
CHAS. GRIER LOSES LIFE IN ACCIDENT

12-30-1910
Prominent Farmer Living Near
Deep River Is Crushed
Under Automobile.

MRS. GRIER ESCAPES WITH A BROKEN WRIST

Belonged To Prominent Family.
Brother of Former Repre-
sentative Geo. Grier.

Charles Grier, a prominent and highly respected farmer living three miles north of Deep River, was killed in an automobile accident on Wednesday afternoon. His wife and little boy were in the automobile with him. Mrs. Grier received a broken right wrist but the boy was thrown clear of the wreck and escaped practically unhurt.

Just how the accident occurred is uncertain. The car was descending a little hill near the old home Grier place when in some manner it was overturned. Mr. Grier and his wife were both caught under the machine. Mr. Grier receiving injuries which caused his death almost immediately.

The funeral was held this morning at 11 o'clock from the residence.

Mr. Grier was a brother of Hon. George Grier, formerly state representative from Poweshiek county. The family is one of the oldest and best known in the county. He was highly esteemed and his death is a great shock to the entire community in which he lived.

CHARLES GRIER.

One of the most attractive as well as most valuable farms in the eastern part of Poweshiek county is the homestead of the late Charles Grier, who was regarded as one of the most substantial agriculturists of Lincoln township. Mr. Grier, who was killed by an auto accident near his residence on the 28th of December, 1910, was born in Lincoln township on the 19th of May, 1869, being a son of Benton and Mary Jane (Sanders) Grier. In the paternal line he is of Irish extraction, his great-great-grandfather having emigrated to the United States from the Emerald isle, locating in Pennsylvania. The great-grandfather removed to Ohio, where the grandfather, Thomas Grier, was born on the 20th of November, 1810, in Belmont county. At the age of twenty-two years he was married to Miss Charity Benton, their union being solemnized on the 6th of December, 1832. The first thirty-two years of their domestic life were spent in the Buckeye state, but at the expiration of that time, however, they removed to Iowa, settling in Poweshiek county, where the father, who became an extensive landowner, passed away on the 15th of December, 1866. Thomas Grier willed to each of his sons, except Benton, one hundred and sixty acres of land, and to his daughters eighty. Benton Grier, who spent the first twenty-three years of his life under the paternal roof, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, on the 14th of July, 1842, but was reared and educated in Coshocton county. For one year after locating in Iowa he assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm, but in 1865 he purchased eighty acres of land on section 33, Lincoln township, from his brother Reuben, which is now the homestead of his son Mark. Benton Grier married Miss Mary Jane Sanders, a native of Morgan county, Ohio, and they became the parents of seven children. They attended the United Presbyterian church, of which they were members.

The entire life of Charles Grier was spent in the township where he was born and in the district schools of which he acquired his education. After laying aside his text-books he assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm until 1895, at which time he purchased a farm of three hundred and forty acres on section 33, Lincoln township, where his widow and children continue to

reside. This is one of the most valuable properties in the county, having been well improved and brought to a high state of cultivation by Mr. Grier. The residence, which is a large comfortable house equipped with all modern conveniences, is situated upon a hill which commands a fine view of all of the surrounding country. The barns and outbuildings are substantially constructed and thoroughly repaired; the grounds, orchard and groves are well cared for; and the place is stocked with a fine grade of cattle and horses, all of which are in excellent condition. Mr. Grier took much pride in his place and being a progressive agriculturist was always ready to adopt every new theory which to him appeared to be practical in the operation of his land.

Mr. Grier was married on the 6th of March, 1895, to Miss Eliza J. Johnston, a daughter of Joseph C. and Margaret O. (Johnston) Johnston. Her parents, who were natives of Ireland, emigrated to the United States and located in Poweshiek county in pioneer days. The father, who was a farmer, was engaged in agricultural pursuits until he retired to Deep River, where he passed away. Five children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Grier, in order of birth as follows: Martha L., who is attending the high school at Deep River; Joseph Benton; Harlan, who died in infancy; Margaret O.; and Florence. The children are all in school with the exception of the youngest daughter, who is not yet old enough.

A republican, Mr. Grier gave his support to the men and measures of that party and served as a trustee and school director in his township. Both he and his wife held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Deep River, where the family still worship. His demise was a great blow not only to his family but the entire community in which he resided and where he was highly regarded. Mr. Grier was a man of excellent business judgment, good principles and with a rare sense of civic responsibilities which qualities would have made him an acquisition to any community.