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**A GRAND BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

One of the most sincere and unique tributes of respect and esteem ever paid to any man was that accorded to Mr. Thos. Pounder of Boston at Lyndhurst on Wednesday last, when nearly a thousand of his relatives and friends met to honor his Birthday.

Mr. Pounder was born in the Emerald Isle in 1830, and in 1846, when but 16 years of age, came to America to seek his fortune, as hundreds of his compatriots were doing at that time. On landing in Boston he obtained employment in the chandler and soap business, and his industry, ability and faithfulness soon secured for him merited recognition. Six years later, while still on the lower rungs of the ladder, he met and married Miss Elizabeth Earl, second daughter of Mr. Robert Earl of Lansdowne, she having accompanied Mr. Thos. Earl on his return to Boston after visiting friends here. The marriage proved a peculiarly happy one, and together they fought successfully the battle of life. Three children blessed their union, only one of whom survives, a son, William, who has succeeded to the business of his father.

Patent industry, sterling integrity, an intelligent application to business and an enterprising spirit brought them a large measure of success, and a few years ago Mr. Pounder was described as "the millionaire soap manufacturer." Recently, he sold out his business and invested heavily in real estate in the growing suburb of East Boston, and in this line also he has met with success.

During these busy, prosperous years, Mr. and Mrs. Pounder did not forget their old friends in Leeds county, and at least once in two years came here to renew those ties which grow dearer and stronger as the years pass by, and in their beautiful home in Boston visitors from Leeds were always right royally entertained.

Three years ago, death entered their home and called Mrs. Pounder hence. From under the shadow of this great sorrow Mr. Pounder has never entirely emerged, but has continued to follow the path which they so long trod happily together. Since the death of his wife, Mr. Pounder's visits here have been annual, and his coming is always looked forward to with pleasure by friends and relatives in Leeds.

And so the idea of honoring his 74th birthday took form, and the proposal was most enthusiastically endorsed by friends far and near. Mr. Robert Harvey of Lyndhurst was entrusted with the direction of the celebration, and to him and the various committees formed great credit is due for its success.

Early in the forenoon, guests began to arrive, and they were surprised and delighted to find the elaborate preparations that had been made by the people of Lyndhurst. The large main building at the fair grounds had been transformed into a perfect bower of beauty. Both the walls and ceiling were completely hidden with sprays of cedar, and these were decked with brilliant mountain ash berries, cut flowers and wild flowers in profusion. Above the richly furnished tables broad bands of white hung in festoons, bearing at intervals sprays of cedar, producing a very striking and pretty effect. Tables seating 165 were laid in three wings of the building, meeting in the rotunda. In the east wing a dais was erected, three sides and the ceiling of which were tapestried with colored material, making a very pretty stage. Here excellent music was discoursed during the dinner hours by an orchestra consisting of Mrs. and Miss Horton of Sand Bay, Mr. Wm. War-

ren of Brockville, Miss Grey, Miss Knapp, Miss Lee, Mr. A. Jacob and Mr. Wood of Lyndhurst.

The rotunda was gaily bedecked with flags, bunting and mottoes, the latter the work of Mrs. F. Brees. On one side an eagle surrounded with a border of American flags was shown. Opposite the platform appeared "Lyndhurst's Welcome."

But the tables—who shall describe them! Long reaches of snowy linen, decked with cut flowers and supplied with the choicest viands the culinary skill of the ladies could produce. In the centre of the largest table a beautiful story cake, faultlessly iced and artistically decorated, bore this inscription "To Mr. Thos. Pounder from his nieces, Eva and Annie Earl." To serve the guests there was a whole battalion of youths and maidens, and they did their work so well that there was absolutely no confusion—order prevailed everywhere. With surprising rapidity, with courtesy unceasing, with every care and attention, over nine hundred guests were served with dinner between the hours of 11 and 3, making a record of which any first-class hotel might well be proud. And the viands served at the last table were just as hot as the first received. With in the building, Mr. Pounder welcomed the guests and moved from table to table exchanging greetings with the merry assemblage.

