

**TWO THOUSAND
GUESTS.****LONDONDERRY HOUSE
RECEPTION.**

When the guests streamed into Londonderry House last night they found

they had come into

a mansion of

golden lights.

Golden flowers

scented the atmo-

sphere with the

warm fragrance of

spring.

The guests

passed in an ever-

moving file

through the hall

and up the wide,

red-carpeted stair-

case, by an im-

mense centre bowl

of glorious mim-

osa with heavy

hanging blossoms, to the gallery. There

they were received by Lady Londonderry,

standing with Lord Londonderry and Mr. Baldwin, the guest of

honour.

Lady Londonderry looked as though

she had stepped from the canvas of an

old master. She wore a gown of shimmering

black velvet draped over a silver

petticoat, executed in the style of Velasquez.

The lights caught the sheen of the velvet

surface, and the wonderful Londonderry

diamonds shot prismatic

hues.

OLD LACE.

The brilliancy of the scene in the ball-

room, where lights like golden stars

shone in the centre of the ceiling, and

portraits of former Lord Londonderrys

looked down at the guests above golden-

shaded lights, was perhaps not so pro-

nounced as on other occasions. Court

semi-mourning influenced many women

to wear black gowns, whose simple aus-

terity was relieved by diamonds and

pearls and family treasures of old, ex-

quisite lace.

The first guests arrived at ten

o'clock, and until midnight newcomers

thronged the rooms that form a circle

round the head of the staircase, pausing

in their conversation to admire

"Miranda," the Hoppner portrait of the

lovely, laughing girl with the flowing

black locks and the white muslin dress,

which has only recently been returned

from the British Empire Exhibition, and

the delightful picture of Lady Mary

Stewart, the baby daughter of Lady Lon-

donderry, painted by de Laszlo. Peers,

statesmen, and distinguished artists and

musicians mingled among the throng.

DINNERS.

Before the reception Mr. Baldwin en-

tertained the Cabinet Ministers to din-

ner and Lord Salisbury a party of

peers. Two thousand guests in all

passed through the reception-rooms dur-

ing the evening. Those who accepted

invitations included:—

The Duke and Duchess of Wellington,

Duchess of Atholl, Katharine Duchess of

Westminster, Marquis and Marchioness

of Tweeddale, Earl and Countess of

Plymouth, Earl and Countess of Sel-

bourne, Viscount and Viscountess Cave,

Viscount and Viscountess Petersham,

Earl and Countess of Radnor. Mr. and

Lady Joan Verney, Sir Alfred Mond, Sir

Philip Sassoon, Mrs. Dudley Ward, Sir

Victor and Lady Warrender, Master of

Elibank and the Hon. Mrs. Gideon Mur-

ray, Mr. Walter and Lady Evelyn Guin-

ness, Wing-Commander and Mrs. Louis

Greig, and Dame Helen Gwynne

Vaughan.

Countess Beauchamp gave a reception

at Belgrave-square to meet the Earl of

Oxford. Among those who accepted in-

vitations were Mr. Lloyd George and

Liberal members of both Houses of

Parliament.



Lady Londonderry.