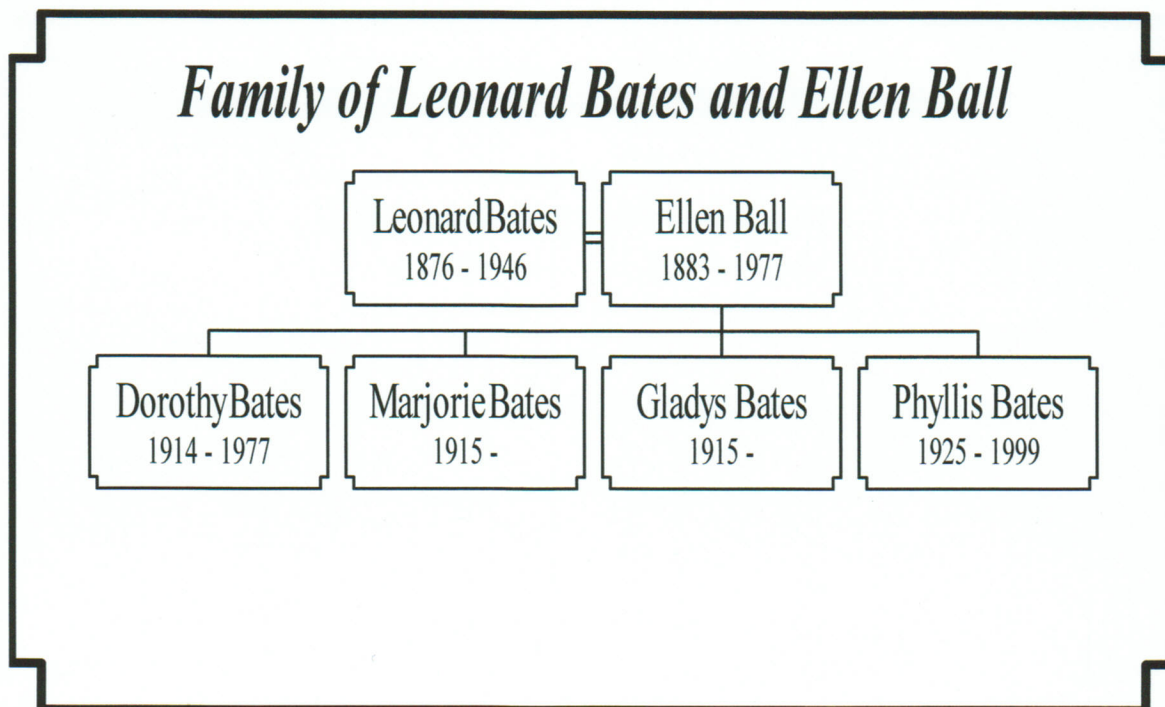


**Chapter Three**

**Family of  
Leonard Bates and Ellen Ball**

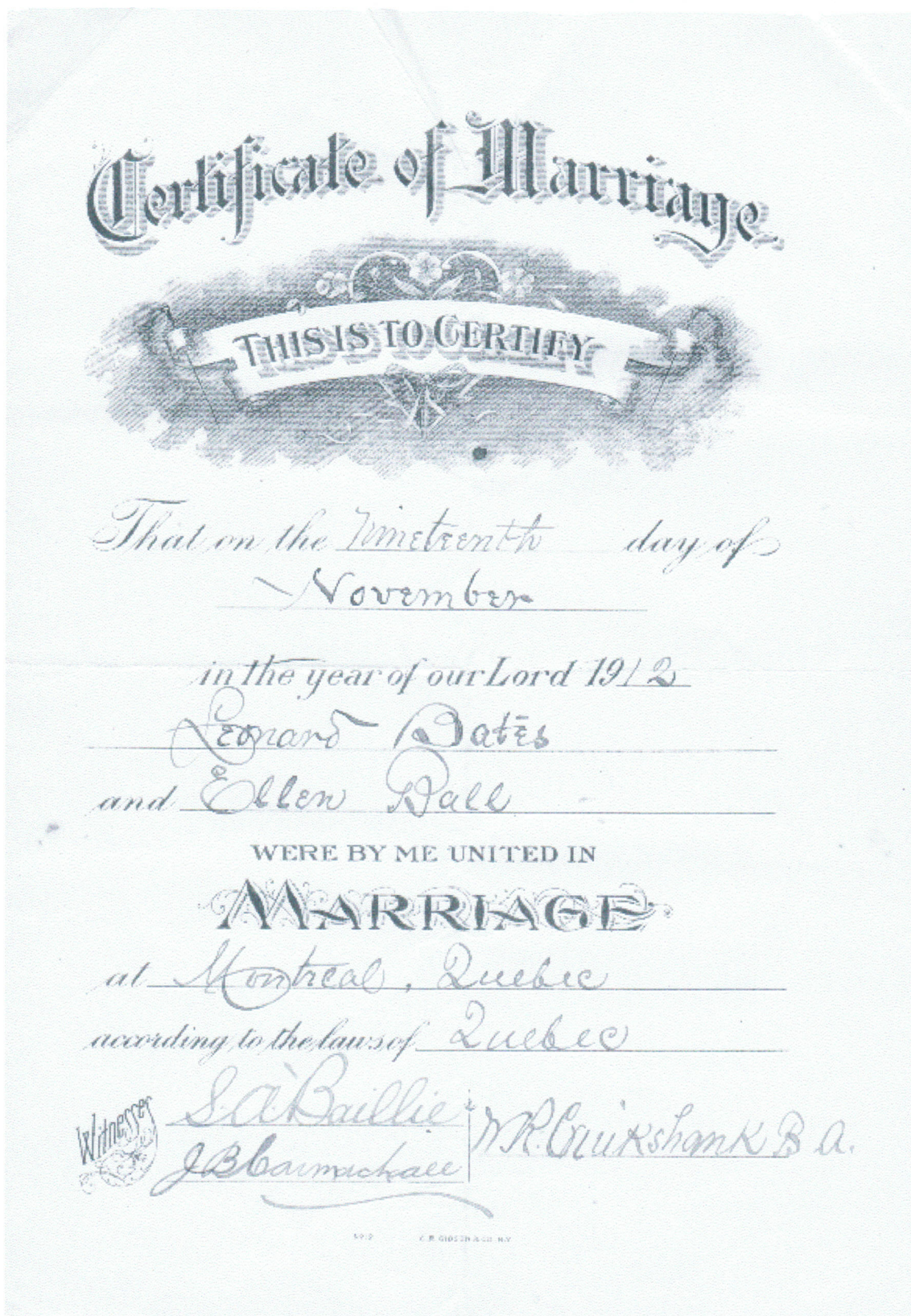




Pic 31: Leonard Bates



Pic 32: Ellen Ball



Pic 33: Marriage Certificate of Leonard Bates and Ellen Ball

### ***Leonard and Ellen Ball***

LEONARD MORROW BATES, son of George M. T. Bates and Maria Tanner, was born<sup>5,44</sup> August 17, 1876 in Bedford, Bedfordshire, England. Leonard was the youngest son in the family of three boys. Details of his childhood are not known except that he grew up in Bedford where his father was a Headmaster of a Boys' School. Leonard followed in his father's footsteps and trained to be a teacher but later decided it was not the career choice for him. At the age of about 33, he traveled to Canada circa 1909<sup>45</sup> with two friends<sup>46</sup>, George Kingston and Frank Rose after hearing about the wonderful farms in Canada. Unfortunately, carving out a new home and life in the northern wilderness was more than anticipated. The assigned land was located in the middle of the bush and a trail had to be cut to get to it. They pitched a tent but the bugs were bad. Leonard's daughter Gladys recalls<sup>46</sup> her dad saying that one of the party looked out of the tent and saw the fireflies. He said "they're coming with lanterns". According to an article<sup>45</sup> written about Leonard and Ellen, a house was built on this property which was destroyed by fire. Leonard did not pursue farming either and went to work in a grocery store in Englehart for Mr. John Clark<sup>45</sup>. Leonard was usually called 'Len' but he always signed his name LM Bates.



Pic 34: Leonard at the General Store in Englehart

A few years later, Ellen, at the age of 29, came to join Leonard in Canada. They were married<sup>5,47</sup> that same day in Montreal, Quebec on November 19, 1912. Ellen Ball was born<sup>5</sup> July 30, 1883 in the Chiswick area of London, England, the daughter of Henry Ball and Sarah Ann Waldon. She was the fifth born in a family of 3 girls and 6 boys. Ellen, often called 'Nell' or 'Nellie', had a musical talent<sup>46</sup>. She played piano and enjoyed singing. She was an alto. Ellen worked as a secretary in London. The circumstances around Ellen and Leonard's initial meeting are unknown, Leonard having lived in Bedford and Ellen in London. Possibly Leonard did his teacher's training in London, or possibly he was visiting relatives as it is known that his father was born in London.

