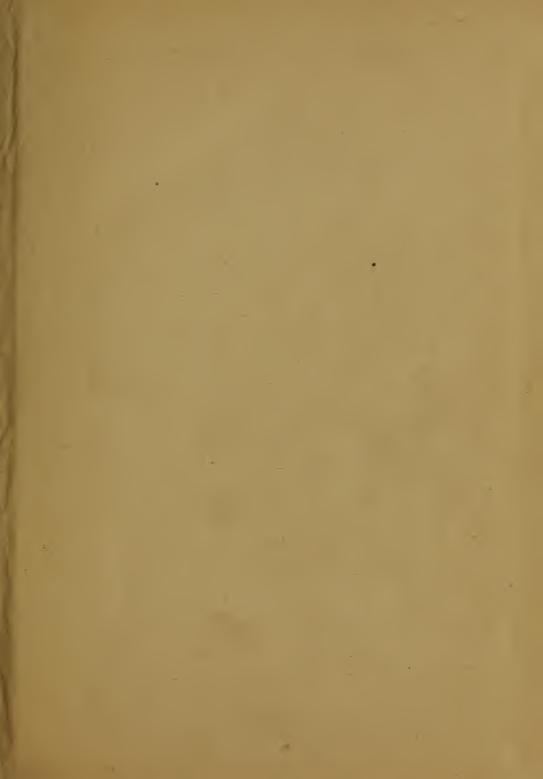




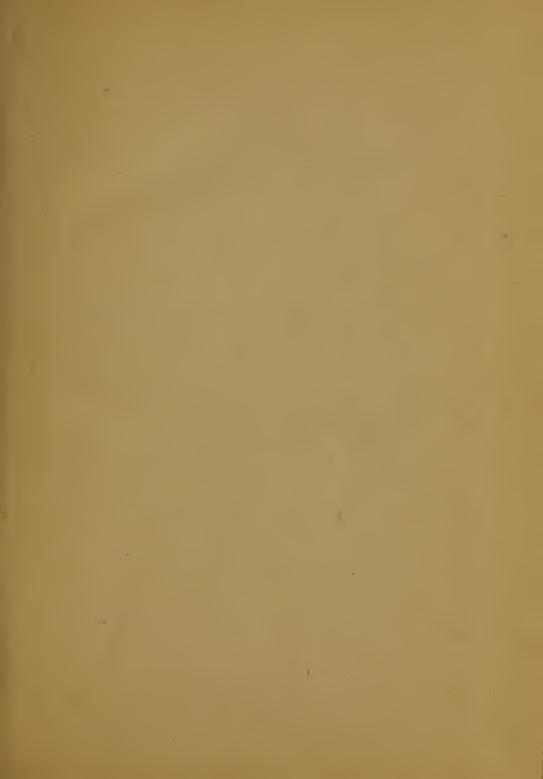
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"Dame Curtsey's" Book of Novel Entertainments







"Dame Curtsey's" Book of Novel Entertainments for Every Day in the Year

Ellye Howell Glover
"Dame Curtsey"



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Note

THE art of entertaining has become a science and a profession; and the demand for something new is incessant, for the observance of special days in the year's calendar is becoming more and more popular. Our neighbors across the sea have always been lavish with holidays, but it is only of comparatively recent date that we have allowed ourselves the luxury of these oases in the desert of our workaday world.

This book has been compiled to assist the many busy women who have the inclination to entertain friends and to make home happy for their families, but who have little spare time to devote to details. All the amusements described in it are tried and true; and the compiler hopes it will supply a long-felt want on the bookshelves of our hostesses all over the land.

Acknowledgment is due to "The Chicago Record-Herald" and the International Press Bureau for the privilege of reprinting this matter, and to "The Chicago Record-Herald" for many of the illustrations.

CHICAGO, July 1, 1907.

E. H. G.



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Novel Entertainments for Every Day in the Year

CHAPTER I.-JANUARY

New Year's Day

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light, The year is dying in the night; Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

HAT dear old philosopher Charles Lamb says, "Of all sounds, the most solemn and touching is the peal which rings out the old year." This is true, but as joy and sorrow are on very intimate terms in this world, the last day of the year and the first day have always been favorite times to entertain.

On the Continent and in England and Scotland, New Year's Day is one of great celebration; gifts are exchanged,

and balls and receptions are in progress.

Very slowly the custom of receiving calls is being revived in this country. Men, when they become of a certain, or, rather, uncertain age, dislike to make calls at night, especially in a city of tremendous distances, and it is pleasing to have one day in the year when, there being no grind of business, they can make the "duty" calls, and thus clear the conscience.

In a very old Scotch cookbook there are no less than seventeen recipes for cakes to be served on the first day of the year; what we would call pies were in great favor; they were tri-

angular pieces of crust filled with mince-meat.

An orange filled with cloves was a much-favored gift with the young folk in the land of Burns. It signified hidden wealth, and often contained a present; that is, if the orange was artificial. At any rate, it always conveyed some particu-

larly sweet or sacred message.

In this country, rich fruit cake is usually served with French coffee. No matter what the custom of the family may be, wines or liquors of any kind should not be served to New Year's callers. Imagine the condition of a visitor who pays twenty or thirty visits in rapid succession and partakes even of a small quantity at each place. This is a point upon which all hostesses should agree for at least one day in the year. There are many attractive beverages and many dainty things to serve, but only viands of the lightest character should be the rule.

A Party for New Year's Day

This charming party, to be given on the first day of the year, is called the "Carnival of the Year's Festival Days." The hostess represents the New Year. She is gowned in white, with tiny artificial rosebuds for trimming, and is assisted by four intimate friends, who are costumed to represent the Four Seasons. Twelve guests are asked to come as the Months, the name of the month allotted to each being designated in the invitation. Then there are these special guests: "Twelfth Night," "St. Valentine," "Washington's Birthday," "St. Patrick's Day," "All Fools' Day," "May Day," "July Fourth," "Labor Day," "Hallowe'en," "Thanksgiving Day," and "Christmas." In addition to these may be the birthdays of Lincoln, Dickens, and Longfellow. "Easter" and "Memorial Day" may be added if desired.

The costumes for these characters readily suggest themselves, so details are not given. Eggnog, fruit cake, and all sorts of good things suitable to the winter season figure in the refreshments. After a grand march, passing before a personage dressed as "Old Father Time," a prize may be awarded to the one best representing his or her character. A calendar or

leather-bound diary is appropriate.

A Conclave of Historical Events

THE invitations said, "Please wear a card decorated in such a way that some great historical event will be portrayed." The date of the party was January first. At the hour appointed the hostess received her guests attired in a costume representing "The Earth," while the host caused much merriment as "The Sun, Moon, and Stars." Pencils and cards were provided, with the request that the age and "event" of each one be guessed; the prizes were a small gilt clock and a very readable volume, "Eighteen Christian Centuries." The places were indicated at the table by dainty blotters of scarlet, tied with green ribbon, and on each of the twelve blotters a month from a penny calendar was pasted. The name and date were done in gold ink, and the guests were delighted with these useful but inexpensive souvenirs of a most delightful evening. This suggestive verse was on the top of the blotter:

Days of busy, busy hours, Days of idling among flowers, Days of joys and days of sorrows, Dark to-days and bright to-morrows; Days of health and days of weakness, All make up the year's completeness.

A New Year's Dinner

SET the table for twelve guests; for the centrepiece have a small tree called a "wish tree." Make little oranges of cotton and crepe paper, concealing in each one an appropriate quotation and a good wish. From each orange run a ribbon to each place, where it is attached to a bell-shaped candy box on which the name of the guest is inscribed. Twelve candles are placed around the tree; each guest is to blow out one at the close of the repast, giving at the same time a toast to the New Year. Over the table suspend bells of different sizes; they may be made of wire and covered with vines and flowers, or with crepe paper.

A Luncheon for New Year's Day

THE centrepiece was a low glass bowl filled with white rosebuds, the candles and shades were of white, as befitting an affair for the first day of January, a day spotless and new with the freshness that comes only when Old Father Time turns the wheel of fate back for a new start in the game of life.

The place cards were most novel, each representing a month; January was cut in the form of an hour glass; a cocked hat with a row of hearts around the crown represented February; a kite for March, with a picture of St. Patrick and a snake; a bird on the branch of a tree, with rain falling, for April; a tulip-shaped card for May; June was a butterfly with the words, "And what is so rare as a day in June?" an American flag with a row of fire-crackers proclaimed July; an apple tree full of red apples was August; while a card ornamented with a bunch of grapes and a group of children showed that September had come; the pumpkin Jack o'Lantern represented October; a fat turkey gobbler standing on a piece of pie was November; and a star with holly portrayed December. On the back of each card was written, "What is the happiest thing you remember in the past year?"

A "Time" Dinner

This scheme is seasonable during the early part of January. For the table centrepiece suspend a circle of green or red from the chandelier by broad ribbons or cords wound with smilax; the circle is the symbol of eternity. Then from this hoop hang toy watches, one for each guest. For place cards use small hour glasses, with a card decorated with a picture of Father Time and the baby New Year bearing the name and date and a pretty quotation. Have the bonbon boxes square, with a calendar pasted on the cover. Make a bell-shaped booklet, then write with red ink the following resolutions, leaving one page blank, on which the guest is to write a set of original resolutions to be read aloud.

Every Day in the Year

"I will be what I wish to be thought."

"I will live closer to my ideals."

"My best self shall rule."

"Where I pluck out a fault I will try to plant a virtue."

"I will look at life through rose-colored spectacles."

"I will welcome all bits of happiness by the way."

A Twelfth Night Party

THE sixth day of January is Twelfth Night, or Old Christmas, and offers opportunities for a most unique entertainment. In England and on the Continent this used to be the time chosen for elaborate masked balls and parties. A ring was concealed in an immense cake, and the guest obtaining it was made "king" or "queen." It is a matter of history that Mary, Queen of Scots, honored her maid Mary Seaton, by robing her in her own royal apparel to be the "Queen of Twelfth Night."

Tradition says that on this day every vestige of Christmas green must be taken down and burned. This is a peace offering to evil spirits, and assures good luck to the household.

Invitations to a Twelfth Night party afford an opportunity for the pen-and-ink artist to show her skill. A bonfire piled high with holly wreaths, or a cake with a ring suspended over it, is a suitable decoration. If there is no open fireplace for the burning of the greens, there may be a back yard, where the decorations may be offered with due ceremony.

Half the fun is to permit the guests to take down the greens from pictures and windows, even to stripping the tree of its ornaments and then of its branches. The crackling fire and the glowing coals offer a fine chance to toast marshmallows; so provide a number of pointed sticks for this purpose. As each guest casts on his armful of greens, he must offer an invocation to propitiate the Fates, who are hovering near.

A chafing-dish supper, or an oyster roast, with coffee or cider and cake, are the most appropriate refreshments for a

party of this kind.

Twelfth Night Cakes

CAKES are to Twelfth Night what the tree is to Christmas. In London, on the night before this festival, there are always crowds before the bakery shop windows to see the wonderful examples of cakes both great and small; these are ornamented with mechanical toys, live birds, and all sorts of grotesque decorations.

With this in mind, an up-to-date hostess might celebrate the Twelfth Night season by giving a Cake Party, such as is described on page 146.

The Wassail Bowl for Twelfth Night

In European countries the sixth of January was sometimes called Wassail Eve, and the wassail bowl was always prominent in the revels of those olden days. It should be served with Scotch shortbread, which may be purchased from the baker, oatmeal cakes, and old-fashioned jumbles with rings or holes in the middle.

Here is the correct recipe for wassail. To each quart of new cider put a saltspoonful of ground nutmeg, six of allspice, and two of cloves, taking care to see that the spices are freshly ground; then add two sticks of cinnamon, the juice of two oranges and one lemon, half a cup of granulated sugar. Bake two sour apples which have been cut in rounds, and then into quarters, until soft but not out of shape, in well-buttered enamel pans. Place them in the punch bowl, pour the boiling spiced cider over, and serve. In ancient times each person took a piece of apple from the bowl, then placed the receptacle to his lips and drank to the health of the assembled company.

Decorations for a Twelfth Night Table

THIS decorative scheme was carried out in England, and is easily adaptable by any hostess who can imagine how things will look and then carry out the idea. The centrepiece was a court jester's cap made in sections of different colors, with bells

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on the points. A circle of snapping-cracker paper caps surrounded it. At either end of the table there was a crimson cushion, on which rested gorgeous gilt crowns for the King and Queen. When the cake was passed, the guest who received the bean hidden in the cake, was the King; the pea designated the Queen, and the clove the Court Jester. The other guests appropriated the snapping caps, crowns were donned, and a merry time ensued.

CHAPTER II.-FEBRUARY

Candlemas

for not only is the gay season at its height, but there are so many special days upon which she can build her entertainment schemes and offer novelties to her guests. Candlemas, on the second day, affords opportunities for unique decorations, and it is always a pleasure to enlighten one's friends upon the delightful significance of this ancient festival. If we go back far enough we find that all our holidays have a religious beginning, and Candlemas was celebrated with the same fervor as Christmas by our remote ancestors. It was the feast of the Purification of the Virgin, the candle being symbolic of the body of the Saviour. In the mediæval period burning candles on the second of February was supposed to ward off the visits of evil spirits from the house for a year.

The peasants in many portions of Europe believe firmly in the weather forecast made on this day. The Scotch people

say:

"If Candlemas Day be fair and clear There'll be twa winters in the year."

The burning of candles on this day has for centuries been considered prophetic of the future by people given to superstition; so, as the twentieth-century maiden loves mystery, she will doubtless welcome another day on which to pry into the unseen way, as the flames will divulge her fate on Candlemas. A luncheon or dinner is a delightful way to celebrate, with a congenial party of six or eight, ten at the outside. So much depends upon the guests, and the most enjoyable affairs are always small and informal.

The table centrepiece should be of dainty white flowers, Roman hyacinths, lilies of the valley, carnations, or lilies;

Every Day in the Year

white candles should be arranged around them in a circle (symbol of eternity), with an unshaded candle at each plate, the holders of glass. Maidenhair ferns, smilax, or asparagus vine arranged in delicate tracery over the tablecloth adds greatly to the fairy-like effect. Use white china, and the bonbons and cakes should show no color. The place cards may be done in water colors having a bunch of snowdrops and a lighted candle, in remembrance of the fact that a Franciscan friar said, "I can light a taper to our Virgin Mother on the blowing of the white snowdrop, which opens its flowerets at the time of Candlemas." If this pure, wax-like blossom is obtain-

able, use it by all means for this function.

In Paris on the second day of February, the true Parisian celebrates by eating pancakes. The story is told of Madame Sarah Bernhardt, when a private car was her home while en tour in this country a season or two ago, that Candlemas Day came, and the cook was entirely unenlightened as to this very important adjunct to the breakfast menu. For a short time only did the great actress hesitate, then she sent for the cook, and it was amicably arranged that Madame Bernhardt should build her own pancakes on Candlemas Day. Any jelly or jam may be used. These may be served for dessert, or a vanilla ice cream frozen in the shape of candles, with blanched almonds for wicks, which are lighted just when sent to the table. Pass wax matches with which each guest will light the place candle. If a flame flickers without a visible draft, the weather will be windy; if the candle is slow to light, the weather will be rainy; the first candle to go out foretells an unhappy marriage; the one to burn the longest signifies wedded bliss. candles are entirely burned out let each one rise and walk three steps away, then see if the flame can be extinguished by one puff, for each puff adds one year's delay to a wedding.

A Dickens Party

On February the seventh, in the year 1812, our good friend Charles Dickens was born, so let us remember this beloved

author by celebrating his birthday. Ask the guests to come in a costume representing a character from one of his books, or the title of one of them; if it is too much trouble to wear an entire costume, some article may be worn to indicate the subject. All will rejoice in the reunion of David Copperfield,

Little Nell, Mrs. Gamp, and Mr. Micawber.

For refreshments have things as English as possible. Use only candlelight, and place all the eatables on the table at once. There should be several cold joints, such as a leg of mutton, roast beef, and a cold fowl. Individual meat pies or chops would be appropriate; and do not forget orange marmalade with seed cakes, also rye bread, and ale served in tankards. As each guest arrives, take the name of the character; when all have assembled pass cards and pencils. Allow a half-hour for guessing the characters represented; award a framed photograph of Dickens for the first prize, and a copy of one of his books for the second.

There is a charming new book called "Stories from Dickens" that is meant primarily for young readers, but it is thoroughly enjoyable by any devotee of this matchless writer. Illustrated works of Dickens will give an idea how to dress the characters, also old English prints, which may be seen at a public library. Decorate with the British flag, use English china, Sheffield plate, and any pieces of pewter you may possess. An evening with Dickens is always enjoyable and such entertainments are especially good for church societies or clubs. There are many sketches from his writings suitable for reading aloud, and they may be illustrated by living pictures. All know of the ever-pleasing features of "Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works," which have been arranged for production. A masquerade for children could be given by asking each child to come in a Dickens child costume.

In Honor of Lincoln's Birthday

In the hearts of American people, our first martyred President holds a place second to none, though the Government was

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exceedingly tardy in making the day of his birth a national holiday. It is certainly one of the red-letter days of the month, this twelfth of February, and deserves a characteristic celebration. School children observe the day, but it is only recently that the hostess has recognized it as another day on which to add a spice of novelty and interest to her entertainments. Invitations to a Lincoln party may carry the request to appear in the garb of 1860; old fashion plates and histories of that period will afford ample designs for the costumes of both men and women. Extreme simplicity must be the keynote to all the preparations. No lace doilies, fancy shades, or superfluous silver should adorn the table. A plain cloth, candles in brass or pewter holders, and the dinner served in three courses only, the guests doing their own passing as far as possible, the host carving, and the hostess pouring the coffee.

For the centrepiece make a log cabin, and surround it with a rail fence. Toy trees may be purchased to plant in the yard. The place cards may be held by little black china dolls, dressed in Turkey red or blue checked gingham pinafores. Each card should bear the name of the guest, the date, and the quotation, "With malice toward none, with charity for all." Cross the glorious Stars and Stripes over the table above the gas jet, and give each guest a little silk flag for button-hole or hair. (They come on wires especially for the hair.) Over the tablecloth lay chains made from black paper (kindergarten method), a break in the links every so often significant

of Slavery's broken shackles.

Some of the guests might be asked to be prepared to relate Lincoln anecdotes, and it would be exceedingly interesting to have a programme of the songs of that day, including the old war songs which are so rarely heard these days outside of a Grand Army meeting. The music of the period of the War had much to do with the history of the country, and some day these old melodies will be classed where they belong, in a collection of ballads dear to the hearts of the people who lived during the Civil War.

Novel Entertainments for

MENU FOR A LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY DINNER

Bean soup

Square soda crackers

Roast lamb

Green peas

Baked potatoes

Turnips

Stewed potatoes

Salt-rising bread and graham bread

Cold slaw

Boiled custard

Pound cake

Coffee Nuts

Fruit

Raisins

While at the table read aloud "Oh, Why Should the Spirit of Mortal be Proud?" which was the favorite poem of Abraham Lincoln. It is by William Knox, and may be found in the "Library of Poetry and Song," edited by William Cullen Bryant.

St. Valentine's Day

THE origin of St. Valentine, like many of our festivals, seems to be veiled in obscurity. In Shakespeare's time the good old poet Drayton wrote:

"Muse, bid the morn awake.
Sad winter now declines,
Each bird doth choose a mate,
This day's St. Valentine's."

It is a saying from time immemorial that the birds choose their mates on the fourteenth of February. Be that as it may, the day has been one of love-making and the giving and receiving of love tokens since the beginning of things. Good old St. Valentine was martyred in the third century, and there is nothing in his life to indicate why his natal day was selected for the *fête* day of the omnipresent little god Love, but such is the case, and it is a very good day to celebrate.

An ancient custom observed on the eve of St. Valentine's was the dropping into a box of an equal number of names of either sex. Then every one drew out a name, which was supposed to be his or her valentine. This was considered to be an omen of felicity in love affairs, and foretold a wedding.

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The following is the description of a pretty party for children to be given from four to six on the afternoon of Valentine's Day. The invitations were written on the backs of heart-shaped valentines enclosed in the regulation lace-paper envelopes so dear to childish hearts. When the guests had arrived there was a search for hidden candy hearts, which were found in all sorts of places, each child having a heart-shaped bag of silk in which to put the spoils. When time was called, each child counted the number of hearts, the boy having the most being crowned King, and the little girl with the most to her credit being the Queen. These two then chose the games to be played. At five the grand march was formed to go into the dining-room.

The centrepiece was a large heart-shaped box, from which a ribbon led to each place, where it was fastened to a valentine of lace paper, gold Cupids, and blue forget-me-nots. The supper was simple, but dainty and wholesome. Chicken sandwiches of white bread, brown-bread sandwiches with raisin filling, both cut heart-shape with a cookie-cutter; delicious cocoa with whipped cream; an apple and nut salad, sprinkled over with red beet hearts cut with a vegetable-cutter, and a plain dressing with whipped cream stirred through it. Last of all, pink hearts of ice cream, small cakes iced in pink with a wee sugar Cupid on top. When the feast was over, the ribbons were pulled, and out came on each a heart-shaped box

filled with little heart-shaped peppermints.

This party is easily adaptable to grown people by substituting heart puzzles for the heart hunt, and adding a pro-

gramme of love ballads.

If one does not wish the expense, or cannot obtain the individual heart-shaped moulds of ice cream, buy the ordinary brick cream, cut it in slices, and then cut each slice with a tin heart cookie-cutter; the result will be all that is desired.

At the shops candy Cupids may be obtained, also gilt arrows and many accessories for the table, appropriate to the day.

A Valentine Party for Children

HAVE a letter box in the hall and provide plenty of lacepaper envelopes. On the invitations, which are decorated with gilt hearts, write this verse:

Cupid will distribute letters
On St. Valentine's night;
Love has bound you in his fetters,
Come and loose the seal that night.

It might be interesting to tell the young guests that a lady in Massachusetts introduced the valentine into America in 1850. Her business attained enormous proportions, and now the making of valentines gives employment to many people. Previous to this time we had depended upon Germany for our

supply of these dainty trifles.

For amusement have a supply of bits of colored and lace papers, water colors, pictures, and all sorts of material from which to construct valentines. After the guests have been paired by means of duplicate candy hearts, place them at tables provided with library paste, scissors, and gilt paint. Allow an hour for the preparation of Cupid's missives and then put the finished products on exhibition; take a vote, and award prizes for the best and poorest work.

Have a box or basket filled with valentines, blindfold each one in turn and have a missive drawn out. Pass envelopes and pencils, the children addressing and dropping them into the letter box. Just before going home open the box and have

the mail distributed.

A Pretty Valentine Party

NEARLY every country has its own Valentine legends and customs. To carry out a party à la Denmark makes it interesting and full of novelty to Americans. In Denmark the little snowdrop has from time immemorial been sacred to St. Valentine, and the sentimental Dane sends his ladylove a bouquet

Every Day in the Year

of these dainty blossoms, with a card bearing an appropriate verse. On the card are as many pin pricks as there are letters in his name. If the lady fair is able to guess the name, she is in duty bound to give the sender some colored eggs at Easter, which are considered to be in the nature of a forfeit. But to return to our party. Pink is the color for decorations, with hearts, bowknots, horseshoes, and wishbones used wherever opportunity offers. Portieres of pink hearts, cut from a light quality of cardboard and strung on ribbons, are very effective; festoons from the grills, doorways, and arches and draped over lace curtains give the rooms a gay and festive air. On this one night at least, every one must look through rose-colored glasses, so the more pink used in decorating the better.

If cards are to be played, Hearts is the game for the occasion. Have heart-shaped score cards with candy hearts to keep the score, fasten them to the cards with pink ribbons through holes bored in the hearts and holes punched in the cards. The mottoes inscribed on the old-fashioned candies will afford much merriment. After the cards, present each lady with an arrow tied with a ribbon, the gentleman with a bow decorated in the same manner. The colors are matched, and partners thus secured for the supper table. With very little trouble a heart-shaped target of white muslin may be prepared, with a heart painted in green on the outside, the next one of black, the third of yellow, fourth blue, fifth red. This will have the appearance of a series of hearts. Fasten the target against the wall and give each guest a "fate" card. When the arrows are shot the color upon which they hit determines the fate of the shooter.

> Love and riches wait, I ween, Him or her who hits the green.

Should your arrow pierce the blue, Love is on the wing for you.

She who passes colors all Has lovers many at her call.

Novel Entertainments for

Loveless, weeping little maid, Red her eyes, as red the shade.

Into the black, Nary a smack.

He who passes one and all, His chance to wed is very small.

A Valentine dining-room is a thing of beauty, with the walls hung with green vines and pink hearts. In the centre of the table have a heart of snowdrops with a pink ribbon running to each plate which is also marked with a heart place card orna-

mented with hand-painted snowdrops.

Serve oysters in heart-shaped pastry shells, tomato aspic salad moulded in hearts. The tomato used to be called the "love apple," so it is most appropriate for this feast; cheese straws, heart-shaped chicken sandwiches; cherry ice in pink heart cases, with individual heart cases ornamented with bowknots in white.

A Valentine Thimble Party

TINY hearts enclosed in envelopes, bearing the hour and date, with "Thimbles" in one corner, invited twelve guests to spend the hours between two and five with a hostess noted for her many and varied entertainments. After an hour with a fortune-teller who foretold the best of futures, with every maiden wedded to the man of her fondest dreams, the hostess gave each one a white Swiss heart-shaped apron with instructions to see who was the swiftest sewer, offering a prize to the one who finished first. This reward was a large heart-shaped box filled with chocolate heart peppermints.

Delicious chocolate was passed at four o'clock, with a "fortune" cake which contained a ring, a coin, a horseshoe, and a thimble. It is a novel idea to announce an engagement at a party of this kind. The postman could deliver a letter

bearing the news, signed by Cupid.

A Valentine Dinner Party

On good old St. Valentine's Day, a young hostess gave a most charming dinner. The invitations were issued two weeks in advance and one, for example, was worded as follows:

"Romeo and Juliet request your presence at dinner on the night of February 14, at the hour of seven. Please come attired as Jack. Jill will meet you at our residence." The other guests asked were Darby and Joan, Paul and Virginia, Robbie Burns and Highland Mary, Dante and Beatrice, Cinderella and the Prince, Punch and Judy, etc. The dinner was served at small tables, each holding four. In the centre there was a candle with a heart outlined in carnations, a different color at each table. After each course the men changed places, each taking his own tumbler and napkin. The place cards were hearts tied with true-lovers' knots, each having a love quotation written in gold ink.

When the repast was finished the guests retired to the various cosy corners, and each lover wrote a formal proposal to his "ladye faire," to which she was privileged to write a refusal or an acceptance. The paper provided by the hostess was decorated with hearts, and fancy envelopes were given in which to

enclose the precious missives.

To the lady who was voted to have written the best note a necklace of candy motto hearts strung on a pink ribbon was awarded; to the man whose effusion received the vote was given a dear little pie of chicken hearts baked in a ramakin. Old-fashioned square dances finished the evening; the favors for each dance were hearts, wishbones, knots of blue ribbon, Cupids, tiny slippers, four-leaved clovers, and fairies.

A Social for Valentine Night

SEND the invitations on Valentine postals, either the printed ones or of home manufacture. Amateur photography has been a great aid to entertainers in giving just the desired touch of individuality to place cards and invitations. "Hearts are trumps; no other attachments for the night of the fourteenth will be considered" may be written on hearts and enclosed in envelopes if the "postal" idea is not practicable. When all have arrived bring out the life-sized picture or drawing of a man or a woman, tack to the wall, then blindfold one person at a time, give each a paper heart and see who can come the nearest to pinning it on in the place where the heart ought to be. Then tie a pasteboard heart to a string, hand the guest a pair of scissors, turn him around three times, and tell him to cut the string holding the heart. For both these games award simple prizes. Next pass slips of paper with pencils. Write the words "Saint Valentine" at the top. Allow twenty minutes to see who can make the most words. This calls for another reward.

To find partners for refreshments cut up good-sized hearts into irregular pieces, put the half of one thus dissected into an envelope; have one for each guest. Then each will set out to find his or her "other half." Of course the sandwiches, cakes, and ice cream will all be heart-shaped.

A Valentine Pantomime Party

THE people asked to a party of this description should all be well acquainted, for on the personal knowledge of each other's peculiarities the success of the evening depends. In the invitations ask each guest to bring a valentine, either sentimental or comic, that will be capable of illustration. For a screen on which to show the shadows, stretch a sheet tight between folding doors or in an archway. Just before using wet it thoroughly and place a lamp on the floor about four feet from the centre of the sheet at the back.

When the guests arrive take the ladies into a room and give them a list of the men to be present; do the same with the men, giving them a list of the ladies. Provide envelopes, pen and ink, with which to address the valentines they have brought.





DECORATIONS WHICH MAY BE EASILY ARRANGED
A STRAWBERRY CENTREPIECE — FOR THE EASTER TABLE



Then give each one a numbered card, even numbers for the ladies, for the men the odd numbers. After all are seated facing the screen, Cupid appears with a basket and distributes the valentines to those to whom they are addressed; the hostess having seen to it that all the guests have been provided with at least one. When the missives have been opened and their contents noted, the lights are turned out and the man who has the card numbered "one" is called upon to go behind the sheet and illustrate the valentine which he has just been studying. After his representation the lights are turned on while the guests write on their cards what or whom they think he has been endeavoring to portray. The lights are again lowered, and the lady having number two is called upon to make her shadow picture, and this scheme is followed out until all the valentines have been illustrated. The merriment is great, and the time passes very rapidly when all are interested. A prize is awarded to the man and to the lady who have made the most successful guesses. In pairing partners for refreshments, the man who has number one takes the lady having number two, and so forth.

Valentine Grace Hoops

This is a pretty amusement for either children or grown people. Make heart-shaped rings to throw over the stakes, three for each player. The foundation may be heavy wire, wound with satin ribbon; or crepe paper will do almost as well, if expense is an item to be considered. Wind one stake with gilt paper to represent Wealth, the hearts that go over it each counting five points. The second stake may be a tall tin horn resting in a wreath of laurel; of course this represents Fame; hearts going over it count ten. Wind the third stake with pink and stand it in a circle of roses for Love; hoops staying on it count twenty-five. If children are playing, a fourth stake may be added to indicate Goodness. Wind in white, and from a florist get a white dove to suspend over it;

the hearts going over it count fifty. The game may be up to five hundred if desired. The hearts can be given as prizes to those having the best scores.

For a Washington's Birthday Party Invitation

At the top of the sheet put the Washington coat of arms; the United States shield, or a picture of the nation's first president. Then write this jingle:

Come, ye dames of highest station,
Come, ye maidens young and fair;
Lend your beauty,
Lend your graces,
Flashing eyes,
Bepowdered hair;
Lend your wit, your smiles, your laughter,
Beauty spots and dimples rare,
'T is the nation's
Father's birthday;
Patriot dames [or men] and maids be there.

