

First Military

Wedding in the Town's History



CAPT. HAROLD PATTEN.

Marriage of Capt. Harold J. Pat-

ten and Miss Josephine

N. Millet.

Ceremony at Tewksbury At-

tended by Many Lowell

Militia Men.

(Special Correspondence.)

Tewksbury, June 10.

The marriage of Captain Harold Joseph Patten of the Eighth regiment, M. V. M., to Miss Josephine Newell Millett of this town, which occurred tonight, was probably the first military wedding in the history of the town, and was certainly the most brilliant in several years.

The ceremony itself was performed at 7.30 o'clock at the home of the bridegroom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marcellus Patten, at Tewksbury Centre, in the presence of the relatives. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Sarah A. Dixon, pastor of the Congregational church, and was simple but impressive. The bride, who was most becomingly gowned in white crepe de chine, with pearl trimmings and chantilly lace, and with veil and train, was given away by her uncle, Mr. Charles Dailey of Boston. She carried lilies of the valley and orchids and was attended by her sister, Miss Mildred Millett as maid of honor. The latter was gowned in pink muslin, accordion pleated, and trimmed with shadow lace, and she carried pink sweet peas.

There was a charming little flower girl, in the person of Helen Lee Patten, a niece of the bridegroom, and she was in white and carried a basket of rose petals. The ring bearer was Master Wesley Millett of Wilmington, who was also in white.

Captain Patten, in the evening dress uniform of his regiment, was attended by Major Charles A. Stevens of Lowell as best man. The ceremony completed, the members of the two families offered their warm congratulations, and then the whole company took autos for Pickering hall, where the reception was to be held.

In the meantime fully 300 guests had assembled in the hall, from a dozen cities and towns, and expectation was on the qui vive. The hall had been elaborately and most beautifully decorated with the national colors and palms, culminating in a great bower of American flags. Suddenly the American orchestra sounded the strains of the Mendelssohn wedding march, the martial tramp of the ushers was heard outside, and a brilliant column entered the hall in double file, Capt. Colby T. Kittredge of Lowell in command as chief usher, followed by Capt. J. H. McMahon of Wekefield, Capt. D. M. Stewart of Stoneham, Capt. W. R. Jeyes and Capt. G. W. Peterson of Lowell, Capt. F. C. Kean of Wakefield, Lieut. Douglas Campbell of Arlington, Lieut. Charles Nason of Cambridge, Lieut. S. R. Waller, Lieut. Melvin Masters and Lieut. John Powers of Lowell. Then followed the bridal party.

When the ushers had crossed the hall to the bower of flags, Captain Kittredge gave a command, and the double files were opened, the officers drew their sabres and crossed them overhead and beneath this archway of swords, in true military style, the bridegroom and his bride passed to the receiving line, where they were joined by Mr. and Mrs. Marcellus Patten, Mrs. Mary Millett, mother of the bride, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dailey.

When the line was formed the ushers were presented, and then promptly gave their attention to the guests, who for the next half hour showered their good wishes upon the young couple. The orchestra gave a concert program while the reception was in progress, and refreshments were served by the D. L. Page Co.

When Captain and Mrs. Patten finally prepared to leave the town upon their wedding trip, they were given a real military send-off, even to a cannon salute. The whole affair was most delightful, and the presence of many military officers in the attractive dress uniform of the National Guard added color to the gowns of the women, and animation to the entire scene.

The gifts were of course very numerous and beautiful, and included substantial remembrances from the Sixth regiment, in which the bridegroom served for nearly seven years, and the Eighth, where he is now attached to the ordnance department.

Captain and Mrs. Patten will make their home with the former's parents. Mr. Marcellus Patten is associated with his two sons in an extensive greenhouse business.