

AUTO ACCIDENT CLAIMS ONE LIFE

10-22-1912

**Mrs. Sam Graham is Killed in
Unfortunate Wreck at
Montezuma.**

WIFE OF PROMINENT RETIRED MERCHANT

**Mr. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. James
Anderson and Son, Harlan,
Are Injured.**

Mrs. Samuel Graham sustained fatal injuries and her husband, a wellknown retired merchant of Montezuma, James Anderson, a prominent clothing merchant at the county seat, his wife and their son, Harlan, were injured as a result of a most unfortunate automobile accident on the outskirts of Montezuma last Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. Graham were on their way to a dinner party at the John Bradley home a mile southeast of Montezuma. They were riding in Mr. Anderson's new Flanders car and Harlan Anderson was driving them. They were late, it was 7 o'clock, and were driving at a fair rate of speed over a fine road when suddenly the lights which were supplied from a Prestolite tank, went out. They were only a quarter of a mile from their destination and were trying to finish the trip without their lights, but almost immediately, within a few rods, they met a buggy, in which were Miss Mary Fulton and Miss Strong, the latter driving. Miss Strong in the hurry turned her team to the wrong side of the road, saw her error, tried to repair it and swung the buggy right in front of the automobile, which had swerved. One wheel of the buggy caught the fender of the automobile and threw it broadside across the road. It skidded about twenty feet. Whether or not it turned over is a disputed point, as none of those who passed through the accident can say, but at any rate all the members of the party were thrown out. Harlan Anderson, in spite of serious injuries, picked himself up and ran the rest of the way to

the Bradley home to bring help. The guests there assembled at once got into their automobiles and the injured were given immediate care.

Mrs. Graham, whose health at best was frail, was found to have received serious injuries to the chest and back and lived for only an hour and a half after the accident. She was conscious practically all the time. Mr. Graham was unconscious when picked up but soon recovered and is not seriously injured. Harlan Anderson sustained a broken rib and collar bone and the ligaments in one shoulder were torn. Mrs. Anderson was very badly cut and bruised about the face. Mr. Anderson received cuts on his face and an injury to one leg.

The girls in the buggy were not hurt. Miss Strong was either thrown or jumped out, but Miss Fulton remained in the buggy all the time. One wheel of the buggy was smashed.

The auto was not seriously damaged. It is estimated that \$75 will account for all repairs. One wheel was crushed and the other was turned in under the car. The other two wheels were in such good shape that the car was run into town on them.

The funeral of Mrs. Graham was held from her residence at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The accident has thrown a pall of sorrow over Montezuma for all parties concerned are prominent in the life of the town. Mr. Graham for many years was in active business there, his store being next door to that of Mr. Anderson and a deep and abiding friendship had sprung up between the two families, who lived just across the street from each other. This circumstance adds to the sadness of the accident.

All those who were injured are doing nicely. Harlan Anderson was the most seriously hurt and his injuries do not seem likely to cause any trouble.