



JANUARY 5, 1900.

THE EXECUTIVE MANSION.

THE LAST RECEPTION.

Mrs. Lowndes Bids Farewell to Annapolis Society—A Brilliant Affair—Large Gathering.

Mrs. Lloyd Lowndes held her last reception yesterday afternoon at the Executive Mansion, and the charming hostess of the State's beautiful home said farewell to a large number of callers, who regret to part with her. While yesterday's reception was, like all of its predecessors, a lovely affair, yet there was an air of sadness about it that parting always brings. Mrs. Lowndes has brought much life and gayety into Annapolis society. She has spared neither pains nor expense in entertaining, and in entertaining frequently during her residence here. As a hostess she has no superiors, and is eminently fitted to be the wife of the chief executive. She has a happy faculty for remembering names and faces, which at once gives her a warm spot in the hearts of those who have a weakness for being remembered—and who has not?

Yesterday's number of callers was very large, partly because they desired to have the opportunity of saying goodbye, and partly because many of them availed themselves of the opportunity to make the party call due from last Thursday's card reception. The receiving party was composed of the little staff of helpers that Mrs. Lowndes has gathered about her during her residence here. They were Mrs. Merriam, Miss Owen, Miss Prudence Ridout, Miss Mary Randall Magruder and Miss Habersham. This has been an efficient "staff," as Mrs. Lowndes is pleased to call it, and each one has exerted herself to see to the entertainment of the guests. Mrs. Lowndes was gowned at yesterday's reception in a handsome creation of black Spanish lace over blue taffeta, with sable trimming and ornamented with cut steel; Mrs. Merriam's gown was black satin with duchess lace bertha; Miss Owen wore white organdy with trimming of hand embroidery; Miss Magruder wore pink and white swiss with lace; Miss Ridout, white crepe; pink satin waist, with exquisite lace trimming; Miss Habersham, lavender and white striped silk, with garniture of lavender satin and lace.

Miss Robb entertained the callers with piano music. In the dining room the floral decorations were red and white carnations with maiden-hair fern and garlands of smilax. The table was decorated with streamers of red and white satin ribbon, silver candelabra, with red shades ornamented with white roses. Miss Ridout served the chocolate, and Mrs. Merriam the egg nog. Among the callers were a number of officers from the Naval Academy. Some of those who left cards were: Commander and Mrs. Hutchins, Pay Director T. T. Caswell, Mrs. A. M. Knight, Paymaster J. P. Loomis, Miss Loomis, Captain and Mrs. Schouler, Miss Kearney, Mrs. H. H. Clarke, Lieut. and Mrs. Bartlett, Lieut. W. S. Benson, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Loweree, Miss Loweree, Mrs. Jeffers, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Dubose, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Garner, Commander and Mrs. Robert T. Jasper, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Spencer, Mrs. Harry Knox, Mrs. E. A. Gage, Mrs. W. F. Halsey, Mrs. Nevitt Steele, Mrs. J. H. Hodges, Mrs. James Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Brown, Mr. L. B. Brown, Mrs. J. deP. Douw, Dr. Thomas Fell, Miss Dorsey, Miss Walker, Mrs. W. J. Terhune, Lieut. and Mrs. Kinkaid, Dr. O. M. Eakins, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Garst, Lieut. and Mrs. W. H. G. Bullard, Mrs. Wainwright, Mr. Charles Belknap, Mr. and Mrs. Harry George, Mr. Buchanan Henry, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. McComas, Captain Terry, Mr. and Mrs. B. V. Cissel, Miss Cissel, Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Green and Mr. Samuel Brooke.