

JOSEPH H. CHOATE, 80, MARRIED 50 YEARS

**Celebrates Golden Wedding with
Mrs. Choate and Relatives at
Naumkeag in Berkshires.**

SELECTS HYMNS TO BE SUNG

**Church Services, Luncheon, Tea, and
Dinner Parties Bring Together
More Than 100 Guests.**

Special to The New York Times.

STOCKBRIDGE, Mass., Oct. 15.—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Choate are celebrating their golden wedding at Naumkeag, their beautiful country seat on a hillside overlooking Stockbridge. The whole region round about is ablaze with the yellow and gold of Autumn. A hundred guests have arrived for the anniversary dinner and reception.

Joseph Hodges Choate and Miss Caroline D. Sterling were married in All Souls' Unitarian Church, Twentieth Street and Fourth Avenue, New York, Oct. 16, 1861, by the Rev. Samuel Osgood. Therefore the anniversary of their wedding occurs to-morrow, but to entertain their relatives and friends who have arrived in Stockbridge and Lenox, there were three large entertainments at Naumkeag to-day, a luncheon this afternoon for twenty guests; tea this afternoon when Ambassador and Mrs. James Bryce of England and ex-Ambassador and Mrs. Henry White were among the callers, and to-night a family dinner, which was served by Sherry of New York, to fifty relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Choate attended service this morning at 11 o'clock in St. Paul's Episcopal Church. They are of the Unitarian belief, but worship in the Episcopal Church while in Stockbridge.

Mr. Choate walked the half mile down Fields Hill to the church. He stopped on his way at Heaton Hall, where he was surrounded by scores of his relatives, who had gathered there for the anniversary, and accompanied him to St. Paul's Church. Mrs. Choate drove to the church with Miss Mabel Choate. The altar at St. Paul's was decorated with golden chrysanthemums in honor of the approaching anniversary. Mr. Choate had selected the hymns of the day, including "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" and "Salem Rise." Miss Mabel Choate was one of the choir.

All the decorations for the luncheon were from the Choate greenhouses. They were orchids and cut flowers. For the tea the house was decorated with yellow chrysanthemums, American Beauty roses in vases, and wreathes of laurel and pine.

To accommodate fifty guests at the anniversary dinner to-night the front entrance of the house was closed and the wide hall was turned into a dining room where small tables seated eight guests. The dining room was also in use for the dinner. American Beauty roses were on all the tables. The health of Mr. and Mrs. Choate was proposed by guests. After dinner there was on view in one of the upper rooms some of the many presents received, among which was one from J. Pierpont Morgan. Many of the gifts were gold plate.

At the dinner to-night were Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Sterling of Cleveland, Ohio, Mrs. Choate's brother and sister-in-law; Mrs. George C. S. Choate, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Choate, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K. Choate, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur O. Choate of New York, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Choate, Charles F. Choate, Jr., of Boston; Joseph B. Choate, Miss Elizabeth Choate, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan C. Bowditch, Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Porter of Boston, Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Sterling, Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. De Gersdorf, Misses Josephine and Alma Caspar De Gersdorf, Miss Margaret Choate, Miss Mary K. Choate of New York, Miss Margaret Wright of Pleasantville, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Choate, Jr., Miss Mabel Choate, George Choate, Mr. and Mrs. George B. De Gersdorf, Thomas McKittrick, Jr., Theodore Simon of St. Louis, Mrs. J. Montgomery Sears, Miss Helen Sears of Boston, Dr. and Mrs. C. F. Brusie of Ossining, N. Y.; Dr. and Mrs. Charles Currier, Allen W. Evarts, Charles S. Butler, Mrs. Prescott Hall Butler, Mrs. C. C. Beaman, Mrs. H. M. Purdy, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Whitridge, Miss Helen Pitman, Mrs. Eugene Howard, Elliot Tuckerman, Francis W. Crowninshield, and Charles F. Choate, 3d.

To-morrow, from 3 to 6 in the afternoon, will occur the general reception, to which every one of the Berkshire countryside has been asked. Mr. and Mrs. Choate will receive alone, and with good weather the reception will be the largest that has ever taken place in Stockbridge.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Choate are in very good health. Mr. Choate rises early and is about his estate at 8:30 every morning. His principal recreations are walking and motoring. He is very fond of an automobile and travels about the Berkshires extensively.

Since Mr. Choate's return from England it has been his delight to go to his Summer home among the Berkshire Hills at Stockbridge for rest. Mr. Choate will be 80 years old in January, but is still engaged actively in his law practice.

Naumkeag means "Haven of Rest." It is an old Essex Indian name. This estate shows a great variety of landscape effects, while the residence built under his own supervision in 1885 is a charming specimen of cottage architecture and the central feature of the grounds.

One enters the ground under vineclad stone portals, bordered on either side with wide stretches of lawn, beds of shrubbery, and pines. Passing through the massive doorway of the mansion, one finds himself in a wide hallway, and, turning to the right, he enters the workshop of the master, a room fitted with books, not of fiction, but of reference, constantly used by the busy man.

The library at the left of the hallway is a favorite resort of Mr. Choate. This faces the hill, and from the windows are fine views. The grounds are most attractive. A winding walk leads from the veranda to the garden, lined with decorative trees, a feature of the estate.

At the right is a Dutch garden and at the left is the English garden, laid out with fountains, beds of plants, and surrounded with yew trees. Mr. Choate calls it all his plantation. His meadows run down to the winding Housatonic River, and he has leased some twenty acres to the Stockbridge Golf Club.

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