

Mr. and Mrs. Cory Palmer, Hillier, Reminisce Celebrating Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary

Trenton (Special)—The grand old couple of Hillier turned the pages of time back 60 years yesterday reminiscing at a celebration in honor of their diamond wedding anniversary.

Sitting in the warm parlor of their sturdy frame residence Mr. and Mrs. Cory Palmer received family and friends all afternoon. They seemingly enjoyed playing host to a whole houseful of guests.

Cory Nelson Palmer and Sarah Elizabeth Flindall were married on a real old fashioned winter's day. Mrs. Palmer remembers well that 11th day of January 1893. "It was 20 below zero outside, she recalled, and the snow was banked high all along the roads." They drove in a horse and cutter to the Murray township village of Smithfield, where they spent their honeymoon. In contrast the thermometer yesterday was well above freezing and people arriving by car for the celebration walked across a faded green lawn without wearing hats and top-coats. The sun struggled to peek through an overcast sky most of the afternoon.

The marriage was solemnized at the bride's father's home one mile east of Hillier. The bride was given away by her father George Flindall. She was attended by a sister Carrie Flindall. Her brother, Fred Flindall, was the groomsman. The Rev. W. J. Fleming joined the couple in holy wedlock.

Dress Cost Peck of Beans

After marriage vows were exchanged the newly-weds visited a district photographer. He made a tin-type of them which has stood the years well and is still one of the Palmers most treasured keepsakes. Mrs. Palmer showed the wedding picture to her guests yesterday. She pointed to her wedding dress and let out a secret she has kept to herself 60 years. "You see that pretty dress I was wearing? Father gave a dressmaker a peck of beans for making it."

When the honeymoon was over the Palmers returned to the farm they are living on now. It is located on a corner of winding highway No. 33 a short distance west of Hillier.

Mr. Palmer had a reason for a double celebration yesterday. His birthday falls on the same day as his marriage. He was 83 yesterday. He was the youngest of a family of 11 children, while his wife was the oldest in a family of 11 children. The Palmers were of United Empire Loyalist stock, the Flindall family came out directly from England.

Mr. Palmer was not a specialty farmer but he had a deep inward affection for all kinds of animals. He prided his flock of sheep and in recent years his grazing sheep on green pasture land bordering the highway to Picton offered a rural picture unusual in these parts.

Queen Victoria on Throne

Queen Victoria was on the throne of England at the time of the Palmer wedding. Yesterday another Queen of England, Elizabeth II, sent the Palmers a message of congratulations. The cable reads: "Buckingham Palace via Toronto. The Queen sends you warm congratulations and good wishes on your Diamond Wedding Day."

The Province of Ontario sent them a hand-lettered scroll. It reads: "May I extend to you on behalf of the government of the Province of Ontario heartiest congratulations on your 60th wedding anniversary and the wish that you may both enjoy further anniversaries in good health and happiness." Arthur Welsh, provincial secretary.

In addition the couple received scores of gifts and countless cards.

Four of Mrs. Palmer's sisters and two of her brothers came from nearby points to extend congratulations. They are Mrs. Thomas Smith, Rossmore; Mrs. Wesley Adams, Mrs. Arthur Wilson and Mrs. Fred Burley of Belleville; William Flindall of Belleville and Frank Flindall of Kingston.

Three sons and two daughters also joined in the celebration including Benjamin of Brighton, Austin and Clifford of Toronto and Mrs. Wellington (Luella) Jordan of Hillier, and Mrs. Donald (Olive) Vance of Latta. Another daughter Mrs. Frank (Dorothy) Hubbs died a few years ago.

Many of the Palmer's 22 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren were among the many guests.

Many Guests Present

Among the guests present were: Mrs. George Palmer of Norwalk, California and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Putman of Buffalo, New York.

Mrs. Alex Rattray of Concession, who celebrated a 50th wedding the 6th of June last year, visited her life-long friends again.

With her family and friends all about her Mrs. Palmer was heard telling a friend: "We appreciate the many gifts and cards we have received but we are extremely happy because so many of our family and friends were able to come and see us."

A sumptuous luncheon was served during the afternoon.

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