M'KINLEY SWORN IN

Continued from Third Page.)

rivals. The galleries were startled shortly after 11 o'clock, when ex-Queen Liliuokalani entered the diplomatic gallery, accompanied by her secretary, Mr. Palmer. She was given the best available seat, which by this time was far in the rear. The presidential family arrived at 11:30 and entered the east reserved gallery.

Mrs. McKinley, accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Barber, moved down the aisle and took front seats which had been reserved for her. She smiled frequently as she surveyed the crowd and chatted with Chairman Bell of the inauguration committee, who sat beside her. Following the wife of the new president came venerable Mrs. McKinley, sr., garbed befittingly to her age. Her kindly face was framed in rolls of gray hair like those in old prints. She was two seats from Mrs. McKinley, jr., and the two bent forward frequently for an exchange of happiness.

The diplomatic corps entered the chamber at 11:45, followed a moment later by the chief justice and associated justices of the United States supreme court. They filed down the aisle in gorgeous regalia and silken robes.

The members of the house of representatives, headed by Speaker Reed, then entered the chamber. There was a stir of interest when the senate officials announced the vice president-elect, Mr. Hobart, who entered from the right door and stepped to the seat near the presiding officer's desk.

PRINCIPAL ACTORS ARRIVE.

All this was but accessory to the main scene which had been so eagerly awaited, the arrival of President Cleveland and President-elect McKinley. It was just 12:20 when they entered the main doors, facing the vice president, and attention was riveted at once on these two central figures. Mr. McKinley, with Mr. Cleveland, was seated immediately in front of the presiding officer, facing the senate and the crowds. On the left sat Major General Miles, commanding officer of the army, and Admiral Brown, both in full uniform. To the right was another blaze of rich uniforms and decorations, the four ambassadors, Sir Julian Pauncefote, M. Patenotre, Baron Thielman and Baron Fava, being directly to the side of Mr. McKinley. The members of the cabinet were in a semi-circle to the right, facing the outgoing and incoming presidents. On the opposite side of the center aisle were Chief Justice Fuller and the associate justices. Next were General Porter and Marshal Wilson of the District of Columbia. Back of the supreme judges were the ministers of foreign countries, wearing their rich uniforms.

The members of the house of representatives filled the entire body of the hall on the right side, and on the opposite side sat senators and senators-elect. As the presidential party took their seats Vice President Stevenson arose and invited his successor to step forward and take the oath of office. Mr. Hobart advanced to the desk, raised his right hand and took the oath in accordance with the constitution. Then Mr. Stevenson delivered his valedictory address, speaking hoarsely as a result of the recent strain. He said:

STEVENSON'S VALEDICTORY.

Senators: The hour has arrived which marks the close of the Fifty-fourth congress and terminates my official relation to this body. Before laying down the gavel for the last time I may be pardoned for detaining you for a moment, in the attempt to give expression to my gratitude for the uniform courtesy extended me, for the many kindnesses shown me during the time it has been my good fortune to preside over your deliberations. My appreciation of the resolution of the senate personal to myself can find no adequate expression in words. Intentionally I have at no time given offense; and I carry from this presence no shadow of feeling of unkindness toward any senator—no memory of a grievance.

Chief among the favors political fortune has bestowed upon me I count that of having been the associate and of having known something of the friendship of the men with whom I have so long held official relation in this chamber. To have been the presiding officer of this august body is an honor of which even the most illustrious citizen might be proud. I am persuaded that no occupant of this chair during the 108 years of our constitutional history ever entered upon the discharge of the duties pertaining to this office more deeply impressed with a sense of the responsibilities imposed or with a higher appreciation of the character and dignity of this great legislative assembly.

ARENA OF GREAT DEBATE.

During the term just closing questions of deep import to political parties and to the country have here found earnest and at times passionate discussion. This chamber has, indeed, been the arena of great debate. The record of four years of parliamentary struggles, of masterful debates, of important legislation is closed, and passes now to the domain of history. I think I can truly say, in the words of a distinguished predecessor: "In the discharge of my official duties I have known no cause, no party, no friend." It has been my earnest endeavor justly to interpret and faithfully to execute the rules of the senate. At times the temptation may be strong to compass partisan ends by a disregard or a perversion of the rules. Yet, I think it safe to say, the result, however salutary, will be dearly purchased by a departure from the methods prescribed by the senate for its own guidance. A single instance thus indicated might prove the forerunner of untold evils. "It will be recorded for a precedent, and many an error, by the same example, will rush into the state."

It must not be forgotten that the rules governing this body are founded deep in human experience; that they are the result of centuries of tireless effort in the legislative halls, to conserve, to render stable and secure the rights and liberties which have been achieved by conflict. By its rules the senate wisely fixes the limits to its own power. Of those who clamor against the senate and its methods of procedure it may be truly said, "They know not what they do." In this chamber alone are preserved, without restriction, two essentials of wise legislation and of good government—the right of amendment and of debate.

