

Mrs. Sherman wore a combination of purple velvet and lavender brocades with point lace garniture. Mrs. Gage's gown was an imported "creation" of geranium velvet fastened with buttons of cut steel from waist to hem, the square cut bodice trimmed with rare point de'Alencon; necklace of diamonds and pearls. Mrs. Alger wore white satin brocade, with many diamonds; Mrs. McKenna lavender silk and duchess lace; Mrs. Bliss was unable to attend and her place was filled by her daughter, who looked very lovely in girlish white silk. Miss Helen Long also acted as substitute for her mother and wore a very becoming white satin gown trimmed with pink velvet; Miss Wilson, daughter of the secretary of agriculture, wore a stylish gown of yellow silk with chiffon bodice.

At 8:15 p. m., the marine band stationed in the conservatory, burst into sudden melody and the diplomats, who had already laid aside their wraps and were assembled in the east parlor, filed in, led by the dean of the corps, Sir Julian Pauncefote. Each was presented by name to the President by Col. Bingham and Lieut. Gilmore of the Fourth Artillery made the introductions to Mrs. McKinley, while Captain Charles McCawley had his hands full to keep sufficient space clear for impeding swords and voluminous trains. The representatives of kings and emperors, without exception, wore court dress, with all their orders of rank, family and nation, while others wore splendid uniforms embroidered with silver and gold. The ladies of the various embassies were superbly gowned and blazing with diamonds, and the effect of gorgeous colors and jeweled decorations was dazzling as the long procession moved slowly by. Each diplomat accompanied by the ladies of his family, and in most instances by several of his secretaries and attaches, bowed low, with foreign elegance, before the chair of Mrs. McKinley, and lingered a moment to exchange the rather tardy "compliments of the season." It is considered the duty of the court to felicitate our executive in behalf of the power they represent on the opening of the new year; as the usual new year reception was omitted on account of the death of the President's mother the official courtesy was extended at the first subsequent opportunity.

To attempt a description of that brilliant throng is like trying to paint the rainbow. One of the features was a presentation of M. Cambon, the new French ambassador and his dazzling staff. The dainty little wife of the Chinese minister, toddling on her tiny shoes, received the usual large share of admiration. She wore a very rich brocade and jeweled gown, cut in the skimp fashion of the flowery kingdom, with well oiled hair piled up in astonishing shape and surmounted with jewels, with bouquets of flowers bunched out above either ear. The Koreans looked very queer indeed their strait-jacket style of costume topped by tall fur hats, which they retained throughout the evening. Their perspiring faces showed that while fur hats may have been comfortable enough outside in the drizzling weather they were rather too warm for the super-heated atmosphere inside. The members of the Turkish legation made a wonderful showing, with their scarlet fezzes and crooked swords, the fronts of their dress coats lavishly embroidered with gold and glittering with diamonds. The attaches are all tall, dark and soldierly looking gentlemen. Lady Pauncefote, a portly, white-haired matron, wore pale-blue figured brocade with trimmings of plain blue velvet. Mrs. Adams, wife of the first secretary of the British legation, is an American who was a Miss Palmer before marriage, sister of the recently appointed

marshal of the District. Her dress was dark green velvet and train opening over a petticoat of white satin embroidered with pearls. Mme. Ledher the dark wife of the colored diplomat from Haiti, wore a French gown of yellow bengaline; her niece, Miss Bourke, was in pink silk. The German legation had no feminine representative, as in past years when the Baroness Von Thielman and her charming sister were among the notable women of the diplomatic circle. The present ambassador from Germany, Herr Von Holleben, is a bachelor, and not one of his suit is married. The wife and daughter of the French ambassador will not come to Washington this season, and the only lady of that legation is Mme. de Grandpray, wife of the military attache. The minister from Austria-Hungary, in the picturesque court dress of his country, and his beautiful wife, the Baroness Hengelmuller, were accompanied by Baron Reidi. Senor Gana, the minister from Chile, was accompanied by his wife and daughter, the former in white silk, the latter—who is a pure blonde, in pale blue satin. Mme. Romero, the fair American wife of the minister from Mexico, was gowned in yellow satin. The Spanish minister and Mme. DuPuy de Lome, divided attention with the minister from Portugal and the Viscountess de Sante Thyryo. The Countess de Lichtervelde, wife of the Belgian minister, was superb in ruby velvet and diamonds. The minister from Peru is unmarried, but the wife and three sisters of his first secretary kept up the social credit of the establishment.

