bravery in battle" in the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta was commissioned lieutenant-colonel. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war and returned to more peaceful pursuits.

He resumed the study of law and during the winter of 1865-66 attended Albany Law School, and on May 7, 1866, was admitted to the New York bar at Buffalo. His success in civil life as a lawyer and a legislator and a business man was as complete and conspicuous as his record in the army was honorable and brilliant. In May, 1867, he was admitted in the district court of the United States for the northern district of New York. In the same year he was appointed register in bankruptcy, resigning that appointment in 1875 to enter the state senate. From 1872 to 1875, inclusive, he was a member of the assembly. In 1869 he had been appointed United States assessor of internal revenue, holding that office for two years. In 1872, as a member of the judiciary committee of the house, he assisted in investigating the charges against the unjust judges of New York City, Cardozo, McCunn and Barnard. He was chairman of the committee to draft articles of impeachment against Judge Barnard and was appointed one of the managers on the trial of that official before the high court of impeachment for maladministration in office. In 1875 he was elected state senator, serving during the sessions of 1876-77, holding the chairmanship of the committees on Indian affairs and internal affairs. In 1880 he was appointed state assessor by Governor Cornell, holding office three years. It is asserted that no man ever did more to lighten the burdens of taxation upon those least able to bear them. In 1884 he was again elected to the senate, holding under three consecutive re-elections. During his last

eight years in the senate he was chairman of the committee on taxation and retrenchment. At all times he took a leading part in the debates and deliberations of the senate. Holding membership on several important committees, he influenced much legislation besides the bills that bore his name. He introduced the bill to tax gifts, legacies and collateral inheritance that became a law in 1885. Also the bill amending the collateral inheritance act, which amended act became a law in 1891, under which the succession by death of personal property of \$10,000 or more is taxed one per cent. He drafted and introduced a bill taxing corporations for the privilege of organizing, which became a law in 1866. As a result of these acts millions of dollars have been paid into the treasury of the state and a permanent source of revenue provided. In 1894 he was chosen a delegate-at-large to the constitutional convention held at Albany, of which Joseph Choate was president, and after, by his solicitation, Senator Vedder was president *pro tem.*; he served on several important committees. Of the thirty-three amendments proposed by the convention and adopted by the people, he drafted and introduced four. Too much cannot be said of the sagacity, zeal and untiring devotion to the public interest displayed by Mr. Vedder in every position of public trust and responsibility to which he has been called. The constitution and laws of his state alike attest his wisdom and his worth. Another bill which does not bear his name but which was a modification of a bill he had ready to introduce is the liquor law, known as the "Raines Law." Many conferences were held at Ellicottville between Senators Vedder and Raines, the result being the bill introduced by the latter.

In the business world Colonel Vedder was an important factor. He was president of fourteen corporations and maintained a business office in New York City. For twenty years he was president of the Bank of Ellicottville, and for twenty-four years president of the Bank of Norwood in St. Lawrence county, New York; also president of the New York and New Jersey Ice Lines, of New York, and of Elko Milling, Mining and Manufacturing Company, of Randolph. He was professionally associated as partner with William Manley, of Ellicottville, for several years; with Judge Rensselaer Lamb from 1869 until the judge's death in

1871; with George M. Rider from 1876 until 1884 as Vedder & Rider, and with James O. Clark, of Ellicottville. Having accumulated a large fortune, his latter years were spent in comparative retirement, surrounded by all that makes life pleasant. He held membership in many societies, clubs and institutions of various kinds and was everywhere treated with distinguished consideration. He held membership in the Grand Army of the Republic and was ever the friend of the old soldier. He was devoted to the interests of his native town, which he furthered in every possible way. His useful, honored life closed with about the allotted scriptural period "three score years and ten."

He married (first) in 1862, Betty E. Squires, of Springville, who bore a son, who died in 1882. She died 1884. He married (second), 1892, Mrs. Genevieve A. (Hill) Wheeler, daughter of Thomas A. and Hannah (Warren) Hill, of Chicago, and granddaughter of Arthur Hill, of Baltimore. Her maternal grandparents are Cotton Mather and Annie (Fairfield) Warren. Mrs. Genevieve A. Vedder survives her husband and resides in New York City.

FAY This name dates to a remote period, even to the days of mythology. Fays or fairies would seem to have always existed if ancient writings can be trusted. As a surname it is frequently found in France, also in Ireland, Germany, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, although less frequently in the latter countries. The family is believed to be of French origin. They are said to have been Huguenots, who to escape persecution fled to England and Wales, from there settling in Ireland and New England. The name as a patronymic first appears in English records in 1173, has existed in Ireland for an indefinite period, and is occasionally met with in Scotland. The Fays, like many other ancient families, possess special characteristics, prominent among them being mental and physical strength, untiring energy and remarkable executive ability.

The New England Fays descend from John Fay, who arrived in Boston in the "Speedwell" from Gravesend, England, June 27, 1656. Savage says he was eight years old, but other authorities state he was probably eighteen. He was born in England and is thought by some writers to have been a son of David Fay, then

a resident of Sudbury, Massachusetts, and that he came from England to join his father. This cannot be established and John Fay must be considered the emigrant ancestor. He went to Sudbury and afterward to the new town of Marlboro, where he was admitted a freeman in 1669. At that time he was married and had one child. His name first appears in the town records of Marlborough in 1671 as a petitioner for a grant of land. In 1675 he was one of the proprietors of Worcester, Massachusetts, and had a lot assigned him in the eastern squadron, lying next to the county road to Boston. He, however, continued his residence in Marlborough until its dangerous situation during King Philip's war compelled the settlers to seek safety in larger, better defended towns. John Fay retired to Watertown, where his first wife died and he again married. While living there he was made a trustee of the estate of Reynold Bush, of Cambridge, who was about to marry Susanna Lowell, of Beverly, Wiltshire, England. He was one of those who in 1678 attempted to settle Worcester, but did not remain, returning to his old home in Marlboro, where he died in that part of the town now Southboro, December 5, 1690. He appears to have been a man of character and standing in the community, where he held positions of public trust. His widow, Susanna, administered an inventory with the statement that her late husband, John Fay, had by will disposed of the rest of his property in providing for his children. This will is not on record and may have been verbal. As he gave to each of his sons large tracts of land, he must have been for his day quite a large land owner.

He married (first) Mary, born in Watertown, 1638-39, died there 1676, daughter of Thomas Brigham, the American ancestor of the New England family. He was born in England, 1603, came to America, 1635, in the ship "Susan and Ellen," settled in Watertown, where he held several town offices. He married Mercy Hurd, born in England. Mary was the first child born to her parents in America; her marriage to John Fay was the first of a series of nearly thirty marriages between the Fays and Brighams. He married (second) July 15, 1678, Susanna (Shattuck) Morse, daughter of William Shattuck, the pioneer of Watertown, Massachusetts, where she was born in 1643. She survived her second husband and married a third, July 30,