

ERNEST WILLIAM BAYES, CANADIAN FIELD ARTILLERY.



Buried at Shorncliffe Military Cemetery.

In memory of

Gunner No. 86503 Ernest William Bayes, Canadian Field Artillery.

Died Wednesday 13 October 1915 . Aged 23.

Son of James and Anna Maria Bayes, of Walthamstow, Essex, England.

Born 28th June Walthamstow, Essex 1892.

Enlisted 1911. London Brigade RFA (Royal Field Artillery).

Enlisted Canadian Expeditionary Force.

Ernest was the youngest surviving child of James Bayes and Anna Maria Nichols. His mother died in childbirth when he was three. My grandfather Sidney Thomas Bayes, 10 years his senior, was his eldest brother and always looked after him, and my grandmother Alice Charlotte, nee Kitson, became like a sister to him. Ernest enlisted in the Territorial Army in 1909, but was discharged when he emigrated to Canada in 1911, following a friend there. He enlisted in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force in 1915 and was sent to England. He was stationed at Otterpool Camp near Folkestone, and on the night of 13th October 1915, a Zeppelin airship, returning from a bombing raid on London, jettisoned several bombs on Otterpool Camp. My grandmother received a letter from one of Ernest's tent-mates, saying that the others in the tent had gone to the cinema, but Ernest had stayed behind and was killed as a result. Ernest was always remembered by his brother and family.

SHORNCLIFFE MILITARY CEMETERY.

Grave O. 305.