

HAZARD COMPANY CORRESPONDENCE

(Mss. 789, 845, 942, 1194, 1232, 1261, 1352,
1371, 1830, 1399, 1404, 1417)

Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

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SUMMARY

Size.	88 items
Geographic locations.	Peace Dale, Rhode Island; Louisiana; Mississippi
Inclusive dates.	1839-1855
Bulk dates.	N/A
Language.	English
Summary.	Correspondence between a Rhode Island cotton goods manufacturing company with various plantation owners in Mississippi and Louisiana discussing orders and current events.
Organization.	Arranged chronologically
Restrictions on access.	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
Related collections.	N/A
Copyright.	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Citation.	Hazard Company Correspondence, Mss. 789, 845, 942, 1194, 1232, 1261, 1352, 1371, 1380, 1399, 1404, 1417, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack location(s).	E:57

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

The Hazard Company of Peace Dale, Rhode Island, manufactured cotton and woolen clothing, shoes, and textiles. The company had agents operating in New Orleans, Louisiana. Its directors included R. G. Hazard and Joseph P. Hazard. The Company's customers were primarily from Feliciana, Red River, and Bayou Lafourche areas in Louisiana, and Natchez, Vicksburg, and the Delta area of Mississippi.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Correspondence of the Hazard Company illustrates the huge demand for clothing and textiles among plantation owners of Louisiana and Mississippi and reflects the clothing and dress worn by slaves on plantations. Letters document the firm's methods of evaluating customers' credit, of making collections, and of responding to complaints. It reflects the disrupted economic conditions following the panic of 1837 and discusses issues of Louisiana and local interest, including steamboat disasters, a cholera epidemic, and the Mexican War.

LETTER DESCRIPTIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1836, July 8	Reynolds Byrne and Co., New Orleans, to R. G. Hazard, order for slave clothes giving names of slaves and age, height, sex, and size of foot for each on Providence Plantation.
1841, May 11	Jesse Plains, Houma, Louisiana, order for yard goods and for slave clothes, shoes, and hats.
1841, Nov. 30	Joseph P. to Isaac P. Hazard, from New Orleans, report on business conditions in New Orleans exceedingly dull; epidemic subsided, deaths estimated from 800 to 5,000, many not reported, private hospital asked city to take away its dead, crises will arise.
1841, Dec. 13	Joseph P. to Isaac P. Hazard, from New Orleans, "bagging will not answer for this market, business dull," references to complaints about orders, promise of 5 or 6 orders from planters, "great crisis must arise before long."
1841, Dec. 13	R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, monetary affairs of the city in confusion, "today being holy day" could do little business; considerable concerning unsettled currency credit and collection of debts.
1841, Dec. 29	R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, credit report.
1842, Jan. 1	R. W. Walker, Port Hudson, to R. G. Hazard expressing his views on abolitionists.
1842, Jan. 15	R. G. Hazard, credit, exchange getting easier; orders.
1842, Jan. 20	R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, credit report.
1842, Feb. 8	Joseph P. Hazard, New Orleans, orders from Princeton, Port Gibson, Rodney, Natchez; and Village P. O., Millikin's Bend, Louisiana; competition with Kentucky manufacturers, who are offering lower prices to secure our customers – citing some.
1842, Feb. 15	R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, business reports exceedingly gloomy; banks all in collusion and selling at a 10 to 15 percent discount.
1842, Feb. 24	R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, credit report.
1842, Mar. 4	R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, credit rating or report.
1842, Mar. 6	R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, merchants cannot advance money for a single day

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consequently payments heretofore made by them on the receipt of cotton or the certain expectations of it are delayed until sales and collections are effected.