EVILS OF HASTY LEGISLATION.

Great evils often result from hasty legislation—rarely from the delay which follows a full discussion and deliberation. Within my humble judgment the historic senate—preserving the unrestricted right of amendment and debate, maintaining intact the time-honored parliamentary methods and amenities which unfailingly secure action after deliberation—possesses in our scheme of government a value which cannot be measured by words.

The senate is a perpetual body. In the terse words of an eminent senator now present, "The men who framed the constitution had studied thoroughly all former attempts at republican government. History was strewn with the wrecks of unsuccessful democracies. Sometimes the usurpation of power, sometimes the fickleness and unbridled license of the people had brought popular governments to destruction. To guard against these dangers they placed their chief hope in the senate. * * * The senate, which was organized in 1789, at the inauguration of the government, abides and will continue to abide one and the same body until the republic itself shall be overthrown or time shall be no more.

Twenty-four senators who have occupied seats in this chamber during my term of office are no longer members of this body. Five of that number—Stanford, Colquitt, Vance, Stockbridge and Wilson—"shattered with the contentions of the great hall"—full of years and of honors—have passed from earthly scenes. The fall of the gavel will conclude the other senators, who will be borne in kind remembrance by their associates who remain.

I would do violence to my feelings if I failed to express my thanks to the officials of this body for the fidelity with which they have discharged their important duties and for the timely assistance and unfailing courtesy of which I have been the recipient.

For the able and distinguished gentleman who succeeds me as your presiding officer I earnestly invoke the same co-operation and courtesy you have so generously accorded me.

Senators, my parting words have been spoken, and I now discharge my last official duty, that of declaring the senate adjourned without day.

The senate adjourned without day.

ENTER HOBART.

Mr. Hobart now advanced to the presiding chair, and for the first time exercised his official functions by calling the senate to order. Mr. Hobart moved aside for the blind chaplain of the senate, who, in an impressive voice, delivered the first invocation to the new senate. He said:

Oh! Thou who are the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, we are come to implore Thy benediction upon the solemn service which engages the profoundest interest of the nation and enlists the sympathies of all kindred tribes and tongues—the induction of thine honored servants according to the sovereign will of the people of the United States of America into the highest offices of the land, thus lifting them from the plane of private citizens to the level of the mightiest rulers of the earth and clothing them with vast powers and awful responsibilities. As they bow themselves before the majesty of Thy presence and throne, while they pledge their faith to Thee and to the people, by kissing the holy volume of Thy word, gird their loins and strengthen their years for the manifold and great tasks and labors which lie before them. Guard their persons from disease, violence and every form of danger; endow them with health and soundness of body and mind; endow them with patience, equanimity, fortitude and courage, with a wise and understanding heart, and while under Thy guidance they seek the weal of the whole people, rally to their support the patriotic devotion of the nation. Give peace in our time, O Lord, and a friendly understanding with all the republics, kingdoms and empires of the world. Establish among ourselves the reign of kindness and good feeling, of plain living, high thinking, noble doing, and the spirit of brotherly love. Thus crown the administration of Thy servants with the success and honor which come from God.

HOBART'S SALUTATORY.

As the chaplain closed Vice President Hobart addressed the senate for the first time, speaking in strong, well modulated tones, as he delivered his introductory address. He said:

"Senators: To have been elected to preside over the senate of the United States is a distinction which any citizen would prize, and the manifestation of confidence which it implies is an honor which I sincerely appreciate.

"My gratitude and loyalty to the people of the country to whom I owe this honor, and my duty to you as well, demand such a conservative, equitable and conscientious construction and enforcement of your rules as shall promote the well-being and prosperity of the people and at the same time conserve the time-honored principles and established traditions which have contributed to make this tribunal the most distinguished of the legislative bodies of the world.

"In entering upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen I feel a peculiar delicacy, for I am aware your body, with whom, for a time, I will be associated, has had but a small voice in the selection of its presiding officer, and that I am called upon to conduct your deliberations, while not, perhaps, your choice in point of either merit or fitness.

"It will be my constant effort to aid you, so far as I may, in all reasonable expedition of the business of the senate, and I may be permitted to express the belief that such expedition is the hope of the country. All the interests of good government and the advancement toward a higher and better condition of things call for prompt and proper legislation at your hands. To obstruct the regular course of wise and prudent legislative action, after the fullest and freest discussion, is neither consistent with true senatorial courtesy, conducive to the welfare of the people nor in compliance with their just expectations.

"While assisting in the settlement of the grave questions which devolve upon the senate it will be my endeavor to so guide its deliberations that its wisdom may be made fruitful in works, whilst at the same time exercising such fairness and impartiality within the rules of the senate as shall deserve, at least, your good opinion of the sincerity of my effort.