The dress parade of the titled dignitaries was over by 10 o'clock, and then our senators and representatives, justices and judges were given a chance. Most of the foreign guests left early but a few of the younger members joined the ladies behind the receiving line. Although the men of our country, in their solemn conventional black, made a poor showing, so far as clothes are concerned, beside the gorgeous diplomats, our country women generally manage to preserve the national credit on dress parade. Space will not permit a detailed description of the costumes, even to justify the natural curiosity of the feminine readers of the "News." Miss Frances Alger wore pink satin with spangled net. Miss Mabel McKinley, pink satin trimmed with black velvet, Miss Barber, white silk; Mrs. McCallum, Secretary Sherman's daughter, white satin; Mrs. Mason, wife of the senator from Ohio, yellow brocade opening over a petticoat of white satin; Miss Talmage, daughter of the Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage, light green satin embroidered in pearls; Mrs. U. S. Grant, gray satin and point lace; Mrs. Sartoris, rose-pink silk with cream lace and blue garnitures. The weeping skies did not in the least interfere with this official opening of the social season. A great semi-circle of carriages and hacks, with oilcloth coated drivers and blanketed horses filled the ellipse in front of the White House and extended far down the street. To the credit of Secretary Porter and Col. Bingham the arrangements for the ingress and egress of the vast throng of people were so well perfected that there was very little crowding, and no congested spots in the line for the tearing of drapery and the losing of tempers as is usually the case on a "first night" in the White House. There were guards and guides everywhere, and the avenues inside the grounds, gardens and the approaches thereto were kept free of obstruction; and although cards of admission were not demanded of the visitors, in deference to the President's request, such close supervision was exercised that few of the uninvited managed to affect an entrance. In more than one case

however, a bevy of would-bes (generally of overdressed women, with perhaps one martyred man among them) was quietly but firmly turned back by the police and departed with flushed faces. Everybody acknowledged that limiting the number of invitations was an advantage, and for the first time in twenty years the invited guests of the heads of the nation were received and entertained in a dignified and comfortable manner, without the promiscuous crush of the uninvited multitude.

FANNIE BRIGHAM.

### ANTI-MORMONISM.

Before you lay away the body of "honorable" Marcus E. Jones "of Salt Lake City," I would like the privilege of making a few appropriate remarks over the corpse.

I am not a Mormon, a Jack-Mormon or a Jack ass. I have been among the Mormons as a common, everyday, unpretending American citizen, possessing fair understanding, well-developed perceptive faculties, as much independence as one person ought to have, for the last decade. My opportunities for observing the Mormons have been as good as the average. My study of Mormonism and its results has been far beyond that given to the subject by a vast majority of the non-Mormon residents of Utah in the last ten or fifteen years. What I am about to write is voluntary, as has been every word I have ever written concerning Utah and its people. I have never been "hired" to write, or even paid to write, one word. I do not believe the Mormons ever cared much for what I said in their behalf. Why should they? They look upon themselves as being wholly in the Lord's hands. When He raised up a friend for them, that was His business, not theirs.

As to "tricks" in securing statehood, or "tricks," after statehood came, to jump the offices, I want to say this: Even if all that the late Marcus E. Jones said, in the quotations which you have made from his letter, were strictly true, what of it? Take "polygamy" first. If he had placed in the hands of the President of the Republic proof that polygamous marriages are now being made in the Mormon Church in Utah; that this fact is known to United States officers of the law in Utah and goes on unheeded by them, I will guarantee that there would have been a sensation here in short order. If he could do this, why did he distress himself? If he knew whereof he affirmed and did not divulge his proofs then he was recreant to his conscience.

Next, take the "trick" of getting control of the offices, the positions of trust in banks, etc., the control of the schools, the control of the State. Would not Mr. Jones, if he had been permitted to live and the people he represented were very largely in the majority in the State have done the same thing? If the "Jones Manufactory" had turned its output into Utah in sufficient quantity to far outnumber all others, how many Mormons would he have placed in his banks, schools and political offices? Holding such feelings, as he evidently did, towards the Mormons, it is safe to say they would have received no favors from him and his people. But, as you have shown, his charge is not true. There are good and so-so people in the Mormon Church, in all other churches and outside of all churches. Among the non-Mormons of Utah are enterprising, prosperous men who are employing Mormons, dealing with Mormons, going along as the times allow and doing no belly aching against the people who are in the majority.

As to offices and management of municipal affairs, who does not know that in Salt Lake City, for instance, the change from Mormon to non-Mormon