

Mr. Bates was born in Stamford, Connecticut, and came to New Brunswick in the spring of 1783 with the Loyalists.

Henry More Smith was an accomplished vagabond and thief, who found in the good old Loyalist, Sheriff Bates, a biographer of no mean order, and the popularity of the book has no doubt been due entirely to the powers of description displayed by the author in the simple narrative he has so well written. Six editions of the book have been printed since its first appearance in 1830, and the sale still continues. Smith's misdeeds and adventures excited at the time of their occurrence a great deal of interest in the rural districts of the Province, and ignorant persons were disposed to attribute his cleverness to dealings with Satan. Many of the old residents of the locality who have, during the last few years, passed away, were never weary of relating anecdotes of this remarkable man, and relics of his mechanical skill were preserved in the parish for many years after his departure. The book is of great local historic value, and many of the names recorded on its pages have become famous in the annals of New Brunswick. The old jail at Kingston, where the "noted Henry More Smith" was imprisoned, has long since disappeared, and Kingston itself has also ceased to be the shiretown of King's County, but a short distance from the site of the old jail still stands the parish church, where the good sheriff and his family worshipped, and close to the entrance in the graveyard, by which it is almost surrounded, stands a square freestone column, beneath which rests the mortal remains of the staunch Loyalist and his wife, and on it is cut this epitaph :

In memory of
WALTER BATES, Esq.,
High Sheriff of this County,
who died
February 11th, A.D., 1842,
Aged 82 years.

MRS. ABIGAIL BATES,
Wife of
WALTER BATES, Esq.,
Who died July 6, 1820,
In the 58th year of her age.

Several of the prominent persons mentioned by Sheriff Bates in his little book sleep in that neglected churchyard, "the sleep that knows no waking," and on many of the headstones, scattered around, the record is cut that the sleeper was a United Empire Loyalist.

St. John, N.B., March, 1889.

JONAS HOWE.