"Unfamiliar with your rules and manner of procedure, I can only promise that I will bring all the ability I possess to the faithful discharge of every duty as it may devolve upon me, relying always upon your suggestions, your advice and your co-operation, and I should feel unequal to the task did I not fully anticipate the indulgent aid and consideration which you have at all times given to my predecessors, and without which I could not hope to acquit myself to your satisfaction or with any degree of personal credit. It shall be my highest aim to justify the confidence the people have reposed in me by discharging my duties in such a manner as to lighten your labors, secure your appreciation of my honest effort to administer your rules with an eye single to the public good and promote the pleasant and efficient transaction of the public business.

"I trust our official and personal relations may be alike agreeable, that the friendships we may form here may be genuine and lasting, and that the work of the senate may redound to the peace and honor of the country and the prosperity and happiness of all the people."

NEW SENATORS SWORN IN.

The proclamation of the outgoing president, calling an extra session of the senate, having been read, Vice President Hobart requested the new senators to advance and take the oath of office. At the presiding officer's suggestion, Mr. Morrill, the patriarch of the senate, was complimented with being the first to be sworn in. As the new senators took the oath there was a hum of interest throughout the gallery. No exact order was observed, the oath being given to four senators at one time. The names of Thomas C. Platt of New York and James B. Foraker of Ohio were called together. With these fifteen new men were twelve of the old senators sworn in for new terms.

In the meantime, while the oaths were being administered, Mr. Cleveland and Mr. McKinley sat talking in a low tone. It was clearly a most agreeable exchange, for the old and the new presidents smiled every now and then as the nodded acquiescence.

It was noted that Secretary of State Olney and Secretary Lamont were not among the cabinet officers present. It was 1:05 p. m. when the last oath had been administered and the formal exit began, the supreme court judges going first, then Mr. Cleveland and President McKinley, and the officials following.

Just before the official party withdrew Mrs. McKinley and the mother of the president were escorted from the gallery to the east front of the capitol, where the oath of office was to be taken by the new president. Occupants of the public gallery were held in their places for some time in order not to block the procession of the officials. Gradually the chamber was deserted and the scene of action removed to the east front of the capitol.

PARADE THE EVENT FOR CROWD.

Twenty Thousand Men and Many Bands in the Line.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—For the general public, unfavored in the invitations to the inaugural stand or the senate chamber ceremonies, and unable to get within easy distance of the stand, because of the presence of thousands of their fellow citizens, the great event of the day was the grand parade of 20,000 men, with bands playing from the capitol to the white house and two miles beyond. And the public was there, from the capitol to the point of disbanding, thronging the avenue and filling the stands, windows and every point of vantage. The day was such a glorious one that they waited patiently. A delay after Mr. McKinley had delivered his inaugural occurred, owing to the fact that it was deemed advisable for President McKinley to partake of lunch at the capitol before resuming the procession back to the white house, instead of following the former custom and halting the parade while he took lunch at the white house. As President McKinley and ex-President Cleveland, arm in arm, emerged from the capitol, after the lunch, the cavalry buglers sounded a salute, the troopers came to a present arms and the great throng pressed forward to catch a glimpse of the new president.

Cheer on cheer went up, frightening the horses and making confusion in bringing forward the handsome turnout which was to bear the presidential party to the white house. Mr. McKinley took the rear seat on the right, with Mr. Cleveland beside him on the left. On the front seat were Sherman, muffled in a fur collar, and Senator Mitchell of Wisconsin.

Marshal Porter gave the word to advance, the troopers swung into company front, followed by the presidential carriage drawn by four sleek bays. It was one continuous ovation from the start. The president raised his hat time and time again, bowing and smiling his acknowledgments. From windows, roofs and trees rang continuous cheers, while flags and handkerchiefs were waved in demonstrative greeting. Mr. McKinley, seeing that his salutes were continuous, at last sat bareheaded, hat in hand, waving acknowledgments to the multitude. At the Peace monument the brilliant escort and presidential party swung into the broad avenue and took its course along the crowded thoroughfares to the executive mansion.

Ahead of everything in the line of parade rode Major William G. Moore, chief of police of Washington, and with him Captain Austin, both in full uniform. They were not scheduled for this position in the official program and the majority in the crowd cheered the police chief lustily under the impression it was doing honor to General Horace Porter, grand marshal of the parade.

Behind this advance guard came a dozen mounted policemen, and next the Governor's island band in the blue and white uniform of the infantry, their silver instruments shining in the sunlight and the strains of their marching music floating up clear and resonant above the broken hurrahs of the crowd. Then in apparently endless vista down the avenue stretched the magnificent array of the first grand military division. Twenty files across and platoon after platoon in close order, it marched like a great machine with glittering brass helmets, flashing side arms, the sunlight glinting on hundreds of bayonets that stretched from side to side of the avenue. As far as the eye could reach they stretched, infantry in blue and white, the artillery with its dash of crimson, the marines conspicuous in their blue storm-coats with crimson linings, the golden-striped hussars on their black steeds, while over the whole floated hundreds of flags, regimental banners and fluttering guidons.

