

In the U. S. where "all men are equal," nearly everyone tells you their ancestors came over in the "Mayflower;" which causes one to surmise she must have been as large as the "Great Eastern;" and the same trait may be seen in all nations.

The Denison family have many characteristics, but two stand out prominently. Loyalty to Church and King and originality. The present generation can see this for themselves. In 1812-13 all the family, not too old, marched to the front (and stayed there). In 1837-8 all the family were under arms except R. B. Denison, then only 16, and he and one boy were left at home to look after the big "Bellevue" farm, all the hired men being under arms against the rebels. At the Trent affair 1862, the members of the family were again ready to take the field, and in 1866, the military records speaks for itself when the Fenians were driven out of the country.

I remember one of the family over-stating his age to get there, and Lieut.-Col. R. B. Denison, resigned his Staff appointment to command a Battalion, for fear he might miss the fighting. In 1870 (Red River) Lieut.-Col. Fred C. Denison was present on the Staff of the Expedition. In 1885, North West Rebellion, there was a good representation, and two on the Gordon relief expedition up the Nile. In the Boer war two took part, one serving on Lord Roberts' Staff, and one at the Defence of Ladysmith. In the next war I have not the least doubt that the first shot, will bring out any number of the present generation of Denison's; and most likely a few of the previous ones. As to church, the first Denison on record to join the grand old Anglican church, was George Denison, who was born at Leeds, Yorkshire, England, 1715, and I never heard of one of the family joining any other. I have attended divine service in the 70's, at St. Anne's church, and the congregation almost all Denison. The responding and singing was the heartiest I ever heard in a small church. None of this frightened whisper business, or squeaky singing so common in our rural churches. Uncle Richard (Col. R. L.) used to say "Amen" as if he meant it and he expected his boys to follow his example.

I mentioned also originality. Capt. John Denison showed this in cutting loose from the old land and trying an untried one. His sons also had the characteristic. The present Colonel Geo. T. Denison is full of it. His Court procedure is his own, and his indifference to lawyers and technicalities are well known. Precedent "cut very little ice" in his Court. Col. Fred Denison, although a Politician had his own idea of right and wrong and did not care two-pence for the "other fellows" or what they did. As in the case of the Jesuit Estate Bill, he stood to his guns, with only twelve other member at his back. Col. R. B. Denison was the same kind of man. His building St. Stephen's church was partly to introduce the free pew system into Toronto, at that time only one church was free, Holy Trinity. His