For Washington's Birthday

PERHAPS the red-letter day of this month, so rich in anniversaries, is the one on which the Father of his Country first saw the light. The celebration may be more or less elaborate — a course dinner, a luncheon, or an evening function, according to the wishes of the hostess.

There is no family too poor in this world's goods to recognize the day by at least hanging the American flag over the table. The patriotic spirit must be fostered in the home as well as in the school, and in keeping these days, the housemother is sowing seed that will bear fruit in the years to come.

The first party to be described was intended as a practical illustration in Colonial history for the children of the family, who were permitted to invite twenty of their little friends. The invitations had a print of Mount Vernon at the top, with

the Stars and Stripes crossed beneath. The hour was six o'clock and there were three tables, each holding ten. The father and mother were dressed as George and Martha; the two children were exact duplicates of their elders, and it is needless to say that they entered most heartily into the spirit of the occasion. When all had arrived, the girls were given quaint caps of the kind affected by Martha, with a fichu or kerchief; both were made from white crepe tissue paper. Each boy received a cocked hat, with a belt and sword. Thus adorned they were seated at the tables in the flag-decorated rooms. There were tall candles in brass holders, and the gas jets were veiled in shades of red, white, and blue. A small hatchet bore the name at each child's plate and the centrepieces were cherry trees adorned with most realistic fruit. Cherry log candy-boxes held the bonbons, which were candied cherries.

The menu was simple, as befitted the occasion: first, oyster soup in blue bowls, the bread sticks tied with narrow red, white, and blue ribbon. Then there was roast turkey and mashed potato croquettes, served with a tiny flag stuck in each, and spaghetti in ramakins. The salad was of apple, celery, and nuts, in red apples, over which was put a dear little tent made of white paper. When this was lifted off, the salad looked most tempting. Beside the salad were cannon balls of cottage cheese rolled in brown toast crumbs. Cherry sherbet was the dessert, with a bunch of artificial cherries laid on the plate; hatchetshaped cookies and small cups of weak coffee completed this delicious spread. Then for a half-hour the children listened to a very comprehensive story of the boyhood of Washington. This was told by the children's father; and the mother told about Mount Vernon and the busy life of Martha looking after her household and her servants. The children of Mount Vernon were given a part in this tale, and the young guests gave rapt attention to charming true stories. One boy was heard to remark that he liked that way of learning history.

After this a good-sized cherry tree (it was really an azalea) was brought in laden with candied cherries. It was planted

in a jardinière and presented a very attractive appearance. The children were asked to guess how many cherries were on the tree; the one making the nearest guess received a candybox drum filled with red, white, and blue candies. Then the children were allowed to pick and eat the fruit, which was greatly enjoyed. The party was closed by singing "America."

A Luncheon for February the Twenty-Second

IF Washington had not been the "father of his country" he did enough to immortalize his name when he did or did not cut down the tree which has made cherries famous the world over. This is a day full of possibilities for the ingenious hostess. Over the table suspend three large red apples in which small flags are stuck, just as many as can be put in. For the centrepiece take a toy drum and fill with red and white carnations; the blue may be supplied by a huge bow of ribbon around the drum. Hatchets will be the place cards, with a bunch of cherries tied to the handle by tricolored ribbon.

The following menu will be found appetizing and easily prepared: tomato bouillon, bread sticks, creamed sweetbreads, rice croquettes, Julienne potatoes, cherry salad made from California cherries, replacing the stones with blanched hazelnuts; cheese straws. For dessert have frozen custard, which was the ice cream of Washington's day, and was first served in this country at a reception which he gave in Philadelphia. Ornament the cake with the initials "G. W." in candied cherries, or red, white, and blue candies.

After the repast have a table in the drawing-room with the following objects, or pictures of them, on it. Explain that the articles all have or had a direct bearing on Washington's life. It might be well to give the guests a hint beforehand, so that they could read up on hazy points in history and thereby show evidence of their superior knowledge when the time of the contest comes.

A toy white horse will be recognized as "Nelson," which

was the General's favorite charger in the Revolutionary War; several toy dogs (hounds if possible) will instantly recall the fact that riding to hounds was a pastime much beloved by our hero; while a tobacco leaf reminds us that this gentleman farmer raised the finest quality of the weed grown in Virginia. A little rowboat brings back the crossing of the Delaware on that momentous Christmas night, and a colored drawing of the flag with thirteen stripes and no stars reminds us of the tremendous growth of the United States in so short a time when compared with the advance of European nations. The large iron key represents the key of the Bastile which Lafayette sent to Washington. There are many more objects which could be added, but these will suffice to show how the scheme may be carried out. Provide pencils and paper, and request the guests to write a story bringing in these articles. Allow twenty minutes, have the sketches read, and award some inexpensive prizes, such as a cherry pie, a picture of Washington or of Mount Vernon, or a box of candied cherries. Glacé cherries may be made by dipping large cherries in a sugar syrup, then in powdered sugar and let them stand on waxed paper over night.

A Colonial Reception

For this affair issue the invitations on large sheets of paper, folded and sealed without any envelope. Request the guests to come in costumes of the Washington period; decorate exclusively with flags and the national colors. Use only candle-light throughout the rooms. In the dining-room have the predominating colors blue and buff. The nearest to the latter shade will be pale yellow tulips or daffodils, with blue china. Canton, or any of the cheaper dark blue wares will answer the purpose. Place cards may be obtained having a picture of Washington on them. At such a function it is an opportune time to display any treasured ancestral belongings whether they are, strictly speaking, of the Washington period or not.

For amusement prepare programmes bearing the following questions; at the top of each write this tribute of Gladstone's to our illustrious first President: "In a gallery of sculpture, were I asked whose form would best grace the tallest pedestal, I should name that of Washington."

Question: What was the first American flag?

Answer: To meet the emergency, a British Union Jack was taken and stripes of white cotton cloth were sewed across the red, making the red and white stripes. Later the stars were put in place of the cross in the upper left-hand corner.

Question: What is the origin of the word "Yankee"?

Answer: It seemed impossible for the Indians to say "English"; they always said "Yengese," and that is claimed to be the origin of the name that has clung to our Northern inhabitants ever since.

Question: How did the term "Brother Jonathan" originate?

Answer: A pamphlet published in 1643 says, when speaking of the monument to Queen Elizabeth: "Our Brother Jonathan wrote her epitaph in a loyal poem, before he had a thought of New England."

Question: What were the original thirteen States?

Answer: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia.

Question: How many times has the United States been at war

since 1776?

Answer: When Jefferson was President there was war with the Barbary States in 1804; Under Madison there was war with England in 1812; with Mexico, under Polk in 1845; the Civil War under Lincoln, in 1861; and with Spain in 1897, under President McKinley.

It will be surprising how few persons can answer these questions, especially as to the original States. A suitable prize would be the "Life of Washington," by Irving. If it is desirable to entertain with cards, "Military Euchre" would be appropriate, having each table centrepiece to represent a blockhouse bearing the name of an ancient fort, a flag flying from the top. The score cards could be cut in shape of shields attached to red, white, and blue ribbon.

To find partners, write the names of the Presidents, and their sobriquets or nicknames on separate slips of paper. A list is given, for strange to say very few people know or can

remember them all.

Every Day in the Year

GEORGE WASHINGTON — Father of His Country.

JOHN ADAMS — The Colossus of Independence. THOMAS JEFFERSON — The Sage of Monticello.

JAMES MADISON — The True Republican; the Father of the Constitution.

JAMES MONROE — The Poor But Spotless President. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS — The Old Man Eloquent.

Andrew Jackson - Old Hickory; the Fighting President.

MARTIN VANBUREN — Sage of Kinderhook; the Little Magician; the Shrewd Statesman.

WILLIAM H. HARRISON — Hero of Tippecanoe. JOHN TYLER — The First Accidental President.

JAMES K. POLK — Young Hickory.

ZACHARY TAYLOR — Old Buena Vista; Old Rough-and-Ready.

MILLARD FILLMORE — Second Accidental President.

Franklin Pierce — The Yankee President.

JAMES BUCHANAN — The Bachelor President; Old Buck.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN — The Rail Splitter; the Great Emancipator; Honest Abe.

ANDREW JOHNSON — Third Accidental President; the Independent President.

U. S. GRANT — Unconditional Surrender; United States Grant; the Silent President.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES — The Policy President.

JAMES A. GARFIELD — The Teacher President; the Towpath Boy. CHESTER A. ARTHUR — The Chesterfield of the White House; the Fourth Accidental President.

GROVER CLEVELAND - The Man of Destiny; the Tariff-reform

BENJAMIN HARRISON — The Conservative President.
WILLIAM MCKINLEY — The Little Major; the Protective-tariff

THEODORE ROOSEVELT - Teddy; the Rough Rider; the Fifth Accidental President.

Serve cherry ice and "patriotic" cake made after this recipe, which has been handed down from 1776: To one pound of risen bread dough, work in a pint of brown sugar, a half-pint of butter, three unbeaten eggs, two tablespoons of cream. When worked into a smooth batter add a level teaspoon of soda dissolved in one tablespoon of water; a halfpound of English currants, the same of seeded raisins, one level teaspoon each of cloves and grated nutmeg; pour into a

greased pan, set in a warm place to rise for twenty minutes. When cool, ice and ornament with candied cherries.

A Washington Dinner Party

HERE is a very attractive scheme for a seven o'clock dinner,

to which eight or ten congenial friends may be asked.

The centrepiece is a small drum filled with fruit and flowers, ornamented around the edge with small silken flags. Bayonets in front of the plates hold the place cards, which have diminutive flags mounted on wires thrust through them; the ladies will put them in their hair and the men will use them for boutonnières. At either side of the drum are blue bowls filled with red and white carnations; the china is blue, and the candles red, in white candlesticks. The shades are a combination of red, white, and blue. At each place there is a metal hatchet tied with tricolored ribbon, and the napkins are folded in the shape of cocked hats.

MENU

Canapes of anchovy paste

Tomato soup Broiled whitefish Fillets of turkey Creamed onions

Wafers Potato balls, piled like cannon balls Mashed potato Spaghetti in ramakins

Cherry ice Orange and celery salad, garnished with cheese balls Individual cherry pie

Cheese Crackers

Coffee

The entertainment to follow may be the making of words from the name "Washington." Pass papers and pencils and allow a half-hour. To the one having the longest list award a can of cherries bearing this label: "These cherries were picked from the tree afterwards cut down by the illustrious George."

Over the curtains hang drapery of red, white, and blue cheese cloth, and make portieres out of large United States flags. On the back of small paper flags which may be purchased for a trifle, write quotations and toasts pertinent to the occasion, to be read by each guest at the close of the feast.

A Children's Party for the Twenty-Second

For guests between the ages of eight and fourteen this amusement has been devised. Pictures of George Washington and a number of his generals, a drum, a boat, a flag, a tent, a picture of Mount Vernon, and a cannon have been cut out of white cardboard. Red, white, and blue crayons are to be given to the children, with the request to decorate their designs; the latter are chosen by blinding the eyes with a handkerchief and then leading the child to the table. This method of obtaining the picture precludes any preference. Allow half an hour for the completing of the pictures. Each guest is to keep the figure that he or she colors.

The table centrepiece will delight the children, for it is an open boat with miniature soldiers and a flag in it. It is to rest on a mirror, for water, with banks of cotton sprinkled with diamond dust in lieu of snow. The bonbons are chocolates moulded perfectly round and piled up like cannon balls, on plates with red, white, and blue doilies. Napkins come decorated in the national colors for just these occasions, and the

stores are full of novelties for favors.

Cut the sandwiches out with a hatchet-shaped cutter, which the tinsmith will make for a small consideration. At the favor counter the snapping-cracker caps may be purchased in red, white, and blue, with a tiny cannon attached to each.

The ice cream will be moulded in cherry log forms, thickly covered with candied cherries. Colored men in scarlet livery

will serve the refreshments.

A Yankee Doodle Kitchen

This is an amusing feature for a Washington's birthday entertainment. It is practicable for a church or club affair

where there is a platform. The curtain rises, showing a number of busy housewives in old-fashioned attire; some are washing at the tub; some scrubbing the floor on hands and knees; others churning, washing dishes, sweeping, etc. The piano or orchestra plays "Yankee Doodle," at first very slowly, gradually increasing the speed, and the workers increase their movements accordingly until they are going at a breakneck pace. This must be seen to be appreciated.

An Evening with Longfellow

On the twenty-seventh of this month one of the most beloved and revered of our American poets was born. In the invitations ask the guests to wear some article indicative of a title of one of Longfellow's poems. "The Rainy Day," "The Arrow and the Song," "Voices of the Night," "The Children's Hour," "Hiawatha," and "The Black Knight" are all easily illustrated.

To the person guessing the most titles give a framed picture of the poet, or of his house at Cambridge; to the one guessing the fewest give one of his mottoes or sentiments prettily framed. Many of the poems have been set to music, and a short programme of songs would be an enjoyable finish to the evening

Postals may be purchased having very good pictures of Longfellow's house on them. They would make appropriate place cards, or might be sent as invitations. As this is essentially an evening for "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," serve the simplest of refreshments. Dainty sandwiches with coffee and chocolate will be all-sufficient.

CHAPTER III.-MARCH

In Honor of St. Patrick

Larick left this mortal sphere after a life of great usefulness. In the year 433, he taught the triune nature of God, illustrating his remarks by plucking a shamrock which grew near by. There is a legend about his driving the snakes out of Ireland, which arose from the following story: A hideous monster lived in a lake, the terror of the people. One day St. Patrick passed by with the golden rod which a hermit had given him and which was supposed to have once been carried by the Saviour. With this weapon he slew the venomous serpent.

One may celebrate this day without being a native of Ireland, and entertaining on the seventeenth is becoming more and more popular each year. A visit to the favor counter and the confectioner's will show many and varied things for use on this occasion. Candy is made into the most realistic potatoes imaginable, while the green flexible snakes are almost too natural to be enjoyable. There are shillelahs galore, quaint Irish faces to hold nuts at the individual places, clay pipes tied with ribbon of emerald hue, and tiny silken shamrocks, just the thing to pin the napkin to the tablecloth. Then there are shamrock cards to use for score and place cards, and quantities of flags bearing the colors of "ould Ireland." With these resources provided by the up-to-date shopkeeper, a hostess has the wherewithal to plan a most novel party.

A room draped with apple-green cheese cloth with plenty of flags, affords a fine background in which to receive one's guests. An accommodating florist if given sufficient time will provide green flowers for the occasion; carnations lend themselves best to the process, although roses are almost as good. Partners may be paired by means of green hair bows for the

ladies, and rosettes for the men; in this way the requisite touch of color is achieved.

An appropriate centrepiece is a harp of wire (get one from a florist); outline the strings with tiny white immortelles, and the frame with green vines. Then there should be a pedestal holding a good-sized representation of the Blarney stone, which all the men must kiss. Of course, after they go through this form, honeyed words and the boldest of flattery will be permissible. In the invitations for this date request the guests to come prepared to tell an Irish story, sing an Irish song, or dance a jig. Some suitable ballads are "Kathleen Mavourneen," "Killarney," "Kitty," "Come Back to Erin," "Wearing of the Green," etc.

Pass cards and pencils of green. The answers to the fol-

lowing questions are all places in Ireland, as follows:

What Irish town means,

A sovereign and a city? — QUEENSTOWN.

A stopper? — CORK.

The capital of Ireland? — DUBLIN.

A popular girl and to be speedy? — Belfast.

A winter garment? — ULSTER.

Pathway for a tall person? — The Giant's Causeway.

To be cunning, and to depart?—SLIGO. To slay, and to dare?—KILDARE.

Any of the novelties in the way of candy boxes may be filled for a prize, or a volume of Moore's poems would be suitable.

For a luncheon this green color scheme may be carried out: Green pea soup; fish, with potato balls sprinkled with chopped parsley; lamb with peas; string bean salad garnished with rings of hard-boiled eggs; ice cream, or ice colored with juice of spinach or pistachio; cakes cut in shamrock form, with green icing. Crème de menthe may be served after the coffee.

A St. Patrick's Day Dinner

THE invitations were ornamented with a tiny emeraldgreen snake, which wiggled its way across the sheet of note

Every Day in the Year

paper; and this menu was written on potato-shaped cards made from brown cardboard:

HOME-RULE MENU
Murphy bisque

Oyster Paddies Emeralds Shamrock salad Ice cream spuds Olive greens County Cork croquettes Shillelahs Giant's Causeway cakes

Cape Clear coffee

The Murphy bisque was a cream potato soup, and of course the "paddies" were patties filled with oysters; and the "greens" were olives; the croquettes were made of chicken, and moulded in the shape of corks; and the emeralds were small French peas. The salad was a mint aspic in shamrock moulds, in which there were sweetbreads and chopped olives with bits of celery. The "shillelahs" were made of cream-puff batter without any sweetening, and were delicious with the salad.

The ice cream was served in Irish potato skins from which the insides had been scraped, the shells coated with white of egg, then carefully dried in the oven. When cool no trace of the potato flavor was noticeable. The "Giant's Causeway cakes" were irregular fingers of white cake rolled, after being iced, in chopped nuts and pounded rock candy. They stood on end and were tied around with green ribbon. The coffee was just the clear amber liquid served in small green cups. The table decorations consisted of several table mirrors both round and oblong, which were joined with ferns and vines to represent the Lakes of Killarney. Ferns formed the doilies under plates, and the candles were white, with green shades.

St. Patrick's Day in the Evening

THESE novel invitations excited much comment from the recipients, and all looked forward to the seventeenth. The envelopes were pale green, written in green, and bore sham-

rocks cut out of vivid green paper for seals. The contents read as follows: "Faith, and it's welcome ye'll be at a partie on St. Patrick's Day in the avenin'." In the left-hand corner was this request: "Plaze riprisint the Ould Sod in costume."

On the evening in question there was no end of merriment as each representative arrived. One lady won the prize not only for her unique costume of "The Irish Washerwoman," but for the bouquet she carried, which she said was composed of "Irish orchids"; it was the hit of the evening. She had made it of small potatoes wired onto sticks, then gathered them together with a lace-paper frill and wrapped the ends in tin-foil. After the refreshments, which consisted of potato salad, nut sandwiches, celery stalks filled with cream cheese and chopped olives, pistachio ice, kisses, and bonbons in potato shape, a dish of "greens" was passed, which furnished a good mental diversion. The following questions were written on slips enclosed in green paper leaves:

A large European city and green? — Paris green.

Green, and a dairy product? — Green cheese.

Green, and a part of the human anatomy? — Greenback.

Green, and a musical instrument? — Greenhorn.

Green, and a reptile? — Green turtle.

Green, and a name applied to a foolish person? — Green goose.

Green, and a dwelling? — Greenhouse.

A synonyme for always, and green? — Evergreen.

Green, and a common name for a material? — Green goods.

Green, an elevation of land, and a part of the United States? — Green Mountain State.

Green, and a tradesman? — Green grocer.

Green, and a portion of the surface of the globe? — Greenland.

Green, and a part of a house? — Green room.

The prize for the lady was a doiley embroidered in sham-rocks; for the lucky man there was a blackthorn cane.

Party for Children on St. Patrick's Day

THE children gather the shamrock in Ireland, where it grows in every nook and corner of the Emerald Isle. The more

barren and desolate the spot, the more luxuriantly this dear little green plant appears to flourish. As early as the last week in February it may be found, but two weeks later there is not a county in the Island where it may not be found in abundance. It is picked and shipped to all parts of the world, the industry being fostered by the good Countess of Limerick. But to describe the party, which has been planned for children between the ages of ten and fifteen. First of all have a shamrock hunt. The leaves may be cut from light cardboard if it is not possible to find them at the stores. Next pass sheets of paper, and let each child draw a pig, while his eyes are blindfolded. This will make much merriment. For real fun have a drawing of a large pig on the wall, provide a tail for each guest, blindfold one at a time, and see who can come the nearest to pinning the curly tail onto the place where it ought to be.

Inexpensive prizes may be awarded for all three of these games. Have ready in a large basket a favor for each boy, wrapped up and tied with green ribbon; have a duplicate of each favor for the girls, which may be given them unwrapped; then form the boys in line and ask each to take a parcel from the basket. The favors are matched, and in this way partners are found for refreshments. Suggestions for the favors are: a potato candy-box; snake; white woolly lamb to keep off evil spirits; clay pipe; shillelah; hat; bow of green ribbon; pig, etc.

For place cards use small Irish flags of paper on which

write or have printed:

Success attend St. Patrick's fist,
For he 's a saint so clever;
He gave the snakes and toads a twist,
And banished them forever.

Each child received a tiny green basket filled with very realistic candy stones, which the hostess said had been chipped off the original Blarney stone.

Lenten Pastimes

WITH the advent of Lent, society is supposed to take a much needed rest, but in reality the hostess does just about as much entertaining, only the nature of the functions changes from large affairs to "small and earlies." There are innumerable sewing-circles, the meetings usually beginning with a simple luncheon or followed by light refreshments. Here is a practical suggestion for one of the coteries: make bags for hospital use. Ask each guest to bring enough pretty cretonne or "art" ticking to make a bag twelve inches long by twelve wide when finished. In each bag put a sharpened pencil, a pad of paper, half a dozen envelopes stamped, six postals, a half-dozen plain laundered handkerchiefs, and a small bottle of best cologne. Some safety pins and a box of assorted hairpins might also be added. Give these bags to the matrons of hospitals for the use of charity and emergency patients, to be distributed as they see best. They will tell you that nothing so greatly appreciated could be presented to the poor helpless mortals committed to their care. Ward patients must pass many a weary hour; the often overworked nurses have barely time to attend to their actual necessities, and these bags afford untold comfort. Making "comfort powders" is another scheme that provides pleasant work for a Lenten afternoon. Procure the regulation powder boxes at a drug store, with the white papers. Then write thirty helpful quotations on as many slips, fold like powders, place in the box, and write on the outside, "To be taken each morning before breakfast." These will find a warm welcome at any of the various homes or institutions where "shut-ins" must pass many a commonplace day.

A Lenten Party for Elderly Ladies

A CHARMING woman, who gives more than a passing thought to the unequal division of things in this world, for





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EASTER SUGGESTIONS



many years has devoted the Lenten season to entertaining people to whom social joys are an almost unknown quantity. For instance, here is a description of her "afternoon" for the old ladies of the Home for the Aged, which happens to be near her home. She entertains a dozen at a time, and previous to sending her card bearing the day, date, and hour, she pays a call upon each of her guests. Then a heated wagonette is

sent to convey them to and from the house.

She dons one of her daintiest gowns and at five o'clock serves this tea: jellied chicken; cold sliced ham; baking-powder biscuit piping hot, with jelly and marmalade; spiced peaches, and delicately browned hashed potatoes. Tea is poured from a real old-fashioned china pot with sugar bowl and pitcher to match. For dessert there is cup custard with brown, crusty, unfrosted sponge cake, and cocoanut layer cake. A revolving caster-stand which had belonged to the hostess's grandmother stands in the centre of the table, with a dish of fruit at either end. A bunch of pansies at each place, with this quotation written on a card: "For the pansies send me back a thought," will delight the hearts of her honored guests. The favors are inexpensive trifles picked up here and there; for this dear, thoughtful woman has these afternoons always in mind. Another kind act is the sending of souvenir postals, for ever since one of the old ladies confided to her that "watching for the postman was their chief diversion, although he rarely brought anything," she has kept a list of the names in her book, and when travelling or at home, these pretty reminders find their way to the Home for the Aged.

A Lenten "Kaffee-klatsch"

SEWING circles have always been a popular form of enter-tainment during Lent, when little garments are made for needy children, and layettes are constructed for destitute mothers. A kaffee-klatsch has a sound of novelty about it, but interpreted it means "coffee and chatter," - in reality our old friend the

"sewing society" under the pleasant disguise of its foreign name. Zwiebach, tiny pretzels, coffee cake, and rye bread sandwiches are served, with little seed cakes, for which German bakers are famous.

The hours are usually early, from two to five, to give ample time to work; one afternoon a week is devoted to the sewing, and it is surprising the number of garments which may be made in six weeks.

Poverty Luncheons and Card Parties

Where ladies belong to card clubs, it has become the custom to devote the prize money during Lent to a charity to be agreed upon by the members. If a luncheon is served beforehand, each hostess is obliged to confine herself to three dollars for eight guests, to tell the price of each article of food, in fact to economize in every possible way and give the difference from the cost of an ordinary luncheon to charity. Each one vies with the others to see who can give the most inexpensive feast. Shirt-waist suits are worn, and the affairs are delightfully informal.

Charity Luncheons

CHARITY luncheons are very popular during Lent. If any church society, or charity organization gives a luncheon, it is quite the proper thing for a lady to ask a few friends to be her guests, sending word to the chairman of the committee to reserve as many places at the table as she will require. Society people are doing this, and in consequence the tables are often all engaged, thereby assuring a goodly sum for the treasury and making the affair a social success. The rolls, cakes, and salads at these luncheons are nearly always of home manufacture, and are sold if anything is left. The tables are decorated with flowers, which are sent to the hospitals or to individuals who may be ill at their homes. Each year brings more and more need for charitable work, and many institutions depend

on the assistance which is given during Lent. Even very young children have their Lenten circles; the girls dress dolls and make scrapbooks; the boys mend toys; and one group may make fudge every Saturday, to be distributed to the little

convalescents in a hospital.

A novel and useful affair was held one evening in Lent. The hostess called it a "scrap" party. The men were asked to bring all their cast-off neckties; the ladies, pieces of silk and velvet, even samples being available. These pieces were assorted into neat piles, tied with skeins of embroidery silk, and sent to shut-ins and to old ladies in "homes," where they found a hearty welcome. Several packages were sent to industrial homes in the South, and to individuals known personally to the hostess. A chafing-dish supper was served at ten o'clock, and all pronounced the scrap party a success.

Mothering Sunday

WE get most of our special days from the English; and one of their very best customs is scarcely known in this country, especially to people outside the Anglican Church, namely, the celebration of "Mothering Sunday," the fourth Sunday in Lent. This day is observed by paying special homage and attention to one's parents, more especially the mother. At this time all the children make it an unbroken rule to be at home, bringing with them gifts for the dear mother; and an effort is made to have something especially fine for father, in the way of a bottle of choice wine, a box of extra good cigars, or whatever he may be especially fond of. Children and grandchildren vie with one another in the preparation of their gifts for this one day in all the year that belongs solely to the parents. The dinner is prepared with reference to dishes of which the honored guests are particularly fond, and the decorations and appointments are kept a profound secret. The place cards bear suitable quotations like the following:

Novel Entertainments for

"A mother is a mother still, the holiest thing alive." — Coleridge.

"God cannot be everywhere, so he made mothers."—Arab

Proverb.

"Her children rise up, and call her blessed."—Bible.

"Mother — God bless her."

Surely, of all the holidays set apart to do honor to saint and patriot, none has a stronger claim for recognition than "Mothering Sunday." If it is not possible for children to be present, they can send a letter of love and devotion, with a gift either large or small, which will be cherished by the dear household saints, brightening the sunset path for the ofttimes weary feet.

CHAPTER IV. - APRIL

An April Fool Party

"A LITTLE nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men," so send word to about ten of your very best friends, asking them to an April Fool party. The invitations may be cut in shape of a fool's cap, decorated with sketches of a court jester. Request each guest to relate the most "fool" thing he ever did or can describe.

When the hour for the party comes, have the house all in darkness, curtains drawn, with only a dim light visible when the door is opened. Instruct the maid to say "Not at home"; but this is only for a moment, when she changes her mind and

asks the astonished person in.

Have the dinner gong sound, let the guests almost enter the dining-room, when the maid says, "Dinner is not served." After all are again in the drawing-room have the dinner announced in due and proper manner. The table centrepiece is a doll dressed as a court jester, his arms full of spring flowers. From the overhead chandelier suspend a number of bells by delicately tinted ribbons. Tiny wands wound with ribbon, a cluster of bells at the end, make charming souvenirs with place cards tied to them. To see "who shall go in to dinner with who," take ribbons three-quarters of a yard long, and shut them between folding doors, the men on one side, the women on the other; each takes the end of a ribbon and when the doors are opened the persons holding the same piece are mated. The menu served is bouillon, devilled crabs, baked potatoes, asparagus, tomato salad, ice cream, coffee, cake. This appetizing list is written on dainty cards, one at each plate.

The "bouillon" is creamed celery soup, in deep old-fashioned soup plates; "baked potatoes" are diced turnips, carrot cubes, and tiny green peas, in the shells of baked pota-

toes, grated cheese over the top, and delicately browned in the oven. These are delicious and unusual. The "asparagus" is large macaroni laid on squares of toast, cream sauce; "tomato salad" is a mixture of blood oranges, white grapes, and pecan nuts served in cucumber boats; the "ice cream" is a frozen custard moulded into fools' caps, a dainty bell fastened to a ribbon-wound toothpick adorning the top of each; the "cake" is a puff paste filled with mince-meat, to the delight of the men; "coffee" is one of the many cereal substitutes for the real thing. With cigars and cigarettes of chocolate this April Fool repast comes to an end. After the return to the drawing-room, coffee and cigars are passed, and then begins the fun of the evening, the recounting of "fool" stories, with a prize for the best tale. When awarded, the box or package will contain nothing, but the real prize will be found later on in some mysterious manner to be devised by the clever hostess. The person telling the most plausible yarn gets his reward at once.

Two April Fool Games

Announce to the guests that you have a picture that you would like to show, that it has given you a great deal of pleasure, and doubtless will give them as much. Withdraw a curtain revealing a mirror, with "April Fool" written on it with soap, when you have one or two expectant persons in front of it.

For the second stunt pile sofa pillows, books, plants, and anything in the way of obstruction, on the floor; then tell a certain person to mark each obstacle carefully in his mind, blindfold him, and tell him to walk across the room. In the meantime, after the victim is blindfolded, the objects have been noiselessly removed, leaving the floor clear. It is amusing in the extreme to see the blind man making his way, and when the bandage is removed his astonishment is great.

In this way the "fooling" continues until the hour for

departure arrives.





EXAMPLES OF CORRECT SERVICE
A DAINTY TEA TABLE - A PLACE SET FOR DINNER



Place Cards for April First

APPROPRIATE place cards for an April First affair are in the shape of fish, following the custom of the French. A fish in that country is typical of the customs of the day, and instead of saying "April Fool," they exclaim "Poisson d'Avril," "April fish," indicating that the person is easily caught. Boxes to hold confectionery may be obtained in great variety of fish forms.