FIVE SONS OF EX-PRESIDENTS.

Behind General Porter and his immediate military staff there were 200 special mounted aides, each with high silk hat, yellow gauntlets and a broad white sash from the left shoulder to the right side. Another interesting feature of the special mounted aides, which did not appear except to those familiar with the arrangements, was that in the aggregation there were five sons of ex-presidents of the United States. They were U. S. Grant, W. C. Hayes, H. A. Garfield, C. A. Arthur and Russell Harrison.

Immediately behind the group of special aides came the escort to the president, the black horse troop of Cleveland.

Then up and down the avenue rose a great cheer that echoed and echoed back, and was taken up and repeated again and again as the carriage of the president and ex-president rolled into view. President McKinley, with a white silk handkerchief around his neck, held his hat in his hand, raising it now and then to right or left in response to some particularly enthusiastic cheer. He still looked pale, but he was smiling as he neared the end of his triumphal pilgrimage. Ex-President Cleveland, now seated on the left of President McKinley, was smiling in contrast to the stolid expression he bore most of the day.

Behind the carriage of the president and ex-president marched a little band in the silver and dark-blue coats and slouch hats of the Grand Army of the Republic. They stepped, proudly wearing blue pennons blazoned with "Twenty-third Ohio" in gold. They were the veterans of the old regiment in whose battles the president had won the title of major, and fittingly they were given the place of honor directly behind their old-time comrade.

FIRST MILITARY DIVISION.

Then in full array swept down the head of the first grand military division, led by General Granville M. Dodge, chief marshal, with his gold-trapped staff on prancing horses scattered out at regular intervals over the great expanse of the avenue like an immense chess board, set with all knights. Behind them again came a smaller group of mounted officers headed by General Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., marshal of the First brigade, and behind this Colonel Boland, commander of the corps of United States engineers, and staff. Thus the whole great body of military officers rested like a gigantic wedge with its apex against the broad front of the dismounted forces that followed. Leading these were the engineers with their castle banner, white on a scarlet field, mingling its folds with the stars and stripes that floated at its side.

Rank after rank the dismounted squares swept by, then a break and another mounted staff, that of Major Tracey, commanding the Seventeenth United States infantry, whose full dress helmets glittered as they swung in an oblique to gain the center of the avenue. Behind them came a dismounted regiment of United States artillery under Colonel F. L. Gunther. Like a great thousand-legged monster, the regiment wound by, its arms at a carry.

Then there was a cheer that started with the Washingtonians, who knew them, and was taken up by the remainder of the crowd. It was the United States Marine band, fifty pieces strong, which broke out into the familiar strains of "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean." This red-coated, gold-splashed section of the parade was one of the most striking pictures of the whole brilliant military division.

Behind the marines followed the light artillery under the command of Major James Lancaster, and then with a ringing clash of hoofs, the Indian fighting troopers of the good old Sixth cavalry, Colonel Sumner commanding, rode by, sitting on their horses like cowboys. Their orange plumes waved and tossed in the wind and their swords flashed from hip to shoulder, while their horses danced to the music of the mounted regimental band.

Following this section of the regular forces came a detachment of 1,200 of the District of Columbia National guard under command of Colonel Cecil Clay.

SECOND DIVISION.

Next swept into view the second division, consisting of troops of the national guard of the several states represented at the inauguration. At their head, in many instances, rode the governors of the states. Commanding this division was Governor Asa S. Bushnell, marshal, with General Meline as adjutant. It comprised three brigades. In the first were troops from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Maryland. Governor Bushnell himself received an ovation, as he headed the most gorgeously attired staff in the whole line. The governor wore a high hat and red and blue sash, while his staff wore black chapeaux. The first organization in this line was the Washington infantry of Philadelphia, but the interest of the crowd was distracted from the fine marching of the company by the extraordinary performance of musket jugglery rendered by the leader of the band. The New Jersey organizations and Connecticut followed. Maryland probably earned the distinction of mustering more men in line than any other state, and very proud looked Governor Lowndes, in his civilian attire, as he headed his contingent and his eyes swept back over the magnificent military assemblage that marched along with machine-like perfection to the strains of "Maryland, My Maryland," while the crowd yelled in enthusiasm.

The second brigade was made up of military from six states, headed by General David S. Gordon as marshal. Five hundred men of the New York National guard, all of the Seventy-first regiment, swung along with easy step at the head of this brigade, just behind Governor Black. Little Rhode Island showed up well.

Governor Grout of Vermont led the third brigade, at the head of a splendid battalion. Governor Tanner of Illinois made a figure mounted on a great bay horse, well proportioned by his own gigantic figure. He was cheered to the echo.

Governor Pingree of Michigan was another popular idol, if the amount of enthusiasm caused by his appearance was any criterion. About forty men made up an old guard as his escort, with wands bearing gigantic gold dollars.

