

usual vocations, and hold with you a family re-union, and tender you our heartfelt congratulations on being permitted to complete together the long period of half a century of married life, and now to preside over so large a gathering of children and grand children. The cold hand of death has thus far only been permitted once to enter the family circle and remove one loved one, giving us cause to exclaim: "Absent, but not forgotten."

It is a source of great satisfaction to us to see that, notwithstanding your advanced years, the bountiful Giver of all good has seen fit to endow you with such a measure of health and strength and with unclouded mental faculties, enabling you to appreciate and enjoy life, His inestimable gift. We feel sure that a retrospect of your married life, while in the natural order of things must be tinged with some sadness, must recall much that is pleasing—much to which now in the quietude of the evening of life you can revert with fondest recollections. You have seen many of the friends, companions and acquaintances of youth, who started out with you in the morning of life, drop one by one out of the race of life and join the great majority.

"Friend after friend departs,  
Who hath not lost a friend?  
There is no union here of hearts  
That finds not here an end."

But you have been permitted to reach the summit of the hill of life, and still hand in hand are enjoying its quiet evening together. May it prove to be as beautiful as the setting of a summer sun in a calm and cloudless sky. On the other hand you can truly say that "the lines have fallen unto you in pleasant places." As time has rolled on you have seen many pleasing changes and encountered much that will be fondly cherished as long as memory lasts. The landscape has been entirely transformed since your recollection. You have seen the monarchs of a dense forest disappear under the sturdy strokes of the pioneers of the country

and give place to fertile fields and well cultivated farms. You have seen the rude log cabin give place to the stately mansion, and sparsely settled districts now teeming with a happy, contented and prosperous population. You have also had the satisfaction of seeing a large family of sons and daughters grow up to manhood and womanhood. And now in return a goodly array of grand children have assembled with us to celebrate this semi-centennial.

We have thought this a fit occasion to present you with a slight memento of our affection and esteem. When we look over the years of our childhood we have great reason to be thankful for your care and watchfulness over us during the slippery paths of youth, and for all the benefits and advantages of a Christian home, and kind and indulgent parents ever solicitous for our welfare. We feel we can never repay you for all your kindness and for your many personal sacrifices on our behalf. To you, father, we present this staff, which we trust you may yet be long spared to use and lean upon as increasing years bring corresponding infirmities. To you, mother, we present this pair of spectacles to assist you in some measure to overcome the ravages of time, and partially at least restore that perfection of vision from which we are all capable of deriving so much pleasure. We trust you will both value these small gifts; not from any intrinsic worth, which is but a trifle, but from the feelings of love and reverence which we as children feel towards our parents. That you may long live to enjoy them is the earnest prayer of your affectionate children.

Mr. and Mrs. Widdifield very feelingly replied to the address, referring to the uniform kindness of their children, which they said more than repaid them for the trouble and anxiety of earlier years. A few appropriate remarks were made by Rev. J. W. Stewart and Dr. Forest, after which prayer and thanksgiving to God was conducted by Mr. Stewart. A most sumptuous tea