When Leonard and Ellen were married, they lived in an apartment in Englehart and again as often happened in those days, fire destroyed their belongings<sup>45</sup>. They lived for a short time with Mrs. Kingston and in 1914 moved to Heaslip.



Pic 35: Ellen Ball



Pic 36: Leonard Bates

The exerts from an article<sup>45</sup> written when Ellen was 90 years of age describes the circumstances around Leonard and Ellen's arrivals in Canada.

*...Mrs. Bates ... came to Canada, November 19 1912 to marry Leonard Bates, who had come over four years earlier to establish a home. She got off the ship in the early forenoon and was met by Mr. Bates.*

*Then they spent the rest of the day trying to find a minister to marry them. Not knowing the city, (or the language) they encountered quite a few difficulties but finally they were successful and were married by W.R.Cruikshanks, B.A. and later took the train to Englehart.*

*Mr. Bates had located a farm in Marter Twp., (District of Temiskaming, Ontario) which had been glowingly described in a brochure sent out by the government but then, as now, "things were not always what they were supposed to be" and he had to brush out a trail to find the farm. However, he built a house on it, but some time later it was destroyed by fire and then they moved to Englehart.*

*Misfortune seemed to dog their footsteps for a short time after the apartment where they were living was destroyed by fire, and again they lost their possessions. They then lived with a Mrs. Kingston for a while, moving then to Heaslip where Mr. Bates operated the general store owned by John Clark...*

### *Home in Heaslip*

Heaslip, Evantural Twp., District of Temiskaming, Ontario is at the junction of Highways 11 and 624, and is approximately 5 km east of Englehart<sup>48</sup>. It was a tiny community but it had a post office in the private home of Joseph L Heaslip, the Methodist Church and later the Anglican Church, community hall, railway station, freight shed, section house, and stables as well as a number of homes. The General Store played an important role in the life of the community. The Bates family lived in the house attached to the store<sup>46</sup>. There was a kitchen, living room, dining room and three bedrooms. The large area over the store was used as a gathering place for church services before the church was built. The barn and stables were across the road. Their livestock included milk cows and a horse. The John Howard family lived next door. Gladys chummed with their daughter Marion. Dorothy and Marjorie chummed with their daughter Grace.



Pic 37: General Store at Heaslip in the background  
l-r Jack Howard, ?, Tom Sword



Pic 38: Demolition of General Store and Bates home

### ***Family Life***

Children of LEONARD BATES and ELLEN BALL are:

- i. DOROTHY EVELYN BATES was born on January 21, 1914 at Englehart, District of Temiskaming, Ontario (*see also Chapter Four*)
- ii. MARJORIE ANN BATES was born on September 15, 1915 at Heaslip, District of Temiskaming, Ontario (*see also Chapter Five*)
- iii. GLADYS MARIA BATES, was born on September 15, 1915 at Heaslip, District of Temiskaming, Ontario (*see also Chapter Six*)
- iv. PHYLLIS GWENDOLYN BATES was born on November 25, 1925 at Heaslip, District of Temiskaming, Ontario (*see also Chapter Seven*)



Pic 39: Dorothy Bates at General Store, Heaslip

To Leonard and Ellen was born a daughter Dorothy, most likely before the move to Heaslip. In the interview<sup>45</sup> at 90 years of age, Ellen recalled,  
*...Once during the war years, Mrs. Bates dressed Dorothy in a little Red Cross Nurses costume and took her on the train to Englehart. During the ten minute ride, donations amounting to \$17.00 were deposited in her little collection box.*

Twenty months after their firstborn, the twins arrived – Marjorie twenty minutes<sup>46</sup> before Gladys – born at home. Ellen often called Gladys the “make weight”. She didn’t take too kindly to that! Stella Nelson helped out with the babies when they were young.





