INTERESTING BURIALS IN BEVERLY CEMETERIES

Thomas F. Scully
**Abbot, Francis Ellingwood, 1836-1903**

Theologian

Born in Boston, November 6, 1836 he graduated from Boston Latin School and Harvard University. He received his theology degree from the Meadville Theological School. A radical Unitarian, he was dismissed from his first position at a church in Dover N.H. for being too liberal. The issue went all the way to the New Hampshire Supreme Court. He devoted the rest of his life to writing and teaching. He was married Aug. 8, 1859, to Katherine Fearing Loring of Concord, Mass. She died October 23, 1893 and was buried in Central Cemetery. On the tenth anniversary of his wife’s death, Abbot traveled to Beverly, placed flowers on her grave and took his own life by ingesting poison. He died October 22, 1903 in Beverly and is buried alongside his wife in Central Cemetery.

**Dane, Nathan, 1752-1835**

Lawyer, Congressman

Born in Ipswich, December 29, 1752. US Continental Congressman. He was admitted to the bar in 1778, opened a law practice in Beverly, Massachusetts and was a member of the State House of Representatives, 1782 to 1785. In 1785, he was elected a member of the Second Continental Congress, serving until 1788. He filed a bill to authorize a convention to revise the Articles of Confederation, which instead wrote the U. S. Constitution. He served in the State Senate in 1790, 1791 and 1794 to 1797. Elected to Congress, he co-authored the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 and amended it to bar slavery in the Northwest Territory. Dane County, Wisconsin was named in his honor. Served as a commissioner to codify the laws of Massachusetts in 1795 and also authored the first compendium of American laws. Dane Street in Beverly bears his name. He endowed the Dane Professorship at Harvard Law School. He died February 15, 1835 in Beverly and he and his wife Mary are buried in Central Cemetery.
Dresel, Ellis Loring, 1865-1925

Lawyer, American diplomat.

Born in Boston, Mass. November 28, 1865 the son of Otto Dresel and Anna Loring. His father was a composer and music teacher. Graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Law School. Traveling in Europe at the outbreak of World War I, he volunteered his services to the American Ambassador in Berlin, where his knowledge of German and French was particularly useful. Attaché to the American Embassy in Berlin during World War I from 1915 to 1917 and when America entered the war he represented the United States from the American Embassy in Switzerland. Among his responsibilities were looking after American tourists stranded in Europe by the war and looking after British prisoners of war. Following the war, he lead the political information section at the Paris Peace Conference and signed the Treaty of Versailles. From 1919 to 1921 he was American Commissioner to Germany and in 1921 his title was changed to Chargé d'affaires. He died September 9, 1925 and is buried with his parents and sister in Central Cemetery.

Dunham, Thomas Harrison, 1840-1925

Civil War General

Civil War Union Brevet Brigadier General. A salesman prior to the war, he enlisted June 3, 1861, as a Corporal in the 11th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. He rose through the ranks during his service, eventually being commissioned Colonel and commander of the unit in July 1865. On March 13, 1865, he was awarded the brevet rank of Brigadier General, US Volunteers. He mustered out July 14, 1865. During the war he was wounded twice: once at the Battle of Chancellorsville on May 3, 1863. and again at the Battle of the Wilderness in May, 1864. On March 29, 1864. President Andrew Johnson nominated Dunham for the award of the honorary grade of brevet Brigadier General, to rank from March 13, 1865, and the United States Senate confirmed the award on April 5, 1867. He is buried in the North Beverly Cemetery.
**Hill, Hugh, 1740-1829**

Sea captain

Born in Ireland, August 1, 1740. Revolutionary War naval hero / privateer. He was among the audacious privateers (private vessels commissioned by the Continental Congress to attack and capture British shipping) based in the North Shore communities of Massachusetts. Commanding both the *Pilgrim*, 16 guns, and *Cicero*, 16 guns, Capt. Hill routinely prowled English coastal waters taking numerous prizes. Later in life he was personally thanked by President George Washington for his contribution to the cause of American Independence. He rests with his wife Jane Gardner Brown Hill, 1772-1866. He died in Beverly February 17, 1829 and is buried in Central Cemetery.

