

June 3, 1904

# TERRIBLE ACCIDENT

## AUGUST MARQUADT FATALLY HURT IN RUNAWAY

Last Saturday afternoon, August Marquardt, a boy of fourteen years, living about five miles west of Groton, while driving a four-horse team on a disc cultivator, had a runaway in which his skull was cut and the brain penetrated by one of the sharp discs. The accident caused a wound from the base of the nose to the top of the head, showing that he had been thrown forward with great force, although no one saw just how it happened owing to the cloud of dust caused by the running horses. Death resulted about eleven o'clock Saturday night.

The team was frightened by the passing on the road of one of Fulleton & Eddins' automobiles, in which Mr. Fulleton was taking a traveling man to Aberdeen.

According to the report of Mr. Fulleton and Mr. Sports, the traveling man, the auto was slowed down until the boy reached the end of his bout by the roadside, had turned around and started back. When the automobile again speeded up, the horses were evidently frightened by the exhaust. Mr. Fulleton was giving his entire attention to his machine, but his companion noticed that there was trouble in the field, and the travelers stopped immediately. The boy was picked up and brought back to town with all possible haste by Mr. Fulleton, accompanied by Herman Gorth, who had been at work in an adjoining field. The injured boy was brought to Dr. Jones' office, and Drs. Geib, Renner and Olson were called in to help care for him. Dr. Murdy was telephoned for, and came quickly by automobile from Aberdeen. The little fellow recovered partial consciousness, but his injuries were beyond the remedy of surgical skill, tho not such as to cause great suffering. After the wounds were dressed by the surgeons the boy was taken to the home of Henry Weiltraugh, where he passed away.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday afternoon at James, and the body was laid to rest in Groton Union cemetery.

A warrant was sworn out for Mr. Fulleton, and he was placed under arrest, pending the result of the inquest by inquest. A coroner's jury was empaneled, consisting of R. A. Mather, A. W. Krueger and J. C. Kindschy and evidence was taken before Wm. Ashley, police justice. The jury found that the boy came to his death from the effects of an accident, but found no evidence of criminal carelessness.

The boy was a son of Carl Marquardt, one of our early settlers, and a grandson of August Wagener, former county commissioner. He seems to have been one of those manly boys who establish a powerful place for themselves in the affections of the home circle. This is one of the saddest events we have had to chronicle for a long time, and the keenest sorrow is felt for all concerned.

The fact that the boy had turned the team and was moving away before the horses took fright would indicate that due caution was exercised, but the tragedy emphasizes the necessity for care at all times in the handling of automobiles where there are horses.

Nothing that can be said or done can undo the effects of the great calamity which has befallen the Marquardt home.