An April Luncheon

"APRIL showers bring May flowers"; and with this in mind a clever young hostess prepared this attractive affair. A Japanese umbrella was suspended over the table, and tiny Jap parasols, one at each plate, had the names on cards tied to the handles. A long brass receptacle held daffodils for the centrepiece, and the candles were cleverly shaded with Japanese umbrellas. As it turned out, the day was rainy; but, with the warm cheer within, the hostess declared the weather just carried out what she had in mind; as it seemed impossible to represent the showers in her table decorations, she had provided the flowers.

The menu was delightfully spring-like,—strawberries, lamb chops, new potatoes, green peas, watercress, cheese balls, and egg salad, with grape fruit sherbet, a jonquil by the side of the plate. Tea was made in a Russian samovar, and small cakes and crackers completed this daintily and easily prepared spread.

A Rainbow Party

AFTER the storm comes the rainbow; and while gazing at the "bow of promise" in an April sky, a dear mother ever on the alert to give her children pleasure evolved this really beautiful party. It sounds rather elaborate to prepare, but is not difficult if one takes plenty of time for the arrangement of details. Across the sheet of white note paper on which the invita-tions were written, the seven prismatic colors were daintily done in water colors. "Come, hunt for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow," was the only intimation of the character of the entertainment; and the young guests were full of curiosity as to what was to be done. When all had assembled they found a huge rainbow spanning the large living-room; leading from it there were cords of the seven colors, carried in every direction after the manner of a "spider web" party, a cord for each child. The ends all started from a central gas jet where the name was attached to one end, and the youthful seekers all made the start at a given signal. Then a merry time ensued—such tangles, which were all straightened out as the balls were slowly wound up! At last a wee maiden of ten with the blue string found herself at the side of the "rainbow," where she had to stoop down and reach behind the folds, and was rewarded by drawing out a round package tied in tissue paper of blue, with ribbon to match. On opening, there was revealed a doll's kettle filled with chocolate drops wrapped in gilt paper. Each child found a favor at the end of his or her string, so it was a merry crowd that gathered at the refreshment table which had strips of tarlatan of the seven colors from the chandelier to the edges of the table. The rainbow arch was made from wire, over which the prismatic colors in cheese cloth were thrown, and over all a bit of plain white gauze to blend the colors. The effect was lovely.

In Shakespeare's Honor

THE twenty-third of April is generally conceded to be the birthday of the illustrious bard of Avon, although there is some reason to believe that it may have been the twenty-sixth. At any rate, whichever day is selected it affords the hostess an opportunity of giving a delightful dinner, luncheon, or evening party in his memory. If I remember correctly, purple and gold were the colors much in favor with the poet, and they

Every Day in the Year

lend themselves well to a decorative scheme. Postals may be obtained having excellent views of Stratford, the houses occupied by Shakespeare, Mary Arden, and Anne Hathaway, and they will make good place cards or invitation cards. The guests may be asked to come in Shakespearean costume, or if that is not practicable, each one may wear some article indicative of a character or the title of a play. The menu, written on purple cardboard with gold ink, may be a copy of the following, which was used by a club that had devoted the winter to the study of some special plays; this was the feast served at the last meeting:

MENU

"This treasure of an oyster." — ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA.

"Expect spoon-meat."—Comedy of Errors.
"That sort was well fished for."—The Tempest.

"What 's this? mutton?" — THE TAMING OF THE SHREW.

"The early village cock." - KING RICHARD III.

"I have here a dish of doves." — MERCHANT OF VENICE.
"The queen of curds and cream." — WINTER'S TALE.

"Thou art all ice, thy kindness freezeth." — KING RICHARD III.
"The daintiest last, to make the end most sweet." — KING RICHARD II.

As the courses appeared they were: oysters, clear soup, spring lamb, chicken timbales, squabs, cheese soufflé, ice cream, bonbons, coffee. If a wine is served, it may be described as "Monarch of the vine." The phrase is from "Antony and Cleopatra."

A suitable quotation may be written on each place card. After the dinner these Shakespearean riddles may be propounded; they are exceedingly clever. To the person guessing the most a copy of William Winter's "Shakespeare's England" might be given, or a framed copy of one of the many lovely Stratford-on-Avon pictures.

My first is good meat, with eggs a good dish; Iy second allow, or permit, if you wish.— HAMLET.

My first is so modest, and bashful withal;

My second a tuft of you hair — that is all. — SHYLOCK.

Novel Entertainments for

My first is the city of Italy's pride; My second 's a vowel you must n't elide.— ROMEO.

My first's a girl's name—to your wits put a file; My second and third describe her the while, If she is well-bred, understood, and has style.—Antony.

A name of one syllable here you will see, A villanous smile devoid of all glee.— LEAR.

My first you take as a witness before heaven; My second some take when an inch they are given; My third is a vowel, just one of the seven.— OTHELLO.

It is said that George Washington even in fun, Never told at all in his life, my one; My two, you find by the sea, I am sure; My third you will do, be your life e'er so pure.— Lysander.

My first is the name of metals combined With some other substance, just as they are mined; My second's the name of that part of the world Which rose solid and firm when in space it was hurled; My third is a vowel, which endeth this, And I am very sure you'll none of it miss.— Orlando.

My first is money, of specie or gold; When "we" is objective, my second behold.— Cassius.

My first, you see, is the time of the year When all the leaves and the birds disappear; My second 's a metaphor applied to bread, Because it supports our life, it is said.— FALSTAFF.

Easter

This precious festival day, the only one of all our special days that has retained its religious significance, usually occurs in April. On the Continent this occasion is observed with elaborate ceremony entailing much preparation and forethought; the best music, finest gowns, and daintiest gifts are in evidence on this glad, festival day. Eggs have always been a part of the Easter celebration, being a symbol of the Resurrection. In olden times the parish priest blessed the colored eggs which were brought to him; they were then distributed to the poor.

AN EASTER PUNCH BOWL



Eggs of silver and gold were appropriated only by persons of royal birth. Artificial eggs containing jewels, or having little love poems written on them, were exchanged at this season. In Russia there is a pretty custom observed by all, whether of high or low degree: a kiss is bestowed with the greeting, "Christ is risen," the other person responding, "He is risen, indeed."

The legend of the Easter rabbit or hare is of purely German origin. It is supposed to be of white, this bunny for whom the little children of the "Fatherland" search so diligently; it is supposed to come only to the boys and girls who have been good, loving, and kind during the year. After the house is quiet, late at night, this Easter hare visits the household, hiding colored eggs and tiny gifts in all manner of out-of-the-way corners; on Easter morning the children are early astir on their quest for the hare's tokens. Oftentimes the eggs will be marked with the names of the children, which is proof positive that he knows their history and what they have done. Long after the children have fathomed the myth of the Easter hare the custom is kept up.

The Easter Sunday promenade is one of the sights of Paris, and New York and Washington are not far behind in the gayety and brilliancy of the avenues on the return from

Easter morning service.

The giving of gifts at Easter is becoming more prevalent each year, and in recognition of this custom the shops are full of the most fascinating novelties to delight children as well as grown people. There are the downiest of yellow chicks, rabbits of all sizes, nests, and baskets, while the eggs are good to gaze upon and better still to taste. Plants, flowers, and books are always acceptable in way of gifts. Do not forget that yellow and white are the true Easter colors, and tie up packages with yellow and white ribbons; it doubles the gift in value to see evidence of thought and daintiness in the outside wrapping. If a note or appropriate sentiment accompanies the offering the meaning is increased tenfold. In

Washington, the children look forward with keen interest to the annual egg-rolling on Easter Monday, which always takes place inside the White House grounds. The sport is participated in by all the children of the town, rich and poor, black and white. The little aristocrat from Dupont Circle touches elbows with newsboy and street gamin; all are the guests of the President on this one day in the year. The Marine Band plays, and from early morn till dark the grounds are one mass of happy youngsters, armed with egg-laden baskets. The lawn soon has the appearance of being showered with confetti as the merry children wage their pitched battles with egg ammunition.

This custom of egg-rolling is a very ancient one; an entry in the expense account of King Edward I. reads, "Eighteen pence for the purchase of 400 eggs to be used at the Easter

egg-rolling."

An Easter Luncheon

ALL the windows and doorways were curtained with white, festooned with garlands of trailing smilax and feathery asparagus vine, at this Easter Monday luncheon. The floral decorations were yellow and white tulips, with stately lilies in the hall. The dining-room table was in spotless white, the centrepiece of Annunciation lilies in a rock-crystal vase. The candles were of white, in crystal holders, with a lily to catch the wax; there were no shades. For holding nuts and bonbons there were white lily cases, and the ice cream was moulded in a lily form. Tiny nests of spun sugar at each plate contained yellow eggs for favors, and the place cards were white crepe paper lilies with the name written in gold paint on one of the petals.

. The hostess asked her guests, six in number, to wear white gowns; and the effect when all were seated at the table was

very pretty.



PLACE CARD SUGGESTION
FOR AN EASTER CHILDREN'S PARTY

An Easter Party for Children

A cobweb party is a good scheme to utilize for Easter, and it always delights juvenile guests. Attach egg-shaped cards each bearing a child's name to the banisters in the hall, then wind in and out, up stairs and down, ending the string with an egg-shaped parcel containing a small gift. The one who succeeds in disentangling his cord first is entitled to an extra reward. Next form the children in a circle, throw a ball of cotton into the centre; the one who first touches it keeps it. A candy egg is concealed in the folds of cotton, which is then tied with ribbon. There must be a ball for each guest.

Little yellow chicks, which may be purchased by the dozen for a few cents, may be hidden and hunted for after the manner of "hot and cold" (every child knows how), the music being played loud or soft according to the proximity of the

seeker to the chick.

For refreshments, serve cocoa and a variety of dainty crackers, then nests made from a foundation of kisses, which may be purchased at the baker's; lay shredded cocoanut and candied orange peel around the edge to simulate straw; inside put ice cream with three candy eggs on top. For the centrepiece have a large toy chicken on a nest (a round work basket answers this purpose admirably), from which have a ribbon leading to each child's place. After the repast let the ribbons be pulled, and on the end have an inexpensive Easter favor to take home. These suggestions are adaptable to grown people, and will be found most enjoyable.

A Floral Card Party for Easter Monday

A NEW idea for a charity is given below. Send the invitations on flower-shaped or decorated cards; ask each guest to bring a potted plant or a fern or a bouquet of flowers. The score is kept by blossoms; carnations are the best, as they last well. At the finish each guest will possess one or more

of the fragrant reminders of his good or bad luck. The ice cream is served in individual floral moulds, and the cakes are ornamented with crystallized rose leaves, candy roses, and violets. After the party the plants are sent to a hospital. There are no prizes, the floral offering being purchased with the prize money.

A Butterfly Luncheon

THE butterfly is symbolic of the Resurrection, and the hostess seeking something new can have a "butterfly" luncheon. They may be made from all kinds of paper, ornamented with water colors, gold paint, and silver paint. Suspended by very fine black wire from the ceiling, these dainty, fluttering creations are most effective. The place cards and candle shades may also be of butterflies. Have a low dish containing spring flowers, over which two or three butterflies may be wired. If games are played requiring prizes, a silver filigree pin, a butterfly penwiper, or a blotter will be suitable. The following menu may be served.

Clear soup
Wafers
Fried spring chicken Mashed potatoes sprinkled with chopped parsley
Green peas
Tomato salad

Strawberry omelet Hot cross-buns

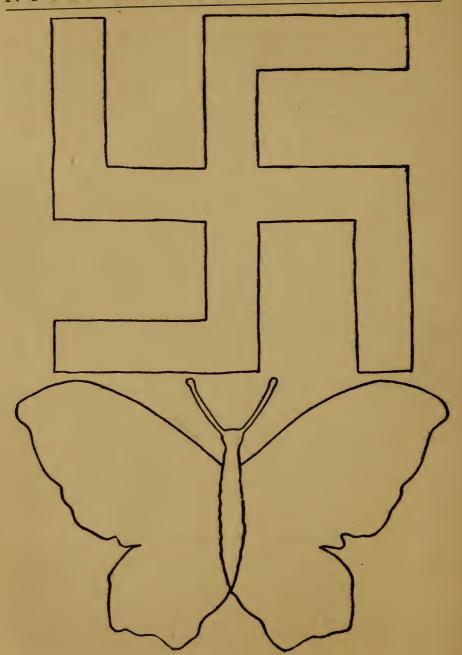
Mint ice Easter tarts Grape juice Salted nuts Easter bonbons

The hot cross-buns are made by cutting a deep cross in the buns before baking, and then filling in the gash with frosting just before they are done. The following recipes for Easter tarts will be welcome, as they are decided novelties.

Make a rich puff paste, bake in fluted tart tins; let them cool before filling, in fact they may be made several days ahead of time. For snow tarts, fill the shells with whipped cream; over the top put cocoanut grated, chopped almonds, and a big luscious strawberry just before serving.

Cheese tarts are made by taking one cupful of curd drained dry, yolks of two eggs, three cups of sweet cream, a pinch of

Novel Entertainments for



PLACE CARD SUGGESTIONS
FOR A GOOD LUCK PARTY—FOR AN EASTER LUNCHEON

salt, and pepper; sweeten to taste. Add one cup of candied cherries; when done, frost and put in the oven to delicately brown.

The almond tarts are made by using chopped almonds (blanched), marshmallows cut with scissors, bits of citron and candied pineapple; on top of each put three blanched almonds.

An Easter Dinner

ALTHOUGH all the lovely green, violet, and pink shades are appropriate for Easter, the true colors are yellow and white — yellow, the emblem of the sun, showing the goodness of God; and white, typical of purity and all things made new. Use gold-banded china, gold-decorated glass side dishes, with a centrepiece of white or yellow flowers. A white egg bears the name of each guest instead of a place card; these rest on little pans each holding a poached egg, the white made of uncolored fondant, the yellow colored with orange.

For the first course serve an anchovy canape, then duchess soup, which is made from white stock slightly thickened with the grated hard-boiled yolks of eggs sprinkled over the top of each cup before serving; chicken breasts, or squab, with cucumber, creamed potatoes in ramakins, and asparagus tips on toast fingers. An egg salad follows, made in the form of lilies by cutting the whites lengthways and mixing the yolk with minced ham and olives. Serve in a nest of watercress. The dessert consists of New York ice cream, which is yellow, frozen in a ring mould with egg-shaped dabs of whipped cream in the centre.

In a nest of ferns and flowers have a colored egg for each guest; attached to them have slips of paper bearing sentiments like these:

Draw the egg of violet hue, You'll have friends both fond and true.

Pink will bring you luck, A lover full of pluck.

Gladly take the egg of green, For good fortune may be seen.

The egg of blue, Means lovers few.

Do not touch the egg of red, If you do you'll never wed.

If you draw the egg of white, Your true love you'll see to-night.

You'll marry in another town, If you choose the egg of brown.

An Easter Egg Hunt

THE invitations for this pretty party are china nest eggs on which the date, name, and place are written with India ink or gold enamel paint. They are placed in small handled baskets, which may be purchased by the dozen for a trifling sum. Delivering these novel invitations gives great pleasure to the children.

An egg hunt will occupy a good share of the time from three until six. Purchase the attractive eggs to be found in candy shops at this season of the year, hide them in every place, then let the children hunt for them. Provide egg-shaped bags of tarleton to hold the spoils. Award prizes of rabbits, yellow chicks, and butterflies.

After this seat the little folks at tables with boxes of paints, brushes, paste, and fancy pictures. Give each one an egg with the privilege of decorating it as best suits him. This

affords an opportunity to display childish originality.

Now for the refreshments, which are to be served at six, and the children will need no other meal when they return home. First serve "magic eggs," made by selecting smooth potatoes; bake until almost done, then carefully scoop out a hole large enough to hold an egg. Season the cavity with salt and a bit of butter. Drop in the egg, tie the top back on, and replace in the oven to finish baking. These are delicious

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and furnish much amusement; they all want to know "how the egg got there." Have chicken sandwiches and cocoa, vanilla ice cream in the form of eggs resting on nests made from strips of candied orange peel. Small white egg-shaped cakes with yellow frosting will complete this simple repast. A green wicker basket filled with jonquils, and drawn by two white "bunnies" will be an attractive centrepiece. Give each child a flower to take home, also the bag containing the eggs from the hunt.

CHAPTER V.-MAY

A May-Day Luncheon

"Where are you going, my pretty maid?"
'I'm going a-Maying, sir,' she said."

IT IS a custom worthy of revival, that of sending gifts of flowers and fruit on the first day of May. We cannot have too much of the legendary romance and sentiment put into our practical and often commonplace lives, so let us joyfully add another to our calendar of special times to celebrate. Like most of our customs, this one comes to us from our English cousins, who have about ten holidays to our one; but it is one of the most hopeful signs, that merchants, hostesses, and schools are recognizing these *fête* days, and children welcome any innovation to vary the monotony of daily routine. So give them a share in the May-Day preparations and every one will be better and happier in consequence.

The luncheon described was given by a far-sighted hostess who does not celebrate the first day of May by moving, as is the yearly habit with many dwellers in city apartments. The decorations consisted of branches of fruit trees which had been placed in lukewarm water about four days before they were used, the water being changed several times daily. The result was a wealth of sweet blossoms which transformed the rooms into a veritable orchard, and the expense was but little.

A Maypole formed the table centrepiece, made from a broom handle, gilded from the top; and an embroidery hoop wound with ribbon and flowers was the fastener for the delicately colored ribbons which radiated to each plate. These streamers may be made of garlands of real or artificial flowers strung on a stout thread, tiny roses or daisies being especially adapted for this purpose. A small basket filled with salted nuts stood at

each cover, with the name card tied to the handle bearing this quaint quotation:

"Ho! the merrie first of Maie, Brings the daunce and blossoms gaie, To make lyfe a holiday."

The first course consisted of strawberries in baskets lined with green leaves; then bouillon, broiled fish, sweetbreads, new potatoes, peas, a tomato and lettuce salad. Ice cream in flower-shaped moulds with small cakes completed this dainty repast.

A Dinner for May Day

THE invitations were sent in small baskets, with a flower and a spray of green; they were hung on the door knob in real old-fashioned May-Day style, the messenger waiting long enough to see that they were received. In Old England gifts were sometimes sent in the May baskets as well as flowers.

In most sections of the country daisies are in their prime at this season, and they were the decorative scheme used on this occasion, their lasting qualities making them specially valuable for banking fireplaces and mantels. Daisies done in water colors were the place cards, and the centrepiece was a low mound out of which the daisies were apparently growing; garlands of them went from the overhead light to the four corners of the table.

The candlesticks were white, the candles yellow, with shades trimmed with artificial marguerites. It was the prettiest table imaginable.

For the first course grape fruit was served, then creamof-celery soup with the yolk of a hard-boiled egg grated over the top; sweetbreads, with creamed new potatoes in yellow ramakins; green peas, with tiny cubes of carrots; hot biscuit; a fruit salad in banana-skin boats; orange ice, with individual sunshine cakes. Benedictine was served after the coffee.

Thus the entire menu was almost confined to the daisy

colors, yellow and white; the gowns of the hostess and most of the guests carried out the same scheme, and the effect was lovely. After dinner, baskets were made by braiding strips of crepe tissue paper, and sewing the braids together; the handle was braided and sewed on, then tied with a bow of ribbon. They were filled with flowers and bonbons and sent the next day to the sick ward of a Home for Old Ladies.

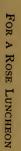
Fête on May Day for Children

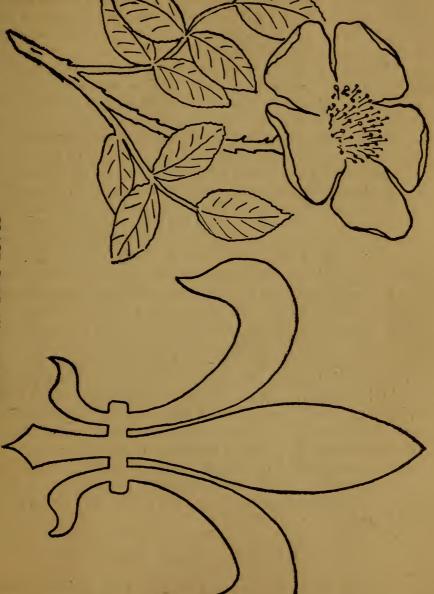
THE French chronicler Froissart tells of the games that children used to love to play on the first day of May; in fact, nearly every country has records of the merrymakings which took place to celebrate the Spring's return, and it was especially enjoyed by children, who, with their elders, always participated in gay dances. The feature of the day was always the winding of the Maypole on the green and the selecting of the May Queen; this important choice being made, the day was one succession of joyous games and dances.

If the weather permits, erect a pole some eight or ten feet in height on the lawn, with streamers of tarlatan or cheese cloth; some people use ribbons, which are pretty, if expense is no consideration. These "winders" should be about four yards in length, of colors which harmonize well. A wreath of flowers generally crowns the Maypole, and there is a mound of

ferns and blossoms at the base.

Perhaps the fairest way to choose the little May Queen is to cast lots by drawing slips of paper out of a bag, on one of which is written the word "Queen." Another way is to blindfold one girl at a time and let her select a flower out of a bowl; the one bearing a slip of paper on the stem will be the honored one. Then Her Majesty may name her pages, a herald to announce her coming on a trumpet, her ladies in waiting, etc. This ceremony over, the Queen crowned with a wreath of flowers and given a floral sceptre, the Maypole is wound and games such as "London Bridge is Falling Down,"





PLACE CARD SUGGESTIONS

FLEUR DE LIS DESIGN

"Ring Around a Rosy," "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush," "Tag," and "Going to Jerusalem" are played. These are nearly all remnants of old English pastimes to which

quaint words used to be sung.

Shakespeare refers to a "morris for May Day." It was a dance or frolic around the pole, with an accompaniment of gay music. Originally this dance came from the Moors, who carried swords; our English cousins substituted short flower-trimmed sticks and wore multitudes of tiny bells around their ankles and knees, which gave a merry jingle in the dance. You see what possibilities the hostess has by requesting the guests to come in costumes befitting the occasion, the girls as shepherdesses and milkmaids, with large flower-trimmed hats, beribboned crooks and wands; the boys as court jesters and merry men of the greenwood. In such a throng there would surely be "Maid Marian," "Robin Hood," "Will Scarlet," "Friar Tuck," and many more of that happy-go-lucky band.

To choose partners for any game the hostess may make a "tulip" bed by filling a shallow wooden box with sawdust or sand, cover it with green crepe paper, and place it on a tabouret or a table. Then make tulips of crepe paper, and on the end of each wire stem tie a small favor; have two of each kind, and when matched mates are found. On one the word "King" might be written and he would of course find the Queen. Have Tennyson's poem "The May Queen" read, and the whole affair will be in a measure educational, inasmuch as it revives one of the favorite holidays of our ancestors. The refreshments should consist of sandwiches of various kinds, fruit, lemonade, small cakes, cookies, stick candy, and ice cream. After the outdoor games the repast may be served in the house or on the porch.

A May-Day House Picnic

In some places the first day of May is apt to find "Winter lingering in the lap of Spring," so that any outdoor affairs are

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impossible. To keep up the semblance of an outside party, one hostess decorated the house with quantities of potted plants and branches of apple blossoms, put up hammocks and a swing or two, and asked a few intimate friends to come to a May picnic. She prepared a dainty flower-and-ribbon-tied basket for each couple, had several tables and all the appurtenances of a picnic, even to a fire in the big dining-room, with a kettle of water boiling on the crane, in which corn was cooked. Coffee was served in tin cups, and the guests wore tub suits, at least the girls; the men came in soft shirts and straw hats. After the supper there was a regular old-fashioned candy-pull. The candy was cut and wrapped in waxed paper and sent in small May baskets to a charitable institution in which the hostess was interested.

CHAPTER VI.-JUNE

A June Party

HIS entertainment was planned to be held out-of-doors, but the elements prevented, the rain of the previous night having made the ground too damp for the flower hunt, so it took place in the house. Dainty invitations had been sent, decorated with tiny blossoms scattered all over the page, "Dresden" fashion. This list of "birth flowers" was enclosed and the guests asked to wear the flowers belonging to their respective birth months, and to state in their acceptance what flower represented their month.

January — Snowdrop.
February — Primrose.
March — Violet.
April — Daisy.
May — Hawthorn.
June — Rose.
July — Poppy.
August — Water Lily.
September — Morning-Glory or Golden-rod.
October — Hop vine or Aster.
November — Chrysanthemum.
December — Holly.

In this way the hostess had for each girl a wreath of her birth flower, and a boutonnière for each boy. It is an olden custom to wear one's birth flower, either a fresh blossom or the dried petals sown in a little silken bag and worn around the neck to ward off evil spirits.

After all had assembled, bags made of flower-decorated crepe paper were distributed, and the company were told to hunt every place for slips of paper bearing the names of the birth flowers represented, but to claim only their own. Twenty minutes was allowed, then the hostess blew a horn for the return

Every Day in the Year

of the hunters; flowers were counted, and the lucky boy and girl were the recipients of dainty prizes. Partners for refreshments were chosen by selecting flowers (artificial), which were pinned to a large potted plant. There were two flowers of each kind. The table centrepiece was a large gilded basket filled with flowers, the handle tied with a huge bow of pink tulle.

An Informal Luncheon

"COME to luncheon at one, wear a tub suit, and bring your thimble." So the little notes read that were received by eight young matrons one warm June day. On an awning-shaded porch the hostess welcomed her guests, and the maid passed tall tumblers of lemonade in each of which three large, luscious cherries floated.

In the dining-room, which was all in Delft blue, with blue and white draperies, the table was set with Japanese paper doilies, which come in all sizes and in a bewildering variety of colors. The hostess explained that those doilies were really the cause of the luncheon at this particular time, for everyone knew that she was preparing for an extended trip to the seashore. "I have a scheme to get you girls to help me out of a dilemma, which I'll make known after you have satisfied the inner man and are in a humor to be worked." And what an appetizing spread it was! A mass of scarlet geraniums filled a large copper bowl in the centre of the table. Four copper candlesticks, shaded with scarlet, made a soft, beautiful light; the dishes were blue, and the service plates of copper. They really belonged to a nut set, but were most effectively used in this way.

The first course was red California cherries dipped in water, then in powdered sugar, and chilled; they were on nasturtium leaves in tall glasses. Creamed chicken and mushrooms in pastry shells, green peas, and Saratoga potatoes came next, with the tiniest of baking-powder biscuit. The salad was a fruit mixture, with cheese straws. Delicious

cherry ice was the dessert, with lady fingers and macaroons. Iced tea with lemon juice passed in a small glass pitcher was served throughout the meal. A housekeeper will see what an

easily prepared repast this was, yet how delicious.

"Now, prepare to work and be worked," said the hostess, and she produced a number of lingerie waists, which were all finished except sewing the lace on collars and sleeves. By five o'clock the last stitch had been taken, and a delightful time credited to an already much beloved hostess, who said, in parting: "Many hands make light work."

How to Give a Correct Luncheon

THE question is asked how to give a correct luncheon, the hour, courses, etc. One, or half after, is the accepted time; the shades are drawn, and artificial lights used as for an evening dinner. There is usually a centrepiece of flowers, although a fruit piece is sometimes substituted. Candles with shades to match the color scheme are used, and place cards, elaborate or simple, according to the taste and purse of the hostess.

In serving, a good rule to follow is a fruit, bouillon or light soup, a lamb chop, a chicken, oyster, or sweetbread patty, potato or rice croquettes, olives, jelly, or celery, radishes, a salad with wafers, and a dessert followed by coffee, cheese, and crackers. Many hostesses now serve some one of the popular cordials in tiny glasses, holding barely a thimbleful.

Pretty, light gowns are worn, high neck and elbow sleeves.

In serving luncheons and in decorating during the summer months, try to have a menu as seasonable as possible, and use the delicate pastel shades, reserving red and heavy dishes for the winter months. Change the sombre draperies and elaborate pillow covers to ones of washable fabrics, and make life as easy and as bright as possible.

A Luncheon for the Girl Graduate

This description of a luncheon given by the mother of a sweet girl graduate may be of assistance to others who wish to have similar affairs. The class colors were orange and purple, gorgeous in the extreme, yet they combined very prettily. There were just twelve girls, and they sat around a polished table, with lace mats over purple.

The candles were individual ones in brass holders, with shades of lace-paper filigree over purple. Tiny dolls dressed in purple gowns, with caps of orange, held the place cards, which were cut out in book form from purplish cardboard lettered in gold with the words: "The History of Miss Blank."

The menu was the usual one, so I will not give the dishes, but the salad of orange, nuts, celery, and white grapes was served in halves of oranges made into baskets with a bow of orange and purple on the handle. The ice was orange, with cake frosted with the egg yolks instead of the whites. With the after-dinner coffee, paper rolls tied up like diplomas with the class colors were passed, bearing this pretty verse, which was most appropriate for the guests just starting out on the next period of life's journey:

A little journey through shade and sun, A little rest where quiet waters run, A little parleying with friend and foe, A little oasis where blossoms grow, A little darkness ere the light is won.

A Flag Party

As JUNE the fourteenth has been designated as Flag Day, it is an opportune time for this entertainment, which will delight the children. Use flags large and small for decoration; tell the story of Betty Ross and the making of the first flag, and then have a flag race. It is conducted in this manner: Have ten rows of flags and select ten children; at the word "Ready"

each picks up a flag, runs to a spot marked out, sticks the flag in the ground, returns for another flag, and so on until all are taken up. If there is another set of ten they try it, until all have had a turn. The ones who make the best time are awarded flags for prizes. The next stunt is to pin up a large flag to the side of the porch or wall with the blue part covered with plain cloth. The trick is to blindfold the children, turn them around three times and see who can pin the most paper stars in the place where the stars ought to be.

In the department stores a set of paper flags of all nations may be purchased, and an interesting and instructive contest may be arranged, by seeing how many will be recognized. If these are not obtainable, Webster's Unabridged Dictionary contains colored plates of all the national symbols. They may be copied with colored pencils on white paper, each

numbered and pinned up on the wall.

Close the party by singing "America" and "The Star-Spangled Banner." The refreshments may consist of red, white, and blue ice cream with candy sticks to match, and a ribbon cake, also in patriotic colors.

A Rose Luncheon

ONE of the prettiest functions imaginable is a rose luncheon. Pink is a color scheme always satisfactory both to hostess and guests. The table may be covered with a lace cloth over pink or remain bare with individual plate doilies. For the centrepiece, take a square basket, fill with pink roses and suspend from the overhead chandelier by broad streamers of tulle or ribbon. Use glass or silver candlesticks, with shades of pink silk roses. The place cards are charming, done in water colors, a rosebud cut out the original shape. On these write the half of a rhyme, original or from "Mother Goose"; in the drawing-room give the other half written on bits of paper to the guests. In this way seats at the table are found. As girls sometimes forget and talk personalities, repeating things best left untold, there may be a large American Beauty rose suspended by a



A JUNE TABLE



ribbon of the same shade over the entrance to the dining-room. Of course the question will be asked, "Why is the rose thus placed?" and the hostess will explain that the rose is the Greek emblem for secrecy, and in olden days it was placed over the table when guests were entertained, in token that what was heard around the board was not to be repeated. That is where we get the expression "Sub rosa."