Pic 40: Bates Twins and Nanny

The twins were brought up through their toddler years by the Rose family<sup>46</sup>. Longtime friend Frank Rose had come to Canada with Leonard. He and his wife Esther and her mother “Granny” Kingston lived on a farm outside Brentha, about six miles away. The girls did come home for occasional weekend reunions but it was usually a visit from mom, dad and Dorothy that kept them in touch.

Why they were separated from their parents and older sister Dorothy is a question that has often been asked. The girls didn’t move back home until it was time to start school at the age of eight. Marjorie recalls<sup>49</sup> that they didn’t want to move back home then as they had lived like ‘Princesses’ in the Roses’ home where there were no other children and they had free reign. Gladys recalls the girls going with Auntie in the buggy to take the cream to Earlton or the butter and eggs to Englehart.



Pic 41: Bates Twins at the Rose Home before the home was burned in the Great Fire



Pic 42: Three Bates Toddlers



Pic 43: Granny Kingston and Marjorie



Pic 44: Gladys Bates



Pic 45: Three Bates Girls

The Bates family survived the Great Fire of 1922, and while many of their friends and neighbours were wiped out, their buildings were saved. Two families in the little community suffocated when they took refuge from the fire in their root cellar. Ellen and Leonard took neighbours into their home providing food and shelter to members of a devastated community.

Articles<sup>50,51</sup> written by survivors on the fire for a commemorative book included the following:

### ***Dorothy's recollection of the Great Fire***

*I was at home from school with the whooping cough. The air was black after lunch and the wind was very strong, the whole air seemed to be on fire. We were sitting on the veranda; the sparks were flying so we put sand on the veranda floor to prevent the floor from catching fire. Mr. Goss (a student minister) drove the children to Heaslip Hall in his model T Ford car. He was replacing Miss Coppner teaching that day. She had a broken ankle.*

*Mr. Bates, my father was clerk at John Clark's store. Mr. Clark had a shed across from the store containing barrels of coal oil and gasoline. It caught fire and exploded with a terrific bang and the blaze shot high in the air. We let our animals out before our stable caught fire. We went to the Hall and my father took boric acid bandages, etc. to the Hall. My grandmother, Mrs. Ball sat and bathed the people's eyes and bandaged their burns. My father with Mr. Howard and his tractor took blankets and barrels of water into the middle of Howard's field in case the Hall caught fire. The Methodist Church burned at Heaslip corner and red-hot sheets of metal came flying through the air. All the buildings on the south side of the road were burned. Clark's stables, Tom Heaslip's shack and wood pile, Railway Station, Freight shed, Section House and Periman's old store. Mother and Mrs. Howard played hymns on the piano at the Hall to help keep the people calm. Mr. Doherty was the Station Agent at Heaslip. Mr. and Mrs. Doherty, Marie and Mrs. Doherty's niece came to the Hall and later lived in three rooms over John Clark's store at Heaslip. He had no job when the station burned with all their belongings.*

*We got word that a train was leaving Englehart to pick up the people and take them to Haileybury but people decided to stay where they were as they might be worse off if they moved some place else. We heard later the town of Haileybury was burned out. Marjorie and Gladys Bates were out at Brentha at the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rose and they were burned out and spent the night in the field. We heard that Brentha was burned out so we were worried about Marjorie and Gladys. Roses heard that Heaslip was burned out so they sent Karl Sohnelein out on horseback to find out. The people flocked to the Hall to see where their children were.*

*Next morning it snowed. Mr. Gosse tied board on the side of his car and took Mother and me to town. He used the boards to get across the burned out culverts and holes in the road. There was a huge tent sent from somewhere and the people rounded up domestic animals that were saved and sheltered them in it until they got a shelter of their own. A relief train came up from Toronto a day or two after with clothing and feed for the animals.*

### ***The Bates Twins***

*My twin sister, Gladys and I were staying with our Uncle, Aunt and Grannie, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rose and Mrs. Kingston in Brentha the day of the big fire in 1922. The day started out nice and warm. The men had gone threshing and our Aunt had gone to her sister-in-law's place, Mrs. Y. Kingston, a mile down the road. There were baskets of fruit to preserve in the cellar but Grannie was too upset to do them.*