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**Larcom, Lucy, 1824-1893**

Poet

Born in Beverly, May 15, 1824. Her father, Benjamin, was a sea captain who died when Lucy was 11 years old. Lucy's mother Lois, moved the family to Lowell, Mass., where Lucy got a job in the Lowell textile mills. Lucy and her sisters wrote for and co-edited the *Lowell Offering*, a literary magazine by and for the mill workers. At age 22, she moved to St. Louis with her sister, Emeline Larcom Spaulding, and her husband Rev. George Spaulding. Lucy took a teaching job in Illinois, and after graduating in 1852 from the Mounticello Female Seminary in Godfrey, Illinois, she returned to Massachusetts and took a position teaching English literature at Wheaton College, in Norton, Mass. She began publishing her poems, and was a protégé of John Greenleaf Whittier. She died in Boston, Mass., April 17, 1893 and is buried in Central Cemetery.
Peirce, Benjamin Osgood, Ph.D, 1854-1914

Mathematician

Born in Beverly, February 11, 1854 to Benjamin Osgood Perice and Mehitable Osgood Seccomb. He received his Ph.D. in Germany and returned to teach at Boston Latin School and then Harvard where he was appointed Hollis Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, Harvard University. He was now an important figure in applied mathematics in the United States and he soon received recognition for his achievements. He was elected to the Council of the American Mathematical Society, serving from 1896 to 1898. He was a founder of the American Physical Society when it began in 1899 and was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (United States) in 1906. He was honoured with election to foreign academies such as the Mathematical Circle of Palermo and the Physical Society of France. He died in Cambridge, Mass. January 14, 1914.

Quiner, Joanna, 1796-1868

Sculptor

Joanna Quiner was born in Beverly August 27, 1796 to Abraham Quiner, Jr. and Susannah Camell. She was known for her portrait bust sculptures and she exhibited at the Boston Atheneum from 1846 to 1848. She died in Beverly September 20, 1868 and is buried in Central Cemetery, Sub Division 11, Lot 478.
Rantoul, Robert, Jr., 1805-1852

Lawyer, legislator

Rantoul was born in Beverly August 5, 1805 to Robert Rantoul and Joanna Lovett. He opened a law practice in Salem but had to move after defending an unpopular defendant in a murder case. Throughout his life he championed social justice, abolition, education and the abolition of capital punishment. He served in the Massachusetts Legislature, on the Massachusetts Board of Education, and in the United States Congress. He established the first lyceum or public educational lecture series in Massachusetts. As a lawyer, he won the case of Commonwealth v. Hunt, or Journeyman Boot Maker's case before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court which won the right for workers to organize into labor unions. He was appointed to temporarily fill a vacant seat in the United States Senate before assuming his seat in the House of Representatives to which he was elected. Upon his death, from the Taunton Democrat "Mr. Rantoul stood in the front rank of the legal profession. As a forensic speaker, he had few equals, and scarcely a superior. . . . He was equally in his element, whether at the bar or in the forum,—before the people or in the halls of legislation. . . . His was one of the progressive minds of the age. To the cause of free education, he gave his earliest influence and support; to temperance, his voice and his example. Of the abolition of the death penalty, it may be said that he was its ablest advocate, and that he died, like John Quincy Adams, clothed in the armor of compromising hostility to what he deemed the encroachments of the institution of southern slavery. . . . His death is no common loss; to his family, a loss we cannot realize; to his constituents, which none can supply; and to his party and country, a deprivation like the deaths of Silas Wright and Levi Woodbury, tenfold more afflicting for the suddenness of its occurrence.” The town of Rantoul, Illinois bears his name. He died August 7, 1852 in Beverly, Mass. and is buried in Central Cemetery.
**Story, William Edward, Dr., 1850-1930**

Mathematician

Born in Boston, April 29, 1850. Story graduated from Harvard University and then received his PhD in mathematics from the University of Leipzig, Germany. He returned to Harvard to teach and do research in mathematics. Story then accepted a position at Johns Hopkins University and later a position at Clark University, in Worcester, Mass. He helped to establish the graduate program in mathematics at Clark, making it, along with Johns Hopkins and the University of Chicago, one of the three leading mathematics graduate programs in America and revising the teaching of mathematics in American universities. He died in Worcester April 10, 1930 and is buried in Central Cemetery.

**Thorndike, Rachel Sherman, 1851-1919**

Daughter of Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman

Rachel Ewing Sherman was born July 5, 1851 in Lancaster, Ohio to Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman. She married Dr. Paul Thorndike of Beverly while he was working in Washington, D.C.

*The funeral of Mrs. Rachel Sherman Thorndike, who died Sunday, took place yesterday evening in the chapel of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. After a high mass, which was sung by Rev. William B. Finigan, rector of the Cathedral, the cortege proceeded to Beverly where burial took place. Mrs. Thorndike was the daughter of the late Gen. Sherman and was married to Dr. Thorndike in Washington.* The Boston Daily Globe, October 29, 1919. She died in October 1919 in Boston and is buried in Central Cemetery.