The bonbons and ices may be served in exquisite rose-shaped cups, the cake trimmed in candy roses, and even the salad may be brought on in rose cases set on a standard of three rose stems wired together and wound with dark green tissue paper. These cases may be found at the caterer's, or made at home if one has the time.

A June Dinner

NILE green and white were the colors selected for a dinner to which eight guests were asked one warm night the latter part of this month, when the weather is apt to grow rather oppressive. The centrepiece was a cut-glass bowl filled with maidenhair ferns; candlesticks were of glass with green shades. Over the table a large fern ball was suspended, casting soft shadows with its long feathery leaves. At each place a doll's *jardinière* held a spike of giant mignonette; white cards decorated with hand-painted sprays of maidenhair ferns bore the names of the guests, with a quotation. Here is the appetizing menu served: A clear soup with a spoonful of whipped cream placed on top just at the moment of sending to the table; boiled trout with egg sauce; breaded veal cutlets; Lyonnaise potatoes; asparagus on toast; vegetable salad in green pepper cases; pineapple sherbet with a green maraschino cherry on top.

After the repast, while still seated at the table, the hostess passed a bowl containing green crinkly paper leaves each concealing a question written on a slip of white paper. The one answering the most questions received a salad plate, while

the maid brought in a head of lettuce to the guest having the least to his credit.

The list was as follows:

A large European city and green? — Paris green.

Green and a portion of the human anatomy? — Greenback.

Green and a dairy product? — Green cheese.

Green and a musical instrument? — Greenhorn.

Green and a reptile? — Green turtle.

Green and a dwelling? — Greenhouse.

A synonyme for "always" and green? — Evergreen. Green and a common name for material? — Green goods.

Green and a portion of a house? — Green room.

Green, an elevation of land, and a part of the United States? — Green Mountain State.

A Farewell Party

A young woman who sailed for Europe in June had this unusual luncheon given her. The centrepiece was a toy dray piled high with miniature trunks, and the place cards were dress-suit cases with the name of the guest written and pasted on the side. The guests, who were all intimate friends, had purchased a silver travelling cup in a russet leather case, and it was at the departing friend's plate. After the luncheon was well under way, the maid brought in a pile of steamer letters, one from each person, to be read on shipboard. With the dessert, telegrams purporting to be from absent friends arrived, all giving advice, remedies for mal de mer, and good wishes.

Before leaving the table, the guests helped the little dray with its horses around to the guest of honor's place; she took the trunk marked with her name and found it to contain a dainty turn-over collar from each guest. The other trunks contained small bonbons. After this envelopes were passed containing foreign post cards cut into pieces, making puzzles. The subjects were all supposed to be places to be visited by the traveller. The reward to the one first solving her card was

a framed post card, a copy of a great painting.

A Steamer Letter Shower

As June is the month when most people go to Europe, a description of this clever entertainment given for a young woman on the day before she left for New York may be acceptable. One hears constantly of the steamer letter. This may consist of almost anything, from the ordinary letter mailed to the steamer for the day of sailing, to mammoth bouquets, huge baskets of fruit, boxes of candy, and presents of all kinds.

On this especial occasion, the table centrepiece was a toy steamer flying the flag of the line on which the guest was to sail; the place cards were postals which afterwards were mailed by the traveller back to the luncheon guests; they were all stamped ready for mailing *en route*. Each person brought a parcel or letter with instructions written on it stating

when it was to be opened.

At sea the days are often monotonous, and anything is doubly welcome that savors of home and far-away friends. As the traveller was to sail on a slow boat, there was a surprise for each day. Some of the gifts were: a glass jar containing salted nuts (dampness spoils nuts, so when given for an occasion of this kind, seal air-tight), a jar each of peppermints and lime drops. (Another hint: chocolate and French bonbons are not very satisfactory sweets to carry on an ocean voyage, as they mash and melt too easily.) This tourist was to spend her birthday on board, so a tin box contained a cake ornamented with candied cherries and candles all ready to light. Then there was a good-sized box of candied ginger; a "memory" book to hold menus, tickets, checks, etc.; Japanese handwarmers, to slip in the capacious pockets of an ulster, which were expected to prove a great luxury; a box of ball-room pencils to go in a chatelaine bag; and a cup attached to a flask completed the list of practical and acceptable remembrances. The hostess presented "twin" pillows of blue denim embroidered with white initials for use on the steamer chair,

and a bag such as children use to carry their schoolbooks in to hang on the side of the chair — in fact, a regular catch-all; in it could be placed magazines, books, and small articles that one might drop.

Two Clever Bon Voyage Gifts

For a young boy who was going to Europe for six months, a girl friend made this charming gift whereby many an hour was happily spent; it provided amusement for him, and the grown-ups in the party enjoyed it quite as much as he did. It was a blank book, the first pages containing ninety illustrated book titles; the "key" was given to his mother; then a number of pages were ruled off for a diary, covering just the months to be occupied by the trip. After this came snapshots of his own home, the street where he lived, and of the children with whom he played. There were valentines from these chums, also Easter cards, April fool jokes, and Fourth of July souvenirs. These special pages were tied together with "Not to be opened till the date" written on the preceding page. The pages covering the boy's birthday were concealed in the same manner.

The other "going away" gift was arranged for a three-yearold child who was to make the long journey to South America. A friend provided a huge ball of worsted, with instructions to unwind one "surprise" a day. The ball contained all kinds of little novelties; a top, dolls of various sizes, a wee bottle of perfumery, a handkerchief, a pair of round-pointed scissors, small boxes of odd shapes filled with hard bonbons, toy animals from a Noah's Ark, a coarse needle, and a box of kindergarten beads.

The mother said afterwards that the "surprise" ball was kept until all else failed to amuse, and then it provided just what was needed. The last article was unwound as the vessel went into the harbor at Rio Janeiro, and life took on

a new interest in that strange land.

A June Luncheon

LIGHT green and white are the colors to be used at this dainty luncheon. There are to be eight guests, an ideal number for a luncheon party. The centrepiece is a cut-glass bowl filled with maidenhair ferns and giant mignonette, and candlesticks of glass with green shades. A large fern ball suspended over the table is an effective decoration. The place cards are white, painted with water colors in a fern design, the lettering done with white ink, which looks like embossing. Here is an appetizing menu, which is not difficult to prepare: A purée made of peas and spinach, served in cups with a spoonful of whipped cream on top; minced chicken baked in ramekins (put a sprig of parsley on the top before sending to the table); sweetbread salad in green sweet peppers; an ice colored green with spinach juice, small cakes iced with green crème de menthe, and pistachio nuts in green and white holders forming the dessert. Iced coffee may be served on the porch if the day is warm, as it should be in June.

A white apron with green ribbons and much betrimmed with lace will be worn by the hostess, and green fans of Japanese manufacture will be the souvenirs, upon each of which the hostess is to write a quotation pertaining to June. I am quite sure that one of them will be Lowell's "And what is so rare as a day in June?" also "Then, if ever, come perfect days."

A Novel Travel Party

SEND out invitations for a rapid trip around the world—a personally conducted party,—to start on a given day and hour. Then prepare as many red-bound booklets as there will be guests; mark them "Baedeker's Guide"; on the first inside page have as many numbers as there will be objects to represent the cities and countries. Scattered promiscuously through the rooms have these objects: a bunch of cigars to represent Havana; a cup and saucer for China; Manila paper

for the chief city in the Philippines; a bowl of drippings for Greece; a Noah's Ark for Newark; a cake of Castile soap for Castile; a cork for that town in the Emerald Isle; a leghorn hat to indicate the city of that name; a string of corals for Naples; some macaroni for Italy; Brazil nuts to represent that country; a bottle of cologne for the city of the same name; an orange, or a toy alligator, for Florida; a picture of a pepper tree indicating California; tulips and wooden shoes for Holland; pieces of Delft, Sevres, and Dresden china to show the cities of those names; for Wheeling, a toy bicycle or a picture of one; a red letter C for the Red Sea, and a copy of "The Eternal City" for Rome. There is almost no limit to the places that may be portrayed in this manner.

When the allotted time for the trip is up, the hostess may award one or as many prizes as she sees best. There are all sorts of things suitable for these souvenirs; toy trains, steamboats, trunks, suit cases, and bags. Allow twenty minutes for refreshments, which should be served in true lunch-counter style; tall dishes of fruit, sandwiches under glass cases, pie,

doughnuts, and coffee.

CHAPTER VII.-JULY

A Fourth of July Tea

Leave the protest against the noise. Of course it is always a day filled with more or less anxiety for the parents of growing children, but no one ever attempts to forget the "glorious Fourth," for it is simply an impossibility to escape. If you go to the country beforehand, all your city friends come for the day bringing "just a few fireworks for the children"; if you stay in town, you vow you'll never do it again; so there you are. One philosophical hostess said that the shops showed such an alluring variety of novelties that were appropriate only for the Fourth, that she had made it her custom for several years to wind up her season with a July Fourth party, and to fill the day so full of things to do that the children did not have very much time to be by themselves. Wise mother; here is the description of one of her affairs.

Her house was in a suburb, and the cards read "from five o'clock until the last car goes." The porches and grounds were hung with myriads of paper lanterns, in red, white, and blue; there were flags everywhere, and drapery of red, white, and blue cheese cloth. For supper, which was served on the porch, there were cold chicken, tomato salad, sandwiches, devilled eggs, a most delicious sherbet made by crushing red currants, straining the juice, mixing with lemonade, and freezing; it was served in tall glasses on blue plates. The individual cakes were star-shaped with a tiny silk flag in each, and chocolate creams were wrapped in paper to resemble torpedoes, while peppermint sticks were done up exactly like firecrackers. Ice cream was moulded in shape of a cannon with a pile of chocolate cannon balls. This delighted the

children, who lingered long over their dessert.

After the tea and before it was dark enough for the fireworks, this amusement had been planned. A quarter of a dollar had been glued to a card, one for each guest; red pencils were attached to the white card by a blue cord. These were the questions; all the answers to be found on the coin:

Part of a river? — Mouth. A hunted animal? — Hare (hair). An outline? — Profile. An Eastern fruit? — The date. Dutch flowers? — Tulips. The edge of a hill? — Brow. The centre of crime? — I (eye). Twinkling lights? — Stars. Impudence? — Cheek. Meaning of "understands"?— Knows (nose). A great country? — United States of America. An American coin? — Quarter dollar. A large bird? — Eagle. Part of a sentence? — Clause (claws). What angels have? — Wings. One out of many? — E pluribus unum. What American citizens enjoy? — Liberty. A spike of barley? — Ear. Indian weapons? — Arrows.

The prize for the man answering the most of these queries was a firecracker box containing a cigar; and the lady winning received the same kind of a box, but it contained a turn-over collar. She remarked that it was the first firecracker she had ever really enjoyed.

Hints for the Fourth

THERE are lovely postals, out made expressly for sending invitations to functions on this day, which are always of a rather informal character. They may be used as place cards and by being cut in pieces may be turned into puzzles. In crepe tissue paper there may be obtained napkins, doilies, and luncheon cloths for outdoor affairs. To delight the younger members of the family and incidentally their elders, invest in a

few large paper animals, which are to be inflated and sent sailing skyward.

A Patriotic Party

This was held one Fourth of July night at a house party. The questions were prepared almost impromptu, and perhaps were all the better for the short preparations, for every one's brain seemed in good working order. The idea was such a good one that I made a list of the interrogations for future reference. The company was divided into sides, and the first contest was to see which side could write down the names of all the Presidents in order, giving the full name of each.

The second test was the agnomen, or additional name. The third test was the nicknames of cities and States. For the fourth trial, of how much they knew or did not know about their own country, a list was made of the "show places" of the United States.

After this a programme of national airs was given, every one joining in. There was "Dixie," "Marching thro' Georgia," "The Watch on the Rhine," "God Save the King," "The Marseillaise," "Blue Bells of Scotland," "America," "The Star-Spangled Banner," and "Yankee Doodle." For the benefit of the hostess all these lists are given.

FIRST AND SECOND TESTS —PRESIDENTS

GEORGE WASHINGTON — Father of His Country. JOHN ADAMS — The Colossus of Independence.

THOMAS JEFFERSON — The Sage of Monticello; the Writer of the Declaration of Independence.

JAMES MADISON — The True Republican; the Father of the Constitution.

JAMES MONROE — The Poor but Spotless President. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS — Old Man Eloquent.

ANDREW JACKSON — Old Hickory; the Fighting President.

MARTIN VAN BUREN — Sage of Kinderhook; the Little Magician; the Shrewd Statesman.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON — Hero of Tippecanoe. JOHN TYLER — First Accidental President.

JAMES K. POLK — Young Hickory.

ZACHARY TAYLOR — Old Buena Vista; Old Rough-and-Ready.

MILLARD FILLMORE — Second Accidental President.

Franklin Pierce — The Yankee President.

JAMES BUCHANAN — The Bachelor President; Old Buck.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN — The Rail Splitter; the Great Emancipator; Honest Abe.

ANDREW JOHNSON — Third Accidental President; the Independent

U. S. GRANT — Unconditional Surrender; United States Grant; the Silent President.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES — The Policy President.

JAMES A. GARFIELD — The Teacher President; the Towpath Boy. CHESTER A. ARTHUR — The Chesterfield of the White House; the Fourth Accidental President.

GROVER CLEVELAND — The Man of Destiny; the Tariff Reform

Benjamin Harrison — The Conservative President.

WILLIAM McKINLEY - The Little Major; the Protective Tariff

THEODORE ROOSEVELT - Teddy, the Rough Rider; the Fifth Accidental President.

THIRD TEST - STATES AND CITIES

What State is known as the Badger State? Wisconsin. The Bay State? Massachusetts. The Bayou State? Mississippi. The Bear State? Arkansas. The Creole State? Louisiana. The Diamond State? Delaware. The Empire State? New York. The Excelsior State? New York. The Freestone State? Connecticut. The Granite State? New Hampshire. The Green Mountain State? Vermont. The Hawkeye State? Iowa. The Hoosier State? Indiana. The Keystone State? Pennsylvania. The Lake State? MICHIGAN. The Lone State? TEXAS. The Lumber State? MAINE. The Nutmeg State? CONNECTICUT. The Old Dominion State? VIRGINIA. The Old North State? NORTH CAROLINA. The Palmetto State? SOUTH CAROLINA. The Peninsula State? FLORIDA. The Prairie State? Illinois.

What city is called the City of Magnificent Distances? WASHING-TON, D. C. City of Brotherly Love? PHILADELPHIA. City of Churches? BROOKLYN. City of Elms? New Haven. The Hub? Boston. City of Rocks? Nashville (Tennessee). City of Spindles? LOWELL (Massachusetts). City of Straits? DETROIT. Crescent City? New Orleans. Empire City? New York. Fall City? LOUISVILLE. Flour City? ROCHESTER. Flower City? Springfield (Illinois). Forest City? CLEVELAND. Garden City? CHICAGO. Gate City? Keokuk (Iowa). Gotham? New York. Iron City? Pittsburg. Monumental City? Baltimore. Mound City? St. Louis. Quaker City? Philadelphia. Queen City? Cincinnati. City of the Lakes? Buffalo. Railroad City? Indianapolis. Smoky City? Pittsburg.

FOURTH TEST - SHOW PLACES

Niagara Falls, Mammoth Cave, Yosemite Valley, Lake Superior, Brooklyn Bridge, Fairmount Park (Philadelphia), Capitol at Washington, Luray Cave, Natural Bridge over Cedar Creek (Virginia), Washington Monument, Central Park, and the Missouri River.

The flowers used for decoration were red and white carnations and blue cornflowers. Poppies may be substituted for the red carnations, and violets at a pinch for the cornflowers. There is a variety of bachelor's buttons that is a real blue, and candytuft will do for the white. Each guest may be given a rosette of the tricolored ribbon for a souvenir.

A Fourth of July Lawn Party

There is always a fascination about a lawn party, and when given on our one really national holiday the interest is increased. Surround the grounds with arches of Japanese lanterns, or if practicable have the lawn wired for electric lights, but still use the lanterns, for nothing ever takes their place. The invitations may be written on small "Jap" doilies or napkins, and enclosed in a firecracker despoiled of its powder, or the toy firecrackers may be used. They come in all sizes. Candies are made in shape of crackers, the tiny sticks being wound with red paper and tied together in exact imitation of the real thing. Paper tablecloths and napkins are prepared especially for this day and, of course, should be used. Flags must be in evidence everywhere; the ones to be used as hair ornaments are of silk and most attractive. Then there are liberty bells, gunboats, cocked hats, drums, boxes in shape of packages of firecrackers, etc.— so many shapes that a hostess may have a large variety to choose from. These souvenirs

add to the table decoration, so that nothing else is necessary, except a bowl in the centre containing red and white carnations with blue larkspur. Candles and ribbon come in red, white, and blue; candies will be made in these colors of pure fruit sugars, so there is no danger in eating them. A large bag of red, white, and blue tissue paper filled with bonbons and suspended with ribbon from a tree or porch makes great sport when each guest is allowed one strike with a cane, the person being blindfolded; when the bag finally bursts there is a scramble for the contents. These candies should be wrapped in red, white, and blue tissue paper with the ends fringed. Horns and flags should be provided, and a platform for dancing, if

the party is a large one.

It is a good plan for several friends to combine forces and give a party of this kind together, the men sharing the expense of the fireworks. All large department stores keep the flags of all nations, and it would make an interesting contest to have specimens of these flags for the guests to see, and to the person who first correctly guesses a flag, award it as a prize. A very pretty porch decoration is to take fern hanging baskets and stick them full of small flags, hanging a "Jap" lantern between them. Over the lemonade bowl suspend a huge parasol, with a small lantern hung from each rib; when lighted, the effect is lovely. Tie the sandwiches with tricolored ribbon and ornament the individual cakes with a flag. Singing war songs, winding up with "America," will bring this delightful lawn party to a close. It is needless to say that the children are included in this party; they will have to have the constant surveillance of their parents, anyhow, so the "grown-ups" might just as well enjoy a good time too, and the young people will be perfectly contented to stay at home in this bower of beauty which is, in reality, very inexpensive except for the time it takes to prepare. Let the children assist or hinder, whichever the case may be, and you will be able to keep them in sight all day, which is certainly worth the effort on this one day when the loyal mother must permit the



WAYS TO SERVE SHERBET, ICE CREAM OR CHARLOTTE RUSSE



celebration, though her heart quakes within her. If any of the readers are contemplating lawn parties, wait until the Fourth and so kill two birds with one stone.

Such affairs must be very informal — no ceremony and no elaborate dressing.

A United States Party

For a United States party decorate the rooms with the Stars and Stripes and bunting, or cheese cloth of red, white, and blue. The four or five-cent quality will answer every purpose and may be utilized for dust cloths afterwards or kept

for July Fourth festivities.

The scheme is to see how many States the guests will be able to recognize by the shape alone. To prepare these nameless maps, put a piece of carbon paper over a map and thus make two or three impressions at the same time; paste these on lightweight cardboard, then cut out the States. Give each person a ten-minute trial, then see who has correctly named the most.

For a prize, a candy box (filled) in shape of "Uncle Sam,"

or a box covered with flag decoration is appropriate.

Take good-sized potatoes and stick them full of tiny flags and suspend from the gas jets. They are really very effective. A confectioner will make red, white, and blue cream patties, or opera sticks, if the order is given a day or two beforehand. Ornament the cakes with small silk flags and tie the sandwiches with tricolored ribbon.

A Fourth of July Masquerade

IF possible give this party in a big barn with lanterns, flags, and liberty bells; the place may be gayly decorated, and a hay wagon may be sent for the guests. Provide horns and drums, and use red, white, and blue cheese cloth festoons.

The host and hostess may be garbed as "Uncle Sam" and

"Columbia," the guests asked to represent the different States and cities, or to choose the characters with reference to something purely American. If the "German" is danced there are a bewildering lot of favors to select — toy drums, cocked hats, guns, flags of all sizes, firecrackers, gun boats, liberty bells, crack and all, shields, eagles, and toy tents. In fact there is scarcely another special day for which the shop-keepers have provided such an abundance of objects. Serve a raspberry frappé during the dance with cherries floating on top.

Have prizes for the most unique costumes, and wind up with a cake walk. An enormous cake decorated with tiny silk flags should be the reward of the couple whom the judges vote as doing the most intricate steps. Have an old-fashioned

spread at midnight.

A Summer Christmas Party

That matron was surely abreast of the times who issued invitations to a dozen of her friends to come to a Summer Christmas Party to be held on her porch on a day in mid-

Tuly.

Each guest was asked to contribute a new idea for a Christmas present and to bring her thimble. Here is what those bidden to this unusual party found: In the first place the porch chairs, tables, and a wicker couch were covered with snowy white towels and spreads, and all the pillows were white. Great bunches of wild grasses filled wall pockets and jardinières, and they had been dipped in a solution of alum water to resemble frost-touched foliage. At one end of the porch was a sure enough Christmas rose, transplanted from its home in the forest six months too soon but looking the part with glass icicles hanging from its branches and a plentiful sprinkling of diamond dust.

The other end of the porch had a table on which rested a bowl filled with claret cup; a great cake of ice in it held a bunch

Every Day in the Year

of mint, the only touch of color on the snowy scene, as the hostess and all her guests wore white, even to their shoes.

After all had arrived the ideas for presents were given, each taking her turn. These suggestions were discussed pro and con, and a list made for future reference. Then the hostess produced a pile of white tarlatan stockings with a spool of silver thread for buttonholing, and explained that these self-same stockings would be put away to be filled with popcorn and candy and be sent to the charity wards of several big city hospitals. The guests all asked for the privilege of having another party to fill the stockings.

For refreshments there were individual plum puddings made from gelatine, filled full of all sorts of fruits and nuts; a sprig of artificial holly was laid on each plate. White cakes cut star-shape, and peppermint bars completed this dainty

spread.

CHAPTER VIII.-AUGUST

An Arctic Luncheon

EVEN in the dog days there is little diminution in the way of entertaining, save that a very informal manner pervades all social functions. There are delightful dinners after automobile trips, and porch parties are often preceded by a luncheon. This Arctic affair, evolved by a young hostess forced to remain in the city all summer was a jolly scheme worthy of emulation by others in a like situation. The invitations were exceedingly clever, having an air-ship headed for a snow mountain on which a polar bear stood holding a flag, on which were the words, "North Pole." Then there were bulletins scattered over the page, purporting to be wireless messages saying "Twenty degrees below," "Fifty degrees below," etc. The name "Wellman" was printed on the airship, and a man in the ship carried a United States flag.

There were only six guests; each one had been requested to appear in a white gown, and there was a ten-cent fine (for charity) for any one who mentioned hot weather. Beyond this, the unique notes gave no indication of the nature of the

entertainment.

On arriving, iced grape juice charged with seltzer and a dash of lemon juice was served. In a few moments the diningroom doors were opened, revealing the coolest place imaginable. The draperies were all of white, chairs were covered with white cloth, and the floor had white canvas stretched over it from side to side; sheets stitched together will answer this purpose admirably. A huge cake of ice formed the centrepiece, surmounted by a group of toy polar bears. Ferns and vines were massed around the base of this iceberg concealing the pan which held it. At either end of the table there were

globes of goldfish. The candles were white, in glass holders, with shades plentifully sprinkled with diamond dust, which glittered on the tablecloth as if just kissed by Jack Frost.

Glass icicles of various lengths were hung from the over-head light and the dearest of Eskimo dolls drew tiny sleds

at the place of each guest, bearing the name card.

Then a delicious "white" menu was served from pure white china. First, iced bouillon in glasses, then cold breast of chicken, Saratoga chips, baking-powder biscuits, pear and pineapple salad with whipped cream dressing, iced tea, and cantaloupe filled with grape fruit and maraschino cherries completed the feast, with the usual accessories of side dishes. The bonbons were white French sugar-dipped cherries in individual white paper cases; the olives were ripe instead of the variety usually served, and there was a toothsome mango preserve. The guests were asked to relate the coldest experience they had ever had, and there were large thermometers hung conspicuously about the room with the mercury fixed to stay below zero.

An Angler's Supper

A LONELY summer widower strolled into a confectioner's shop to buy the weekly-box of sweets to send to the children at the shore, and was so fascinated by the alluring display of sea novelties for dinner favors that he decided to give a stag party to his fishing chums who were, like himself, detained in town. In consequence, copies of the following note found their way to the men in question:

There will be a reunion of the Fishers Six at my shack on Monday night at seven o'clock. The requirements are old clothes and a brand new story. No twice-told tales will answer.

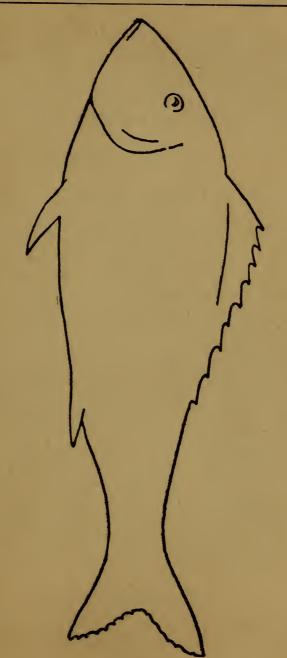
THE LONE FISHERMAN.

On the appointed night, the dining-room walls were hung with fish nets in which toy fish of different sizes were caught. There were globes of goldfish on the mantel and sideboard, but the centrepiece was the pièce de résistance; on it the angler had expended all his energy. There was a long pan constructed by an obliging tinsmith, filled with water, the edges concealed by moss, vines, and ferns; real sand made a most realistic shore, with pebbles and shells. Two boats were apparently crossing the lake toward a tiny tent which was pitched at the head of the table. A miniature hunter with gun and a fisherman with rod were wandering on the shore, and there were actually the remains of a camp-fire, made from charred matches. Frogs, turtles, and lobsters sported in the grass and were scattered over the tablecloth; also crabs, which were entangled in some sea moss. There were ovsters in the shell, clams, and even starfish, while each place card was a different variety of fish. Overhead bamboo fishing poles had been crossed, and red lanterns hung from them, which gave just the right glow to the room. The menu was composed entirely of sea food, and the guests lingered until the wee small hours recounting yarns that would have raised old Izaak Walton's hair could he have listened to these twentiethcentury fishermen.

An English Garden Party

This is the favorite mode of entertaining during the sum mer season across the water. Our English cousins always live up to their outdoor privileges; each afternoon a gay party is assembled on some one's lawn listening to the music and sipping the inevitable cup of tea—first, last, and always tea, so the men have the habit as well as the gentler sex. When the hour comes every one is as anxious for his cup as if he had not seen or tasted the grateful beverage for a fortnight.

Spread rugs on the lawn and steps, place a tabouret or two in convenient places, with tea tables under huge Japanese umbrellas. Ask several attractive girls to pour, and with a couple of stringed instruments concealed behind a screen of palms, you have the properties required for a successful garden party. English muffins freshly toasted, orange marmalade,



PLACE CARD SUGGESTION
FOR APRIL FIRST OR A CAMP SUPPER

oatmeal cakes, orange and ginger (candied), and stuffed dates are adjuncts which may be served. Tea is given with all its accompaniments of lemon, arrack, rum, and cherries; also cream and sugar for the few who still prefer it. Sometimes if the weather is very warm, an ice is offered, or a frappé. Also very thin sandwiches and salted nuts.

A Unique Luncheon

ONE hot day in August a young matron who had asked six friends to luncheon suddenly found herself without a maid. She was equal to the occasion, however, and said nothing to her guests about the very important missing member of her household. Before going to the dining-room each girl was handed a ribbon bow, to which was attached a safety pin, and told to find her place by matching the colors at the places. It did not take long to appropriate the pretty aprons with the strings of ribbon to match each bow. They were made of large colored handkerchiefs, and the point forming the bib was pinned up by the safety pin and bow. Anchovy canapes was the first course. After they were eaten the hostess turned to the guest at her right and said: "Look under your plate and do what the card says." And the little card bore this request: "Please remove the plates and bring in the soup." Amid much merriment this was accomplished, the bouillon being already on a tray over the gas, which was turned low. Another guest removed the cups and brought in the next course. Minute directions were on each card. The hostess did not find it necessary to leave the table, and the absence of the maid was voted to have made the party a great success. Every one declared that the aprons were the most acceptable of souvenirs.

An August Luncheon

TEN young matrons were the recipients of rather unique invitations for a luncheon which was given last week. The

postman delivered the notes, which were sent on large sheets of paper folded and sealed with wax bearing the signet of the hostess. She said the idea came to her when she found some letters written by her great-grandfather in the early years of the nineteenth century. The notes said:

"Will Mistress Mary Pembroke array herself in her best

"Will Mistress Mary Pembroke array herself in her best cotton gown and appear at the residence of Mistress Margaret Kent on Friday at the hour of one, to meet an assembly of

young matrons?

"Will she put her thimble in her reticule to help sew upon

much-needed garments for the children of the poor?"

On the day appointed the guests were ushered into a diningroom which was literally transformed into an old-fashioned garden. There were tall hollyhocks in the corner, standing in huge brown stone crocks, trailing vines on the plate rails, and large bowls of nasturtiums on the mantelpiece. The table was set with goldband china, an heirloom in the family, and the menu was prepared from recipes taken from a very old family cookbook.

After the repast the hostess told of the great need for new clothes for the little children who were taken to the various fresh-air sanatoriums, and she produced a bolt of material from which to make nightgowns and small slips. The young mothers were greatly interested, and decided to meet once a week during the summer to sew for these unfortunate babies. As one guest said: "It is n't half bad not to be able to leave town, if one just keeps busy and interested." And another one said: "It is heaps better to all be hot together doing something, than to stay at home trying to keep cool," and so the good work for charity goes on.

A Sand Party

QUITE the most novel entertainment in the way of an affair for children was a Sand party given by a mother for her little girl's third birthday. It was at the seashore, a lovely

Novel Entertainments for

beach on Long Island, but the idea is applicable to any one having a sand pile in the back yard, or the children could go to a lake, where the sand is usually clean and dry except after a recent rain.

Previous to the arrival of the little guests make a huge mound of sand, in it hiding all sorts of treasures. Articles may be found at the five and ten-cent stores, at the favor counters, and at Japanese stores. When the children arrive give each one a small shovel such as come with tin pails for five cents. Stick as many flags in the sand as there are children, and tell each one to choose a flag and begin digging at that spot. As the treasures are found the excitement becomes intense. After all have dug up two, three or four objects, as the limit may be, the pails are produced and the party will proceed to amuse themselves. Serve a regular picnic supper, with the addition of a birthday cake and ice cream.

