

THE GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hilborn, of Leal,
Celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary
of Their Wedded Life.

Fifty years ago on the second day of this month, back in Uxbridge township, county of Ontario, Canada, J. P. Hilborn and Elizabeth Bonnell were united in marriage according to the rites of the Society of Friends, better known as the Quakers. He was a few days more than twenty-one years of age. She was not quite seventeen. Last Thursday, at their substantial and well provided home near Leal, this county, surrounded by their children, grand children and great grand children, this couple observed the fiftieth anniversary of their wedded life.

Time has dealt kindly with Mr. and Mrs. Hilborn. They are almost as erect as they used to be; the frosts of years have only lightly touched their heads; the seasons which have come and gone have dimmed their eyes, it is true, and yet in thought and talk and action and appearance the result of a quiet, kindly, healthful life is plainly to be seen. If indications may be trusted their lives will be spared for many years yet and it is not impossible that their relatives and friends will have occasion to celebrate their diamond wedding twenty-five years hence.

Mr. and Mrs. Hilborn have had nine children, of whom seven are living and were present on this occasion. The eldest daughter, Mrs. Susan Morgan, of Winnipeg, died some years ago and one child died in infancy. The children present were H. A. Hilborn, Mrs. Sarah Flewell, Mrs. Cicily Widdifield, Mrs. Mercy A. James, R. B. Hilborn, Mrs. R. B. Cox and J. W. Hilborn, all of Leal. J. G. Morgan, of Winnipeg, husband of the deceased daughter, was also present. There were twenty-two grand children and three great grand children in attendance; the only absentees being three grand children, the children of Mr. Morgan, who remained at their home in Winnipeg. Including relatives and friends there were 114 present.

The program of the day was commenced by reading the old marriage certificate, signed after the Quaker custom by all who were present at the time, the number of witnesses being thirty-three, of whom all but six are dead.

H. A. Hilborn, the eldest son, made an address, and he was followed by a number of others.

By request there were no presents, except those brought by the immediate relatives, who could not be denied. These consisted of a handsome gold watch and chain for both Mr. and Mrs. Hilborn; a hand painted china cup and saucer for each; a gold headed cane for Mr. Hilborn and two gold brooches set with pearls for Mrs. Hilborn.