Out on the grounds the family reunion feature of the gathering was being worked out in a delightful way. Relative met relative, friend met friend, after years of separation, and their meetings and greetings were joyous. Family history was brought up to date in earnest converse, and then the visitor would move on only to be recognized, greeted and his or her attention claimed by some other friend or relative. It was a happy gathering in which the tie of common kinship was fully recognized, a gathering in which all were conceded to be friends of "Uncle Tom," and with this common bond of union all felt free to be unrestrainedly sociable.

By 3:30 the tables were all removed and the building seated with chairs and benches. Then Mr. Harvey, chairman of the day, opened the programme with a neat address in which he detailed the events that preceded the great birthday celebration. In his comparatively short acquaintance with Mr. Pounder he had found him to be a man of broad views, possessing an intellect cultured and refined by travel and careful reading. After congratulating him upon the magnificent demonstration in his honor, he introduced the first number on the programme, a song of welcome by the united choirs of the three churches of the village. Their voices blended well into a full tone well suited to the occasion, and in all parts was well balanced.

Rev. A. H. Sovereign, rector of the Anglican church, Lyndhurst, was the first speaker, and his address was positively brilliant. His subject, "Our American Friends," was ably handled. In extending congratulations to Mr. Pounder, he spoke of him as being a British subject who had found a home under the stars and stripes. Some of the very best Americans had been born and bred in Canada, and for the whole nation he had only the kindest feelings, but he warned them that if at any time Miss Canada's actions should give ground for the suspicion that she is flirting with Uncle Sam they must not regard it as more than a flirtation—there are no matrimonial intentions on this side of the line. While giving all due honor to "the Americans," Mr. Sovereign's peroration was stirringly patriotic, composed of just such sentiments as should possess the hearts of young Canadians.

The chairman said he was glad to learn that Mr. Pounder was an Irishman. Some people were proud of the fact that they were Irish and others rejoiced that they were Scotch. Standing upon a hill in Ireland and looking over into Scotland, one might say there can be but little difference between these peoples; but for himself he felt sure that no matter how you mixed them up you wouldn't produce any curls.

Miss Bertha Pierce of Athens gave a vocal solo that was well received, and the choir followed with a harvest home glee.

Rev. Mr. Meredith was very interesting in his treatment of the subject assigned to him, "How to make friends and keep them." After complimenting the managers on their selection of a chairman, he said he was glad to interpret the large representative gathering as a testimony that Mr. Pounder was appreciated as a citizen, a Christian and a gentleman. To make friends and keep them, he said it was necessary to study man, his disposition and environments, and then interest yourself in what interests the person you are dealing with.

The orchestra gave a selection and Miss Frankie Brees sang in good style one of the song-bits of the season, "That's what the daisy said."

Rev. Mr. Bevidge had for his subject, "Influence," and he dealt with it in a bright, crisp way that both amused and instructed.

Rev. B. B. Patterson of Athens was invited to speak, and after expressing his appreciation of the privilege, he congratulated very warmly Mr. Pounder on the passing of the 74th milestone of his life's journey under such happy auspices. He expressed the hope that the evergreen decorations

would symbolize to Mr. Pounder a green old age, the beautiful day that there would be light at eventide, and the banquet that other feast where all shall meet to part no more.

Mr. Pounder, who had occupied a seat on the platform, was then called upon. He said that it was one of the grandest days of his life. Friends had come from the shores of the Georgian Bay, from Boston, Toronto, Kingston, the cream of Leeds county had assembled to do him honor. He appreciated the tribute, but his heart was too full of joy, of gladness, of ecstasy to express his thanks in words. He assured them that he would ever treasure up the remembrance of this day, and said that, trusting and believing in Jesus, he hoped that, if not permitted to meet again on earth they might, through the merits of Christ, meet with those gone before in the heavenly kingdom where there would be no more sorrow but peace and joy forever more.