A pretty idea of arranging the candles, is to have the usual number of "year" candles on the cake, then around it in a circle have a candle for each child in a tiny candlestick to be taken home as a souvenir. These diminutive holders come in green and yellow ware and are very decorative. They are useful on bedroom night trays and for the desk to hold the sealing-wax taper.

CHAPTER IX.-SEPTEMBER

A Labor-Day Party

HE first Monday in September is now recognized in most parts of the United States as Labor Day; this means with most people the end of vacation and return to the desk, schoolroom, or whatever the especial

calling may be.

A hostess having this thought in mind asked a few intimate friends to spend the evening, and asked each one to wear an article indicative of his labor. This was most amusing, and it was really surprising to see how ingeniously each had worked out the idea. For example, the teacher appeared with a ruler, pencil, pad of paper, several books, and a tiny bow and arrow attached to her belt as a chatelaine. It was some time ere any one understood what the last two articles represented, when she replied that they were "to teach young America how to shoot." The banker appeared with bags filled with toy coins, greenbacks, and bank books; the druggist with bottles, and all sorts of patent medicine advertisements pinned on his coat; paint brushes and palette adorned the artist; the electrician had an electric lantern which he flashed in all dark corners.

But the dining-room table was certainly an example of household labor: the centrepiece was a toy washtub with wringer attached; a small doll was apparently washing clothes. A clothes-line extended to small poles at the four corners of the table, and tiny garments were pinned on with diminutive clothespins. The place cards were tied to various household and kitchen articles; small brooms, kettles, pans, even wee lamps and candles. The hostess said to keep the spirit of the day every one would have to work; so aprons and caps were supplied for men and a chafing-dish supper was served.

An Indian Dinner

This party was given by a hostess who rejoiced in a country place by the side of a beautiful inland lake near a large

city.

The invitations were folded in the shape of a tent, and on the inside they requested the guests to come in "tub" suits; a time-table of the suburban trains was also inclosed, a bit of thoughtfulness much appreciated by most of the recipients. They were met at the station by the two young sons of the household, garbed in real Indian suits, with an abundance of war paint and feathers. There were two tents in the back yard, and between them a table with benches awaited the arrival of the "enemy." There were camp-fires in the sand, one for roasting potatoes, the other for corn, while a third was presided over by an expert woodsman, where fish right from the lake were broiling. A game of archery on the lawn sharpened the appetites, and it is needless to say that this real camp supper was fully enjoyed. The table was decorated with Indian beadwork, the place cards were Indian souvenir post cards, and the bread was passed in baskets of Indian weaving, also the berries. There were squares of stiff paper for wrapping around the blackened but delicious potatoes as they were drawn from the coals, and for the ears of corn. Melons of all varieties constituted the dessert, with any number of berry pies. As the twilight waned and the stars appeared, the fires were rekindled, long sticks were provided, marshmallows were roasted, songs sung; and it was the last train to town that conveyed a tired but merry party back to the conventionalities of civilized life.

A Maizepop Party

THE very latest invention for autumn entertainment is the "Maizepop" party. It has an exceedingly novel sound, but it is only the English for "popcorn."



Just recently our popcorn has been introduced into England by two enterprising Americans under the name of "Maizepop," and is being received with great *éclat*. In consequence, our plebeian popcorn has taken a decided rise in artistic circles.

Send out the invitations in green crepe paper ears of corn. For decorations the red and white ears of corn hung in festoons over grills and doorways are very effective. Pass each guest an ear of corn, with a wooden plate such as grocers use; let him shell and count the grains, keeping count of the number; then pour the contents into a large receptacle. Each person makes a guess as to the number, the one coming nearest getting a prize. Then have poppers for the men, and some shelled popcorn. When a good-sized bowlful is popped, give each a needle and thread with ribbons of different colors, a half-inch in width. The girls make watch chains for the men, and the men make necklaces for the girls, by sewing grains of popcorn to the ribbon. Partners are found for refreshments or for whatever contest the hostess has provided, by matching a necklace and a ribbon.

For refreshments serve a cream corn soup; cornmeal gems; bowls of mush with cream; parched, salted, and buttered corn, instead of nuts; popcorn balls, and, if not too late, corn on the cob. This affair is adaptable to the needs of a young people's church society.

A New England Breakfast

A HOSTESS who had spent the Summer at a Massachusetts coast resort issued invitations for this breakfast to eight of her friends, the hour being half past eleven. The spread was so unusual that the guests were delighted. With the exception of a few added frills, the hostess said it was the breakfast which was served her on Sunday mornings by one of the foremost of New England housekeepers. The table was spread with a plain damask cloth; a glass bowl filled with pink and crimson dahlias was the centrepiece. There were no candles

or artificial lights. On either end of the table there were old-fashioned latticed china dishes, filled with various fruits. These were passed, then white cornmeal mush in blue Canton bowls was served with cream and sugar, hot rolls, codfish balls, scrambled eggs, Boston baked beans in brown earthenware ramakins, and genuine Boston brown bread, followed by hot doughnuts, cream cookies, and coffee, which the hostess poured herself.

After this innovation in gastronomy, the hostess showed a rare collection of New England antiques, heelless slippers, lace collars, and silver spoons. One of the latter had a much worn point from stirring custards; the handle bore the initials of the eldest daughter in the family for many generations, and had

just come into the possession of the hostess.

Decorations for an Autumn Dinner Table

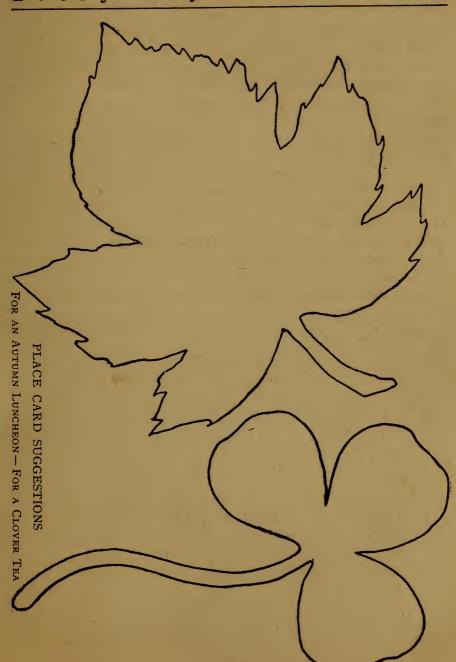
In Scotland and some of the far north countries September is called the Harvest Month; and when the last sheaf is garnered they call it "the old woman," or "harvest witch." In the north of Scotland this bundle is dressed up to represent an old woman with a sickle fastened in her apron, and set in the middle of the table to preside over the harvest-home festivities. This idea may be enlarged upon and carried out at a fall dinner, using small farm implements for favors, a "horn of plenty," filled with fruit or flowers, and a miniature sheaf of wheat at each place.

Another appropriate centrepiece would be a farm wagon driven by a boy doll and laden with hay, the horses decorated with flowers and bells, as was the custom in olden times; if toy oxen can be found to draw the cart, so much the better. A procession of little dolls with hoes and sickles should follow the

wagon.

An Indian Luncheon

THE invitations for this charming affair were printed on birch bark, the size of visiting cards, and sent by mail in a



tiny white envelope. On arriving, the guests were seated at small tables, each of which was ornamented with a birch-bark canoe filled with violets. The canoes were kept upright by a pin through the bottom stuck lightly into the table. The place cards were little tomahawks, with the name written on the handle. The menu was simple but delicious: chicken croquettes, potatoes in ramekins, olives, green peas in white paper cases, hot rolls, salted pecans in tiny Indian baskets, ice cream and strawberries in tall glasses, cake, and coffee served in demi-tasse. Colored prints of Indians taken from Mackinac postals were pasted on light gray cardboard; attached to them were pencils on strips of leather ornamented with beads. At the tops of these progammes the words "The Indian in Literature" gave the guests a clew as to the scheme of the entertainment. A large table containing the following objects long puzzled the brains of the participants:

1. A birch-bark canoe, containing two Indian figures seated, with name "Mona" on the canoe — "Ramona."

2. Picture of Longfellow on one corner of a card bearing prints of an Indian brave and an Indian girl — Hiawatha and Minnehaha.

3. The word "La" over the picture of the Czar—"Lazarre."

4. An Indian moccasin —"The Last of the Mohicans."

5. A snow shovel —"The Pathfinder."

6. A leather stocking —"The Leather Stocking Tales."

7. A tiny doll's corset, and a bow and arrow —"The Deer Slayer."

A prize of a fine framed photogravure of Hiawatha was the first reward; an Indian bag of chamois and beads was the second; a paper knife ornamented with an Indian in bronze was the third. The hostess was the possessor of many fine pieces of pottery made by the Indians, which added greatly to the decorative scheme carried out in the dining-room.

A short programme of ballads finished a most delightful afternoon.

CHAPTER X.-OCTOBER

A Nut Party

CTOBER with its frosts makes nut parties in the country seasonable. For the unfortunate mortals who cannot enjoy a genuine outdoor party, the next best is to have one in the house. Decorate with autumn foliage, and make the rooms assume just as woodsy an aspect

as possible.

After the guests have arrived, have a lot of old "chestnuts" played and sung, such as "Annie Rooney," "Only a Pansy Blossom," "After the Ball," etc. This will make much merriment and the songs will be classed as "musical chestnuts." Then pass acorn-shaped booklets, containing the following questions. The answer to each query is the name of a nut.

1. Its first syllable is a spring vegetable — Peanut.

2. The penalty of tight shoes — Acorn.

A souvenir of South America — A Brazil nut.
 Its first part is a barrier of brick or stone — Walnut.

5. Two-thirds of it makes our daily bread acceptable — Butternut.

6. Its first half is a beverage — Cocoanut.

7. Two boys' nicknames — Phil-bert.
8. Part of the human body forms the first syllable — Chestnut.

9. A letter of the alphabet and a utensil of tin — Pecan.

10. The first syllable is a color of the human eye — Hazelnut.

After this contest a nut hunt might be conducted; the hunter finding the most nuts to receive a copy of "Opening of a Chestnut Burr," and "Twice Told Tales" for the consolation prize.

A Harvest-Home Frolic

Ask the guests to come in country costumes, such as a village belle, a typical old maid, and the village gossip, for the girls; country dudes, farmers, store-keepers, etc., for the men.

If convenient invite them to supper, which can be served at small tables, the rooms decorated with sheaves of wheat, stalks of corn, pumpkins, squashes, and ears of corn. Use lanterns, lamps, and candles for lights, and afterwards have a cotillion danced in a big barn if practicable, with aprons, straw hats for the men, sunbonnets for the girls, and all sorts of farm implements and garden tools for favors. Have cider to drink. At midnight a corn roast will wind up the festivities. Send the guests home in a hay wagon. A corn-shucking contest may be arranged, with a prize for the one who finds the first red ear. All colored ears are considered to bring luck to the finders.

A vote may be taken as to the best costumes, and prizes awarded. This will add an interesting feature.

A Hallowe'en Party

EACH year entertaining on Hallowe'en, which comes on

October 31, becomes more and more popular.

To those who ask the significance of this day we answer that, like all festival days now having apparently only a secular interpretation, it had a religious origin. From time immemorial it has been the custom to celebrate the last day of October, Hallow Eve, or E'en, as it is generally called. It is held in tradition that, long ere the Wise Men of the East proclaimed the birth of Christ, a great festival was held on this day by Druid priests. As the nations became Christianized the day was called "All Hallow" because it preceded All Saints' Day. To come down to modern times, this day is regarded by old and young as the day par excellence on which to entertain.

There are so many ways to amuse, so many schemes to try, that one evening is far too short to do them all, so the hostess must adapt what is best suited to her own company.

Two hundred years ago it was customary to build huge bonfires on the hills to proclaim that majestic and sacred rites





were being performed, and it was a season of great rejoicing; so a huge fire of logs is a desirable attribute to a Hallowe'en party. Many a city house or flat can boast of only a gas log, but be sure to light it, using candles only for illumination. Of course, Jack-o'-Lanterns must glow from every available corner, from mantel and bookcase; in fact, every spot capable of holding it should bear a grinning "Jack."

Have popcorn to be popped by the guests, dishes filled with red apples, and bowls of nuts to crack. On this one night Fate gives an opportunity to peer into the future and divine the course of true love. Tassels from corn ears are named by the maidens, then placed over the door, and the man first to pass under the one bearing his name is supposed to be the

life partner of the girl who named it.

Bobbing for apples is a stunt so old that no one seems able to tell its origin, but no Hallowe'en party is complete without it. Fill a small tub with water, put in eight or ten apples, first having inserted in one of them a ring, in another a thimble, in a third a coin, and in one a button. Thus will

the fate of four persons be decided on the spot.

The "candle" fortune is always popular. Place lighted candles in an open window, and the one which burns the longest is the one who will remain faithful to the end; of course the candles are silently named before being lit. A "Dutch" lunch served at midnight is attractive. Brown and rye bread, cider, coffee, potato salad with grilled herring, olives, cheese, and a great "mystery" cake. This cake is cut by lot, it being considered an honor to cut the first slice. Inside the cake are tiny white bags inserted before baking or ic ng, containing flour, which indicates a rich marriage; sugar, si mifying a love match; corn meal, which shows that the cipient will have to work for a living, and three empty bags, which foretell single-blessedness for the next year.

In the way of quotations for place cards, the hostess has store of riches from which to draw by consulting Shakes-

ware or Burns.

A Hallowe'en Brownie Party

PEOPLE of all ages love to celebrate on Hallowe'en, and this party is especially adapted to children between the ages of eight and twelve. If not more than a dozen guests are invited, ask them to supper and send them all home promptly at nine o'clock.

On the little pumpkin-shaped cards besides the hour and date write: "This season of the year is to the Brownie's heart most dear." Have a pumpkin centrepiece filled with fruit, and a ring of little Brownie figures around it, one for each child. Light the rooms with Jack-o'-Lanterns, and serve a simple supper of creamed chicken, baked potatoes, egg salad with crackers, cocoa, with little individual pumpkin pies. Let the children bob for apples, burn nuts, and have a supply of popcorn. Tell them harmless ghost stories, and give a description of how Hallowe'en originated and how the day is celebrated in other countries. It is surprising how interested children are in facts, and the many legends pertaining to this interesting time are all fascinating. If not too much trouble, the guests may be asked to come in Brownie costumes. Japanese paper masks may be used, or the mothers can make them of cloth. Have the words to a Brownie jingle that will be good to read to the little folks, or set to a simple tune for them to sing.

Hallowe'en Charms

FOR a party at which there were twelve guests the hostess prepared twelve tiny satin bags tied with ribbon. Inside each one there was a narrow folded strip of paper bearing one of the following inscriptions. These "charms" were given as the young people departed, and were supposed to have been blessed by Titania, queen of the fairies:

"Keep this charm next your heart; it will bring you a friend

when in need."

"This charm in your right shoe worn, will help your troubles to be borne."

Every Day in the Year

"Keep this charm in your left-hand pocket; it will provide delightful surprises."

"Hide this charm in your favorite book; it will bring

pleasant memories."

"Gaze upon this talisman each morning; it means happiness for you."

"Worn in your glove, this charm will bring a kindly greeting

from every one you meet."

"Toss this charm over your head three times; it brings good luck."

"Hold this charm to your eyes; you will then gaze on

beautiful things."

"Seven nights hold this to your ears; you will hear sweet sounds."

"Place this charm on the back of your left hand to insure you happiness for life."

"Bind this charm on the first oak tree you see, and your

heart's most ardent wish will come true."

"Carry this charm in your purse; it will then never be empty."

The Egg Fortune

For this potent formula for peering into the future an absolutely new-laid egg is necessary. Drop the white only into a glass of cold water. A clever seer will then foretell the future from the queer shapes which the albumen assumes.

The Yarn Test

HERE is a very simple method of determining one's future partner in life. It is called the "yarn" test. At the stroke of midnight the girls must all go upstairs, the men remaining in the hall below. Then each maid in turn drops a ball of light blue yarn over the banister. Of course she must hold

tightly to one end of the yarn and remain unseen when she throws it down. The men scramble for the ball, and when the yarn is drawn taut by the girl above, the one who gets it must reply by giving his true name when the unseen holder says, "Who holds?" If he recognizes her voice, so much in their favor; if the girl drops the end she holds, she will remain unmarried; if the yarn breaks she will not marry any of the men present on this occasion. This test is always sure to provide a happy ending to the party, and it is also a means of pairing the guests for refreshments or for any game where it is necessary to choose partners.

Telling Fortunes

FORTUNES may be told by the traditional "three bowls." Place three bowls, or saucers (as they are more convenient), on a table, one filled with water, one with milk, and the other empty. Each maiden is then blindfolded, turned around three times, and started in the direction of the bowls. If she dips her finger in the water, she will marry a bachelor, if in the milk her husband will be a widower, while if her finger touches the empty dish, she is fated to remain single. After each one makes the test the order of the bowls must be changed, so as to prevent those who watch from knowing which is which.

A Hallowe'en Frolic

THE invitations were on bat-shaped bits of black cardboard; written in white ink was the following bit of doggerel:

"Come at the witching hour of eight, And let the fairies read your fate; Reveal to none this secret plot, Or woe—not luck—will be your lot."

On arriving, the door opened without any visible human effort, and in the darkness a white hand pointed the way upstairs. It was cut out of cardboard, fastened to a stick, and nailed to the wall. Grinning pumpkin Jack-o'-Lanterns were on the stair landings, and in the dressing-rooms each guest was provided with a sheet and a Japanese paper mask and cap. Another hand pointed upward to the attic, and here all the usual Hallowe'en jokes were played, and the hostess received her guests, dressed like a ghost, with dough face and skull cap. The attic was lighted by candles, Jacks, and burning alcohol in brass basins; the latter makes a ghastly blue flame.

Whenever two guests recognized each other, masks were removed. When all were known, they descended to the lower rooms for dancing. At eleven, refreshments were served, nuts were burned in the grate fire, and fortunes were told by the hostess giving each guest an English walnut, saying:

"Hold above a candle what is found within, Careful not to scorch it — that would be a sin."

Candles were brought in, and within each nut was found a folded bit of apparently blank paper. When held over the candle flame words began to appear. This is done by writing with invisible ink or lemon juice, which leaves no sign on the paper until submitted to heat. The fortunes are written to suit the guests, the hostess being acquainted with them sufficiently to make this interesting.

The old jingle telling one's fortune by the number of seeds contained in an apple is repeated here for the benefit of the many who may have forgotten. This is one of the favorite

methods of telling Hallowe'en fortunes:

"One, I love; two, I love;
Three, I love, I say;
Four, I love with all my heart;
Five, I cast away;
Six, he loves; seven, she loves;
Eight, they both agree;
Nine, he comes; ten, he tarries;
Eleven, he courts; twelve, he marries."

A Hallowe'en Masquerade

Now for the merry carnival of hobgoblins, Brownies, fairies, witches, owls, cats, and bats who are waiting for their annual reunion on October 31.

A very pretty party is a Hallowe'en masquerade. Send the invitations on Salem witch postal cards; they are just the thing for an affair of this kind. Ask each guest to appear in the character designated, naming a witch, fairy, bat, owl, cat, ghost, sprite, etc. A Japanese cap and mask may be sent to each one; they are of paper, very light and inexpensive. When the guests all wear them the effect is amusing in the extreme.

After dancing for an hour unmask and try the old Hallowe'en tricks. They always assume new interest each year, and there is always a first time for some one in the party; the old love story is ever new, and the oracles are nearly always propitious if the hostess is clever in consulting the fates beforehand. Of course, there must be a fortune cake; and the regulation refreshments are apples, nuts, cider, popcorn, sandwiches, coffee, and individual pies.

A prize may be awarded to the guest who guesses the most maskers, and one to the person who remains the longest incognito. Have the supper-room lighted entirely by candles and platters of alcohol in which there is salt. The light thus made will be ghastly and weird in the extreme. Put good fat raisins into the platters; they are what our English cousins call "snapdragons." The person who can grab a raisin out of the flame will be lucky and free from evil spirits during the ensuing year.

Suggestions for the Hallowe'en Table

For the benefit of those who cannot buy favors and novelties, the following ideas may be carried out and made at home with very satisfactory results. Carefully hollow out goodsized oranges after removing the top; place a small candle



PLACE CARD SUGGESTION
FOR HALLOWE'EN

inside in a holder made of four slender nails and replace the top. These are charming to put at each place. Put them on plates that are covered with autumn leaves in lieu of doilies.

Tissue paper of a deep orange tint is most effective when put over gas jets and electric shades. It may be decorated with black devils, witches, cats, and owls; if one cannot draw and cut these out they may nearly all be found by watching advertisements; paste them on the under side of the paper.

For a centrepiece take a good-sized pumpkin, hollow it out, cut a handle, wind a vine around it, and fill with fruit; the

different varieties of grapes are especially pretty.

Fortune-telling peanuts are prepared by taking out the nuts and putting in a tightly folded slip of paper on which are written such words as "journey," "wealth," "success," "brunette," "blonde," etc. Mix these nuts with others and they will cause much amusement.

A fortune pumpkin is made after the manner of a Jack Horner pie. Get the largest pumpkin obtainable, fill it with bran in which all sorts of favors are wrapped in tissue paper tied with narrow ribbon, a different color for each guest. Bring all the ribbons out of the top, radiating to each place. At a given signal all pull and the parcels come out.

Red is the color most in evidence at Hallowe'en parties, for it is particularly disliked by the witches. The use of red in the decorations was supposed to frighten evil spirits away. A red cover is permissible on the table on this night in place

of the customary snowy cloth.

A delightfully grotesque decoration for a dining-room is to make ten or more Jacks from various-sized pumpkins, and suspend them from the ceiling over the table by pumpkin-colored ribbons. The guests are always delighted when ushered into a room lighted in this manner. For the centrepiece have a pumpkin Jack with faces cut in all four sides. Tiny Cinderella slippers and candy mice are appropriate for favors with this decoration.

In a large house that afforded ample room for dancing a

Hallowe'en masquerade was given. The guests were requested to appear in costumes representing either vegetables or fruit. The house was decorated with autumn foliage; cornstalks, sheaves of wheat, and vegetables were utilized as candlesticks, and festoons were made of red and white ears of corn. At eleven o'clock supper was served, and after that all sat around the fireplace and told ghost stories until the hour of midnight tolled from the town clock.

A Luncheon Menu for Hallowe'en

Carrot purée, served in cup covered with pumpkin yellow crepe paper
Oyster patties
Saratoga potatoes
Olives
Nuts
Hot biscuits
Celery

Lobster salad in pumpkin holders Cheese wafers
Cider frappé in red apple cases Fortune cake, fruit, candy, and nuts
Black coffee

DECORATIONS: A circle of witch dolls and black cats.

A Hallowe'en Dinner

THE dinner described below was given for ten guests, who were most enthusiastic over the novelty of the affair. Jacko'-Lanterns and candles made the only lights, and the effect was weird enough. The Jacks stood on top of china cabinets, serving table, and tabourets placed in the corners of the rooms; interspersed were candles in sticks made from carrots, turnips, and potatoes.

The table centrepiece was a Jack-o'-Lantern with a face cut on all four sides, so the light was evenly distributed. Around this candles were placed in holders made from carrots, flat turnips, and potatoes. Beautiful autumn leaves were laid on the tablecloth, interspersed with dainty vines. Small Brownie figures bore the name cards, on which was written "This season of the year is to the Brownie's heart most dear."

The unique menu cards were made by the hostess, each being different in decoration. Cards of white, ten inches long,

five inches wide, were used. On one of these at irregular intervals were pumpkins, which had been cut out and pasted on; another had autumn leaves; Brownies formed another ornamentation; and cabbages graced one card. (In olden times Hallowe'en was called Cabbage Night.) Bunches of grapes made very effective cards. The hostess said she had collected most of the material for these cards from seed catalogues and advertisements. Here is the menu that was written on them in black ink with a stub pen:

Soup — A bovine appendage (Oxtail). Fish — Collect on Delivery (C. O. D.).

Meat — An intimate friend of Mary (Lamb).

Vegetables — A kind of toes ne'er found on man or beast (Potatoes or Tomatoes). What is desired in time of war (Peas).

Pudding — The Beautiful (Snow).

Pie — Related to a well (Pumpkin).

Fruit — A kind of ammunition (Grapes).

Drinks — An illness and what a physician asks. Coffee (cough-fee).

How does Bernhardt take her medicine? (In cider.)

Gathered from many lands (Nuts).

The guests were asked to divine what each course was before it was served. After dinner ghost stories were in order, nuts were roasted in the grate fire and fortunes told with apples. Bonbons were passed in a hollowed-out cabbage lined with waxed paper. The invitations to this dinner were sent by a messenger who wore a grotesque mask and carried a huge Jack-o'-Lantern on the end of a stick.

Your Fortune in Each Month

HERE is a bit of astrological lore which may be of use to a hostess in amusing a crowd of young people on Hallowe'en. Ask the birth month of each; the following table gives the answers. The entertaining feature of these so-called fortunes is in seeing how far they generally are from the real characteristics of the person whom they are supposed to portray.

JANUARY — A maiden born in this month will be a prudent house-keeper, good-tempered, but inclined to be melancholy.





EFFECTIVE DECORATIONS
A FRUIT CENTREPIECE — A DAISY TABLE



Every Day in the Year

FEBRUARY — Humane and affectionate; a tender parent.

MARCH — A chatterbox, fickle, stormy, and of a quarrelsome nature.

APRIL — Pretty, dainty, inconsistent, and not studious.

May — Handsome in person, contented and happy in spirit.

JUNE — Gay, impetuous, and will marry early. JULY — Fair to look on, but sulky in temper, and jealous.

August — Amiable, practical, and will make a wealthy marriage. SEPTEMBER — Discreet, affable, and a favorite with every one.

OCTOBER — Pretty, coquettish, and oftentimes unhappy without a cause.

NOVEMBER — Liberal, kind, pleasant, and thoughtful of others. DECEMBER — Well proportioned, gay, fond of novelty, and inclined to be extravagant.

A Hallowe'en Luncheon

At this function all the favors had been homemade and were truly novel. All sizes of round boxes had been procured at the druggist's and covered with scarlet crepe paper, while on the lids there were black cats, witches, ghosts, or toy pumpkins according to the sizes of the boxes. On one there was a diminutive candle and a mirror. The envelopes which enclosed the invitations were of deep orange color sealed in a lighter shade of paper Jack-o'-Lanterns, the flap of the envelope being apparently stuck through the teeth of the Jack in a most comical manner. The centrepiece was a mammoth pumpkin with holes bored in a circle around the top, containing white candles. On all four sides grotesque faces were cut. At either end of the table were smaller pumpkins filled with fruit, clusters of grapes hanging over the sides. Alternate yellow carrots and flat white turnips held red candles, while a row of red and white ears of corn served as candlesticks on the mantelpiece.

The contest arranged was the carving of faces out of white bell-shaped squashes. Each guest selected the squash upon which his artistic skill was to be expended, and there was an exhibition, with a prize for the best production. A gilded basket filled with nuts, one of which contained a silver talisman, was the reward. The guests all helped in cracking the nuts

until the lucky one was discovered.

Description of Centrepiece for Hallowe'en

HERE is a description of a dainty and unusual centrepiece for a Hallowe'en function. This was made for a children's party, but it could be utilized at a party for grown people as well. It was based on the story of Cinderella. A pumpkin was carved into the semblance of a coach; inside was a doll dressed to represent a fairy godmother. In one hand she held a broom, supposedly to clear the witches from her path; in the other hand she held yellow ribbon lines, which were attached to eight candy mice of pink, white, yellow, and brown. The place favors were tiny slippers filled with kindergarten candies. The room was lighted with Jacks made from large ripe cucumbers, squash of all varieties, and pumpkins. They were suspended from the ceiling by wide streamers of yellow ribbon.

CHAPTER XI.-NOVEMBER

A Novel Thanksgiving Day

"They invited as their guests Massasoit and ninety of his people, and as their contribution to the feast the Indians brought with them five deer. For three days they feasted and entertained their guests, and thus was kept the first Thanksgiving in the new colony."

PREPARATIONS for Thanksgiving, the one purely American festival, are always a delight to the household. The traditions of this day are not wrapped in mystery, or so entangled with legends of all nations as to make a consecutive rendering of its history impossible.

Aside from the family gathering and public meetings in places of worship, it is the day par excellence for "countin' up our marcies," to use the homely but expressive words of an old

colored woman.

A family noted for their original doings carried out this idea on a recent Thanksgiving day: There were four children; and in order to teach history as well as provide amusement, each child took a date back in the early annals of the country and told of the Thanksgiving of that period. The years represented were 1621, 1623, 1676, and 1783.

Costumes were worn accordingly, and the whole character of the dinner was Colonial. Of course tin cups served for pewter porringers, for the clam broth; tame turkey sufficed in lieu of the wild bird which was found on the table of our forefathers, and the duck was domesticated; but there was genuine corn bread, and pandowdy for dessert with pumpkin pie.

The table decorations were carried out by the children, and there were four distinct centrepieces; in one Massasoit was

represented by an Indian doll.

A Thanksgiving Day Reception

For the table decoration get a perfectly formed pumpkin, hollow it out and line it with oiled paper; fill it with grapes, bananas, rosy-cheeked apples, and golden oranges. If a basket in the shape of a horn of plenty can be purchased at the florist's, suspend it over the table by ribbons or tulle and fill it with chrysanthemums, which are the flower for November; Louise Alcott mentions them in "Little Men" as being used on the Thanksgiving Day table.

It would be a very pretty idea to ask the ladies to powder their hair and to wear dark gowns with white kerchiefs; in fact, to wear anything suggestive of Colonial days. Make boxes to hold salted nuts out of yellow tissue-paper chrysanthemums, and have the candle shades carry out the same idea. This menu may be written on little pumpkin-shaped books, with the name of the guest, and the date. A small prize might be awarded the person guessing the most courses on the menu before they appear on the table.

"Here's a fowl without a feather"—Oysters or clams. "Tell me, where is fancy bred?"—Bread or rolls.

"He must have a long spoon" - Soup.

"Trifles light as air"— Wajers.
"Can you eat roots?"— Celery.
"The Ottoman Empire"— Turkey.

"A groundling"—Potatoes.

"Good words, good cabbage"—Cabbage salad.
"T is time I were choked on a piece of toasted cheese"—Cheese Straws.

"As cold as if I had swallowed snowballs" — Ice cream.

"Sweets to the sweet" — Cakes and bonbons.

"Grapes were made to eat" — Grapes.

"The cup that cheers" — Tea.

Ask some member of the club to prepare a twenty-minute paper on Thanksgiving Day in New England a hundred years ago. Let this be followed by a discussion of the best method of keeping Thanksgiving, which is our one distinctly national holiday.

