

Maplelawn: Accident upsets wedding guests

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Photos submitted

These two well preserved portraits were found in an ornate old photograph album in the Moore-Brunes collection at the P.H. Sullivan Museum. The gentleman is Alfred Elroy Scott and the lady is his wife, Elmira Elizabeth Moore Scott. Scott was the owner of Maplelawn from 1890 until his death in 1942. Elmira died in 1926, and the next year Elroy married Mary Jones Slagle.

Small to town, when at the high grade near the home of Bud Furr, it met a machine driven by Tracy Morrow, of Carmel, which had come in with a load and was returning for other guests, and in passing the machine driven by Scott caught with a front wheel the hind wheel of the other machine.

"In the mix-up that followed, the Scott machine was injured in a manner that disabled the steering gear and it crossed the roadway and rolled down the embankment on the east side, turning once and a half times over. That the occupants escaped without serious injury was almost miraculous, as the machine was badly damaged, the entire top being torn off, the front axle bent and the lights torn from their places.

"As soon as possible, the occupants of the overturned machine were rescued from their

unpleasant position and inventory taken that showed that no one was seriously injured but somewhat frightened, and the Morrow machine was able to proceed on its way.

"A wire fence at the bottom of the grade prevented the machine from going still farther and the result would probably have been more serious.

"The Scott machine was left in the ditch until the next day, when it was with difficulty pulled out and brought to town for repairs. The other car had the rim of the hind wheel partly pulled off, but otherwise escaped damage.

"No one seems to know just how the accident occurred, as it was done and over with before the occupants hardly knew what had occurred."

It is interesting to note that "Lissie" Small, one of the passengers in the Scott vehicle, was

Celestia Small, known as "Lessie" by her friends and family. The young lady, who lived on a farm near Carmel, would become the bride of Merle Scott two years after his sister's marriage.

Next week we will continue to explore the history of the Scott family of Maplelawn farm.

Editors note: Joan Lyons is a member of the Zionsville Historical Society's committee to preserve the Maplelawn Farmstead.

Correction

Part II of the series should have read that, since title to the property passed to A.E. Scott in 1900, the event occurred 14 years after his marriage to Elmira Moore. Thus, all three of their children were born before they moved to Maplelawn.

The *Times Sentinel* regrets the errors.