

1889

The Chipman Golden Wedding.

On Thursday, Feb. 28, one of those social events which, like angels' visits, come so rarely that their importance is indisputable, brought together a goodly company of relatives and friends, glad to do honor to the occasion by bringing good gifts and hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Chipman, who amid the jars and heart burns. (I am married myself) of fifty years, have kept the altar fires of home brightly blazing, and the kettle of content bubbling over with jollity and good cheer.

Mr. and Mrs. Chipman are both eastern people originally, she having been raised in Vermont, while he is a native of Franklin Co. N. Y. They were married at Ypsilanti in 1839, and soon after came to Owosso, where they have lived for more than 45 years. They have never been separated from each other a week at a time in the whole fifty years of their married life. This fact speaks volumes for their congeniality, and will be interesting to all who know them.

There were between 80 and 90 guests present, mostly old neighbors, whose reminiscences of "ye olden time" were very amusing to the later generations. Refreshments were served in the family dining room about 10 o'clock, a collation delicious in quality, abundant in quantity and eaten appreciatively.

After supper came the golden marriage ceremony, performed by the Rev. Mr. Sharts. The blushing bride clinging coyly to the arm of the smiling groom, Mr. and Mrs. Whitlock, the same couple who fifty years ago, had acted in a similar capacity for them, stood by their side, while Mr. Sharts in his own felicitous way, made a formal presentation in gifts and congratulations, and pronounced them husband and wife. In the confusion of the congratulatory kissing that followed, the groom accidentally kissed the groomsman, but no one seemed offended.

After this and until the leave taking, every one felt so merry that they even wanted the violin strung up, Mr. Chipman being an old time fiddler; and dance, but Mr. Chipman's nerves were a trifle unstrung, so the idea was abandoned.

The beautiful anniversary presents were displayed in the back parlor and must be enumerated, since this is an important event:

A Silver Tea Service in five pieces, gold lined, from a club of 22 persons; a club of eight presented a gold headed cane and a purse containing several pieces of gold coin. The individual gifts were well chosen and very fine. A coin silver meat fork brought from St. Johns, perfectly matched a berry spoon purchased here. There were a gold bladed butter knife, a gold bowled sugar spoon; pair gold plated napkin rings; pair gold lined napkin rings; a pair china vases; three gold thimbles; ladies' gold face pin; sleeve buttons and collar button, and a large upholstered easy chair. The chair and cane Mr. Chipman claims for his own. 'Tis still undecided to which side of the house the pieces of coin may fall, but joking on the subject is in order for the conventional ten days while they are on exhibition.

Orange

The guests from abroad were: Mr. and Mrs. Whitlock, of St. Johns, Mr. and Mrs. Sackett, and Mrs. Spence, of Adrian, Mrs. Thomas and daughter of Chesaning, and Mrs. Winnie Walker, nee Chipman, of Odessa. Mrs. Walker's babe Florence, represented the fourth generation of the family. H. L. Chipman and wife of Bad Axe, were unable to attend, to the general regret of all. Mrs. Albert Chipman was detained at home by illness; other members of the family were all present.

With the good nights, came the wish that this worthy couple may live to celebrate their Diamond wedding and that we may be there to enjoy.

M.

Owosso, Mi.

60

Death of Mrs. I. M. Chipman.

Year by year the number grows sadly less of those pioneer women to whom Owosso owes much for the impress of sterling characteristics in its early days which are felt to the present time. Another has now gone to her rest—Mrs. Miner Chipman, whose death occurred at her residence, corner of Ball and Mason streets, last Friday morning, March 15th. She was 76 years of age, and over fifty of those years were passed in Owosso, through all whose stages of development, in social life and the various ways in which woman's work and influence count in the upbuilding of society, in kindly acts and cheer to the suffering and needy, she was always a ready helper. She was an early member of the Congregational church of this city, and one of its active workers.

Mrs. Chipman was born in Vergennes, Vt. Her maiden name was Pamela Ann Whitlock. She came with her family in 1833 to Washtenaw county, this state, and one year later she was married in Ypsilanti to I. M. Chipman. The following year the couple made their home in Owosso, where they have ever since been identified with its growth and prosperity. Mrs. Chipman leaves her husband, who is in infirm health and who will sorely miss her devoted ministrations; also three sons—Hiram L., of Bad Axe; Albert, of this city; and Charles, of Detroit. Mrs. Luther Comstock, of this city, is a sister.

Funeral services were held by Rev. W. B. Matteson, at the family residence Monday afternoon, attended by a large assemblage of friends and representative citizens, notably old residents, whose sorrowful faces indicated that their minds were filled with tender reminiscences of old times. The sons and their wives were all present; also two nephews from St. Johns, Messrs. Whitlock.

Death of a Former Resident of Owosso.

Mr. Samuel Whitlock, formerly a resident of Owosso, and brother of Mrs. I. M. Chipman, Mrs. L. Comstock, and Mrs. S. Thomas, died at his home in Collinsville, Mo., Nov. 17, aged 52 years. His disease was typhoid pneumonia, and he was ill only ten days. Mr. Whitlock came into Owosso in 1842 and lived on the Byerly farm on the Corunna road, the old Whitlock homestead, which he purchased on the death of his father. He subsequently removed to Missouri, where he was living in the enjoyment of a competency of this world's goods when he was suddenly stricken by death. He was a genial friend and good Christian; had been for many years a deacon of the Baptist church in Collinsville. He had a large circle of warm friends in Owosso and vicinity by whom his death is deeply lamented.

61