A Thanksgiving Dinner

In speaking of Thanksgiving, one naturally thinks of the dinner; the menu given below is simple in character for a family affair with the children at the table.

Clams on the half shell Cream of tomato soup

Turkey, with dressing made of crumbs, a generous portion of beef suet, and a pint of oysters. Garnish the bird with tiny link sausage

Mashed potatoes

Sweet-potato croquettes
Olives

Celery Cranberry sherbet Boiled onions Candied ginger

Cheese wafers

Fruit salad Individual pumpkin pie Coffee

Cake syllabub Cocoa

Nuts and raisins

The cake syllabub is a dessert for which Virginia cooks are famous. Here is the way to concoct it: Fill a glass bowl with thin slices of sponge cake, pour white wine over it to soften it. Rub the rind of two lemons on loaf sugar to flavor, then dissolve the sugar in a pint of rich milk. To the juice of the lemons add sugar to sweeten. Whip cream to a stiff froth and pour over the cake. Dot with candied cherries and bits of citron.

It was the custom in New England to place five grains of corn in a little receptacle at each place. The story is that in the days of our Pilgrim Fathers the granary burned just before the annual Thanksgiving feast. Only a few grains of corn were saved, but five were placed before each one, and the family gathered around their frugal board and were thankful for their five grains of seed corn. A hostess did this last year, putting the corn in tiny satin bags, one at each plate, and told the story. Of course the moral is that every one has something for which to give thanks.

A Thanksgiving Dinner as Served Sixty Years Ago

For the benefit of the young people of the family and as a study of the times that are past, living only in the memory of our grandparents, a house mother who had been interested in reviewing history with the school girls in her immediate circle planned this dinner, to be served on Thanksgiving Day.

A beloved grandmother outlined the feast; the mother, assisted by the girls, carried out the details. A sure-enough country turkey was ordered in the summer from a man who promised to give this particular bird extra care. It was stuffed with oysters and chestnuts, and a chain of tiny sausage was put around the neck. The table had a centrepiece of fall vegetables, with candles in brass holders. First clam broth was served, then creamed fish in clam shells — baked in the shell, after the manner of the Pilgrim Fathers; the turkey followed with squash, Irish and sweet potatoes, celery, cranberry jelly, damson plum preserves, cucumber pickles, thin slices of brown and white bread, coffee with the meal, and all the vegetables placed on the table at once. No place cards and no salad; the dessert was pumpkin and apple pie, cheese, fruit, nuts, and raisins, with cider. Grandmother made her delicious pound cake for which she was famous fifty years ago. This repast was strictly en famille; the maid had the day, and the girls dressed in costumes such as were in vogue sixty years ago. Grandmother renewed her youth, and every one had a beautiful time.

A Football Dinner

This dinner was given at six o'clock, after the game, for five college men and five girl friends. Each college or society was recognized by a pennant which was fastened with long streamers to the chair of the respective occupant. A huge football was suspended over the table, filled with white chrysanthemums, while a miniature grand stand filled with dolls dressed as boys and girls formed a centrepiece, eliciting the wildest enthusiasm, as each doll had a rosette of one of the

contesting clubs' colors pinned conspicuously on its coat. A tiny football bore the name at each place. The favors were horns tied with ribbons for the men, and long streamers of satin ribbon for the girls. College songs were sung by a quartet behind the scenes, a feature which was much enjoyed.

The ice cream was in football moulds, and the cake in the same shape, iced with light brown frosting. There were also individual pumpkin pies with a card attached, bearing this

couplet of John Greenleaf Whittier's:

"What moistens the lips and what brightens the eye, What calls back the past, like the rich pumpkin pie?"

A Corn Party

Provide simple refreshments, which are always best not only for young people but their elders. Issue invitations on corn-colored paper, written in white ink, for a Corn Party. Keep your plans to yourself, and you will have the whole neighborhood wondering what it is going to be. Decorate the house with ears of red and white corn; they are very pretty hung from the gas jets, grills, and doorways, used as candlesticks; and, if you wish to take the time, soften the kernels and then string them on linen thread with alternating glass beads. These make beautiful portieres, and will last for years. When the guests all arrive, pass an ear of corn tied with ribbon to each, and a wooden dish such as grocers use for butter; request that each person count the grains on his cob, and keep the number to himself until all are counted; then collect the kernels and put them into one receptacle. Then pass pieces of paper, on which each one must write his name and a guess as to the number of grains of corn in the bowl. The two who come nearest the correct number are awarded prizes. These may be thermometers fastened on ears of corn suspended by ribbon. After this pass necklaces made by sewing popcorn on narrow baby ribbon to the girls, and watch chains to the men; when a necklace is found to match a watch chain, those two are partners for supper. The table may be prettily decorated by forming true lovers' knots out of the popcorn ribbons. Serve mush and milk (I mean cream) in blue bowls, hot corn cakes and maple syrup, doughnuts, and coffee.

A Topaz Birthday Party

WISHING especially to honor a friend whose birthday comes in November, a number of girls conceived the idea of clubbing together and giving one gift, the birthstone, which in this instance is the topaz. So a ring containing this beautiful clear yellow stone set in a circlet to be worn on the little finger was tied to the stem of a great amber-hued chrysanthemum with this quotation, "The Topaz, emblem of friends and lovers true."

The candles and shades were yellow, the china was "gold band," and the cake was frosted in yellow, set in a flaming circle of golden candles. The salad was much enjoyed, being made from hard-boiled eggs cut to represent daisies, and the cheese wafers were baked to just the correct shade of golden. In fact, the hostess said that yellow, or for the time being, topaz, was quite the easiest color scheme she had attempted.

A Chrysanthemum Tea Party

In Japan the merry Feast of the Chrysanthemum occurs in November. Remembering this, a hostess ever on the lookout for novelties sent forth invitations for a Chrysanthemum Tea. The word "Thimbles" was written in the corner, and the hour was two o'clock. A word regarding the invitations, which were really unique. Oblong Japanese doilies bore the message, which was typewritten on the crinkled surface; they were then folded twice, sealed with small red seals on two sides, and a large red national seal was pasted on the front, on which the address was written. They were then stamped with a two-cent stamp and sent by post.

The house was gayly decorated with Japanese lanterns,



A THANKSGIVING SUPPER TABLE



which were hung on stout cords, forming a canopy most pleasing. Then there were a few lace-paper parasols, fans,

screens, and candles with oriental shades.

The thimbles proved to be useful in sewing on little outing flannel gowns, which were to be sent as a thank-offering to a needy child. While fingers flew, the hostess read a charming article on "Things Seen in Japan," then tea was served in cups without handles, and a few chrysanthemum petals were scattered over the top of each, à la japonaise. Japanese rice cakes were served with candied ginger and cherries. Chrysanthemums, one and two in a vase, ornamented the mantel and the piano, and to add interest as well as to preserve the Japanesque character of the afternoon, no chairs were provided in the dining-room; the guests drank their tea seated on the floor.

If one wishes to serve more elaborate refreshments, olives, nut sandwiches, and salmon salad, could be added, and the guests requested to come in kimonos, or the hair combed in Japanese style, with numberless fans and ornaments, which

may be purchased for the purpose.

The folded figure napkins always create an interest, for it is a trick to see who can refold them into the original forms. Candied puffed rice is a dainty confection to serve in diminutive

lantern holders.

CHAPTER XII.-DECEMBER

Christmas Preparations

HERE is something radically wrong not only with an individual, but in the spirit of the times, when the assertion is made: "I don't care about Christmas, and I wish the fuss were all over." It always hurts to hear such a statement, and we wish for the power to restore the true meaning of this blessed festival. Oh, that we could or would only get away from the "give and take" theory with which nearly every one seems imbued, and remember that Luther said, even in his remote day, "The heart of the giver makes the gift dear and precious"; that we could learn to be satisfied with doing within our means, so that the joys of Christmas would not be clouded by the dread of those fast-approaching January bills!

When old Father Time brings us the Christmas season, with its preparations, its memories, it is not good for us to indulge long in retrospect, but to remember while there are little children Christmas will always be a merry day; for a child remembers no past, regards no future, but lives wholly in the glorious present. So, be our hearts light or heavy, let us one and all endeavor to make the day gladsome in remembrance of the dear Christ Child. To begin with, here is the description of a tree arranged for a baby and greatly enjoyed

by the friends of the household.

A Baby's Christmas Tree

THE color scheme was white and silver; white tarlatan stockings were buttonholed with silver tinsel cord, such as confectioners use, and all packages were wrapped in white tissue paper and tied with silver cord.

Each tiny sprig of the tree was tipped with a popcorn flake, fastened on with a pin, and it took several papers of pins to "snowflake" this tree, but the effect paid for the trouble.

Silvered English walnut shells contained tiny china dolls, one for each little guest. The tree was bountifully sprinkled with silver tinsel, and all the candles were white. Two men friends were personally asked to watch the candles, and there were no accidents; a gaslighter was used to light them, so there were no matches about.

There were quantities of silver stars and silver paper chains interlaced, kindergarten fashion, and electric sparklers. This tree was pronounced a thing of beauty by all who saw it.

Christmas Table Decorations

A TABLE decoration that elicited much favorable comment from the guests was the star flower in the centre of the table; the place cards were star-shaped, bearing appropriate quotations, such as:

"Look how the floor of heaven
Is thick inlaid with patines of bright gold."

"But who can count the stars of heaven?
Who sing their influence on this lower world?"

"Silently, one by one, in the infinite meadows of heaven, Blossomed the lovely stars, the forget-me-nots of the angels."

"Ye stars, which are the poetry of heaven!"

The ices and cakes were both star-shaped, and the hostess were a beautiful jewelled star in her hair.

A five-pointed star made from holly or evergreen is a table centrepiece always satisfactory. From this a red ribbon may run to each plate and be attached to a bell-shaped card. Over the table suspend by red ribbons red tissue-paper bells, or a chime of gilt and silver bells. Gold and silver paint are easily applied and are always convenient to have on hand. They

color walnut shells for tree decorations, and are useful in a

thousand and one ways.

A toy Santa Claus with sleigh and reindeer on a mad career down the centre of the table will delight the younger members of the household; a very realistic chimney may be made of brick building-blocks. In his pack, which may be a red stocking-shaped bag, put the table favors, generally consisting of red snapping motto caps and candy boxes in Christmas shapes.

The Holiday Post Card

THE Christmas post card has become a most helpful factor in spreading "the glad tidings of great joy," and each season's productions are a delight. The ones specially for children, with Santa Claus descending the chimney and speeding over snowclad hills with his eight tiny reindeer, are really fascinating.

A young woman who has a desire to do far more than her purse will permit has this scheme for remembering a large number of individuals who are obliged to live in "homes" and other institutions. She said she thought it must be most disheartening to have the postman pass by with no mail for them on Christmas Day, so she has obtained the names of the very friendless ones and addressed a souvenir card to be delivered on the twenty-fifth. This is surely a delightful thing to do, and I hope many who read this will avail themselves of the suggestion.

Let us endeavor to make each holiday season more of a real pleasure and less of what F. Hopkinson Smith says it has become, "a social clearing-house for the swapping of gifts."

A Mistletoe Luncheon

A YOUNG woman who wished to announce her engagement on Christmas eve gave a Mistletoe Luncheon. Over the table there was a huge bunch of this mysterious plant tied by red

Every Day in the Year



PLACE CARD SUGGESTIONS
For Christmas — For a "Dutch" Affair

and green ribbons. There was a spray at each place, attached to the place card, and a spray over the door leading to the diningroom. While at the table the hostess told the legend of the first man to enter a door hung with mistletoe being the one to marry a girl in the room, and just at that stage of the game the young man in the case entered and received the congratulations of the girls present, who were the bride elect's most intimate friends.

The Christmas Barrel

In a family where there were no children and none to be borrowed from near relatives they devised this method of distributing gifts. The day before Christmas a barrel covered with crepe paper was placed in the reception hall. It was tied around with red ribbon and greens, and the members of the family placed their parcels within. At breakfast it was rolled into the dining-room and the contents disclosed by the one whose lot it was to perform the pleasant task. This honor was determined by two candy canes, one long, one short; the man who drew the long one officiated as Santa Claus. This is not much trouble, and infinitely better than just the ordinary way of giving things.

A Novel Christmas Box Party

"Please come to my box party next Tuesday afternoon at two. Bring a pair of scissors and an apron to protect your gown."

Well, of all the invitations that from time to time have reached my desk, this was certainly a new one. I responded with keen interest, to find as usual that the clever woman was nothing if not original. The room was literally full to overflowing with boxes of all sizes and descriptions. There were a number of sewing tables, tubes of library paste, and numerous rolls of crepe tissue paper of holly and poinsettia designs. Then there was plain red crepe paper, and scarlet ribbon, and all

sorts of Christmas "stickers" or seals. This was the idea as outlined by the hostess: "Last year," she said, "I received a number of dainty Christmas gifts—a plate, homemade candy, handkerchiefs, etc., and they were done up in the most attractive boxes. On pricing them, I found the cost almost doubled the original sum expended on the gifts, so I hit upon the scheme of making them. As I hate to do anything alone, I asked you all to help me and each to make one or two boxes for your own use." "And that explains why the 'clever woman' has fairly haunted the dry goods stores for empty boxes, why the man of the house has appeared with his arms laden with bumptious packages, and why there has been a corner in the market on Christmas papers," said the little neighbor from over the way. At half after four, I wish you could have seen the array of really beautiful boxes; some were covered with plain red paper, the little seals being used for a border or in a decorative conventional design. One lady said she had n't had so much fun since she went to kindergarten. There seems to be a fascination about cutting and pasting paper that charms not only children, but grown-ups as well.

For refreshments we had delicious tea made in the drawing-room, served with a spoonful of brandied cherries in each cup, and the most delectable muffins with cranberries in them. I should think a "box" table at a church bazaar would be a

profitable undertaking.

Novel Ways to Give Money

THERE are occasions when it is best to give money instead of articles; even then there may be a pleasant mystery about receiving it. One son, who always remembers his mother by the coin of the realm, has very original methods of doing it. Once the greenbacks went folded in narrow strips sewed on a fan, which, when opened, disclosed the peculiar manner of construction. A bow of gay holly ribbon was tied to the handle and a little note accompanying the fan box "hoped that she

would enjoy a few weeks in Southern lands, wafted there by the contents of the fan." Last year he wove his bank-notes into a pretty conventional pattern, bordered it with red and green ribbon, thereby making a small mat. He sent it with the tag of well-known rug dealers attached, and "hoped that the design on the enclosed rug would please her and soften the pathway of life."

A father who was obliged to be away from home on Christmas sent word to his wife to hide twelve silver dollars throughout the house, and every time the clock struck beginning at eight in the morning until eight at night his little ten-year-old daughter was to hunt for another gift from father. He could not buy the presents, but she was to make her own selections. In this way the mother said the interest in the day was keen until bedtime and the father was by no means forgotten.

Putting money in small coins in pill boxes is a good method, with a physician's prescription blank filled out to "take one

daily until gone."

Out of the Christmas Jar

A HOSTESS who entertained a party of ten at dinner on Christmas night had filled a large urn with gifts, which was placed on the table with the dessert. The packages were done up in scarlet paper tied with silver tinsel, which comes by the yard. As each parcel was drawn out, guesses were made as to the contents, and then the hostess described how and when the gift was purchased; they were all collected on a trip abroad. With the coffee, German Christmas cakes were served, three tied together with scarlet ribbon and put at each place.

"'T was the Night Before Christmas," that delightful set of verses which will charm both young and old as long as there are stockings to be hung, was written eighty-four years ago, just before the holiday season, by Clement Clarke Moore, who was then Professor of Oriental Languages in the New York Theological Seminary. It has become an American classic, and is really the only Christmas poem we have that is

worthy of a pantomime performance. It is capable of illustration by living pictures, and no Christmas Day is complete without a reading of this charming little lyric.

Instead of using a candelabrum for the centre of the table cut off the top of a good-sized Christmas tree, and imbed it firmly in a block of wood. Put on as many colored candles as it will hold, and with pins fasten grains of popcorn everywhere they will stick; the tree will look as if covered with snowflakes. Tiny souvenirs for the guests may be wrapped, tied with red ribbon, and suspended from the larger branches. Gold and silver tinsel should be thrown over the tree at the last. Cover the base with sprays of holly, under which is concealed a snapping motto for each person; attach them to red ribbons radiating from its base to each place. Just before announcing dinner, light the candles. The result will be a thing of beauty.

A pretty way to distribute Christmas gifts is to make a huge stocking of red or white drilling, run a wire in the hem around the top to keep it open, and suspend from a hook in the ceiling by red ribbon. Provide a light step ladder decorated with ribbon and holly, and stand beside the stocking. Hang it up a day or two before Christmas. All unbreakable presents are dropped into this capacious receptacle, until by Christmas morning it is full to overflowing. Light parcels and letters are pinned to the outside.

A fish pond is another pretty way of distributing Christmas presents. Stretch a sheet between doorways, and provide a fishing pole and line; the person behind the screen attaches the packages that are marked for the one who holds the pole. The "fisherman" repeats this rhyme:

Here is a fisherman come to fish With rod, hook and bait, and an empty dish; So, please, little fishes, come and be caught—Though my line is long, my patience is short.

Christmas Invitations

SEND Christmas invitations written on little red stockings, enclosed in an ordinary envelope with this jingle written in white ink:

At the Sign of the Stocking warm and bright, We'll expect you sure on Christmas night; The hour is six, so don't be late, A good time's coming; for you we wait.

Hang a big red stocking in the window with a light behind it and the "sign" will be visible for blocks.

A Christmas Party

At this season of the year little German children sing this song to Santa Claus:

"Dear Santa Claus, for the children's sakes Bring us nuts and sugar cakes; Throw them into my apron here, And help to swell the Christmas cheer."

All over the world we find the legend of Santa Claus or St. Nicholas, who is known to young Hollanders as Kris Kringle; and in France they always speak of the "Christ Child." The traditions are so interwoven with ancient pagan and Druid customs, coupled with the stories of the Three Wise Men and the Star of Bethlehem, that it is a difficult matter to disentangle the web. However, the most important fact to us in this twentieth century is that all over the world preparations are made this month to celebrate the most beautiful day in the calendar; to remember that "the gift without the giver is bare"; to see that the motherless and the aged are not forgotten; and for at least one day in the year to go back in spirit to our childhood days. It is a sure sign of advancing age if we cannot sing from the heart "Make me a child again, just for to-night," and that night to be Christmas Eve.

And now for the description of this most delightful party.

Every Day in the Year

In the centre of the room there was a mammoth Christmas pie made out of a washtub. The outside was covered with red cloth (red paper would answer); the presents were put in and covered with bran or sawdust. A ribbon was attached to each package; the end, weighted with a red highly polished apple, rested on the floor with the name of the guest fastened on it with a toothpick. The top of the pie was covered with greens, in which was planted a small tree (either real or artificial) for each guest. When the hostess told them "to go to the forest and bring home a Christmas tree," the fun began. Each child found his name tied to the branches of a tree, pulled it up, and tied to the bottom he found a daintily done up tissue-paper package.

After these gifts were examined, at a given signal each took an apple and the pie was pulled, bringing out a large red snapping-cracker favor containing a cap and a trinket. Attached to each favor there was a jingle describing a member of

the party, who when found was the supper partner.

The table decorations were most effective; overhead there were eight bells, four of red and four of green, with scarlet ribbon interlaced between. Three wreaths of holly with red candles graced the table. Gilt stars were candy boxes, and Santa Claus figures held the salted almonds. This was the menu:

Canapes, star-shaped
Cold turkey, garnished with stars cut from beets and carrots
Fruit salad served in holly wreaths
Cheese w Cheese wafers

Brown and white bread sandwiches Olives

Celery Cranberry jelly

Ice cream in bell-shaped moulds Holly-decorated cakes Crackers and cheese Coffee

The wassail bowl or grace cup was passed during the evening. This is an English Christmas custom. To make it, put baked apple pulp into a punch bowl, with bits of lemon, orange, and all sorts of spices; pour boiling cider over all; sweeten to taste.

A Christmas Express and Post Office

WITH very little trouble and expense a Christmas Express and Post Office may be constructed from which to distribute packages and mail, thus affording a unique way to give the presents, as well as to occupy a good portion of the day. Make a light framework of lath covered with cambric or canvas, to be set up in a convenient corner of a room or reception hall. Cigar or pasteboard boxes will make compartments for the guests. These are numbered, every one having his own private box for mail. There are General Delivery, Money Order, and Registered Letter windows, a Postmaster, and one assistant. There must be large paper sacks for mail bags, and letter stamps made from corks, which when dipped in ink will mark the envelopes in a very satisfactory manner. Postage stamps may be any gummed labels which are available. The family and friends are informed that each letter must contain a number, its duplicate being placed upon the parcel and deposited in the express office, which is located in another room. Persons must go to the post office, receive their mail, read the contents, then go to the express office, give the number of the package desired, sign the receipt book, then go back to the post office for more mail. People who are not known to the money order clerk will have to be identified before money is paid to them.

This novel way of spending Christmas morning was hugely enjoyed by the family who originated the scheme, and it was the talk of the town for days afterwards. Of course, as with all things, to make it a success, each member of the household must enter into the spirit of the affair. This idea is adaptable to a large house party, or a church bazaar.

A Holly and Mistletoe Game

PROVIDE green and red ribbons of about two inches in width, divide the party into sides, giving one side red, the

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other green streamers. Those holding red are holly, the green are mistletoe. One person holds the ends of all the ribbons in his hand; a child holds the end of a single ribbon. Form a circle with the ribbons radiating from the centre like the spokes of a wheel. The test is this: When the leader calls, "All holly let go" they must hold on tight, while the mistletoe drop their ribbons; and when the command is "Let go mistletoe," the hollies must obey. The ones who fail to do the reverse of the command are required to pay a forfeit, recite, sing, draw a picture, or do some amusing "stunt." Paying the penalties may be made a very entertaining feature of an evening's fun.

A Snowball Christmas

ROLL each gift in a ball of white cotton, dip lightly in mucilage or gum arabic water, then sprinkle plentifully with diamond dust. Pile these balls in a pyramid in the centre of the table, or in the middle of a room, with a wreath of holly around them.

A child dressed as Santa Claus may distribute the balls, and carry the larger packages in a pack on his back.

Decorations for the Christmas Tree

Make long strings of raisins alternating with various nut meats, popcorn, and cranberries, also chains of pink and white popcorn. When it comes to dismantling the tree, these toothsome necklaces will be eagerly devoured. Small red apples polished to a high degree are-very ornamental and always found on the trees at Christmas time in Germany.

Baskets made from oranges, the halves lined with waxed paper and filled with bonbons, are lovely on the green tree branches. Even the children of kindergarten age may assist in dressing the glorious tree by making the dainty paper chains for festooning the branches. Their little fingers can also fashion cornucopias, of which there can never be too many.

Christmas Presents on a Clothes Line

At a house party which had been assembled on short notice and where it was not practicable to have a tree, the clever woman who could always think of unusual ways of doing things suggested to the hostess that a clothes line could be utilized in a very pretty manner for distributing the Christmas presents. The guests were instructed to do up their small packages securely, and the host was told to bring out a brand new line from town, together with several bolts of red ribbon.

The packages were pinned to the line with holly and beribboned clothes-pins; heavy packages were laid on the floor, but attached to the line by ribbons. After breakfast on Christmas morning, one of the young ladies, attired as a washerwoman with clothes-pin bag and white laundry mittens, appeared to take down the clothes. The wrappings, boxes, and pieces of string were placed in a clothes-basket waiting to receive them, so the room was kept in pretty good order while the packages were being opened.

The Origin of the Christmas Stocking

FROM Italy comes the legend from which we are supposed to get the time-honored custom of hanging up the Christmas

stocking.

Good old St. Nicholas of Padua used to throw long knitted purses, tied at both ends, into the open windows of the very poor people; these purses were of yarn and not unlike a footless stocking. Finally it became the custom of the people to hang these long empty receptacles out of their windows on the night before Christmas, so that St. Nicholas could put a gift into them as he passed by. By and by, when coin became scarce, toys were put in for the children, and useful presents for grown people. In the north country, where it was rather chilly at Christmas time, the purses were hung on the mantelpiece, and it was believed that the good old Saint would come down the

chimney and fill them. When these purses went out of use, stockings were substituted and have been used ever since.

A Jack Frost Party

A Jack Frost party is especially appropriate at this season of the year. The invitations may be written in red ink on cards ornamented with glittering white frosting. If these cards cannot be found already decorated, they may be easily and quickly prepared by coating with thin mucilage and then sprinkling plentifully with diamond dust, which may be procured at the druggist's or at a department store where Christmas tree ornaments are kept. At the same counter buy glass icicles to suspend from the chandeliers and grilles, and to hang from the ropes of evergreen with which the rooms are festooned.

Cover the floors with canvas or sheets stitched together for the purpose, bank the mantels with green, and use flecks of cotton in every place possible. White candles with frosted shades in glass holders will produce a beautiful effect; jardinières and pots containing plants should all be wrapped in cotton. The hostess will wear white, with powdered hair, and if she will request her guests to do the same the tout ensemble will be greatly enhanced. Cards will be the amusement, the tables all covered with white paper cambric, the score cards being ornamented with snow scenes, the pencils and ribbons of white.

The dining-room table has for a centrepiece a huge glass bowl filled with white chrysanthemums; and the menu, to be served before the game, consists of raw oysters on beds of ice, cream of corn soup with whipped cream on top, turkey cutlets, mashed potatoes, cauliflower in ramakins, fruit salad in white chrysanthemum cases, snow pudding with individual snowball cakes, the latter rolled in grated cocoanut.

The favors are little boys on sleds, and girls in winter costumes; the place cards are snowballs of cotton, sprinkled with diamond dust, the card slipped under a silver cord tied around the ball.

If this affair is given just before Christmas all the hostess will have to do will be to add touches of red here and there, and the room will be ready to welcome the holiday guests.

A New Year's Eve Wish Tree

At a dinner to be given on the eve of the New Year a lovely table decoration is the New Year's wish tree. The top of the Christmas tree may be utilized for this purpose. Attached to a gilded wishbone for each guest have a tiny envelope containing a good wish. These may be made out by the hostess, who probably has some idea of what would be the dearest wish of most of her guests; or suitable quotations may be written. In fancifully shaped boxes good luck talismans may be concealed and tied to the tree. Suspended over the table there may be the face of a large clock or watch with the hands at twelve o'clock.

It is an old custom, handed down from ages remote, that promptly at the stroke of midnight the front door must be opened for the passing of the Old Year out to join the centuries of the past, and for the entrance of the baby New Year, who is just about to commence his earthly career. It is a pretty ceremony, worthy of continuation.

A Party for New Year's Eve

This very charming party was arranged and carried out as the crowning function of the year by a hostess who is noted for her clever and original entertainments: Twelve young ladies received invitations each with the request to come in a costume representing the month designated, and an equal number of men were asked to appear each in a costume representing a special day in a month. When all arrived partners for the cotillion were found by "January" escorting the little "New

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Year"; "February" was appropriated by "St. Valentine"; "June" was a grave and reverend signior, in cap and gown, and claimed the rose-crowned maiden in the white rose-trimmed gown; and so the months were all present and accounted for. The hostess was attired as the "Old Year," all in black, with a watch worn as a chatelaine, the hands pointing to twelve o'clock.

Promptly at the stroke of midnight the figures of the New Year appeared in a blaze of electric lights, the company formed in a circle and sang "Auld Lang Syne." The decorations were the Christmas greens with a generous bunch of mistletoe over every doorway.

CHAPTER XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS ENTER-TAINMENTS FOR OLD AND YOUNG

A Button Party

A COMMON agate button was sewed on the card, while underneath was written, "Bring your thimble."

On arriving at the appointed hour, the guests were seated four at a table, the hostess giving each one a card with a number corresponding to the ones on the table; in this way all found their partners and tables. At the head of the table there was a bell, and so far the arrangements were as for an ordinary card party. Small pencils were attached to the score cards with which to keep the account. At table No. 1 there were fifteen large agate buttons for each person, with thread and needles. On the other tables there were bowls filled with buttons.

The person at the head table who sews on his or her fifteen buttons first, rings the bell, and progresses with the one who has sewed on the next highest number, first pulling off the buttons so as to be ready for the newcomers. The buttons must be sewed on as follows: Make a knot in the thread. sew once into each hole, then fasten enough to hold the button on. Break the thread each time. Every person reaching the head table sews on the fifteen buttons as the first did, the remaining persons beginning over again and keeping the score. Those at the other tables sew on just as many buttons as possible, while the ones at the head table are doing the requisite number. After fifteen progressions, the score cards were collected; to the one sewing on the largest number of buttons a pair of scissors in a leather case was given for the man's prize, and a dainty thimble was the lady's reward. The consolation prize for the lady was a needle case, and a box of patent buttons for the gentleman. The affair was pronounced a decided success, and quite a relief from cards. The customary light refreshments were served at the small tables.

A Curio Exhibit

A hostess casting about for something new in the way of entertainment, invited her guests to a curiosity party, telling each one to bring a curio of some description, or an object having an interesting history. As each one arrived he was asked to deposit his article on a table, when it was given a number. When all had assembled papers bearing as many numbers as there were articles were given out, each person being instructed to write down what he thought the object might be, of course omitting a description of the curio which he had contributed.

Then each person read his ideas, after that the real histories of the articles were given by the owners.

The result was a most amusing and interesting evening.

Here is a partial list of the curios at a party given recently. A piece of hard-tack from a survivor of a shipwreck, of which the owner gave a vivid account; a scrap from a rebel battle flag; candlestick from a New Orleans antique shop; a paper bearing hieroglyphics written by a cannibal chief who flagged the ship on which the possessor was a passenger; a handker-chief once belonging to Marie Antoinette; and a glove once the property of Adelina Patti.

A Book-Title Story

THE hostess announces that she will read a sketch introducing many old and familiar friends, and asks that every one give close attention. Pencils and cards are passed, and after the expiration of the allotted time, lists are read. The person having the largest number of book titles with their authors wins the prize; the one having the smallest list receives the consolation prize. If expense is not to be considered,

two more souvenirs may be given to the one having the most titles and the one having the largest number of authors. Candy boxes in the shape of books may be purchased for a trifle, and would be dainty place cards at table.

Here is the story to be read:

"The Prisoner of Zenda" "One Summer" was going "Round the World in Eighty Days" when to the "Westward Ho" he espied "Tom Sawyer" gazing into "A Face Illumined" of "A Little Sister to the Wilderness," "The Minister's Charge," who had recently disturbed the "Annals of a Quiet Neighborhood" by coming to live with "The Woman in White" in "The House of the Seven Gables."

"Will you 'Love Me Little, Love Me Long'?" he said, as

he took up "The First Violin."

