

Hazards in Island Cemetery



One of the founders of Newport in 1639 was Thomas Hazard and his family. The Hazard family was fruitful and multiplied. Today in Island Cemetery are 36 distinct gravesites in which 187 people are buried with the Hazard name.

Members of the Hazard family were in the drug business in Newport and New York. In 1874 Dr. Rowland Robinson Hazard was a founding member of the Caswell and Hazard company. The business was later reformed into Caswell-Massey and still operates today.

One of the many Hazard monuments stand out due to its unique design. The burial lot includes about a dozen family members but perhaps the most interesting people buried here are Louis and Sarah Hazard.

Captain Louis Ludlam Hazard (1832-1876) was born to George and Ann Hazard in Newport and he later married Sarah Condon (1832-1926). The family moved to Peacedale in 1856. One Hazard daughter became the wife of Chief Justice Peaslee in Connecticut. One son, George, became an important rector in the Protestant Episcopal church.

In 1876 Sarah joined Louis on his journey and helped sail the ship. The children were looked after by family members during their voyage. Sarah returned home but Louis continued his journey to the Indian Ocean where the entire crew vanished and presumed to be dead at sea¹.



George Robinson Hazard, son of Louis and Sarah, was born in South Kingston Rhode Island, graduated from Rogers High School (1890) and Brown University (1894) and ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church in 1899. In 1920 he married Frances Bartlett Manning (1885-1975). While he did preach at Trinity Church in Newport, he served the congregation of Grace Church in Manchester New Hampshire for twenty years².



¹ "Mrs. Sarah Congdon Hazard," *Newport Mercury* (7 August 1926), 1.

² "Rev. George R. Hazard dies in Boston," *Newport Mercury and Weekly News*, (27 April 1934), 3.

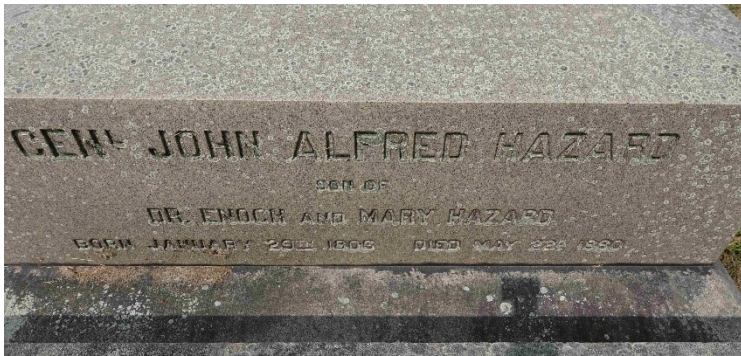
Hazard and Newport Hospital

In a Hazard gravesite at another location in Island Cemetery rests General John Alfred Hazard (1806-1880), his wife Nancy Hazard (1819-1909).

John was the son of Dr. Enoch Hazard and Mary Easton Hazard. His father served Newport alongside Dr. Turner and Dr. King until his death in 1844. His mother was the daughter of Nicolas Easton and inherited the Easton family land in Middletown stretching from Second Beach to Sachuest Point. She also inherited Newport land near Bailey's Beach, Almy's Pond and Lilly Pond.

John was educated locally, and studied law with his uncle, Benjamin Hazard. He did not practice law but managed the Hazard properties. In 1855 he married Benjamin's daughter, Nancy. They had one son, Nicholas Easton Hazard who died at 17 years of age in 1874. John ran for political office a few times, was never elected. He served as a Brigadier General in the Rhode Island militia³.

When he died his obituary stated he "was a man of marked peculiarities but was inflexible in maintaining what he deemed right. He did not possess the qualities that gain popular favor, but was ever true to his convictions⁴." In his will he left some money to long-time employee, Samuel C Clinton, a man of color and some to Rebecca Stanley, daughter of Capt. John Wood. The rest of his estate was given to the Newport Hospital with the provision they kept in good order the Easton burial site at Sachuest Point (MT-014). His wife got nothing and contested the will. In 1881 an out-of-court settlement with the hospital was secured. She received \$65,000 and the right to live in the Rocky Farm house until her death.



³ Howard S. Browne, *The Newport Hospital: A History 1873-1973*, Newport Hospital, Newport, RI 1976, 37-40

⁴ *Newport Mercury*, 29 May 1880