A warm welcome was extended to General O. O. Howard as he rode at the head of the third division, made up of veteran organizations, such as the Grand Army of the Republican posts and the Union Veteran legions.

North Dakota created a laugh, represented, as it was, by four men and a huge banner, looking very lonesome in the middle of the street. Following came a little girl in a blue military cap, the tiny daughter of the regiment, leading a body of old veterans. She was greeted with great applause. This wound up the military grand division of the parade, and while there have been more troops in line in an inaugural parade in times gone by, everybody agreed that in point of quality this display left nothing to be desired.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS.

Next came the civic organizations, under the marshalship of B. H. Warner, with Thomas C. Noyes, adjutant general, and General Benjamin Butterworth, chief of staff, followed by probably as many aides as were in all the rest of the line. The first division was made up of organizations from Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Georgia. The first organization which preceded the marshal, the Americus club of Pittsburg, opened their red, white and blue umbrellas with a concerted movement as a salute to the president as they passed the stand. Clad in gray mackintoshes, with blue sashes, came President Woodmansee of the League of Republican Clubs, bowing right and left to the plaudits of the crowd. His personal escort was the Young Men's Blaine club of Cincinnati, an organization of 2,000, of whom 400 were in line, led by a military band. Their uniforms were brown overcoats with high white hats and goldheaded canes.

Hon. Murat Halstead of Ohio, with a purple-ensashed staff, headed the second division, which was led by the M. S. Quay club of Philadelphia, a colored organization, in long minstrel overcoats and high hats. But the ovation given to the distinguished marshal was doubly discounted by the applause which broke loose as the Indian school contingent from Carlisle, Pa., came tramping into view. The Indian boys operated their own band, which in point of noise stood well up in the list. The point of their display, however, lay in the unique industrial exhibit carried by the 250 cadets.

Following the passing of the Indians there was another prolonged cheer as the campaign banner, stretched from a wheel frame bore in sight. It bore the pictures of McKinley and Hobart and was labeled: "The First Republican Campaign Banner That Swung to a Southern Breeze." Its attendants were the Atlanta McKinley club. Maryland was well represented.

The second division was led by Hon. Franklin Park of New Jersey with the Young Men's Republican club of Baltimore as escort, supplemented by the Frelinghuysen Lancers of Newark, N. J., a striking organization in uniforms of blue, white and scarlet. Then another cheer broke forth as the ermine-trimmed caps of the famous old Stonewall Jackson band of Virginia swung past the stand playing "Dixie" at the top of its lungs. At the head of the second brigade rode Hon. Richard E. Cochran of New York, attended by a well appointed staff.

Representative J. A. T. Hull of Iowa, the marshal of the third division, was escorted by the Minneapolis Flambeau club, one of the most famous marching clubs in the country. Without exception the finest display by any band in the civic division was that of the Mount Pleasant Drum corps of Washington, a boys' zouave organization of ninety-five thoroughly trained young musicians. They acted as an escort to the Tippecanoe club, the swell political organization of Ohio, of which Senator Mark Hanna is a member.

Following this came the Stamina Republican league of Cincinnati, one of the most distinguished Ohio league clubs. It had eighty men with blue overcoats and hats, with wine-red linings to their shoulder capes. One of the newest and most striking of the Ohio organizations was the Charles I. Kurtz club of Columbus. It wore white leggings, white forage caps and white shoulder capes, blue lined and yellow borders, thrown back across their shoulders. Each carried a yellow swallow-tailed pennon with the name of its organization in black. This was the end of the parade.

The crowd broke through the ropes as soon as the last marcher filed past and surged about the railing of the stand with a cheer. The great parade was over as far as the general public was concerned, though it continued to Grand Marshal Horace Porter's reviewing stand at K street, considerably over a mile away, after which it disbanded.

REVIEWS THE GREAT PARADE.

President McKinley Occupies the Reviewing Stand for Three Hours.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—President McKinley today reviewed the parade that has become a feature of inaugural ceremonies from a stand erected on the avenue, in front of the white house grounds. When he stepped into the stand to review the monster parade he was received with tumultuous cheering from the tens of thousands of his fellow citizens who crowded the streets and acres of reviewing stands in the vicinity. His wife and mother and their party had preceded him by half an hour or more and were shown to the seats which had been reserved for them just back of the little projecting platform to be occupied by him while the procession was passing. He was accompanied by Vice President Hobart and both at once took their places just as the platoon of mounted police, which rode in advance of the parade, came into view a block away.

The stand occupied by the presidential party was much the most ornate in construction and artistic in decoration ever erected in Washington for a similar purpose. It seated comfortably 1,200 persons, among whom were ambassadors and ministers of foreign governments, members of the coming cabinet, senators and representatives incoming, army officers, governors of a number of states and other distinguished citizens from all sections of the country.