- 1842, Mar. 7 R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, credit report.
- 1842, Mar. 19 R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, credit report
- 1842, Mar. 21 Joseph P. Hazard, New Orleans, orders from trip to Red River and Texas, everything here is in a state of embarrassment, the whole south exists upon sufferance; aside from big towns no ready money in the hands of planters on Mississippi River and tributaries to the mouth of the Ohio.
- 1842, Apr. 13 R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, collections on Red River, select our orders, send very few goods to Alabama, war hardly possible, safest to reduce business considerably.
- 1842, May 1 R. G. Hazard, Mobile, collections and credit report.
- 1842, June 20 Joshua James. Linnwood, Jefferson County, Mississippi, omit sending cotton bagging, Mr. Joseph Dunbar confirms report that bagging "does not answer a good purpose." Orders boots for his own use and woolen caps for his slaves.
- 1842, June 22 E. B. Baker, Natchez, either merchant or agent for company concerning orders and giving order for shoes.
- 1842, June 28 E. H. Flint, Alexandria, General Thomas has been so unfortunate to have his cotton gin burned, gin insured but cotton not, other remarks about order.
- 1842, July 24 Reuben Carnell, in relation to order for brogs.
- 1842, Sept. 16 Sanderson Robert, New Orleans, listing orders and concerning collections.
- 1842, Dec. 19 R. G. Hazard, New Orleans, orders.
- 1842, Dec. 29 Joseph P. Hazard, regarding orders.
- 1843, Jan. 4 Joseph P. Hazard, New Orleans, regarding orders.
- 1843, Jan. 23 Joseph P. Hazard, New Orleans, orders.
- 1843, Jan. 27 R. G. Hazard, orders
- 1843, Feb. 2 R. G. Hazard, regarding orders.
- 1843, Feb. 14 R. G. Hazard, regarding collections

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1843, Feb. 17	R. G. Hazard, collections
1843, Feb. 24	H. R. Green, Jr., payment of draft for five percent discount; regarding spring orders.
1843, Mar. 1	R. G. Hazard, collections.
1843, Mar. 9	Joseph P. Hazard, regarding orders on Red River, "goods must come down, is it worth pursuing for small profits."
1843, Mar. 20	R. G. Hazard, orders.
1843, Mar. 20	R. G. Hazard, orders
1843, Mar. 24	Joseph P. Hazard, orders, and comments on bankruptcy in the Northeast. Put stock in safe securities, market overstocked.
1843, Apr. 13	I. Barker Marchac, order for shoes and woolen clothes.
1843, May 22	H. R. Green, Jr., New Orleans, regarding accounts with planters
1843, June 6	Sanderson Robert, New Orleans, orders and collections
1843, Oct. 26	Horace Bean & Co., payment of draft and regarding collections.
1843, Dec. 9	Henry R. Green, Jr., payment of draft and regarding collections.
1844, Jan. 30	R. G. Hazard and Janvier Green & Co., regarding order.
1844, Feb. 5	R. G. Hazard to Isaac P. Hazard, collections.
1844, Apr. 4	R. G. Hazard, collections.
1844, Apr. 22	R. G. Hazard, collections.
1844, May 22	Janvier Green & Co., New Orleans, order for cloth from R. R. Barrow, Myrtle Grove, Terrebonne Parish; Oak Grove, Lafourche Parish.
1844, June 11	Janvier Green & Co., New Orleans, request for additional yard goods and shoes.
1844, Aug. 14	Janvier Green & Co., New Orleans agent, order of cloth, competition with jobbers, business set-up, northern emigrant.

HAZARD COMPANY CORRESPONDENCE
1839-1855

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- 1844, Nov. 28 Janvier Green & Co., sales
- 1845, Jan. 5 Joseph P. Hazard, credit and collections slow.
- 1845, Mar. 14 Janvier Green & Co., collections slow.
- 1845, May 16 L. and R. Grant, agent, New Orleans, collections slow.
- 1846, June 9 Hazard & Green, Co., to Rowland G. Hazard, business dull, war movement coupled with a great scarcity of vessels and the consequent high rates of freight—however, war movements in this quarter are nearly over and vessels are relieving warehouses of the vast quantity of produce that has been locked up in them.
- 1847, Jan. 26 Joseph Peace Hazard, New Orleans, business possibilities in New Orleans, market expectations, collection of debts, explosion of the steamer *Phoenix*, local sentiment against Mexican War, sufferings of troops below New Orleans.
- 1849, Nov. 17 H. R. Green, Jr., New Orleans, accounts with planters in the Feliciana, Red River, and Bayou Lafourche areas; firsthand account of the deaths and property damage caused by the explosion of the steamer *Louisiana*.

INDEX TERMS

African Americans--Clothing.
Clothing factories--Rhode Island.
Diseases--Louisiana.
Hazard Company.
Hazard, Joseph P.
Hazard, Rowland Gibson, 1801-1888.
Letters (correspondence)
Mexican War, 1846-1848.
New Orleans (La.)--Economic conditions--19th century.
Rhode Island--Commerce--Louisiana.
Shipping--Louisiana.
Slaves--Clothing.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
E:57	1	1	Hazard Co. Correspondence (1839-1841)
		2	Hazard Co. Correspondence (1842)
		3	Hazard Co. Correspondence (1843)
		4	Hazard Co. Correspondence (1844-1855)