

one or two of their intimate friends, married or single, their burdens would be lessened and ease and sociability increased. The custom of stated days being established, it is only to be considered how they can be rendered most conducive to friendly intercourse. An effort has been made to give to each locality a special reception day. This pleases a majority of ladies, though some object that if the rule prevails they are unable to visit their neighbors or to receive calls from them. The hotels seem by common consent to have selected Mondays, a day on which there is not much visiting elsewhere. Different neighborhoods have settled informally on special days, which may be specified nearly as follows: On Nob Hill, which includes a portion of Taylor and adjacent streets, Tuesday is found to be most convenient. Wednesday is the reception day of South Park and Rincon Hill. The ladies on Bush and adjacent streets receive on Thursdays, the ladies of Van Ness Avenue and neighborhoods adjoining on Thursdays, and those living on Pacific Avenue, at the Presidio, and on other streets in that part of the city, on Fridays. These days are not absolutely adhered to, but are yet so faithfully observed as to form a rule, which will ere long become universal. Ladies receive everywhere in ordinary dinner-dress, anent which it may be said that the matrons and maids of San Francisco are attired in a style and with an elegance not excelled by their fashionable sisters in any metropolis of the country. Gentlemen on reception days or evenings are only dressed *en regle* in black frock coats and light-colored pantaloons, a rule not so carefully observed here as it should be. New Year's receptions will always be in vogue. At these, ladies receive alone or with one or two friends. To "receive" on an occasion of such festivity without offering refreshments is hardly allowable. The entertainment offered may be either entirely temperate or mildly bibulous. The