*It started to become smoky and the sky got red. Grannie took us outside towards the field and our Aunt got back and joined us. Our hair was singed by the fire. Flying sparks flew from one building to another, making a furnace of fire. Our uncle got his coat aflame while letting out the livestock from the bar. A lot of them died from smoke. We stayed in the field part of the night and then went to our Aunt's sister-in-law's, Mrs. George Kingston's place. The men fought the fire there to keep the buildings from burning. Our Uncle and Aunt lost everything. The next morning everything was covered with snow and two men passed the door. Our aunt asked them about Heaslip as they were concerned about our Mother, Dad and oldest sister. They told us Heaslip was all wiped out. One of the men Carl Serlion went out on horseback. He found that the fire had missed our parent's home and that they were all right. Soon after that we went home and started school.*



Pic 46: Leonard, Ellen, Marjorie, Dorothy and Gladys

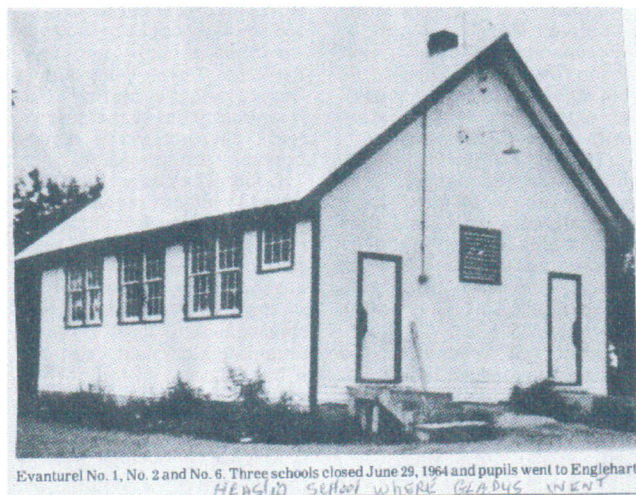
After WW1, Granny (Sarah Ann) Ball and Aunt 'Doll' Dorothy Ball, Ellen's mother and sister joined them. Grandpa Henry Ball had died<sup>32</sup> in July 1912, prior to Ellen's move to Canada. Granny did the household chores which allowed Ellen to do her seamstress work. Ellen had taken a course and received a certificate as seamstress and tailor. Granny Ball was talented in craftwork, knitting and crocheting. This talent has certainly come down through the generations. Granny also enjoyed singing and sang alto. Aunt Doll played the violin by ear. Leonard was also a good singer. Gladys recalls that her Granny Ball was 'bossy'. She laughs in remembering that when doing the dishes one day, she was going through them 2 and

3 at a time. Granny wanted to put a stop to that. Gladys told her that “I can run faster than you can”. Granny Ball was a big women and running wouldn’t have been too easy for her. Needless to say the story got back to Ellen and she wasn’t too pleased with her daughter<sup>46</sup>.

Granny Ball (Sarah Ann Waldon) died<sup>52</sup> on March 28, 1928 at Heaslip, District of Temiskaming, Ontario, at the age of 72 as a result of cancer. Her granddaughters were aged 14, 12 and 2 at the time. She is buried<sup>53</sup> in the family plot at Englehart Cemetery with her daughter Dorothy (Auntie Doll) who died seven years earlier.

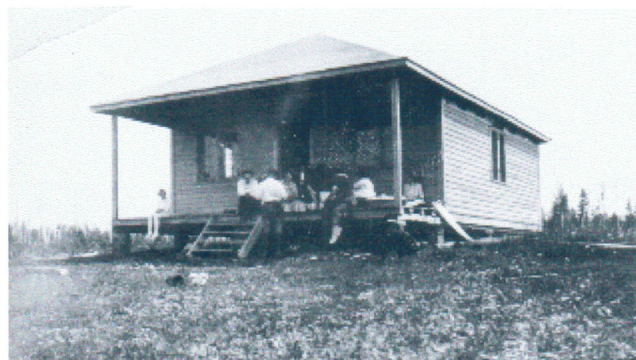
Gladys recalls an occasion when Auntie Doll was visiting the Roses to do some sewing for Mrs. Rose. Gladys and Marjorie played under the table while Auntie Doll was sewing. They 'borrowed' her scissors and proceeded to cut each other's hair. Imagine the sight she encountered when she went looking for the scissors!

Ellen passed on the girls’ clothes to needy families in the community. She often warned the girls not to say anything if the children wore their old outfits to school. The school was about two miles north of Heaslip. They walked to school year around. One of the girls teachers, Miss Thelma Copner boarded with the Bates family.



