

## Alfred James Hale

### 1911 England, Wales & Scotland Census

2 Broadlands Terrace, Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire, England

Name	Relationship	Status	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
William Francis Hale	Head	Married	58	Police pensioner	Penton, Hampshire
Margaret Jane Hale	Daughter	Single	30		East Cowes, IOW
Charles William Anstee Hale	Son	Single	24	Solicitor's clerk	Yarmouth, IOW
<i>Alfred James Hale</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>Painter Paperhanger Selborne, Hampshire</i>	

### Isle of Wight County Press

3 July 1915

#### NEWPORT-CANADIAN ACCIDENTALLY KILLED.

News reached the Island this week that James Hale, youngest son of the late Supt. J. H. Hale [sic], of the I.W. Constabulary, who emigrated to Canada some years ago, and joined the Canadian Military Forces after the outbreak of war, had been killed in a railway accident in Canada. Mr. Hale was well known in Newport. He was a painter by trade, and was for some years employed at Messrs. J. E. Snellgrove and Son.

### Isle of Wight County Press

24 July 1915

#### TRAGIC DEATH OF A NEWPORTONIAN SERVING IN THE CANADIAN FORCES.

##### Accident Fall From a Train

Mr. T. G. Hale, of Cowes, has received further particulars of the tragic death of his brother, Pioneer A. J. Hale, 48th Highlanders, youngest son of ex-Police-Supt. J. Hale, of Newport. The deceased, who was 26, went to Canada in May, 1913, and joined the Canadian Highlanders in September. He was for some time stationed at Stanley Barracks, Trinidad, and afterwards went to Kapuskasing prisoners internment camp, Ontario. Several interesting letters from him have appeared in the *County Press*. The officer commanding the regiment (Lieut.-Col. Duncan Donald) had written to Mr. T. G. Hale as follows: "I regret to have to inform you of the death of your brother, Pte. A. J. Hale, of my regiment. Pte. Hale was doing duty, as you are aware, at the detention camp at Kapuskasing, and on 28th June was returning from leave of absence, when it appears that he fell off the rear end of the train between Cochrane and Kapuskasing. A comrade, Pte. Crook (who belongs to East Cowes), also of my regiment, was with him, and stated in evidence at the Board of Inquiry that on turning round he saw Pte. Hale disappearing over the back of the car. He made an attempt to save him, but was unsuccessful in retaining hold of him. The train was stopped as soon as possible and backed up to the scene of the accident, and as your brother was then still alive he was taken aboard and the train was rushed through to the camp with all speed. There was a hospital orderly on the train, and he rendered first-aid. The train left Cochrane on the 29th of June at 9 o'clock, and the accident happened at about 11.45. Camp was reached, and your brother was taken into the hospital at 5.20 p.m. He was still alive, and the doctor found that he was suffering from

contusions of the face, fracture of the skull just above the orbital ridge front bone on the right side, with symptoms of concussion, also from dislocation of the right wrist. The doctor prepared to perform an operation for decompression at the first favourable opportunity, but the patient suddenly expired at 9.15 p.m., apparently from failure of the respiratory centre, without regaining consciousness. The finding of the Board was that your brother's death was purely accidental. My own officers, who were naturally interested in the matter, made inquiries from those on the train, and they are thoroughly convinced that his death was a pure accident and that your brother was not in any way under the influence of any stimulant. They also stated that he was one of the best men of the detachment."

In a subsequent letter Lieut.-Col. Donald forwards the copy of the report of Lieut. W. Mempes, commanding the detachment at Kapuskasing, stating that arrangements were made for the removal of the body, which was placed in a box, lined with tar and packed with ice. The following morning the entire detachment paraded at the hospital and accompanied the remains to the station, where the case, which was covered with the Union Jack, was placed on the train. Lieut.-Col. Clarke, Lieut. Garrett, Sergt. Baker, and several privates who were on leave accompanied the remains to Cochrane, where instructions were received for the burial there instead of at Toronto. The remains were placed in a casket, and on July 1st a funeral service was held at the English church, of which the deceased was a member. Lieut.-Col. Clarke, Lieut. Garrett, Sergt. Baker, and several privates acted as pall-bearers, and many of the townspeople attended the funeral. No arrangements had yet been made for a headstone, because the members of the detachment were anxious to raise a subscription to purchase one. We understand that the deceased volunteered for the Front, but was rejected three times on account of heart weakness, to which may be attributed his fall from the train.

In the last letter received by relatives in the Island,, dated June 19th, Pte. Hale referred to a big bush fire. All the prisoners and troops were called out to fight the flames with fire buckets. After working all one day and part of the night they managed to drive away the fire from the camp, and only lost the stables. A train stood by all day in readiness to move away the troops and prisoners if necessary. Further down the track a small settlement of 22 families were burnt out and lost everything. He mentioned that he was attached to the pioneer staff, having a gang to himself and being responsible for various jobs about the camp. The deceased was cheerfully looking forward to accompanying Crook on a fortnight's furlough and meeting his fiancée. He jocularly added that one could get married out there cheaper and with less trouble than making out a dog license, a marriage license costing 5s. and a dog license 25s.

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