The fatigues of the day bore heavily on the president's aged mother and his wife, and they left the stand early, returning to the white house for a little rest. For three hours and more President McKinley and Vice President Hobart stood at the front of the stand, returning the salutes of the passing multitude.

In many particulars the scene was but a repetition of what takes place in Washington once in four years. There was no demonstration on the part of the marchers, except an occasional cheer given in response to the applause of the occupants of the president's stand as it recognized some famous organization, or showed its appreciation of some striking or unique uniforms or equipments. Each organization as it passed dipped its colors in salute to the president and vice president, and in turn were saluted by them. The president, in returning these salutes, not only removed his hat, but gave a low bow.

BRILLIANT INAUGURATION BALL.

Effective Wind Up of the Ceremonies of the Day.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The inaugural ball was the climax of the day. The pension building is admirably suited for this spectacular display. It is an enormous hall surrounding a vast court, supported by huge pillars of marble, around which circle two galleries. This great court tonight became the ball room. It lends itself to the most artistic decoration and it was never so beautifully decorated and festooned and lighted as tonight. The graceful arches trembled with flowers and greenery, the colossal columns seemed to grow out of bowers of flowers, and supported the iron roof, which was a royal canopy of white and gold. Hundreds of canaries in gold cages, tucked away in the greenery, sang madly, while thousands of electric lights flashed amid the flowers and drapery. The artistic effect of the lights was probably never equaled, certainly not surpassed, in this country. The most striking feature was an enormous counterpart of "Old Glory" done in red, white and blue bulbs so arranged that it seemed to be floating in a stiff breeze. It was like the portal of fairyland, with its visions of beautiful women, its myriads of gleaming lights, its gorgeous massing of colors, its wealth of blossoms, its pulsations of soft music and the heavy odor of thousands of perfumes. The enormous floor space, three hundred feet long, and half as wide, was so large that it was divided into squares, each under of corps of assistants to the general floor managers, Edward McGauley and Edwin B. Hay.

DECORATIONS.

The decorations of the inaugural ballroom in artistic beauty and harmonious treatment overshadowed anything of the kind hitherto seen in Washington. About $13,000 had been expended by the committee in the light and adornment of the great court of the pension building, and as a result it had undergone a complete transformation and presented tonight a rare scene of beauty and brilliancy. Past errors in the general design of the decorations were carefully avoided. The armor and shields and much medieval adornment, together with the great areas of red, white and blue bunting, and the familiar feature of the flags of all nations, which largely predominated in the decorations in past years, were discarded, and an entirely new scheme of treatment adopted, making everything subservient to the floral decorations. This change from the old to the modern, by which a blending of effects was secured in place of glarish and startling results, was a conspicuous success. For the groundwork of the floral decorations and for the great canopy above, about 50,000 yards of white and gold challie were used. The great court was divided into three nearly equal sections by two rows of massive columns which cross it, and to obscure the roof and materially reduce the height of the room three immense domes, which were encircled with small electric light canopies, were gracefully draped to the tops of the surrounding galleries. A number of pleasing electric light features were introduced.

ELECTRIC LIGHT NOVELTIES.

A large American flag, composed of colored lights, was suspended on the west wall above the second gallery, and by a clever mechanical contrivance, the flag was given the appearance of waving in the breeze. Within the high arch of the east band stand was suspended on a black background and in deep shadow a single brilliant red electric star. High upon the south wall was an American eagle with wings outspread, clutching in its talons an electric shield in colors, and from its beak depended two floral scrolls bearing the words, "McKinley and Hobart," made from "fairy" lights. On the other side and just below the eagle were large golden cornucopias, filled to overflowing with American beauty roses, the whole entwined with silk American flags.

The stand for the orchestra of 125 musicians on the south side and center of the court, and that for the brass band at the east end, each highly artistic in construction, were handsomely decorated. The bandstand is fashioned after the famous golden gate at the Chicago World's fair. Semicircles of electric lights outlined the front and above it was draped a handsome sunburst of silk American flags, whose brilliant colors stand out in full relief against a dark background.

Masses of palms and other potted plants and quantities of large stemmed American beauty roses filled the corners and every available space in both stands and placques of roses, tulips, narcissus, etc., with a number of gilded Roman wreaths, with tracings of asparagus vine, completed their adornment. Broad satin ribbons in bows and streamers were introduced among the flowers wherever it would enhance the effect. The fountain in the center had been made a thing of beauty. Around and through the spray a picturesque grotto of cork bark and moss covered rocks had been built and planted with ferns, lilies, vines and aquatic plants. Surrounding were massed blooming plants, vines and tropical palms. A thousand electric flashlights sparkled in the falling spray and among the rocks and plant leaves.

EFFECTIVE HANDLING OF COLUMNS.