Pic 47: School attended by the Bates girls

The Bates family had a cottage at Sheppard's Lake. They spent summer weekends and holidays there.



Pic 48: Bates Cottage at Sheppard’s Lake

Pets were also a part of the Bates household. A dog, cats and a canary were included in this list. The family horse was ridden by the girls and also pulled a cutter in the winter. Gladys recalls that it was high 'strung'.



Pic 49: Ellen Bates and her dog



Pic 50: Three Boaters

In 1925, when Dorothy was 11 and the twins were 10, another little girl Phyllis was born.



Pic 51: Phyllis Bates

Her best friend growing up was Jean Williams who lived towards Tomstown. Later in life they joined the Air Force together.



Pics 52: Phyllis Bates with her friend Jean



53: Phyllis with her dog Rusty aka Collie



54: Phyllis all dressed up!

Gladys recalls that the girls were encouraged to write to their Grandma Bates in England. Esther Rose had known her before she came to Canada and told the girls that she was a fine woman. When the letter writers didn't do a satisfactory job, dad (Len) would see that they wrote their letter over again.

When the three older girls were in their teens, their dad took ill with a nervous breakdown. Ellen took over running the store and keeping the books.



Pic 55: Anglican Church at Heaslip

### *Church Life*

The Bates family were members of the Anglican Church, coming from a strong Church of England background. There was no Anglican Church in Heaslip in the early years. Families gathered over the general store for their worship services.

Sunday school was taught in the dining room of the Bates home by Ellen.

Ellen played the organ in the church. The Bates family planted willow trees around the church property and they were a landmark many years after the church was gone.



Pic 56: Confirmation Day for Phyllis Bates ( right)  
Leonard is seen in the back row on right



Pic 57: Leonard and Ellen at the wedding of Dorothy and Joe Fanning, 1942  
Dorothy, Marjorie and Gladys were married in the Anglican Church in Heaslip.

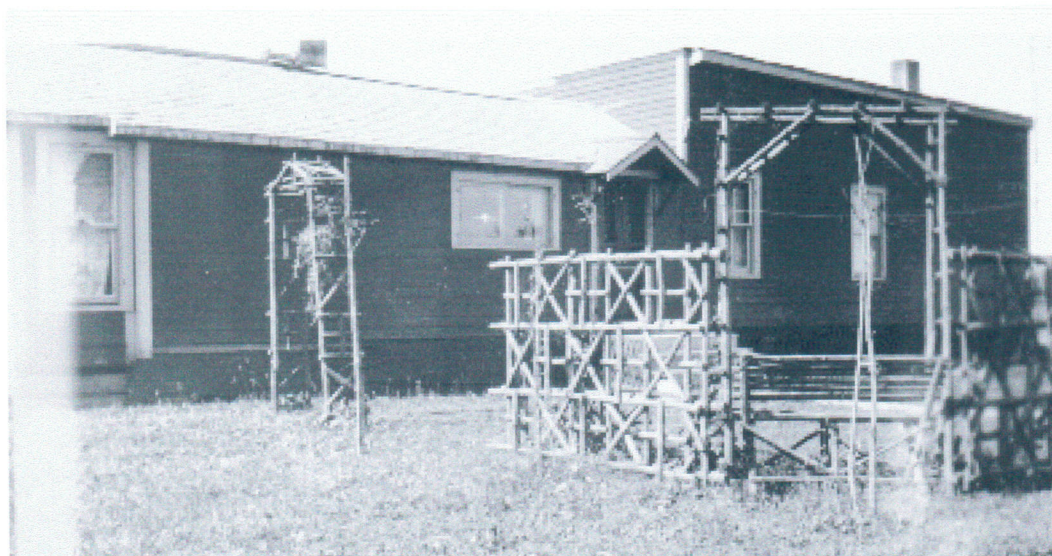


### ***Retirement***

When the general store closed, Leonard, Ellen and the only daughter left at home, Phyllis moved into a house across the road from the store.



Pic 58: Bates Home at Heaslip  
Leonard and Ellen (back row) did not enjoy getting their picture taken  
L-R, Mark Hoggarth, Dorothy Bates, Gladys & Herb Francis,  
Katherine, Marjorie and Floyd Harman  
Front, Phyllis Bates and Jim Harman



Pic 59: Bates Home at Heaslip

They later purchased a home on Rebecca St., New Liskeard in 1945.



