

The Evening Star, Thursday, August 14, 1873, p. 4
The Dead of the Wawaset
Recovery of the Body of Mr. Hazard –
Arrival of Remains in this City –
Latest from the Scene of the Disaster –
The Reburial of the Dead

About 10 o'clock last night the tug boat *Mary Lewis* (which left here yesterday morning to carry coffins and a burial party down to the scene of the late disaster on the Potomac) arrived at the 7th street wharf, bringing the bodies of Mr. H.H. Hazard and Daniel Lynch, the latter having been disinterred where it was buried above Chatterton, and the former brought up from near Hampstead, two miles below Mathias Point, King George county, Va., and about twelve miles below the scene of the disaster.

Long and Successful Search for the Body of Mr. Hazard

It is probable that the body of Mr. Hazard sunk in the channel and rose on the ebb tide, and was carried down to the point named. The body floated ashore Sunday night, and was buried on Monday morning last, after having been identified by a pocket knife belonging to the son of the deceased, Harvey Hazard, on which was engraved a Masonic emblem, and some papers found in his pocket designating the street and number of his residence in Washington. Mr. Hazard was a native of King George county, Va., and had not visited his old home for nearly forty years. On board the tug last night were the two sons of Mr. Hazard – Harvey and Willie – also Mr. G.W. Pratt, his son-in-law, all of whom have been in constant search for their father's body since the disaster. On Sunday they spent the entire day on the Virginia shore, running from point to point whenever they could hear a body being drawn from the water. On Monday they got a boatman to set them across on the Maryland side, near Nanjemoy, where they traversed the shore down to near Port Tobacco, and returning extended their searches to above Maryland Point, and the recrossed the river to the fish-houses this side of Chatterton, and after getting refreshments laid down to get some rest at the house of a Mr. Grant, and were awakened Tuesday morning and told that the body of their father had been found about a mile below Mathias' Point and twelve below Chatterton. Thither they turned their steps, and arrived after a tedious journey, and had the body disinterred. They were much gratified to find it in a remarkable state of preservation, very little change in appearance, free of bruises, and not touched by the crabs. Capt. Gedney, who heard of the finding of the remains while at Chatterton, dispatched his tug with a coffin, in which the body was placed and brought to this city, as stated above. These young gentlemen have shown wonderful energy and perseverance under a chain of difficulties, from their first landing on Saturday night at Stewart's wharf until their arrival last night. They are all three nearly exhausted physically, and had it not been for meeting good friends, though strangers to them, they would hardly have stood it so well.

The bodies of Hazard and Lynch were taken in charge last night by the undertakers to prepare them for burial.

The Reburial of the Dead at Chatterton Landing

Captain Wood arrived last night on the tug with Captain Gedney. He sent the day at Chatterton landing, doing what he could to have the dead properly buried. He says the heavy rain prevented much progress yesterday. The site selected for the burial ground is on a high bluff about twenty yards from the bank, and in an open field surrounded with trees, at Chatterton. The work of reinterment will be continued today, and it is thought all will be finished by tonight. A piece of the dress, a shoe, or other article by which friends will be able to identify bodies are retained in each case. Yesterday, a breastpin was found on one of the colored women which had been overlooked when the body was temporarily buried.

Captain Gedney and President Howison, of the ferry company, are extending all the facilities in their power, in procuring transportation of bodies recovered to the surviving friends wherever they may be.

Three More Missing People

A colored woman named Gray, residing on Washington street, between 4th and 5th, was on the ill-fated steamer with her child, and no tidings have been heard of either.

Mr. Z. Richards writes that Matilda Hayne, who has been in his employ for six years past, was on the steamer to visit her parents.

Story of Another Survivor – An Old Colored Woman

An old colored woman gives the following statement as to how she escaped:--“I tell you what, chile, I got ‘cited when I saw de flames an’ de smoke; I got frightened shure, and run back as far as I could. I was too skeered fur anything, and de people was hollering, and de women and chillen screamin’ and some jumpin’ over. De fire got closer and closer, and when it commenced to lick right roun’ me, I tink dis old woman might as well drown as bunup in de fire. Den, honey, I jup, and helt my bref while I went down. When I come up I cotch holt of a white man, and he turn roun’ and raise h’s fist and say, “You d—d black wench, if you don’t let go I’ll drown you.” Den I let go again, and I hole my bref and down I go to the bottom agin, and when I come up dis old head strike agin a peach box, and I tells you I held on to it tight. I didn’t ‘no whether it would hold me or not, but I clutched it and floundered roun’ a little, kicking in the water, and in a little time my feet tech something. I keep holst of de box, and I didn’t now but at de water would be deeper, and I kep puttin’ one foot afore de other and gets on de sore, but I held on to de box ‘til I got way up on de shore, and I was mighty glad, I tell you, when I got there.”

Description of the Bodies Reburied Yesterday

The following are descriptions of the corpses which were permanently interred yesterday on the bluff by Mr. Burgdorf – Colored woman, 25 or 30 years of age, white dress, black body, small vine stripe, lasting gaiters, morocco tipped; colored woman about same age, black dress, blue body, lasting gaiters; colored man 35 or 40 years of age, black cloth coat, alpaca vest, herring bone pant, brogan shoes; colored woman 20 to 25 years, black dress, white body with black stripe, cloth shoes foxed; colored woman about 60 years old, white dress black and white striped body, and flower in the stripe, white apron trimmed with black or brown braid, breast pin with red set, leather belt and blue beads on neck; colored woman, 55 or 60 years old, black dress, leather shoes laced on he side; colored girl about 8 years of age, green striped dress, black body, paddies with small crimp on the bottom and brown leather shoes.

The Body of Miss Sandey Identified

The brother of Miss Patsy Sandey (not Sands, as has been published,) whose body was brought up on Saturday, arrived this morning from his home in Essex, Westmoreland county, Va., and identified the remains which have been in the care of the undertaker, Mr. Henry Lee since their arrival. The funeral will take place tomorrow morning from Mr. Lee’s and the interment will be made in Alexandria.