

Effie Dean and James William.

By La Rue Olson Nixon

At the Martha Cox school, where they never came late  
Effie Dean was six, James William was eight.  
He admired her looks and her conduct too,  
And later you'll see, their first love proved true.

There's a party at school, what a thrill it would be  
To Take Effie Dean, "Oh my!" thought he.  
Consulting with mother, he found out the way,  
Then to Effie Dean's mother he went right away.

At the south window she sat by the sewing machine.  
Effie dean was all ready. She looked like a queen.  
"If it's alright with you", he proceeded to say,  
"Delighted I'd be, on this very fine day

"To accompany your daughter to the party grand."  
And shortly afterward as hand in hand,  
They walked from the porch, as proud as a band,  
To his mother, her mother was heard to say,

"Wouldn't it be strange if, in a number of years,  
Perhaps they might marry, the darlings, the dears."

At the age of twelve, he concluded that she  
Was the loveliest maiden that ever could be.  
Very jealous he felt, if attention she'd pay  
To other fellows her came her way.

In the same neighborhood, church and school  
They continued as sweethearts, "One I Love" was the rule.  
Dressmaking and handwork she studied with zeal.  
His line was school-teaching and mercantile.

In the year of our Lord eighteen-eighty-eight  
September the seventh, they sealed their fate.  
For Effie and William were married you see  
'Twas for time and all eternity.

Then the Honeymoon trip -- it was heaps of fun!  
In a white-topped buggy to Huntington.  
On the way from Price with their household goods  
The rain-washed road was too deep to cross

They carried some rocks from a nearby hill  
With the hop that the cavity they could fill.  
Success was their lot in building the road,  
And after a while they reached their abode.

Within the first year of their married life  
Things worked to the hands of this husband and wife.  
A fine home they built on their city lot.  
Brick, lumber and labor, with horses they bought.

Then a fine picket fence, orchard, lawn and a barn,  
Some colonies of bees, a corral and a farm.  
Most important of all, their first baby came.  
They named him James William; They knew he'd gain fame.

Going on through the years, more children arrived  
Olive, Myrtle, then Nina and St. Clair made five.  
Grace, Ezra and Jessco each made their debut  
'Twas a mighty fine family, you all know that's true.

And now it is nineteen hundred and eight  
Twenty years have passed since this couple did mate.  
Success is still with them. They've lived right you see.  
And so there's no limit to what they can be.

They now own a store and a picture show  
More bees and more farm to bring in the "dough",  
A telephone now and electric light plant  
Lumber yard warehouse, name it all? I just can't.

In the meantime, two missions James William fulfilled  
Effie Dean ran the business. She could do it with skill.  
One summer, insurance James Will did write.  
Thirty-six hundred dollars he earned -- Yes, that's right.

By nineteen fourteen, the automobile  
Was being used quite a good deal.  
It gave much more speed than the horse and buggy.  
"We must have one of those", said James William. the hubby.  
So they purchased a Ford with its wheels and levers,  
And in it the family went riding together.

When the Ford sorta shabby began to get.  
They bought a new Metz all shining and black.  
Seven shifts it had to give them a thrill.  
But something went wrong and it rolled down a hill.

The third car they had ran into a store.  
Now this was enough to make James William sore.  
But he conquered the critter and taught it to mind,  
"Til a better driver one never could find.

By this time, James Jr. is quite a young man.  
Off to school he learns medicine. That was their plan.  
Here's Olive and Nina, St. Clair with their talents  
Which must be developed, so their lives they can balance.

Grace, Ezra and Jessco have done things which show

The things they will do, when to college they go.  
Myrtle had died before Jessco was born.  
They knew it was God's will, but could not help but mourn.

Then a beautiful home they bought in the city  
And moved there to live in a style that was ritzy.  
They could live off the income of what they had made  
What they owned was clear with everything paid.

But here let us pause, some misfortune they've found  
New Year's Day their show-building burned to the ground.  
You can all imagine the great loss this meant  
For the main of their income, this fire had spent.

"Pretty tough", said James William, "But I'll earn it back,  
Instead of retire", and he did for a fact.  
Insurance he wrote, and later he said,  
"What he thought a misfortune proved a blessing instead."

For 'tis working and striving that helps maintain health  
And that is preferred to Sickness and Wealth.

Four sons fulfilled missions and attended college.  
Three daughters were schooled, gaining valuable knowledge.  
For each, in their turn, the wedding bells rang,  
And the grandchildren now are a grand happy gang.

After fifty years of living together  
This husband and wife are as happy as ever.  
Still doing great things, winning every endeavor.  
They're so wise and so good, understanding and clever.

They're adored by their children and grand children too.  
Countless friends they have gained as the years they've passed  
through.  
Let us try to be like them. They have shown us the way  
to be perfect as they on this Golden Wedding Day.