Pic 60: Bates Home in New Liskeard

Leonard died<sup>5</sup> not long after at the age of 70 years on December 23, 1946 in New Liskeard, District of Temiskaming, Ontario and was buried in the family plot at Englehart Cemetery, Englehart.. Ellen eventually moved into the home of Dorothy and Joe Fanning.

<p><b>Funeral Services Held for L. M. Bates</b></p> <p>Funeral services were held at Heaslip church on December 26 for the late Leonard Morrow Bates, who died at his home in New Liskeard on Monday afternoon after an illness of only a few days. The late Mr. Bates, who was a son of the late George Morrow Bates and his wife, Maria Tanner, was born in England a little more than seventy years ago. Coming to Canada in 1909 he settled at Englehart and a few years later was joined by his wife, the former Ellen Ball. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Bates operated a general store at Heaslip. Retiring from business, Mr. Bates</p>	<p>Mrs. Bates moved to New Liskeard in September and purchased a small house on Rebecca Street.</p> <p>The funeral services at Heaslip were conducted by the Rev. Stephen Turner of St. John's Anglican Church, New Liskeard, who also officiated at the burial service in the Englehart cemetery.</p> <p>Old friends and neighbors acted as pallbearers, being George Harman, John Howard, Harry Pocock, William Smith, Aubrey Nelson and Alf. Williams.</p> <p>Surviving besides his wife, are four daughters (Dorothy), Mrs. Joe Fanning, of Dymond township; (Margery), Mrs. Floyd Harmon, of Heaslip; (Gladys), Mrs. Herb Francis, of Cobden, and Phyllis at home. A brother, William, of Calgary, Alta., also survives.</p>
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Pic 61: Obituary of Leonard Bates



Pic 62: Grandma Bates and Pretty Boy



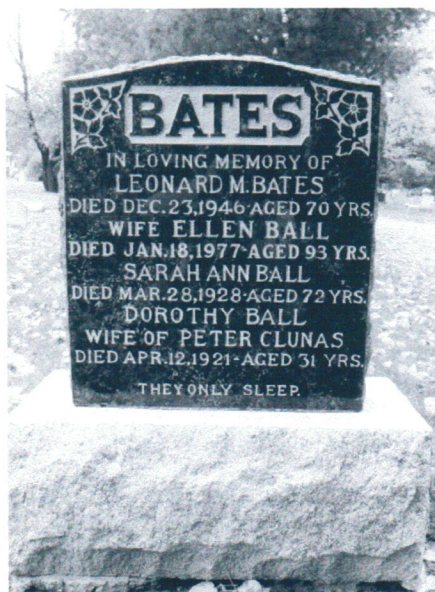
Pic 63: Granny Bates at Dorothy and Joe Fanning's Home

### **Obituary of Ellen Bates**

Ellen died January 18, 1977 in New Liskeard at the age of 93 years and was also buried<sup>54</sup> in the family plot at Englehart Cemetery.

**ELLEN BATES**  
Mrs. Ellen Bates, 93, died at Temiskaming Hospital, New Liskeard unit Jan. 18.  
Born in London, England July 30, 1893 the former Ellen Ball came to Canada in 1912 and on her marriage to Leonard Bates in Montreal became an early settler in Englehart until 1914.  
The couple moved to Heaslip where they lived until 1946 and will long be remembered for the kindnesses extended to their friends and neighbours during the fire of 1922 and their work in the Heaslip Anglican Church and the IODE.  
Predeceased by her husband by 30 years, Mrs. Bates made her home in New Liskeard until her death.  
Surviving are four daughters Dorothy, Mrs. Joseph Fanning of New Liskeard; Marjorie, Mrs. Floyd Harman of Englehart, Gladys, Mrs. Herb Francis of Cobden and Phyllis of Toronto; 11 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Pic 64: Obituary of Ellen Bates



Pic 65: Bates / Ball Gravestone

## THEN AND NOW

# Mrs. Ellen Bates Recalls Early Times In Englehart

By **CHRISTENE McDONALD**  
**NEW LISKEARD**

Just recently I talked with Mrs. Ellen Bates, who is an old friend and was a neighbor when we lived at Heaslip.

