

# Thomas R. Shelton

Occupant Name: Thomas R. Shelton

Location: Section N, Lot 12

Date of Birth: 1907

Date of Death: 1919

Date of Burial: 1919

Veteran: No

Lot Owner: E. Shelton

Multiple Occupants: No

Comment:



## SMALL BOY SHOT BY PLAYMATE

Twelve Year Old Son of Edward Shelton Killed Instantly—Shotgun is Accidentally Discharged.

THROAT BADLY LACERATED

Boys Believed to Have Been Scuffling Over Gun When Sad Accident Occurred.

Thomas Shelton, aged 12 years son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shelton, who reside two miles west of Brownstown on the Brownstown Valleria road, was instantly killed Wednesday afternoon about 4 o'clock when a shotgun was accidentally discharged by Marcus Eglen age 14, a playmate, the shot taking effect in the lad's throat. The right side of the boy's throat where the shot entered was badly lacerated.

The only witnesses to the accident were children and just how the sad accident happened is not definitely known. The Shelton and Eglen boy with two other small children were playing on a back porch at the home where Mr. Shelton kept his shotgun hanging on a rafter. During the absence of older persons about the house, the boys evidently climbed up and took the firearm from where it was hanging. The gun was not loaded according to Mr. Shelton, when he last had occasion to examine it, but some shells were kept on a rafter close by the gun and it is believed that the boys took one and loaded it.

The mother of the unfortunate lad saw him only a few minutes before the fatal accident occurred. She had left the children playing on the porch while she went out to shut up some poultry for the night. She was returning to the house when she heard the report of the gun and rushed to the porch to find the boy laying unconscious on the floor in a pool of blood. The other children were badly frightened and were unable to tell just how the accident happened other than that the Eglen boy had the gun when it was discharged.

It is the opinion of the boy's parents that the two boys had been scuffling over the gun when the accident happened. The Eglen lad who discharged the gun is heartbroken over the sad affair as the two lads had been playmates for a long time. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Eglen, of Brownstown, and had been visiting at the Shelton home.

Besides the bereaved parents, one sister and one brother survive. The funeral arrangements have not as yet been completed but will likely be held Friday afternoon.