"Don't be 'Sentimental Tommy,' 'she cried; "suppose 'We Two' were to sit in the shade of that 'Red Rock' and watch those 'Three Men in a Boat' headed for 'Treasure Island.'"

"They are 'Soldiers of Fortune,'" he cried; "one of them is 'Daniel Deronda,' 'The Conqueror'; the other is 'John Halifax, Gentleman'; and the third with 'The Bow of Orange Ribbon' on his breast is 'St. Elmo.'"

Listening, they heard the "Soldiers Three" singing the

following song:

Poor little "Trilby" is no more, And "Helen's Babies" have taken flight. "The Heavenly Twins" have sailed away, In "Ships that Pass in the Night."

"Lena Rivers" has had her day;
And "Jane Eyre" is out of sight;
"The Honorable Peter Stirling" has the floor,
While "David Harum" speaks to-night.

"And who are all these 'Little Women,'" said he, "whom 'Ben Hur' is driving in his chariot?"

"They are 'Lorna Doone,' who was a prisoner in 'The

Heart of Midlothian,' 'Ramona' of 'Rudder Grange,' and the 'Princess of Thule.' They are going to 'Vanity Fair,' where they will have 'The Right of Way,' because 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' is following the chariot."

"But where is 'Alice of Öld Vincennes'?" cried the lover.

"She is sitting 'Under Two Flags' with 'Eben Holden' 'Beside the Bonny Briar Bush' in front of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' He is whispering 'The Old Mam'selle's Secret' to her I know, for 'Red as a Rose is She.'

"Yes, that is 'The Wooing O't,' " she cried, as he whistled

softly "In the Palace of the King."

Now all this was "When Knighthood Was in Flower," and it was nearly "Middlemarch" before "Lady Rose's Daughter" discovered that her lover had very little "Hard Cash," and owed "All Sorts and Conditions of Men," and frequently borrowed from "A Chance Acquaintance" like "Sherlock Holmes." So she went to him frankly, saying, "'The Crisis' has come. 'Our Mutual Friend' 'Mr. Barnes of New York' has warned me against you; and while I know you have 'Great Expectations' of inheriting 'Old Myddleton's Money,' I wish you to win 'The Leavenworth Case' against 'The Virginian.' It is 'The Christian' thing to do if you would marry me."

In vain he pleaded that "The Little Minister" "Next Door" had promised to marry them; that "Janice Meredith" was to be bridesmaid, and "Gordon Keith" best man, and "The Landlord at Lion's Head" would entertain them. At last he grew angry, and said he had heard of her correspondence with "Monsieur Beaucaire," "A Gentleman of France," and much more that he would gladly have "Called Back" afterwards. But he stalked out into "The Wide, Wide

World."

"'Quo Vadis'?" she cried.

But on he went, never "Looking Backward."

And "She"? Oh, she became "A New England Nun," and lived happy ever after.

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KEY TO "BOOK-TITLE STORY"

- 1. The Prisoner of Zenda. ANTHONY HOPE.
- 2. One Summer. Blanche Willis Howard.
 - 3. Round the World in Eighty Days. Jules Verne.
- 4. Westward Ho! CHAS. KINGSLEY.
- 5. Tom Sawyer. MARK TWAIN.
- 6. A Face Illumined. E. P. ROE.
- 7. A Little Sister to the Wilderness. LILIAN BELL.
 - 8. The Minister's Charge. W. D. HOWELLS.
- 9. The Annals of a Quiet Neighborhood. GEO. MACDONALD.
- 10. The Woman in White. WILKIE COLLINS.
- 11. The House of the Seven Gables. NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.
- 12. Love me Little, Love me Long. CHAS. READE.
- 13. The First Violin. JESSIE FOTHERGILL. 14. Sentimental Tommy. J. M. BARRIE.
- 15. We Two. Edna Lyall.
- 16. Red Rock. Thos. Nelson Page.
- 17. Three Men in a Boat. J. K. JEROME. 18. Treasure Island. R. L. STEVENSON.
- 19. Soldiers of Fortune. RICHARD HARDING DAVIS.
- 20. Daniel Deronda. GEORGE ELIOT.
- 21. The Conqueror. GERTRUDE ATHERTON.
- 22. John Halifax, Gentleman. MISS MULOCK (MRS. CRAIK).
- 23. The Bow of Orange Ribbon. AMELIA BARR.
- 24. St. Elmo. Augusta Evans.
- 25. Soldiers Three. RUDYARD KIPLING.
- 26. Trilby. GEO. DU MAURIER.
- 27. Helen's Babies. JOHN HABBERTON. 28. The Heavenly Twins. SARAH GRAND.
- 29. Ships that Pass in the Night. BEATRICE HARRADEN.
- 30. Lena Rivers. Mrs. Holmes.
- 31. Jane Eyre. CHARLOTTE BRONTE.
- 32. The Honorable Peter Stirling. PAUL L. FORD.
- 33. David Harum. EDWARD N. WESTCOTT.
- 34. Little Women. LOUISE ALCOTT.
- 35. Ben Hur. LEW WALLACE.
- 36. Lorna Doone. R. D. BLACKMORE.
- 37. The Heart of Midlothian. WALTER SCOTT.
- 38. Ramona. H. H. JACKSON.
- 39. Rudder Grange. Frank Stockton.
- 40. Princess of Thule. WM. BLACK.
- 41. Vanity Fair. W. M. THACKERAY. 42. The Right of Way. GILBERT PARKER.
- 43. The Hound of the Baskervilles. Conan Doyle.

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44. Alice of Old Vincennes. MAURICE THOMPSON.

45. Under Two Flags. OUIDA.

46. Eben Holden. IRVING BACHELLER.

47. Beside the Bonny Briar Bush. IAN MACLAREN (WATSON).

48. Uncle Tom's Cabin. H. B. STOWE.

49. The Old Mam'selle's Secret. E. MARLITT. 50. Red as a Rose is She. RHODA BROUGHTON.

51. The Wooing O't. Mrs. ALEXANDER.

52. In the Palace of the King. F. MARION CRAWFORD. 53. When Knighthood Was in Flower. CHAS. MAJOR.

54. Middlemarch. GEO. ELIOT.

55. Lady Rose's Daughter. Mrs. H. WARD.

56. Hard Cash. CHAS. READE.

57. All Sorts and Conditions of Men. WALTER BESANT.

58. A Chance Acquaintance. W. D. Howells.

- 59. Sherlock Holmes. Conan Doyle. 60. The Crisis. Winston Churchill.
- 61. Our Mutual Friend. CHARLES DICKENS.
- 62. Mr. Barnes of New York. A. C. GUNTER. 63. Great Expectations. CHARLES DICKENS.

64. Old Myddleton's Money. MARY CECIL HAY.

65. The Leavenworth Case. Anna Katharine Green.

66. The Virginian. OWEN WISTER. 67. The Christian. HALL CAINE.

68. The Little Minister. J. M. BARRIE. 69. Next Door. CLARA L. BURNHAM.

70. Janice Meredith. PAUL L. FORD. 71. Gordon Keith. Thos. N. Page.

- 72. The Landlord at Lion's Head. W. D. HOWELLS.
- 73. Monsieur Beaucaire. BOOTH TARKINGTON. 74. A Gentleman of France. STANLEY WEYMAN.

75. Called Back. HUGH CONWAY.

76. The Wide, Wide World. SUSAN WARNER.

77. Quo Vadis. H. SIENKIEWICZ.

78. Looking Backward. EDWARD BELLAMY.

79. She. RIDER HAGGARD.

80. A New England Nun. MARY E. WILKINS.

A Souvenir Post Card Party

NEARLY every town of any size has its own individual postals, and in this day and generation every one is the recipient of many of these charming reminders of travel, both at home and abroad. Something original in the way of entertaining for

either dinner, luncheon, or afternoon was given by the hostess

when she planned this affair.

The rooms were decorated with postals fastened together by holes punched in the corners and ribbons run through them. Panels were formed in this way and made a most effective decoration. Cards were stuck in picture frames, placed on tables, on the mantels, and every spot where they would attract attention. These cards were topics of conversation which was very animated. "Do you remember?" and "That reminds me" were expressions heard on all sides.

Invitations were sent out on local souvenir cards. Then for place cards at this luncheon the hostess had mailed cards to the guests, ten in number, addressing them to her own house number. By these they found their places at the table. Each one was asked to come prepared to relate some incident of travel, either humorous, startling, or pathetic. A vote was taken as to the best story in each class, and souvenirs were awarded, inexpensive articles which the hostess had collected with this party in mind. Souvenir spoons were used, and the table linen came from Ireland.

The menu consisted of grape fruit, creamed potatoes served in ramakins, whole wheat bread, cherry salad made by replacing the pits of California cherries with hazel nuts, serving it on head lettuce leaves with a rich mayonnaise dressing, and cheese wafers; ice cream was served in halves of cantaloupe with small cakes. The bonbons were in dress-suit boxes, and the almonds in miniature bandboxes, which were given the guests for favors. Iced tea was the beverage, with a bit of lemon and a candied cherry in it.

A Fad Party

"What won't Peggy think of next," was the exclamation when the little note written on the gray paper with the red initials at the top fluttered down on my desk. "Come to my party at 8, Tuesday night, and wear your pet hobby." Peggy's

hobby might have been recognized in her gray stationery, which she affected year in and year out with its plain red markings. Well, this is what I found that night in the great livingroom, where we all loved to assemble — just the funniest conglomeration, the eccentricities of genius personified, as one clever maiden said. There was the postage stamp fiend wearing a motley collection pasted on various parts of his clothing, even on face, hands, and hair. The girl who was making silk quilts out of scraps of her party gowns and those of her friends presented a picture akin to Joseph and his coat of many colors, while the naturalist of the crowd had bugs and butterflies, toads and lizards, crawling over his clothes in a most realistic manner.

The girl who was going in for physical culture had a necklace of tiny Indian clubs and dumb-bells. Of course the camera crank went around trying to "take" everybody, and the collector of autographs was on hand with notebook and pencil. One girl wore a doll's cup and saucer on a long chain, and there were numerous spoons worn as hair ornaments, showing the fad of the wearers. One of the drollest figures was the hand-made furniture man; he carried a set of doll's chairs, tables, and a bed, of which he insisted on showing the construction. Altogether it was a most amusing party.

A Spool Party

This party was certainly a novelty for the twelve little guests who were invited to spend the hours from three to five with the six-year-old hostess. The oldest child asked had passed her ninth birthday, and she proved a decided help in assisting to amuse the younger ones. This mother said she had been saving spools for months, begging them of her friends, and had even done an extra amount of sewing to get sufficient spools for this party.

First, dolls were made from spools by inserting a pasteboard nose in a slit and doing the face with a tiny brush and black





 ${\bf DAINTY\ ACCESSCRIES}$ ${\bf Candle\ Shade\ for\ a\ Rose\ Table-The\ Drawing-Room\ Coffee}$



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paint (ink will do), and toothpicks were stuck in slits for arms. The children were greatly interested in the construction of these wooden men.

Then a bowling alley was made by inverting one end of an ironing board and arranging spools at the other like tenpins. A prize was given to the child making the best score.

Coarse needles and colored twine were provided for a spool-stringing contest, with another prize; and when refreshments were served there was a spool-shaped candy box (bought at the favor counter) filled with sugar peppermints for each child to take home.

So, good mothers, save your spools if you want to provide something new for your little one's party.

An Adjective Game

THE game of "Adjectives" is good to fill in a half-hour. Select one of the party to go out of the room. Then each person chooses an adjective, which he or she will represent, while the one outside comes in and asks questions, trying to determine the adjective being enacted. For instance, the interlocutor may say, "Did you have a merry Christmas?" and the person who has chosen the word "loquacious" pours forth a perfect torrent of words, describing his Christmas day. To another person the question may be "Do you like dancing?" The reply should come in tearful accents that parties always make him so weary and life is such a bore, at which he begins to weep. Of course, the word is "sad." This may continue indefinitely, and if the company is a responsive one it is very amusing. After one person has guessed several adjectives, have another one go out.

A Fudge Party

This can be made the jolliest sort of an evening. There are three varieties of fudge that are especially good - nut, maple, and chocolate; and three girls should be appointed

to make these, with a lad to assist each cook.

If chafing-dishes are used, the candy could be made in the dining-room, but the children will probably enjoy it more to go right out into the kitchen. Provide aprons for the workers, and caps for the boys as well as the girls. The hostess will have all she wants to do to superintend this undertaking, and she should have all the ingredients ready, but the nuts may be

left for some good-natured lad to crack.

The addition of marshmallows to the chocolate fudge will be found an improvement. Have the recipe for each variety written off and given to the "cook." Provide confectionery boxes, with waxed paper, so that each guest may have a sample to take home. After all this sweetness, you should serve a direct opposite for dessert; so I would suggest potato salad, cheese sandwiches, olives, and coffee or cider. If you can arrange for it, part of the company could shell and popcorn, which would be found a very acceptable addition.

Menagerie

EACH person is given the name of an animal, and a circle is formed with a person in the middle, who is "it"; he calls the name of the animal a person represents three times, and if the one called does not respond by saying the name once, he or she has to take the middle and catch the next victim. It sounds simple, but just try it. Here is a list of the animals to have in your show:

Horse, cat, bear, donkey, bison, muskrat, leopard, camel, elephant, alligator, snake, pig, mouse, opossum, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, sheep, tiger, monkey, frog, toad, squirrel.

An Evening on Mount Olympus

This charming evening was original with the hostess and afforded the guests much pleasure. It is especially adapted to

school girls and boys, or to those who are inclined to study ancient history. By giving a hint to the guests to take a glimpse over their mythology one may make the affair more

enjoyable.

In the invitations those who are asked to assemble on "Mt. Olympus" are requested to appear attired as gods or goddesses. The rooms are profusely decorated with garlands of artificial roses, and the hostess is extremely attractive in her costume of "Hebe." After all have arrived, pass a cornucopia entwined with wheat, which contains a sprig of laurel, a sunflower, narcissus, iris, olive, a partridge, a spider (these two may be found in the toy or favor department), a trident, and a host of other objects, suggestions for which are to be found by looking over a book on mythology. Each person draws an object and proceeds to give its particular legend. When a person is not able to guess, any one else is at liberty to tell the story. To the one who tells the most tales award a copy of Hawthorne's ever-pleasing "Tanglewood Tales."

If the hostess wishes, those who fail to tell any stories may

be commanded to pay a forfeit to the "gods."

The dining-room table is strewn with roses and rose petals, the centrepiece being a large epergne filled with grapes of different varieties. Peacock feathers garnish this effective piece, while from the chandelier a huge "horn of plenty" is suspended by rose garlands, which extend to the four corners of the table, where they are fastened by rose and peacock blue ribbons. The place cards are small "horns of plenty," bearing

each a suitable quotation.

The usual refreshments are served, with the addition of "nectar," which is a fruit lemonade with plenty of maraschino cherries; and instead of ice cream "ambrosia," the food of the gods, is served, the glasses being decorated with a rose and smilax. When ready to leave the table the hostess pulls a ribbon which tips the "horn of plenty," and a shower of daintily wrapped confections mingled with confetti is the final surprise provided for the guests.

The King of Hunky-Bunky

THIS is a game which sounds very simple, but never fails to create amusement. Select two persons, place them at opposite sides of the room, the farther apart the better. Give each a lighted candle and tell them they must not laugh or even smile. They are to advance very slowly, looking each other directly in the eye. When they meet in the centre of the room, with hands uplifted, in great sorrow, one says: "The King of Hunky-Bunky is defunct and dead." The other responds: "Alas, alas, how died he?" The first person with increased sorrow says: "Just so - just so - just so." Then comes the response: "How sad - how sad - how sad!" The couple rarely ever get beyond announcing that the King is dead, before they are off in gales of laughter. A little prize may be awarded the couple who completely finish the message, something that may be divided, like a box of candy or a bunch of flowers.

A Bonnet Party

For real, genuine fun, give a Bonnet Party. Send out invitations to about fifteen or twenty congenial people, and request each lady to bring an old untrimmed hat, with all sorts of material for trimming.

When all have arrived, put the hats on one table, the trimming on another, and have a supply of stout thread, needles, and thimbles. Pair the company by matching rosettes of baby ribbon, and then each man is to select a hat with the trimming, and proceed to concoct a creation worthy of his fair partner. Provide mirrors, so the effect may be tried while the hat is in process of construction.

Allow an hour for the trimming, then call time, when the

hats are to be judged by a committee.

Award a prize for the best and another for the poorest work. Candy boxes in the form of hats, thimbles, and spools of thread make appropriate prizes. They could also be used for supper favors filled with bonbons or nuts.

Three Games which are Much in Favor with Young People in France

In the game called "Portrait" one person leaves the room, while the others choose the name of some one they all know. The person on entering the room has to guess the name selected by asking questions to be answered by "yes" or "no." For instance: "Is it a man?" "No." "A woman?" "Yes." "Is she married?" "No." "Have I seen her to-day?" "Yes." "Has she fair hair?" "No." Sometimes the company choose the one who went outside for the "portrait" and the guessing is more difficult.

The "Falling Soldier" is another diversion. The whole company stand in a row like soldiers. The order is to stretch the right arm forward, then the left one; second kneel down on one knee only with the arms still outstretched; then push your next neighbor and the whole file will collapse like a house of

cards.

"Le Singe" (the monkey) is a popular game among young girls who enjoy a hearty laugh upon one of the opposite sex. In fact it is really a practical joke. The monkey is the man selected to leave the room. When he returns silence reigns among the whole company; puzzled by the serious attitude, he naturally asks: "What is the matter?" They all repeat in chorus, "What is the matter?" The "monkey" probably says, "I do not understand," which is chorused after him. This continues until the monkey sees the joke, which of course he accepts good-naturedly.

For Elderly Ladies

Parties for elderly ladies are always delightful. One hostess asked a dozen guests for an afternoon, the youngest being sixty-five years old, or should I say "sixty-five years young"? Tea was served at early candlelight, a heated wagonette going for and conveying the guests to their homes.

Each one brought with her some old-time treasure to promote reminiscent conversation.

At 5:30 o'clock tea was announced and the dining-room table fairly "groaned" with good things — jellied chicken, cold ham, baking-powder biscuit, hot and fluffy muffins, hashed brown potatoes, jelly and preserves, spiced peaches, cucumber pickles, and candied fruits.

Tea was poured at the table from an old-fashioned china teapot, with a sugar bowl and cream pitcher to match. Butter was also passed and put on little butter plates, another old-time custom. For dessert there was cup custard, canned cherries, unfrosted sponge cake, and several varieties of layer cake.

A revolving caster, belonging to the hostess's grandmother, stood in the centre of the table, with a fruit and flower piece at either end. A bunch of pansies "for thoughts" with the quotation, "For the pansies send me back a thought," was at each place, tied with lavender ribbon, the stems wrapped in tinfoil,—another old-time custom.

The candlesticks were brass, and gold-band white china, the pride of our grandmothers' hearts, was used, with goblets instead of tumblers. The teaspoons were in an old-time revolving spoon holder, an heirloom in the family.

A Calico Party

A CALICO party is not a bad idea in these days of the resurrection of old styles and customs, and nothing better contributes

to the genuine fun of an evening.

Ask your guests to wear wash costumes; this means shirt-waist suits for the women, and duck trousers, with negligee shirts, for the men. Provide aprons of calico or cheese cloth, and cotton materials for neckties. Let partners be chosen by matching an apron and necktie material. Then in the allotted time, the men are to hem the aprons, sewing on the strings, while the girls must evolve neckties for their partners, either four-in-hand, Ascot, or string, as they may deem best.



PLACE CARD SUGGESTION
FOR HALLOWE'EN OR AN OLD MAIDS' PARTY

When time is called, prizes are to be awarded, after a careful examination of the submitted "creations." The men will don the ties, and the girls the aprons; and a grand march to a lively tune will be in order. If possible, have the dining-room decorated to represent an outdoor garden to add novelty to the affair.

A Pie Party

INVITATIONS for a Pie Party were sent out on triangular pieces of cardboard to six couples, all intimate friends. When the guests arrived the men were auctioned off by the host, who was exceedingly clever. The doctor was introduced on the block in this manner: "A man often wanted, though much addicted to the bottle." The bidding was fast and furious until 25,000 beans bought the man to his purchaser. The coal dealer was described as "the man we think about when the snow flies." When all had secured partners the ladies were given pieces of pie made from two pieces of paper pie plates (such as bakers use), fastened together with ribbon. The filling was a piece of paper bearing the word "Cherry," or "Mince," or "Apple," or "Custard." Whatever pie was designated the man had to give a recipe for it, while the lady made it in pantomime. This was most amusing. For refreshments all kinds of pie were served, with coffee and sandwiches.

A Cake Party

"WILL you come to my party on Thursday night in a costume representing a cake, a cookie, or a doughnut?" so the invitations read that were received by the girls. Those addressed to the men were the same, excepting that they were asked to come attired as bakers. On the night designated a most motley throng assembled, and peals of laughter greeted each cake as she arrived, accompanied by her baker. Some of the costumes were exceedingly clever. One girl in a pale corn-colored gown, trimmed with a fringe of tiny sponges and

a sponge in her hair, was recognized at once as sponge cake. Chocolate cake wore a gown of alternate ruffles of brown and

white, with a necklace of small chocolate squares.

A girl in pure white was adorned with little red devils, and she wore a diabolical little imp in her hair; of course she was "devil's food." Bride's cake was represented by a girl in white, with veil and orange blossoms. Marble cake wore a gown made of patches of white, pink, and brown. And so the list went on until it seemed as if every recipe in the cookbook

were present.

After all had arrived the cakes were lined up, with the bakers in a line facing them. The hostess spoke to the first baker, and asked how he would make, say, sponge cake. After giving some sort of a formula he was permitted to take that cake out of the line and talk with her for ten minutes. In this manner all were provided with partners. Dancing was enjoyed for an hour; then refreshments took up the balance of the evening, as chafing-dishes were used, the "bakers" assisting. Ice cream was served in hollowed-out sponge cakes, and was delicious so.

An Old-Fashioned Party

INVITE the guests to come arrayed in the most ancient gowns they possess or can borrow. Even the men ought to be able to bring forth a dress coat of old-time cut. Then arrange a programme of songs in favor, say, fifty years ago. Serve tea, coffee, hot baking-powder biscuit, cold pressed chicken, boiled ham sliced, pickles and cup custard, with sponge cake and hot gingerbread, stick candy and apples.

A Zoölogical Party

This is an affair that will please the children. Arrange chairs, one for each guest, in a semicircle around a large blackboard. If twenty children are present, give each a card with a number on it, numbering the cards from one to

twenty, with a tiny pencil attached to each with ribbon. The name of the child is written on the back of the card. Pass around slips of paper folded, and have each one promise not to tell what is written on his slip. The person in charge will then call the number, and each child must look to see what number is on the slip received.

For instance, if two is called, the one holding the slip with that figure will get up and draw on the board a picture of the animal the paper designates, the others putting down on their cards opposite the number called, the animal they think it is. After twenty animals have been drawn and guessed, the correct list is read, the children marking their cards with the ones they have correct.

The boy or girl who rightly guesses the greatest number will receive a prize. The one guessing the smallest number must also have a prize for consolation. A Noah's ark and a toy donkey would be appropriate. Serve animal crackers, with cocoa, chicken sandwiches, and arrowroot blancmange in individual moulds.

A Paper Doll Party

HERE is an idea for a paper doll party worth passing on to the mothers who have little girls to entertain. The invitations said two o'clock, with the request to bring scissors. At the appointed hour a gay throng of ten-year-olds had arrived and were seated at sewing tables. Each child was permitted to select from a colored fashion plate the dress she liked the best. Heads had been cut out of advertisements; cutting out the dresses took some time. Then tissue paper, lace paper, and all sorts of odds and ends of paper were put on the table, and dresses made for the paper dolls that stand in little blocks and may be purchased for a trifle. Library paste was provided, and a busy hour was spent. A pair of round-pointed scissors in a leather case delighted the little girl whose dress was voted the prettiest.

The refreshment table was decorated with gayly dressed

paper dolls, which the girls took home with them, as well as the dolls which they dressed. Cocoa, chicken sandwiches, and crullers in shape of dolls were served. This mother said she had never given a party for children before with so little fatigue or friction. Perhaps it was because the boys were not invited. But I think boys could be entertained in the same way, for the secret of having children, as well as grown people, happy, is to keep them busy.

A Poverty Party

Write the invitations with a heavy pencil on red, brown, or blue paper, and, if possible, have them delivered by a messenger "all tattered and torn," and just as forlorn-looking as he can be made. This will save postage, and, of course, the more the spirit of the affair is entered into, the greater success will be the party. Use pumpkins, carrots, turnips, and corn in decorating. Pumpkins hollowed out and lined with oiled paper make fine receptacles for bonbons, which, in this instance, must be molasses and old-fashioned stick candy. Cabbages done in the same way may be used to hold salted peanuts. Stacks of corn stalks in the rooms will answer for palms, while large cornucopias made of brown paper and filled with leaves and grasses will make good wall decorations. Use paper flowers; real ones would be far too expensive for a poverty party.

Large pumpkins placed around the rooms will serve in lieu of chairs, and be sure to use kitchen chairs in the diningroom; all upholstered furniture must be banished from sight, as well as bric-a-brac. For lights, use old-fashioned barn lanterns, and candles in vegetable holders. The refreshments should consist of corn meal mush in crockery bowls, served with a bountiful supply of cream and sugar, brown and white bread sandwiches, apple and pumpkin pies, coffee in tin cups, doughnuts, and cookies. No tablecloth should be used, and paper napkins are proper for this frugal but wholesome repast. Use tin, wooden, and paper dishes, and serve cider from a large new breadpan, with a tin dipper. Offer a prize for the

most poverty-stricken individual, and one for the worst hard-luck story — a big apple for one prize, a bag of popcorn for the other.

A Lottery Bag

This is a game enjoyed by children or grown-ups, and proves an entertaining feature for a party. Provide a large vase, with a neck which will admit the hand, or a bag with a draw string. Fill this receptacle with peanuts. Pass slips of paper to the guests and ask them to write down the number of nuts which they think they will draw out in one handful.

Each takes a turn, and then puts down the actual number drawn out. The one who comes the nearest the first number receives a prize, and the person farthest away from the original guess receives a consolation prize. Serve salted peanuts, the "Jumbo" variety, peanut butter sandwiches, a salad, and peanut ice cream.

Peanuts strung with beads make effective portieres. For people who really like peanuts, a soup made by adding the crushed nuts to a cream *purée* is very delicious. Serve it as a first course in bouillon cups.

A "Pi" Party

The invitations were cut to represent the quarter of a pie, and they were so realistic as to seem good enough to eat. When the guests arrived they were divided into groups of four. To the first group were given typewritten slips bearing a queer mixture of letters, which the hostess said was four lines of a very popular old-time song. It proved to be "Home, Sweet Home." The person solving the problem first handed the slip to the hostess. The next group had papers with the names of fifteen cities in a bad state of pi; the one straightening out the names first handed in the slip. The third group had the following startling announcements: "Eli Whitney wrote 'The Crisis'"; "Napoleon invented the cotton gin"; "Morse

invented the bicycle"; "Shakespeare was called the 'Little Corporal'"; etc. When time was called all handed in their papers, but prizes were given only to the ones who handed in the first correct answers. The rewards consisted of a copy of the "Pied Piper of Hamlin," a real mince pie, and a pretty china pie plate. Pie was a feature of the refreshments.

Pink Bal Poudré

For a formal dancing party nothing is prettier than a pink bal poudré. The ladies all wear powdered hair, beauty patches, and pink gowns; and the men wear pink neckties and

a pink ribbon across the shirt front.

The decorations are pink, and the refreshments consist of pink ices and creams, with pink frosted cakes and bonbons. If it is a cotillion, the favors are all pink, with pink candles and shades. For a few hours, at least, the world is viewed through rose-colored glasses.

Pink is such a becoming color that every one can wear it, especially with powdered hair; the men may don white wigs,

with the peruke tied with a huge pink bow.

A Surprise Party

LET each girl prepare a basket or box of luncheon for two, just as daintily as possible. On arriving pile their boxes in one place. After the surprise is over, suggest some good games. Then blindfold one boy at a time and let him select a basket or box and stand in line with his treasure unopened. After all are supplied, each one is to have three guesses to determine which girl prepared the refreshment. When partners are found go to the dining-room, where, doubtless, some willing member of the family will have provided drinkables and arranged a pretty table.

Fun with Soap Bubbles

A PRETTY way to amuse one child, or any number of children, is to cover sewing tables with an old blanket, or any soft

material that will make a soft pad. Then procure little bowls of blue, yellow, or the so-called Dutch ware, a quantity of clay pipes, and several bolts of baby ribbon — the penny-

a-yard quality will do.

Wind the pipe stems with ribbon, tying a jaunty bow at the bowl. Of course it will get wet, but it looks pretty when the pipes are passed. Fill the bowls with a mixture made from boiling shaved castile soap in water; to every pint of this liquid add one tablespoon of glycerine. The pipes should have a rim of soap around the inside of the bowl, which makes the balls grow to an immense size. This formula always produces the largest and most gorgeous bubbles imaginable.

Offer prizes for the bubbles lasting the longest, for the one with the most vivid coloring, and for the one largest in circumference. By the way, grown people have been known to indulge in soap-bubble parties with great satisfaction. The bubbles may be blown or fanned about the room, and it is a beautiful sight to see twenty-five or thirty of them in the air at

the same time.

The Bird Sellers, a Game for Children

A JOLLY game for children is called "The Bird Sellers." Arrange the players in a row, leaving two outside. These two are to represent the bird buyers. Give to each child the name of some bird; one will be a crow, one a crane, another a canary, etc. One bird dealer says to the other:

"I wish to buy a bird."

"What kind?" inquires the other.

"A bird that can fly swiftly," says the first buyer.

"Very well, take what you wish."

"Then," says the first buyer, "I'll take a robin."
As soon as he says this the "robin" child must jump out of the row and run around, trying to escape. If the dealer catches the bird, the captured one stays until the other "birds" have been selected and caught.

A Peanut Party

PEANUT Parties are always enjoyable and easy to prepare. On the invitations fasten a peanut shell, or have a string of peanuts painted on the card in water colors. Have a generous supply of peanuts concealed in the rooms, in every spot imaginable, behind pictures, under rugs, on window sills, etc.

When the guests have arrived, give each one a silk bag or paper sack and let the hunt begin, each man for himself. After a half-hour, call time and count the spoils, awarding a prize of a box of salted peanuts for the greatest number, and a

bag of unshelled nuts for the smallest lot.

Next provide some peanuts, toothpicks, pen and ink, tissue paper, and gum, and allow ten minutes for the making of a doll. The result will be most amusing. Serve peanut sandwiches, coffee, salted peanuts, peanut candy, and ice cream with peanuts in it. Write quotations and place inside peanut shells, one for each guest.