Mrs. Bates, who now lives with her son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fanning, New Liskeard was born in London, England, on July 30, 1893 and came to Canada on Nov. 19, 1912, to marry Leonard Bates, who had come over four-years earlier to establish a home. She got off the ship in the early forenoon and was met by Mr. Bates.

Then they spent the rest of the day trying to find a minister to marry them. Not knowing the city, (or the language) they encountered quite a few difficulties but finally they were successful and were married by W. B. Cruikshanks, B. A. and later took the train to Englehart.

Mr. Bates had located a farm in Marter township, which had been glowingly described in a brochure sent out by the government, but then, as now, "things were not always what they were supposed to be," and he had to brush out a trail to find the farm. However, he built a house on it, but some time later it was destroyed by fire and then they moved to Englehart.

Misfortune seemed to dog their footsteps for a short time after the apartment where they were living was destroyed by fire, and again they lost their possessions. They then lived with a Mrs. Kingston for a while, moving then to Heaslip, where Mr. Bates operated the general store owned by John Clark.

### RAISED FAMILY

They raised a family of four girls, Dorothy, Mrs. Joe Fanning of New Liskeard, twin girls, Gladys, Mrs. Herb Francis of Cobden, and Marjorie, Mrs. Floyd Harman of Heaslip and Phyllis of Toronto.

They lived in Heaslip until 1945 when they purchased a home in New Liskeard, where Mr. Bates died in 1946. Mrs. Bates and Phyllis continued to live in New Liskeard until Phyllis secured a position in Toronto and Mrs. Bates went to make her home with Mr. and Mrs. Fanning.

Mrs. Bates has many memo-

ries of those early days such as the muddy streets in Englehart and no sidewalks to escape walking in the mud, the concerts and entertainments which she and her friend, Mrs. William Smith, or Auntie Mary, as she was known as in the community, used to help with, a lot of it quietly behind the scenes. Both of them joined the IOOE at Englehart and used to go there to attend the meetings.

Following World War One her mother and sister came to make their home in Canada also. Once during the war years, Mrs. Bates dressed Dorothy in a little Red Cross Nurses costume and took her on the train to Englehart. During the ten minute ride donations amounting to \$17.00 were deposited in her little collection box.

In those early days tribes of gypsies used to drive around the country in wagons. One day one of the gypsy women came into the store, wanting to tell Mr. Bates fortune. "I'll tell your fortune, I know you're a lucky man," she said, but Mr. Bates thought he had been burned out too often to be very lucky.

### ANOTHER MEMORY

Another memory is of the big fire in 1922. Expecting their home at the back of the store would be burned, Mrs. Bates took her canary to Miss Heaslip's home for safety. However, the store and home escaped the flames and when that night, Mrs. Bates went to get her canary, Miss Heaslip emphatically told her, "Oh it's dead the cat got it." "and", said Mrs. Bates, "I could have sat down and cried." Another memory of that fire was the terrific wind. They had a small dog and she saw it starting up the road and the wind caught it, lifting it right up into the air, and setting it down again farther on.

The family was quite active in the work of the Little Anglican church, built on the corner of Jack Howarth's farm.

Whenever the bishop or other visiting dignitaries came to the church for special occasions, the Bates home was always opened with a welcome to them. Soon after the church was built, the

Bates family went to Mr. Kerr's farm and secured enough willow trees to plant around the church and their own home, and although the church is now gone, the trees remain, a silent testimony that "somebody cared."

Another remembrance is of the Chataqua concerts that brought entertainment to the area. I had forgotten all about them until Mrs. Bates wonderful memory reminded me. They were in charge of Doc, Hamilton who sold "patent medicines" as a side line, also conducting popularity contests, and one year Eileen Smith was the winner.

Although she is 91 and has her birth certificate to prove it, (she also showed me her marriage certificate) she enjoys recalling many interesting episodes of her long and useful life.

Pic 66: Newspaper Clipping of Interview with Ellen Bates

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The Home of Leonard and Ellen Bates  
Heaslip, Ontario

This book is a work in progress, outlining the English ancestry of Leonard Bates and his wife Ellen Ball, who came to Canada in the early 1900's. The descendants of Leonard and Ellen, originating in Northern Ontario, are now found in other regions of Ontario and in the United States of America.