

side of the dais and half way down the sides of the room were occupied by them, and all the rest by the onlookers. What a scene it was! The rows upon rows of bright faces surrounded by the brilliant colours and flashing jewels presented a scene that reminded one of the pictures in the fairy tales of childhood. A short time after all the guests were seated, the vice-regal party entered, and while thousands of voices sang the National Anthem, walked slowly to the dais. The procession was formed of the heralds, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, Major Denison, the Governor-General and the Countess of Aberdeen, and several other ladies and gentlemen, who took their places with them on the dais. His Excellency the Governor-General wore the full dress uniform of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. The Countess of Aberdeen wore white satin with ermine and court train of royal blue velvet carried by six pages.

In a few moments the trumpets sounded the call for the first dance. It was an intricate march accompanied by the music of British national airs,—the four sections of it representing the four different parts of the Empire, North America, India and Australasia, Europe and Africa. Lady Marjorie Gordon, with Mr. David Erskine, headed the section representing North America. She was dressed to represent the forests of Canada, in white satin edged with fur, and all covered with [a silvery gauze; around the bottom of the skirt were pictured a snake fence and pine trees; on the front of the bodice was a bunch of maple leaves. On one shoulder nestled a little squirrel, and on the other was a very diminutive evergreen tree. The Indian costumes in this group were especially striking. When the march was finished, the dancers formed in twos and were presented one by one to their Excellencies.

Before the trumpets sounded again for the next group to appear, His Excellency, from the lowest step of the dais, announced a message of interest in the ball from the Queen. This was received by the guests standing, who responded by singing the first verse of the National Anthem followed with three cheers for the Queen. Then the ball went on. The next dance was the old fashioned quadrille, and the costumes represented the different periods of the Victorian Era, the first, second, third and middle, and aesthetic periods. The set representing the bridesmaids at Queen Victoria's marriage was quaint and old fashioned, and the dresses of its members quite distinct from the more elaborate court gowns that were very much in evidence during the evening. Their costume consisted of white net skirts over crinolines and laced bodices of white satin, with pink roses on the shoulders. Another set strikingly effective in this group, was that in