Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Hillman.

MANY GUESTS PRESENT

Nearly Entire Town Invited to Attend Happy Anniversary of a Prominent Townsman.

The golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Hillman was celebrated last evening at the home of their son. Mr. Frank H. Hillman.

It was one of the pleasantest and happiest events that has taken place in this town for some time and as practically the entire town was invited to attend, great numbers of people availed themselves of the privilege of extending their congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Hillman.

The house was simply yet tastefully decorated for the occasion. Evergreen was prominent in the reception room and the couple received their friends beneath a golden bell. The dining room was decorated with furs and planks.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. May Marsh, Miss Luella Hobbs, Mrs. Lilla Wood and Mrs. Ellen Cutter, who were assisted by Misses May Hillman, Florence Cutter, Clara Jones and Nettie Butler.

Mr. Richard B. Hillman has been a resident of this town for over 40 years and is respected and honored by all who know him. He was born in the city of Rockland, Me., on June 19, 1852. His father’s name was Whittem Hillman and his mother’s maiden name was Miss Harriet Barnard, a daughter of Dr. Barnard.

Mrs. Hillman likewise is of good New England stock, her father being Harvey H. Spear and her mother’s maiden name Jane J. Spofford, both of Rockland, Me. Mrs. Hillman was born Oct. 8, 1851. These two young people knew each other from childhood and were married in Rockland on the 16th of January, 1886.

Three years later they came to Pelham, where they have since made their home.

Mr. Hillman has had quite a varied experience. When a boy he went to sea, coasting in the vessels that carried lime from Rockland to New York. On coming to Pelham he took up the carpenters’ trade and has built many of the houses in this town.

For many years he was in the lumber business, annually sawing many thousands of feet of lumber, but for the last 15 years, in company with his son Frank, he has followed the business of wheelwright.

They have two children, Frank H., who married Alice M. Greely, and who is associated with his father in the wheelwright shop, and Gertrude H., who married Henry M. Cutler, one of the most prominent and prosperous farmers in town, and who is also well known in Lowell and vicinity.

Mr. Hillman and his son carry on quite an extensive business, doing all kinds of carriage work, turning out each year democrat waggons, stage top, covered milk sleighs, etc., they are always busy and often are compelled to employ extra help to keep up with the rush of business.

The town has honored Mr. Hillman. It made him selectman several years and elected him to represent it at the general court in 1885-7.

Mr. Hillman is a member of Ancient York lodge, F. and A. M., Pilgrim commandery, the Order of Pilgrim Fathers, the Merrimack lodge of Odd Fellows, and of Pelham grange.
He is acknowledged to be a valuable citizen of the town, thoroughly trustworthy and possessing a kind heart. Every worthy cause finds in Mr. Hillman a staunch friend. Yet with all of his activities, Mr. Hillman loves the quiet of his home and with Mrs. Hillman, who is of a quiet and unassuming disposition, this side of their life approaches the ideal. They have seven grandchildren, all residing in this town.

During last evening the house was thronged with people, who gladly availed themselves of the opportunity of extending their best wishes to the couple on their 50th wedding anniversary.

It had been requested that no presents be made, but their friends, nevertheless presented Mr. and Mrs. Hillman with a beautiful set of silver and gold knives, forks, teaspoons, ice cream
spoons and an ice cream ladle, all suitable and appropriately inscribed. Gold coins were also presented by the people living in the Currier district.

The presentation was made by the Hon. Chas. W. Hobbs in a speech most appropriate. The gifts were received by Mr. Hillman, who briefly thanked the company for himself and wife.

The ushers were the grandchildren, Earl Hillman, Richard Currier, Blanche and May Hillman and Fred and Ralph Hillman.

The following relatives from out-of-town were present:

Charles W. Spear and wife of Everett, Mrs. Win. Steele and Mrs. Addie Edwards of Rockland, Me., Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Reed and Miss Eugenia and Harold Reed of Waltham, Dr. and Mrs. Albert Reed and son, of Georgetown, Mass., and Mrs. Rebecca Reed of Georgetown.

A very pleasant feature of the occasion was the musical selections that were given. Several solos were excellently rendered by Master Harold Reed of Waltham, and quartets and choruses were interspersed, making the occasion most delightful for all the guests.