

the closest and holiest companionship known to men, are full of inspiration to others.

Those years have been rich in hope, full of activity, and crowned with success, (not as the world calls success), but in the prosperity of quiet and useful lives.

A half century ago to-day you plighted your vows, and began life's journey together. Your pathway has been a blessing and a benediction to many. You have had to meet the disappointments as well as the pleasures and duties of those years, yet "sunshine" is the word which expresses the ideal of your home. Children were born to you in that home, and under your care and love grew to manhood and womanhood. They have gone forth, and are now the centres of other happy firesides, around whose hearthstones the little child has learned to lisp the name of grand-parent. Thus the inspiration and love bestowed upon children are returned in the ever-widening circle of loved ones. The pleasures, duties and responsibilities of the "new" home cannot and ought not to lessen the love for the "old." As one of those new households, we present our kindest and best wishes to our aged parents, and trust that many years will yet be given you for the full fruition of your happiness here, and that your declining years may be the richest of all in blessings to yourselves.

Yours with love,

PHEBE M. BEMISS,
D. BEMISS.
KITTIE M. BEMISS.
C. D. BEMISS.
BERT BEMISS.
FLORENCE BEMISS.

An agreeable surprise was arranged for the aged couple during the afternoon. Notices of the happy event, unknown to them, had been previously given to their relatives and friends far and near, inviting them to call and offer their congratulations, which were responded to by some seventy persons, some of whom they had not seen for many years. A cup of coffee and light refreshments were served to the callers during the afternoon, and with pleasant chat and loving greetings the time was pleasantly spent, and will be long remembered by all present, and by none more agreeably than by the honored couple themselves, who thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. As members of the Society of Friends their christian virtues have shone brightly in a life of quiet unobtrusiveness, pacific and exemplary. "Diligent in business and

fervent in spirit," earning the love and esteem of their neighbors, so fully shown in the earnest congratulations extended to them.

The list of visitors is too long to give all the names, but those of the few who witnessed their marriage fifty years ago must be mentioned. These were Robert Spencer, of Allanburg, Samuel Beckett and Gilbert Page, of Pelham, Mrs. Wm. Fowles, of Fonthill. Of these the names of Samuel Beckett and Gilbert Page signed as witnesses their marriage certificate.

During the afternoon D. W. Page, the eldest son, asked the attention of those present for a few minutes and invited Rev. David Williams, of Windham, to address them, who referred in a kindly way to the couple in whose honor they had assembled, and whose friendship he prized. In his long acquaintance with them he had learned to love and respect them. Comparatively few reached fifty years of wedded life together, and it was pleasant to reflect on the fact that while this long time had been to them full of comfort and happiness, they had never lost sight of the future life and the necessary preparation for that great day that all must meet when this life is ended. He closed with a beautiful prayer, commending them and all their friends to the kind care of an allwise Father, who doeth all things well.

Following this was a prepared reading by Mrs. D. W. Page, entitled, "Golden Gleanings."

T. Ryan, a minister of the Society of Friends, was also called on, who spoke feelingly and kindly, saying although his acquaintance had been short, having recently come into the neighborhood, yet he was happy to do honor to a couple he very much respected. He was always pleased to visit them, and felt himself benefited by such visits. He closed by reading a poem (original) entitled, "On the Mount," which he added to the numerous letters of congratulation received from distant friends and others unable to be present, and