

**SERMON, PROCEEDINGS AND ADDRESSES IN  
COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE  
REV. JOHN NELSON, D. D., AS PASTOR OF THE  
FIRST CHURCH AND SOCIETY IN LEICESTER,  
MASS. AND IN CELEBRATION OF HIS GOLDEN  
WEDDING**

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Sermon, Proceedings and Addresses in Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Settlement of the Rev. John Nelson, D. D., as Pastor of the First Church and Society in Leicester, Mass. And in Celebration of His Golden Wedding by John Nelson

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# JOHN NELSON

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SERMON

PROCEEDINGS AND ADDRESSES

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT

OF THE

REV. JOHN NELSON, D. D.

AS PASTOR OF THE

FIRST CHURCH AND SOCIETY IN LEICESTER, MASS.

AND IN CELEBRATION OF

HIS GOLDEN WEDDING.



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Gift of

Hon. Emory Washburn  
of Cambridge

## SEMI-CENTENNIALS.

**ORDINATION. . . . GOLDEN WEDDING.**



THE Fiftieth Anniversaries of the Ordination of Rev. John Nelson, D. D. of Leicester, Massachusetts, and of the Marriage of Doctor and Mrs. Nelson, were celebrated on the sixth of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-two. The Ordination took place on the fourth of March, and the Marriage on the fourth of May, 1812. The former month being unfavorable for public gathering, and the health of Dr. Nelson being too feeble for the excitement of two such occasions, so nearly consecutive, both were combined for the latter period; the fourth, however, occurring on the Sabbath, Tuesday, the sixth of May, was designated as the day of celebration.





Anniversary Sermon.





## Anniversary Sermon

PREACHED

BY REV. JOHN NELSON, D. D.

ON TUESDAY, MAY 6, 1862.

I SAID DAYS SHOULD SPEAK; AND MULTITUDE OF YEARS  
SHOULD TEACH WISDOM.—JOB XXXII. 7.

OLD men are proverbially historical. The past has impressed itself upon their memories, as the present cannot do. And their memories of events and of convictions and of experiences coming up vividly before them, they too readily, perhaps, speak of the same.

The past, however, treasured up in the old man's memory has its lessons of instruction which should not be lost. He may well be indulged in drawing from this storehouse, at least so much as may be suggestive of what is useful to coming generations.

I well know that the teachings of age cannot be relied upon simply because they are such. Yet, if one has had a