

### GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. James Coop of this City Celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of Their Golden Wedding Day.

Fifty years! What changes Father Time has wrought in half a century. Just fifty years ago Friday, James Coop led Miss Nancy Lees to the altar in the little church in their native town in Old England.

Both young, energetic and happy as only lovers can be, they began their journey down the stream of life and how well they have fared can only be appreciated by those who were present at the anniversary of their wedding day and saw them surrounded by their children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends—all present to honor the happy pair who had for fifty years weathered the storms of life together.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Coop had planned a sur-

The following is a list of the guests present:

Messrs. and Mesdames Wm. Johnson, Greene, Stearns, H. E. Keene, Motts Mason, M. Runyon, Sim Getchell, J. H. Rogers, N. Swanson, Wm. Hill, H. O. Mybro, A. Anderberg, C. Blomberg, Otto Chilberg, Jake Chilberg, Hans Bergan, Wm. Coop, Walter Coop, O. Esby. Messrs. John D. Black, Wm. White, J. Getchell, F. E. Ployhar. Mesdames Cummings, Stewart, Warren Getchell, Hackett, Laird, R. N. Pray, W. Keene, G. B. Vallandigham, Briggs, Drake, Gerke, Hollinshead, Stiles, Persons. Misses Effie Stiles, Pearle Keene, Maude Persons, Louise Black, Kate Black.

Through the courtesy of a friend, we are able to give a short biographical sketch of Mr. and Mrs. Coop.

James Coop was born in Hollingworth, England, February 11, 1831, and was married to



MR. AND MRS. JAMES COOP.

prise for them but of what nature it was to be was a profound mystery—so that when about sixty relatives and friends gathered at their spacious home and Rev. Greene, in a few well chosen words, on behalf of the G. A. R. presented "Uncle Jimmy" with a gold headed cane, bearing the inscription: "James Coop, March 28, 1902," and Mrs. Coop with an elegant velvet rug—the rug being a gift from the guests present, the surprise was most complete.

After the presentation of gifts the welfare of the inner man was looked after to the satisfaction of all present, Mr. and Mrs. Coop being seated at the head of the table surrounded by numerous old friends and the remainder of the company cared for by several impromptu waiters.

Dinner being over, Mr. and Mrs. Coop were ushered into the parlor, where the new rug had been spread, and amid the good wishes of friends and relatives were re-united in marriage by Rev. Greene, and if the wishes of those present could be granted they would live to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary

Miss Nancy Hall Lees, March 28, 1852, in St. Mary's church in their native town. In May, 1859, they emigrated to America, settling in Afton, Minnesota.

In 1862 he enlisted in Company C, 7th Minnesota, under Gen. H. H. Sibley, and served with distinction in all the frontier battles during the uprising of the Indians in which so many settlers in our western country lost their lives and property.

After his discharge from the army, he returned to Afton, where he lived until 1884, when they came to Barnes county and settled on their farm ten miles north of Valley City, where they lived until they removed to Valley City about three years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Coop are the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters: William and Walter Coop, Mrs. George Stiles and Mrs. P. P. Persons, all residents of this city, Will Coop being one of our popular county commissioners, and in company with his brother Walter is engaged in the mercantile business.

They have thirteen grandchildren and one great grandchild, which represents four generations.