

## SUICIDE AFTER AUTO CRASH.

Wife of Mr. Stansbery, in Whose Machine a Woman Died, Takes Poison.

*Special to The New York Times*

PLAINFIELD, Oct. 5.—Mrs. William Stansbery, whose husband is the President of the Watchung Silk Manufacturing Company of this city and a nephew of the late Ambassador to Germany, Thomas Runyon, committed suicide to-day in her home in this city by swallowing carbolic acid. She was alone in her room at the time, her husband having left the house a few minutes earlier in his automobile.

Her screams, after she had taken the poison brought the two maidservants to her side. Both guessed quickly what had happened and showed remarkable presence of mind. While one administered an emetic the other rang up County Physician F. W. Westcott on the telephone. Dr. Westcott, aided by two other physicians, spent several hours trying to save the woman's life. But she died at 6 o'clock this evening, having been unconscious most of the time. Mr. Stansbery was reached soon after she swallowed the poison and was called back to his dying wife's side.

Mrs. Stansbery's act is attributed to the notoriety which fell to her husband after an automobile accident in which he figured a little more than two months ago. The accident occurred at Dunellen in the dark of night on July 23 while Stansbery was riding with Mrs. William A. Westphal, wife of Freeholder Westphal, in his automobile.

A collision took place between their machine and a runabout in which Oscar Harrison was driving to his home in Dunellen. The couple in the automobile were thrown out of their vehicle. Stansbery escaped with a few bruises. Mrs. Westphal was taken to Muhlenberg Hospital, where she died two days later.

At that time it was said that Westphal did not hold Stansbery to blame for the death of his wife. Harris brought a suit for damages, and Marshal Mohan of Dunellen brought charges against Stansbery for reckless driving. The case was also taken up for investigation by the Grand Jury of Middlesex County. A few days ago Harris got a verdict against Stansbery. The Grand Jury was expected to act within a few days more.

Mrs. Stansbery had not been quite herself since the accident. From being a very bright and vivacious woman, fond of company, she retired from social life and became morose and despondent. She was 40 years old. Her father was the late Samuel Field, a wealthy merchant of this city.

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