The eight towering columns which support the roof were treated in an original and novel manner. From a temporary base about ten feet from the floor sprung graceful full-growing palms which reached to a height of twenty or twenty-five feet. Massed at the bases and completely encircling them were quantities of genestas, acacias, jonquils and other rich, yellow blooms. The upper portion of the pillars, which in color harmonized with the prevailing tints of white and gold, were left unadorned. Over the balconies and about the smaller columns were trailed southern smilax and in front of the balconies, at intervals, to conform to the flag decorations, were plaques of sable palm leaves and flowers, alternating with artistic effects of Louis XVI. wreaths caught up with the national colors.

On the top of the galleries were large vases filled with luxuriant tropical plants. On the walls in the rear of the balconies were frieze effects in laurel festoons, fastened with green leaves and traceries of southern smilax. The stairways were thatched with evergreens, producing an arbor in which singing birds hung among the branches. The president's and the diplomatic rooms were arranged with palms, asparagus, plumose and other roses, orchids, American beauty roses, tulips and jonquils, acacia, genestas, etc., with artistic results of ribbons and plaques of flowers on the walls. In the four corners of the court were massed towering palms, based with growing plants, the whole raised high above the floor. The approaches were tastefully decorated with greens.

The lighting of this immense ball room was accomplished by the use of fifty arc lights, 3,000 incandescent lamps with tinted globes and 5,000 miniatures in white and yellow colors. These last were scattered right among the plants and flowers in a manner most pleasant to the eye. The incandescent lamps were attached to the capitol's 152 pillars which support the galleries. A spray of six or eight lights was thrown out in graceful curves from each depending front, while as many more hung loosely at unequal lengths against the white fronts of the pillars. The effect was unique. Viewed from an upper gallery tonight the brilliant lights, the green and gold of the decorations, the sheen of the rich gowns of the dancers, combined to present a scene scarcely to be surpassed.

DEMOCRATIC GATHERING.

There was a crush at the doors long before they were thrown open at 8 o'clock and in a quarter of an hour the floor was comfortably filled with promenaders. During the first hour before the dancing was to begin, the spectators were entertained by a concert from the white-uniformed military band, which filled the gallery at the east end of the hall, and alternated with the orchestra, high up in the south gallery, rendering operatic airs or stirring marches.

The human element of the ball, after the building had begun to fill up, was its most interesting feature, and the democracy of the great social event of the inaugural impressed itself upon the visitor. City and country, society and officialdom, even black and white, touched elbows on friendly terms in the great rotunda. In the kaleidoscope of costumes was a jumble of Paris, London, New York, Oshkosh and Kennebunkport. Perhaps a tenth of the men were not arrayed in the formal evening coat, but nevertheless the stronger sex gave its share of brilliancy to the display by the outpouring of uniforms. There were the diplomats, late comers, resplendent in scarlet and gold and green, and the grand silks of the orient, with enameled orders shining from their breasts and clanking swords which tripped them as they walked. There was also the plain but more stalwart contingent of the army and navy, together with divers uniforms of the crack military regiments of many cities.

The silks, satins, diamonds and pearls of the ladies were of course the chief, and to the sex, the most interesting features of the human show. Here and there among the promenaders was to be seen a colored couple, for all the constitutional amendments are respected at an inaugural ball. Of dancing there was none during the first two hours, and little thereafter, for the floors were much too crowded to dance with comfort and most of the visitors choose rather to watch the display than to risk their toes and garments in the crush.

PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ARRIVES.

The presidential party arrived at the ball at a quarter before 10 o'clock. The president and his wife were escorted by General Nelson A. Miles and General J. M. Wilson of the army. After them came Vice President Hobart, with Mrs. Hobart; John Addison Porter, the president's secretary; the president's brother, Abner McKinley, and several members of the McKinley and Hobart families.

The party was ushered up to the main staircase to the front, where a suite of rooms were reserved for them. After a few moments, in which Mrs. McKinley's wraps were removed, the party moved into the room ordinarily the office of the commissioner of pensions, where they received the most distinguished guests. Mrs. McKinley sat in a big velvet upholstered armchair, while the guests were presented to her, the president standing at her right. General Wilson made the presentations, and to each of those who paid their respects President McKinley gave a cordial handshake. The president's wife extended her hand to a few of those best known to her, but most of the greetings she acknowledged with a bow.

It soon became apparent that Mrs. McKinley would not be able to receive the public, so, after she had been in the building half an hour, it was thought best by Mr. McKinley that she should retire from the exciting turmoil. Therefore, the doors were closed against many notables who desired to enter.

President and Mrs. McKinley and the remainder of the party soon descended to the dancing floor. Before the presidential party emerged on the floor a long aisle had been made across the hall, lined by members of the ball committee. The president, with Mrs. McKinley on his arm, moved slowly along, smiling and bowing in response to the low murmured greetings from both sides. Mrs. McKinley smiled happily and sweetly. The party entered a supper room at the west end of the building especially reserved and decorated for them. Here they partook of light refreshments. In a few minutes they emerged from the supper room and returned as they had come, through an aisle cleared for them. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley immediately entered their carriage and were driven back to the white house. It was shortly after 11 o'clock when they took their departure. The ball was now formally opened.

