Ellen Leddy's Baptism in Montreal in 1847 Research and Comments by John Leddy

I am enclosing a copy of our great-great-aunt Ellen Leddy's second baptismal certificate – this one from her baptism at the Notre-Dame Basilica in Montréal on August 3, 1847. As you will recall, Ellen was first baptized on July 30, 1847 by Father Joseph Bailey, an Irish priest, who came aboard the Leddys' emigrant ship while it was at anchor at the quarantine station at Grosse Île, Quebec. (Perhaps, Margaret and Peter wanted a church baptism; just to be sure there would be no chance of Limbo!)

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My high school French rendition is as follows:

"The third of August, Eighteen Hundred Forty-seven, I, the undersigned priest, have administered(?) the sacrament(?) of baptism to Ellen, born at sea the fifteenth of last month, of the legitimate marriage of Peter Lidy [sic], day laborer, absent, and Margaret, emigrants. Godfather Michael Lidy [sic], who declared he did not know how to sign. "

The interesting thing about this second baptism is that Michael Leddy was named the Godfather. When Ellen was baptized four days before on the ship, the two persons who stood for her were James Magner(?) and Julie Bardon(?). These godparents must have been fellow emigrants, but not necessarily blood relatives.

This second baptism confirms that Michael Leddy emigrated with Peter and Margaret Leddy, and is strong evidence that Michael Leddy was likely Peter's father. Michael Leddy (1780-1865) is buried in the Irish Settlement Cemetery in Underhill in the Leddy Family Plot. Mary Margaret Moore Audette had always said that Michael was Peter's father. She was right. However, the baptismal record that I was able to find for Peter in Co. Meath (in 1805) states that the father is "Patrick". Perhaps, his name was "Patrick Michael Leddy". That could be.

ancestry.com*

Actes d'état civil et registres d'église du Québec (Collection Drouin), 1621 à 1967

Name:	Ellen Lidy
Event:	Baptême (Baptism)
Baptism Year:	1847
Baptism Location:	Montréal, Québec (Quebec)
Place of Worship or Institution:	Basilique Notre-Dame

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. Quebec, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1967 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.

Original data: Gabriel Drouin, com p. Drouin Collection. Montreal, Quebec, Canada: Institut Généalogique Drouin.

Description:

Until the late 1900s, church registers in Quebec served as civil and vital records in that province. Throughout the years a second copy of church records, from all denominations, was sent annually to the appropriate courthouse. During the 1940s the vital record collections in courthouses throughout Quebec were filmed by the Institut Généalogique Drouin.* The filming of vital records continued for some areas up through the 1960s. Consequently, this filmed set of records became known as the Drouin Collection. The majority of the records in this database cover the time period 1621-1947, as most of the filming was done in the 1940s. The records that were filmed up through the 1960s are also included in this database, although they are very few in number. These records that were filmed later cover the years 1948-1967. Names from all years have now been indexed and can be searched on using the search box above.

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Immigrants at Grosse-Île

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Baptisms at Grosse-Île	
Date of Baptism:	1847-07-30
Name:	Ledy, Helene
Parents:	Ledy, Peter and [Maradon], Marguerite
Religion:	Catholique
Sex:	F
Date of birth:	1847-07-15
Godfather and Godmother:	McNan, James and Boudon, Julie
Priest:	Bailey, Joseph
Reference:	Registre BMS 1847 Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Registre d'état civil, Saint-Luc de Grosse-Ile, 1834-1932