

PUT-IN-BAY.

At break of day one September morning, nearly sixty years ago, the brig Lawrence, flagship of Captain Perry's Lake Erie squadron, was riding quietly at anchor in a harbor formed by a group of small islands near the western extremity of the lake.

The shrill whistle of the boatswain could be heard summoning the crews to their morning duties, the watches upon deck were relieved and allowed to go below, and the hum of voices showed that the sleepers had all been awakened and the business of the day begun.

Suddenly the sailor upon the look-out at the mast-head of the Lawrence bent over and hailed the deck. From the elevated position where he stood carefully scanning the horizon a sight startling but not unexpected had met his view.

The intelligence of its approach was quickly communicated to Perry by the officer of the deck. The promptness with which orders were given for the squadron to get under way, and the activity displayed in their execution, showed that the young commander was not unprepared for the emergency.

Gibraltar Island, another member of this group, named from the steep and rugged nature of its sides, was often used by Perry as a look-out station. It is now the property of the well-known banker, Jay Cooke, who has crowned its summit with a spacious country house.

The harbor from which Perry set sail at daybreak to meet the foe, and to which he returned after the battle to bury the dead and repair the shattered ships of both squadrons, is formed by a group of about twenty small islands situated near the western extremity of Lake Erie, and has ever since been known by the name of Put-in-Bay.

The group of islands encircling the waters of Put-in-Bay has become at the present day a favorite place of summer resort. The opportunities afforded here for boating and fishing are unsurpassed, while the visitor, quite out of sight and hearing of the roar and bustle of the busy world, insensibly forgets its cares, and enjoys the delicious sense of repose which belongs peculiarly to the place.

There is little in the appearance of the islands to suggest the thought of war, or to recall the fierce conflict which once took place in sight of their shores. The echoes of the great battle have died away, and the smoke of battle no longer hangs over the water.

The summer idler at Put-in-Bay will often take a boat in the early morning, and repairing to one of these little islets, remain during the heats of the day reading, writing, or reclining under the trees, and looking off over the broad surface of the lake.

As we turn our gaze toward the neighboring shores the mind insensibly reverts to the scenes of the past. Many of the islands in view still bear the names given to them by Perry. Pelee Island is so called from the smooth white pebbles of which its beach is composed.

At the foot of the mountain, which the King de-sired him at once to put on. He then requested him to turn himself round before a cheval looking-glass, which was in the room, and judge for himself how much better it became him than the dressing-gown he had been wearing—a ready-made article, but with which he had for some time been thoroughly contented.

At anchor in the bay, side by side, ride the vessels so lately engaged in conflict. Yawning holes in their hulls and shattered spars indicate the deadly nature of the ordeal through which they have passed. No sound disturbs the stillness of the scene, till suddenly a puff of smoke shoots from the single remaining gun of the Lawrence, followed by a loud report, which echoes from island to island, and finally dies away in the distance.

Arrived at the beach, the funeral procession forms. The lifeless remains are tenderly lifted from the boats, and borne upon the shoulders of the seamen to their resting-place—a pleasant spot near the margin of the lake. Behind them follow their late companions—English and Americans alternating, in the reverse order of rank, Perry himself bringing up the rear.

These Bonds are a First Mortgage upon a first-class completed Trunk Line of Railway extending from Selma, Alabama, to Pensacola, Florida—the great harbor on the Gulf. The payment of both principal and interest is guaranteed by the State of Alabama, whose currency obligations sell in the market at 104.

The Bonds offered are thus equally valuable either as a Railroad Mortgage or as a State Bond; and with the double security thus afforded, we unhesitatingly recommend them as equal to any investment in the market.

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