

ABEL SENECA WEEKES

Was one of the thirteen children of William Weekes and his wife Lydia Jane Edwards. They resided in Mosa Township, Middlesex County, Ont.

William Weekes, father of Abel, was born in London, England, in 1827. He was brought to this country when he was two years of age by his parents, who stayed for a short time in Pennsylvania, U.S.A. Then they came to St. Thomas, Ont.

When but ten years of age they moved to a farm in Mosa Township. In 1840 this farm was sold, and the farm across the road purchased. To this latter farm, the son William brought his bride, Lydia Jane Edwards in 1855. There they lived and raised their family of thirteen children, giving each one an High School education. Mr. William Weekes died in 1910, and Mrs. Weekes in 1921.



Mrs. Weekes, Abel's mother, was of United Empire Loyalist stock. (In the U.E.L. Official list, the name of James Edwards is given as residing at Marysburg, as a soldier in the 84th Regt. L.M.B.; 1793, 300 Stamped Book. In America before the war—listed in 1777.) Her ancestors left the U.S.A. after the Revolution, coming to what is known as the Big Bend (about 1808) Mosa Township, near the village of Wardsville, Ont. There Lydia Jane Edwards was born, and from that home in 1855 was married to William Weekes.

The maiden name of the wife of Abel Seneca Weekes was Millicent Smith. They were married in 1906 from the home where she was born in Oxford Township, Kent County, near the town of Bothwell. The issue being: William J. (Billy)

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born September, 1907; Mariam, born July, 1910; Elizabeth (Betty) born February, 1914; Francis, born January, 1916; Mary, born September, 1918; Ruth, born March, 1921.

William J., the oldest child, Prospector of Out Post Island, Great Slave Lake, died suddenly August 20th, 1936, from appendicitis.

Mariam, married August 19th, to Harold Sutton, of Meota, Sask. Now living at Flin Flon, Manitoba.

Betty Francis, B.A.; Mary and Ruth at home. In May, 1925, his wife died. In July, 1926, he married Anna Whiteford, who was born in Ireland, and who survives him.

He apprenticed himself to Coad and Robertson of Glencoe, Ont. And on April 12th, 1890, was appointed an O.L.S. In 1892 he became a D.L.S.; and was a member of the D.L.S. Association. He was a member of the Executive of the Alberta Land Surveyor's Assn.; and President of the Saskatchewan Land Surveyor's Association; and a member of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

After he became an O.L.S. he settled in Clinton, Ont., where he remained for about three years. In about 1892 he went to Western Canada, where he engaged at Land Surveying and prospector until 1897, when he and a companion built a boat on the Upper McKenzie River, and worked their way by boat and portage to the mining district of the north country, where he remained for five years.

Then he returned to his home near Glencoe, Ont. In 1904 he was engaged on survey work for the Dominion Government. In 1919, on the organization of the Canadian National Railway he was appointed Chief Land Surveyor, and moved from Edmonton to Winnipeg, where he resided the rest of his life.

He attended the Young United Church in Winnipeg. He died in Winnipeg in his seventy-first year on the 25th April, 1936, having been born in Glencoe, on February 17th, 1866.

He was survived by his widow, a son William J.; and five daughters; Maria; Betty; Francis; Mary and Ruth, and two sisters, Mrs. (Rev.) G. J. Kerr, Lambeth, Ont. (from whom the data for this biography was received), and Mrs. William N. Leonard, Delhi, Ont.; and five brothers, Dr. W. J. Weekes and Nelson Weekes, London, Ont.; Thomas A. Weekes, Edmonton, Alta.; Alfred W. Weekes, Strome, Alta., and Herbert M. Weekes, Glencoe, Ont. He was buried in Brookside Cemetery, Winnipeg, Man.

The widow, Mrs. Abel Seneca Weekes now resides at 61 Maryland Street, Winnipeg, Man.