Later supper was served and the remainder of the evening was given up to dancing, as the crowd had thinned out sufficiently to permit it.

MUSIC AND MENU.

The promenade music which preceded the ball was furnished by Victor Herbert's Twenty-second Regiment band of New York and Haley's Washington orchestra, playing alternate numbers. The order of the music was as follows:

Overture, "Tannhauser"....Wagner
Selection, "Faust"....Gounod
Second Hungarian Rhapsody....Liszt
Overture, "Fest"....Luitner
Grand American Fantasie....V. Herbert

The order of the dancing was as follows:

Waltz, "Return of Spring"....Waldenfelt
Promenade, "The Gold Bug"....V. Herbert
Lanciers, "Gaiety Girl"....Jones
Waltz, "Artist Life"....Strauss
Promenade, "Spanish Dance"....Moszkowski
Quadrille, "Joujou"....M. Guingle
Two Step, "El Capitan"....Sousa
Promenade, "Selection" ....Numbers from Carmen Bizet
Waltz, "La Mercouc'a"....Waldteufel
Lanciers, "International"....Moses
Promenade, "Hungarian Ezenda" ....Grosamann
Two Step, "White Flyer"....Haley
Waltz, "Symposia"....Bendlas
Quadrille, "Militaire"....Strauss
Promenade, "Grand Fantasia—Faust" ....Gounod
Waltz, "Princess Bonnie"....Spencer
Lanciers, "Robin Hood"....Dekoven
Promenade, "The American Girl" ....V. Herbert
Two Step, "Black America"....Zickel
Waltz, "My Dream"....Strauss
Promenade, Grand Finale, from "William Tell"....Rossini
Two Step, "Semper Fidelis"....Sousa
Waltz, "Auf Wiedersehen"....Baker

The menu of the ball supper is as follows:

Raw Oysters on Ice.
Consommo in Cups.
Broiled Oysters.
Oysters a la Polette.
Chicken Cutlets. Sweetbread Patties.
Terrapin, Philadelphia Style.
Chicken Salad. Lobster Salad. Crab Salad.
Tongue.
Smithfield Ham.
Game Patties. Bone Turkey.
Pate de Fole Gras.
Assorted Sandwiches.
Vanilla Ice Cream. Chocolate Ice Cream.
Lemon Ice.
Roman Punch.
Assorted Cakes, Fruit.
Johannis Water, Whiterock Water, Coffee.

KISSING THE SACRED BOOK.

Bibles on Which Chief Magistrates Have Been Sworn.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The bible on which Mr. McKinley today took the oath of office as president of the United States is an unusually handsome and costly copy of the testament made especially for the occasion in Ohio and presented to the new president by Bishop Arnott of Wilberforce college, a colored institution in the Buckeye state, on behalf of the African Methodist Episcopal church. Its covers are of blue morocco with satin linings, white satin panels and gilt edges, with a gold plate in the center engraved with the following inscription:

"William McKinley, President of the United States of America, Inaugurated March 4, 1897."

The book on which he was sworn into the highest office within the gift of the people was a matter of quite decided sentiment with President Cleveland. Mr. Cleveland asked the privilege of being sworn on a little red bible which had been given to him by his mother in boyhood when he first left the family tree and he took the oath at the beginning of both his presidential terms on this book, which he treasures fondly. The custom, however, has been for the United States supreme court to furnish the bible on which the president takes his official oath and this tradition has been carried out by the clerk of the court ever since that tribunal was established, except on the two occasions when President Cleveland was installed in office.

Mr. McKinney, clerk of the supreme court, who has held the bible on which Garfield was sworn and every president after him, has always marked the verse which the president touched with his lips and after the inaugural has presented the book made historic by this event to the president or to his wife. When Mr. McKinney presented to Mrs. Hayes the volume on which her husband had been sworn she inquired what passage he had kissed. The verse recited, in substance, that his enemies encompassed him like bees, but he would destroy them. Mrs. Hayes remarked that President Hayes would destroy no one.

At the second inauguration of President Grant the clerk opened the bible and handed it to Chief Justice Chase, who held it to the lips of the president. They rested upon these verses from the eleventh chapter of Isaiah:

"And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

"And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord; and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears."

The first inauguration of George Washington in the federal building in New York on April 30, 1789, was delayed by the failure to provide a bible. Just as the arrival of Washington was announced to congress Chancellor Livingston discovered that there was no bible in the building. He was master of St. Johns lodge No. 1, of Free Masons, and happened to remember that there was a bible in the lodge rooms. A messenger was quickly sent to bring the book and it is preserved to the present day among the relics of the lodge.

"Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people, for who can judge this but the people that is so great."

This is the verse in the bible that Mr. McKinley kissed today when Chief Justice Fuller had administered to him the oath of office. It is the tenth verse of the first chapter of Second Chronicles.