

SARAH EATON



Born: Sep. 26, 1830 in Eastport, Wash. Co., ME

Died: Nov. 13, 1898 in Charleston, Sullivan Co., NH

Appointment(s):

National Freedmen's Relief Association (NFRA)
Beaufort, SC
May 1863

Hilton Head, SC
Jun. 1863

1830-1898

Sarah Ann Eaton was born September 26, 1830 in Eastport, Washington County, Maine to Daniel Eaton (1780 Curumallis, Nova Scotia – 1864), a merchant and Margaret Bulmer (1788 Amherst, Nova Scotia - 1865). She was listed in the 1850 and 1860 US Census in Perry, Washington County, Massachusetts. On June 8, 1854, Sarah married Rev. Thomas Dwight Howard (1826-1910).¹ In 1870, the couple resided in Petersham, New Hampshire.

Sarah was appointed by the National Freedmen's Relief Association as a teacher to the freedmen in South Carolina and arrived in Beaufort May 1863.² As of June 1863, she was teaching on Hilton Head Island under Brig. General Rufus Saxton, Military Governor of the Department of the South.³ She and her husband, Rev. Thomas Dwight Howard, both served the freedmen in South Carolina. She died on Sunday, November

¹ Hurd, Duane Hamilton. History of Worcester Co, Massachusetts with Biographical Sketches of many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men. Vol 1, p 475. J.W. Lewis & Company 1889, p 475.

<http://play.google.com/books/reader?id=ckg4AQAAMAAJ&hl=en&pg=GBS.PP11>
The Christian Register, Vol 77, No 48, Thurs, Dec 1, 1898. Boston, Mass: Christian Register Association, p 1364.. [Obituary] .. <https://www.newspapers.com>

² National Freedmen's Relief Association. "Teacher's Monthly Report" [TMR], Vol I, May 1863, p 2.

³ "List of Superintendents and Teachers Under Brig General Rufus Saxton, Military Governor of the Dept of the South, June 1863". <https://www.drbronsontours.com>

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13, 1898 in Charleston, Sullivan County, New Hampshire after being ill for four months due to paralysis from a stroke and is buried there in the Forest Hill Cemetery.⁴

Sarah's husband had been Pastor of the Unitarian Church of Charleston, New Hampshire for the past eighteen years. Rev. and Mrs. Howard were both delegates to the 12th National Conference of Unitarian and other Christian Churches which took place from September 20-24, 1886 at Saratoga, New York (Bellows).⁵ The only other delegate from New Hampshire to this conference was another teacher to the freedmen in South Carolina, Mrs. David A. [Frances] Gage.

Sarah Eaton Howard. Passed away in the twilight of Sunday, November 13, after an illness of four months from paralysis, Sarah Eaton, beloved wife of Rev. T. D. Howard, for the past eighteen years the faithful and revered Pastor of the Unitarian church, Charlestown, N. H. Hand in hand these two have walked and labored together during this long period, sharing the duties of the pastorate and those of the truest citizenship, their helpful and elevating influence manifest in every direction of the public interest, —not alone in their own society, but among all classes and conditions where opportunity or conception of duty has pointed the way. No finer tribute can be offered to her memory than the words spoken by one of the officiating clergymen, that the concourse of people gathered at the church, representing every society and nearly every family in town, met in expression of common sorrow and sympathy, —sorrow at the loss of a familiar friend, endeared by long association, and sympathy with him who has walked so long and faithfully among them.

Source: *The Christian Register*, Vol 77, No 48, Thurs, Dec 1, 1898. Boston: Mass. Christian Register Association, p 1384.

⁴ Findagrave.com Sarah Ann Eaton Howard. Memorial # 138544116, created Nov 9 2014 by Jen Snoot.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/138544116>.

- American Unitarian Association. *The Unitarian Register*, Vol 77, Dec 1898, p1364 [Obituary]. <https://www.newspapers.com>.

⁵ Bellows, Russell N., Rev., ed. *Official Report of the Proceedings of the 12th Meeting of the National Conference of Unitarian and Other Christian Churches at Saratoga, NY, Sept 20-24, 1886*. Vol 12-13. NY: A. Mudge & Sons, 1886. available online at www.googlebooks.com.