As Mr. Pounder resumed his seat, he was again called up, this time to listen to following address and receive a beautiful gold-headed cane, suitably inscribed, from two little girls, Mildred Singleton and Constance Harvey:—  
Dear Mr. Pounder,—

As a slight token of the respect and esteem in which you are held by your numerous friends and relations in the County of Leeds, and as a memento of this happy occasion in which you have given us the great pleasure, as your guests, to coming together in celebrating your birthday, and enjoy the satisfaction of closer acquaintance with each other and stronger friendship—

Be pleased to accept this cane as our gift, trusting that your life and natural vigor may be continued for many years, and that your annual visits to Lyndhurst may be looked forward to as joyous occasions.

To this act of kindness Mr. Pounder was altogether unable to reply—he was surprised, deeply affected—and with the single word "thanks" he re-announced his seat.

A glee by the choir, "Ring, merry bells," and the national anthem brought the programme to a close.

About fifteen gallons of ice-cream was then served by Mr. Gainsford of Athens at another building, and it disappeared in a marvellously short time.

It was a great day, for sure. Only two mishaps marred the enjoyment. Mr. Peter Kendrick fell from a load of chairs and was unable to attend, and Mrs. C. B. Tallman severely injured one of her arms by a fall at the close of the meeting. Both are progressing favorably, and Mr. Pounder desires that we should express to them his heartfelt sympathy.

The many fine equipments that brought the guests to the grounds were a subject of interest and comment. A man isn't any older than he feels, and Mr. Pounder wasn't a day over fifty on Wednesday last.

Sometimes, on the platform and in the audience, it appeared as if Ireland was fairly well represented.

The fine piano used for the occasion was donated by Mr. C. M. Quinn of Lansdowne. Mr. Quinn is agent for the sale of all kinds of musical instruments, sewing machines, farm implements, etc., but in this fall pushing the sale of a large stock of fine furs.

Mr. Wm. Wing of Grand Rapids, Mich., visiting his brothers, Messrs. James, Asa, and Henry, was among the guests present.

An idea of the extent of the preparations made may be had by considering the order placed with P. P. Slack of Athens. It consisted of 60 pans of bread, 50 dozen buns, 100 dozen doughnuts, a 4-story ornamented cake, and the baking of 600 lbs. of beef.

Many friends of Mr. Pounder failed to receive cards of invitation simply because his order of 600 became exhausted and there was not time to get an additional supply.

**CARD OF THANKS**

Editor of Athens Reporter  
Dear Sir,—Permit me through the medium of the Reporter to express my grateful appreciation of the very great honor conferred upon me in the celebration of my 74th birthday at Lyndhurst on Wednesday last. On that day, in seeing every countenance glowing with joy, radiant with delight, brotherly, affectionate, sincere and benevolent, I was unable to voice the sentiments of my heart. In brief, let me say that to the good people of Lyndhurst for their great work, to the committee of noble ladies and gentlemen who designed and directed affairs, to those who so unstintingly contributed to the feast provided, to the choirs of the different churches, to the soloists, to the speakers, to the orchestra, to all who contributed in any way to the great success of the gathering, and for the beautiful birthday cake and handsome cane with which I was presented, I return my most hearty thanks.

I shall ever treasure in fond remembrance the honors and pleasures of that day.  
THOS. POUNDER.  
Mr. Hiram Alford of Gananoque and Miss E. M. Weir of Bastard were married in Brockville on Monday.

Live Hens and Chickens bought every Wednesday evening at Willson's Meat Market. Crops must be empty. Athens' extension of the early closing on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays is now in force in respect to tin shops and dealers in dry goods and boots and shoes. Other lines of business are not affected.

**All Stuffed Up**

That's the condition of many sufferers from catarrh, especially in the morning. Great difficulty is experienced in clearing the head and throat.

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