Decorate the table with peanuts strung like popcorn and

arranged over the cloth in fanciful designs.

A Quaker Tea Party

A JOLLY set of girls were deploring the dilapidated condition of their wardrobes, after the summer at various resorts, and were wondering how they could get ready for an "afternoon" for a strange girl to whom they wished to do special honor. They solved the problem by issuing invitations for a Quaker Tea Party. The guests were asked to come attired as Quakeresses. All persons were to be addressed by their first names, and there would be a penalty imposed if the pronouns "thee" and "thou" were not used exclusively. It is needless to say that it was a most enjoyable afternoon, and the girls looked so bewitching in their plain skirts, snowy kerchiefs, and simply dressed hair, that some of the men, who "just dropped in," said they wished that style might become the

fashion. These wholesome refreshments were served, gold-banded white china and perfectly plain silver spoons being used: Chicken salad, tiny hot biscuit, custard in old-fashioned glasses, with brown crusty sponge cake, tea and coffee.

A Chinese Party

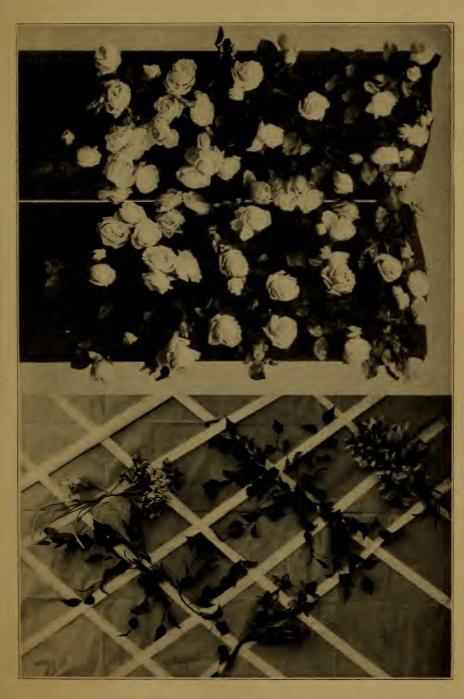
For a change from things Japanese, we shall call this affair a Chinese Party. Send out invitations on red cardboard, with the writing running up and down the page; watch a Chinaman in a laundry make out his bill and you will get the idea. The gorgeous flag of our Oriental friends may be used most effectively with the bright cotton cloth known as Turkey red. Use quantities of red and yellow flowers either real or of tissue paper. Of course, the ever-pleasing Chinese lantern will swing from every available spot; also the paper umbrellas and fans. Throw superstition to the winds and arrange peacock feathers in tall vases against a red background. They are in great favor with our yellow-skinned neighbors.

Spread the dining-room table with a scarlet cloth, and if possible use the beautiful Canton china. The centrepiece should be a Chinese lily; the bulbs may be purchased; they are not expensive, nor hard to grow. Rice and chop sticks should figure in the refreshments; then there could be sandwiches made from salmon or sardines, tea both hot and cold, and

candied ginger bonbons.

A Hen Party

If you can paint in water colors, now is the time to show your skill. Cut out a chicken from cardboard and decorate with feathers, writing the day and hours; probably from three to six is the most convenient time. Write "Thimbles," and then provide lace and insertion for turnovers, one to be taken home by each guest as a souvenir. During the afternoon serve an iced drink, and then at five have the refreshments. Porches



DESIGNED TO TRANSFORM A ROOM

A Rose Screen for the Dining-Room—An Effective Wall Decoration



arranged with pillows, chairs, tables, and screens are the favorite places for entertaining parties of this kind. It would add interest to the affair to ask each guest to wear something indicating some noted woman, a book title whose author was a woman, some historical personage, etc. Award a prize to the one who guesses the most characters. Serve a salad and wafers or sandwiches, with a ginger mint, or grape sherbet, small cakes, and stuffed dates.

For place cards candy boxes which look like real spools of

thread and thimbles are just the thing.

What We do not Know

A CLEVER way to fill in a half-hour is to pass papers bearing at the top these words: "What we do not know." For the men here is a sample of the questions, and the hostess will easily see how she may fit more questions to the individuality of her guests.

"How would you make out a dinner menu for six persons, your allowance being two dollars and a half? Give items."

"How would you make and trim a lingerie waist?"

"What is meant by a gored skirt, and what is applique?" For the ladies give questions like these: "What is meant by double entry?" "What would you do with a draft for \$100?" "What would you do if a rich man and a poor man proposed at the same time?" At an informal party of congenial people this will afford much amusement.

"At Homes" for Children

Realizing that an only child is at best a lonely little mortal, needing the companionship of children, a clever mother has devised this scheme for the entertainment of the neighborhood children. Every mother knows that it is oftentimes very inconvenient to have other people's children running in and out at all hours and at all times; neither does she wish (if she

has a conscience) to allow her young hopeful to go to "Johnny's house" when she is not absolutely certain that his mother will welcome the young visitor; yet amusement is very essential to the coming men and women. Notes like the following may be sent to the respective mothers: "Frances and I will be at home every Tuesday afternoon from three until five o'clock, and we will be glad to have [Jack] and [Jill] spend those hours with us." On these days valuable bits of bric-a-brac are put out of harm's way, and small chairs, tables, and toys are given first place. Simple refreshments are served, the children doing honors. Sandwiches of entire wheat bread, cocoa, custards, wafers, prune whip, baked apples, and sometimes tiny cups of bouillon with alphabet letters are suggestions for menus. The mother keeps in the background as much as possible, allowing the children to be free from restraint.

One mother also makes it a practice to invite some child to dinner each week, and these invitations are most eagerly accepted. At this meal the menu is planned as far as practicable to meet the personal likes of the little hostess and the guest. Even four-year-old children like to be consulted, and will express a preference as to flowers, candies, and kind of cake. It is a wise mother who early begins to cultivate the individuality and personality of her child, and the time is

well spent.

A Lawn Party

THERE is nothing that will make a Lawn Party so pretty as quantities of Chinese lanterns, and there cannot be too many used. Then if without much expense the grounds can be wired with electric lights, they will make a veritable fairy land glimmering in the trees. The colored bulbs are very effective. Have plenty of rugs scattered about, with seats; a fern decorated table with a frappé of fruit lemonade, a tent or canvas awning for the serving of light refreshments, a platform for dancing, with a stringed orchestra of three or five pieces, will afford the requisites for a most delightful party.

For the dance nothing could be prettier than a floral cotillion or German. After a few ordinary dances, have the German led by an older person. All the favors should be of flowers, both real, artificial, and of tissue paper. Make boats, wreaths, fans, wands with bunches of flowers at the end, and countless other things that will come to mind. Decorate with garlands of paper flowers; wind the staircase and the chandeliers with them.

Serve the ice cream in tiny flowerpots, with a flower in the top, and the cake may be ornamented with candy roses. For the first dance pair the couples by finding duplicate flowers. A piano with a good performer will furnish the music, if you do not want the expense of an orchestra.

A Retrospect Party

HERE is an entertainment the details of which are so old that they are really the newest thing to be done. Invitations were sent out to twenty intimate friends asking them to come costumed as children. The following couplet was written at the top of each invitation:

"Backward, turn backward, O Time, in your flight, Make me a child again just for to-night."

On the evening designated the women arrived in short skirts, pantalets, hair in braids or flowing with round combs; the men appeared in knickerbockers, blouses, and "Little

Lord Fauntleroy" suits.

"Stage Coach," "Button, Button, Who's got the Button?" and "Blind Man's Buff" were played with the fervor of the long ago. All sorts of childish games were recalled and old songs, such as "Where Is Now the Merry Party?" "Nellie Gray," etc. When supper was announced the table and refreshments were in keeping with the games. A doll was the centrepiece, the favors were all kinds of toys. Each "girl" and each "boy" had a tiny basket of old-fashioned candy mice and hearts,

with a stick of peppermint candy which was tied on the handle. A bib was at each plate instead of a napkin, also a "pusher" and a baby spoon. Books were placed on some of the chairs to make them high enough. Mush and milk was served in blue bowls, with slices of toast, ginger cookies, and doughnuts fried in shape of dolls; animal crackers and sandwiches completed this simple repast. Every one pronounced it the jolliest affair imaginable, and the hostess said she had never entertained with so little worry.

A House-Warming

A Hostess going into her new home had planned this clever house-warming. The invitations had in one corner a snapshot of the house and requested your presence at "the hanging of the crane," "the smoking of the peace pipe" and "the lighting of the hearth fire." When the guests arrived they were met by a courier, who conducted them to the coatroom and then to the living-room. When all had arrived, the host, with due pomp and ceremony, lit the fire, and some one read Longfellow's "Hanging of the Crane." The next move was to the library, where the same ceremony of lighting the fire was gone through, and the motto carved on the mantel was read aloud:

"Old wood to burn, Old friends to trust, Old books to read."

The music-room came next, the piano being opened and "Auld Lang Syne" being sung, also "Home, Sweet Home." In this manner the upstairs rooms were visited, the dining-room being reserved until the last. After the hearth fire had been lighted the guests were seated around the table. Each oaken beam in the ceiling bore a motto, which the guests read, and after discussing a delicious repast of individual oyster pies, celery salad, coffee, brown bread, sandwiches, and maple mousse, the pipe of peace was lighted and passed to the men,

and a loving cup to the ladies; and so the new home was consecrated to the family and friends who, as one writer says, are the "ornaments of a home."

The following verse was written on the place cards:

"Peace to this house, when we shall enter in!
Here let the world's hoarse din
Against the panels dash itself in vain,
Like gusts of Autumn rain;
Here, knowing no man's sway,
In the brief pauses of the fight,
Let music sound, and love and laughter light
Refresh us for the day."

Children's Parties

In the first place, do not make the mistake of asking too many. Fourteen is a good number, or ten, for little people need a great deal of individual attention. If possible have one or two friends to assist in the entertainment. Such games as "Going to Jerusalem," "Drop the Handkerchief," "Here we go round the Mulberry Bush," "London Bridge," and "Pussy wants a Corner," are always favorites with the children, and never seem to lose their novelty.

Most of the games are more interesting if played to music. Provide a low table with red chairs, such as are used in

kindergartens and infant-class Sunday-school rooms.

Red candles, with a bowl of scarlet flowers, and red candles in the cake in rose holders, make the table very pretty. Small red-paper holders come to contain bonbons, which should be sugar peppermints for the wee guests.

Place cards may be made by pasting dainty childish pictures on red cardboard, using black, gold, or white ink for

lettering the names and date.

Invitations for children's parties may be written on the quaintly decorated paper that comes especially for the purpose, or small-sized note paper may be used. Refreshments should be simple: plain sandwiches, cocoa, animal crackers, bread

sticks. Some of the Swiss milk chocolates are as delicious as bonbons. Serve ice cream in ramakins and there should be

small cups and spoons.

Bibs are appreciated by the mothers, while paper napkins should also be provided, as the children love the gay colors, especially the Japanese ones that come folded in the shape of animals.

A Doll Party

GIRLS are not usually as fond of games as boys, so invite them to a Doll Party. Provide a dozen inexpensive dolls (or let each child bring her own doll), then collect a lot of pretty scraps, with scissors, needles, and thread, and for an hour let the children sew — they will thoroughly enjoy it. For refreshments serve ice cream in cups covered by a dolly dressed in crepe tissue paper; the full skirt goes over the cup or glass, and the dolly stands upright; it does not take long to dress the dolls. Give one to each child for a souvenir.

Or, have a Cutting and Pasting Party. Collect pretty pictures with which to make scrapbooks, and good pictures suitable for cutting into odd pieces from which to make puzzles. Make a blank book from pieces of plain smooth paper, then let the children illustrate the book from advertisements; nearly every article under the sun may be found in magazine advertisements.

A number of these books and puzzles may be made, also paper dolls, and sent to amuse sick children in hospital wards

and institutions.

A Stork Party

COMING events cast their shadows before, and the rustling of a stork's wings gives the up-to-date hostess an opportunity of giving a very novel and altogether attractive affair. All the world loves a baby, and I am sure when the little strangers arrive, they will be all the happier on account of the good time their mothers had at this Stork Luncheon.

There were four honored guests and six intimate friends, and they had conspired with the hostess to make the party a success. On the four chairs at the table bibs were tied; the favors were dainty celluloid rattles, and white storks bore the place cards in their bills; but at the four plates each bird had a baby done up in a small square of linen. The table centrepiece was a gilt cradle, with a canopy of dotted swiss tied with pink ribbons. Tiny pink rosebuds were scattered over the table with maidenhair ferns. The napkins were folded like doll babies and were pinned with safety pins. Candles, fairy lamps, and a number of little night lamps gave the illumination, while advertisements of all the baby foods adorned the walls; these had been cut from magazines and mounted on cardboard. There were also numerous advertisements of go-carts and high-chairs. The menu consisted of celery soup, bread sticks, chicken cutlets, mashed potatoes, spaghetti, and tomatoes; a fruit salad, ice cream served in round rings, with tiny bottles labelled "Paregoric," angel food and chocolate, with the usual accessories of nuts, bonbons, and olives.

In the living-room after the repast the guests found a large stork, some five feet high, which disgorged various-sized packages when its wings were pressed. As the parcels were marked it did not take long for each one of the four to discern "whose was whose." There were dainty bootees, caps, bibs, and all sorts of things for the diminutive wardrobe, and a merry time ensued. At five the hostess served what she said was camomile tea, also a concoction made from anise seed, and "educator" crackers. On departing the guests received small boxes, which, on opening, revealed a soap baby and a doll's nursing bottle. The hostess made the large stork from cardboard, cotton wadding, some feathers which a kindly butcher saved, a bottle of mucilage, and black paint, with a good stork model to work from. The bird was held steady on the floor by white ribbons fastened to a hook in the ceiling.

A Christening Party

To begin with, the rooms were lighted with pink candles, which were in a row on top of the piano, on the mantels, and on the tops of bookcases. The gas jets were turned down very low and shaded with pink tissue paper. Palms were banked in the front window, and the shades drawn. The hour was four in the afternoon. To use as a font, there was a silver bowl on a pedestal surrounded by a wreath of pink rosebuds.

This baby's mother had so many friends that it was hard to choose who should be the godmother, so she asked eight of her "nearest and dearest" to act in this capacity. They were all young ladies, and wore gowns of white. At the appointed hour, when the beautiful music began, they came down the stairway two by two and formed a half-circle in front of the window. The father and mother followed, then the dear three-months-old baby in the arms of her grandfather. She wore her mother's christening robe—a fine specimen of French needlework. The little maiden was given to her father, and the minister began the impressive baptismal service. When he asked "What shall this child's name be?" the godmothers responded with the name, which happened to be "Frances."

A lullaby completed this very beautiful service. A quartette of soprano, alto, tenor, and bass, with violin and piano, furnished the music. Light refreshments were served from a pink rose-decorated table, the godmothers taking turns in pouring. The hostess was gowned in pink, the whole affair assuming the rose color, as befitted the tiny miss, who all unconsciously, was the centre of attraction.

Sugared almonds were given to the guests in white favor boxes, following out a French custom, as these confections always figure in a christening party, and the godparents as well as friends of the infant's parents bestowed christening gifts upon the honored babe.

Games for Children

HUNT the Ring.— Form the children in a circle, place one of the party in the centre, and ask the circle of youngsters to sit down on the floor. A cord is then passed to them on which there is a ring. Each child keeps his hands moving rapidly, thus concealing the ring from the person in the middle who is endeavoring to see who has the ring. When it is correctly located the one who has it takes the centre.

Blindman's Buff with a Wand.—Blindfold one of the company, who stands inside a circle formed by the others, with a light cane or wand in his hands. The children circle round the "blind man" until a rap with the stick calls a halt. He then points his rod, and the one nearest it takes hold and must reply to three questions asked by the blind man, who tries to guess who it is. The captive of course uses every means to disguise his voice; if guessed correctly he takes the place in the centre.

The Elephant and his Trunk.—A large paper elephant minus his trunk is tacked on the wall, then to each child is given a paper trunk and a pin. Each in turn is blindfolded, taken to the end of the room, and turned around three times and started toward the elephant. The one who pins the trunk

on nearest the proper place is given a prize.

Going to Jerusalem.— As many chairs, less one, as there are players are arranged in a row, then the children are formed in line, with a leader; a march is played on the piano, and the line moves around the chairs. The instant the music ceases, the children try to secure a seat; of course one is left standing. He takes the lead, a chair is removed from the line, the music begins, and the game continues until there is one chair left, with two contestants marching around it. The one finally securing the seat is said to have arrived at Jerusalem.

Hide the Thimble, to music.— Let some one hide the thimble, then the one at the piano plays loud or soft according to

whether the seeker is "hot" or "cold."

An Anecdote Tea Party

THE invitations bore this request:

"If you a humorous anecdote can tell,
Bring it with you the mirth to swell."
"Tea served in the Chrysanthemum Dairy from two to five."

After all had assembled, the anecdotes were related, and created much merriment. Many of them were original and clever sayings of children, and a number were personal reminiscences of notable people. Then a vote was taken for the best story; the rewards were dainty books of quotations and sentiments.

Then all repaired to the "dairy" in the blue-and-white dining-room. A large milk-pail was on either end of the table; from one was ladled buttermilk, from the other sweet milk. A market basket filled with chrysanthemums was in the centre of the table. The young girls who served wore short skirts of yellow with black velvet bodices, white yokes and sleeves, white Dutch caps and two huge yellow "mums" at either side of their heads.

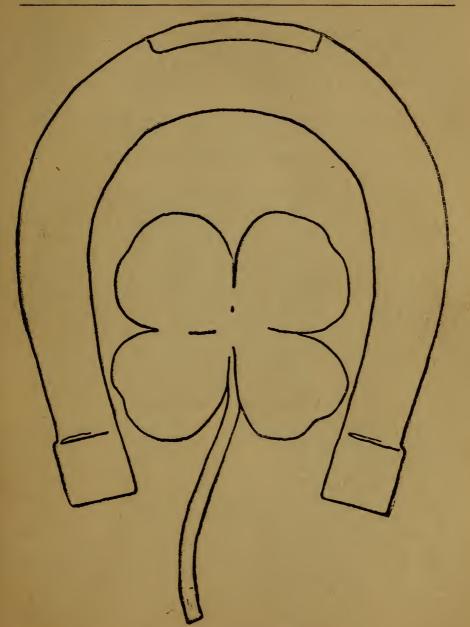
The refreshments consisted of sandwiches, gingerbread, tea, homemade fudge, and molasses candy. Little milkstools and pails filled with nuts were the favors.

A Hunt for Deer

PERHAPS the hostess had the quaint old story of the Mistletoe Bough in mind when she concocted this amusing entertainment; only, a very much alive young woman was to be discovered in the chest, instead of the bones of the little English bride in her wedding gown.

Ten jolly girls were guests of the house for a week-end party, and ten equally jolly men received notes to appear at eight o'clock to participate in a hunt for "deer." Not a girl was in sight, and the hostess explained that a half-hour would be allowed for discovering the whereabouts of each lassie.

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PLACE CARD SUGGESTIONS
FOR A GOOD LUCK PARTY

And what fun they had! The girls had shown great ingenuity in stowing themselves away, but all were hunted down except the tallest, slimmest girl in the crowd; she finally was brought to bay inside of a man's ulster hanging on the rack.

A chafing-dish supper completed a very merry evening.

Progressive Candy Jackstraws

Provide a quarter of a pound of twisted candy sticks known as "opera" sticks in most candy shops. They come in all colors and there must be a different color for each table, four at a table. A pair of candy tongs must be in readiness for each player, and a box for containing the candy straws. The game is to see how many sticks may be withdrawn from the pile without breaking or throwing the pile into confusion. Progressions are made, and the score kept. Prizes are awarded consisting of candy canes, pipes, cigarettes, etc., for the men, and fancy candy favors for the girls. Children enjoy this entertainment, and eating the sticks won is permissible.

For an Artist Luncheon

THERE were six art students who had been together for several years, and this luncheon was given one of the party on the eve of her departure for Europe. The centrepiece was a plaster cast of Psyche; the candlesticks were of china in the shape of slender white columns. The name cards were on little easels, and each was decorated with a tiny water-color sketch. Candy palettes were the bonbons, with natural little dabs of colored candy paint. The ice cream was served on paint pans, and the cakes were ornamented with dabs of colored icing.

A beautiful sketch book was given the guest of honor in which each friend had written a sentiment and made a tiny

thumb-nail drawing.



THE CHAFING-DISH EQUIPMENT



Chafing-Dish Suppers

In selecting a chafing-dish be sure to see that the burner has a lamp and wick, as they are more economical than the open or padded lamp. Wood alcohol burns satisfactorily and is not expensive; the main thing is to have the lamp always full. The chafing-dish has become so popular that china is made especially for use at chafing-dish parties. Sets come for Welsh rabbit, and there are also spoons, forks, bowls, receptacles for oil and vinegar, silver cans for holding alcohol, fancy eggbeaters and strainers. For safety, always stand the chafing-dish on a tray; close at hand have another tray or small serving table with every article on it that will be necessary in preparing the meal. Keep the plates hot in the kitchen oven, with toast and crackers ready to bring in when needed.

Never try to serve two hot dishes to be prepared for the same repast. One will spoil while the other is making, that is, if there is but one cook and one chafing-dish. The secret of success in these suppers is not to attempt too much, and to plan every detail beforehand. Wooden spoons are the best to use in making chafing-dish mixtures, as they do not become

hot, are noiseless, and do not scratch the pan.

A delicious supper may be prepared entirely upon the chafing-dish. Ask three of the guests to bring their own chafing-dishes,— have the articles for each one in readiness,— the hostess using her own dish. Such affairs are delightfully informal. The four can easily prepare a supper for fourteen persons. Of course, when capable the men are allowed to assist.

A Cinderella Tea

"Her feet beneath her petticoat Like little mice stole in and out."

THIS was the rhyme the invitations bore, with a golden slipper and a witch's pointed hat and broomstick in the corners. Yellow candlesticks were used, with yellow flowers in all the rooms. The dining-room was gorgeous; the china was white and gold, with an old-fashioned brass tea-kettle in which "the cup that cheers" was brewed. Sandwiches were tied with yellow ribbon, the salad was covered with mayonnaise, garnished with tiny hearts cut from slices of tongue. Orange baskets were filled with yellow ice and served with sunshine cake.

Each guest was given a glass slipper containing a yellow rose. A huge pumpkin was passed containing candy mice of white and brown. A pair of Turkish embroidered sandals were given the lady wearing the smallest shoe.

A Harvard Spread

HERE the rich, warm, crimson color predominates. American Beauty roses furnish flowers of the correct hue. If men from different colleges are to be present, it is a pretty compliment to tie the *alma mater* colors on their place cards. For souvenirs give miniature steins filled with small bonbons.

Serve fried oysters, sandwiches of olives and nuts, lobster salad, cherry pie, cheese, and coffee.

A Princeton Smoker

Over the dining-room curtains hang drapery of gorgeous orange cheesecloth, tie back with broad bands of black. If there are window seats pile them high with usable sofa pillows of the same colors. Orange candles can be obtained, also shades. At each plate lay a corncob pipe tied with ribbon, the name marked on the pipe bowl. For candy boxes, make "Black-eyed Susans" from orange and black tissue paper. Have matches and ash receivers conveniently placed, also a dish of nuts and a plate of apples.

Serve devilled crabs, French fried potatoes, tomato and

A Superstition Party

THERE were thirteen guests, a ladder was put up on the front porch so all would have to pass under it to enter the house. All the black cats in the neighborhood were borrowed for the occasion, and salt was spilled in front of each place at the table. The party was on Friday, the thirteenth day of the month, and each guest was asked to tell his favorite superstition. The favors were scissors, knives, and tiny purses without the proverbial lucky cent. No member of this party died within the year; all remained good friends; and in spite of the looking-glass which the hostess shattered just before going into the dining-room, no one had bad luck.

CHAPTER XIV. - BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Suggestions for Luncheons, Dinners, and Teas

A Rhyme Luncheon

A LUNCHEON, at which the guests were to determine the menu by the written rhymes contained in a little flower-decorated booklet, was a great success. These few specimens will show a hostess how to evolve more doggerel to suit the articles she may desire to serve. For instance, clam bouillon was represented by these touching lines:

"I'm hard to get,
For I love the wet,
I'm conservative, men say.
But now I'm caught,
And hither brought,
I start the meal to-day."

Olives were announced thus:

"I'm green when I'm ripe and I grow on a tree, A favorite fruit of the Spanish grandee."

Chicken on toast was heralded in this manner:

"I'm neither a bird, nor a beast, nor a fish, Yet when I'm fried I'm a very good dish; And when I'm young and covered with down, I'm fresh in the country, but seldom in town."

Ice cream was served in tulip-flower cases; hence the following:

"Although cold by nature,
I'm favored by all,
And there 's scarcely a luncheon,
Or dinner, or ball
At which I'm not present;
And I'm happy to say
There 's no place in town
Where I've not the entrée."

A Cooperative Dinner

ONE of the most up-to-date methods of entertaining is the Coöperative Dinner. Two or more ladies get together and plan the menu, preparing their very special dishes. The place cards, favors, and decorations are worked out accordingly. The guests, never more than ten, are invited, no names being mentioned, it merely being stated that they are asked to attend a "coöperative dinner" at such an hour and place. The expense is divided between the hostesses. The ladies who have tried this plan, and the guests who have participated in the feast, declare that the scheme is an admirable one.

A Coiffure Dinner

This suggestion is decidedly clever. The hostess sent out invitations to ten guests, asking them to dinner; she also asked them to come with their heads dressed to represent some period or person. It was very interesting when all were seated at the table to see what a change had been wrought by the unusual headdress. The host wore a peruke and a black bow on his white wig; he was, of course, hailed as "the Father of his Country." The hostess was "Martha," with powdered hair dressed in smooth bands and a high shell comb.

One lady had her hair ornamented with autumn leaves and tiny bunches of artificial grapes. She was at once dubbed "Autumn." Another whose hair was raven black, wore a coronet of gold stars, with a crescent moon, and she was "Queen of the Night." The funny man of the crowd had a wire bed-spring fastened on either side of his head, from which hyacinths and daffodils apparently were growing. Of course

he was called "Spring."

The candle and gas shades were paper masks, and the effect was very pretty. The usual course dinner was served, with toasts to the personages who were represented.

A Dutch Supper

A VERY popular form of entertainment is the Dutch Supper. If it is possible, do not use a tablecloth, but have doilies of orange crepe paper; that is the Dutch color. Use all the Delft china that is procurable; imitation ware is very effective and very cheap. Tulips are the Dutch flower, and tulipshaped bonbon boxes and candle shades may be made from orange tissue paper. Little wooden shoes may be purchased and used to hold the salted nuts. Serve the following menu, which is written in Dutch, much to the mystification of the guests. The translation is given for the benefit of the hostess:

Kalf Soep met Gehak Ballen. (Veal soup with garnish of meat balls.) Gebraden Tong. (Roasted Tongue.) Brussels Sprinten. (Brussels sprouts.) Bloemkool met Room Sause. (Creamed cauliflower.) Haring Sla met Croodjes. (Herring salad with rolls.) Gesneden Sinaas Appelen met Wyne Sause. (Sliced oranges with wine sauce.) Gesorteerde Noten. (Assorted nuts.) Kaffee. (Coffee.)

A Twelve O'clock Breakfast

SERVE either a fruit salpicon of oranges, pineapple, and bananas, in glasses, or clam bouillon; a good brand of the canned bouillon will be found satisfactory. Sweetbreads or chicken with peas and potatoes in some form come next; then a lettuce and tomato salad with cheese wafers and a frozen dessert. If coffee has not been served with the repast, it is a pretty English custom to serve it in the drawing-room, the tray being brought in and the hostess pouring. Small

Novel Entertainments for



cups are used. This luncheon could precede a card party or an afternoon musicale.

A Mother Goose Luncheon

A MOTHER GOOSE Luncheon is indeed an affair out of the ordinary. In the invitations, which had quaint little penand-ink sketches on them of Mother Goose with peaked hat and a broom, ready to "sweep the cobwebs down from the sky," the guests were requested to wear something to indicate a character in the dear old nursery rhymes. The centrepiece on the table was an enormous "pie," with a ribbon radiating to each plate, where a little woolly lamb was tied to it. The place cards had tiny "spiders" attached to them. Each guest was called upon to recite the rhyme she represented when she was correctly guessed. This was the occasion of much merriment.

When the dessert course was brought in, the hostess asked all to pull their ribbons, and out of the "pie" came all sorts of birds. They had been found at the favor counters, and elicited "There is no telling what can be found until much comment. you begin to look," said this indefatigable hostess, who is ever on the alert for something new. The souvenirs, which were a joy to the guests, were small Japanese teapots, bearing a card on which was written: "Polly, put the kettle on, and we'll all drink tea."

A copy of "Mother Goose" was the prize for the person who guessed the most characters. It was a very jolly party that departed, and proved without doubt that we are all only "children of a larger growth."

Novel Place Cards

A HOSTESS noted for her clever schemes had these novel place cards at a dinner party given for six intimate friends. She obtained pictures of the guests, taken when they were

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babies or children, none over ten years of age. These she laid on white cards, tying with scarlet ribbon, and put one at each plate, telling her friends that they could find their own

places.

A merry time ensued before the railway magnate discovered himself in the lad with his velocipede, and the white-haired matron was found in the demure maiden hugging a doll baby. A round, chubby-faced youngster of six was claimed by the judge, while the fair debutante was revealed in a tiny baby clutching a stick of candy in one hand, and an orange in the other. The ice was broken at once, and the dinner was pronounced a success from start to finish.

A Chocolateier

To be up-to-date give a "Chocolateier," for there are very few who do not like this most comforting of winter beverages. Be sure to have it piping hot, and serve with a big heaping spoonful of flavored whipped cream on top of each cup. There are several new kinks in making chocolate; one is to add a flavoring of cinnamon, and the other is to add a third of a pint of coffee to each pint of milk. The French have a way of making very rich chocolate by pouring a quart of it over the yokes of two eggs, beating hard to prevent curdling. If vanilla is not put in the whipped cream it must be added to the chocolate. Whipping with an egg-beater just before pouring into the pot also improves the quality of chocolate. Serve graham wafers, brown and white bread sandwiches, candied orange peel, and ginger. Light the room with candles and have a flower or two in vases à la japonaise.

Stein Suppers

At a Stein Supper the guests are usually men; such an affair is the delight of the college boy. In most cases the success of the evening depends upon the never-tiring mother, good sisters, or even interested girl friends, who disappear behind the scenes, after attending to the table decorations, arranging the table, etc. Beer may or may not be served; cider is a favorite beverage, also hot spiced lemonade and punch, which are served in covered steins. The new semi-porcelain dishes of Dutch and English manufacture are especially adapted to these affairs. Egg-shell china, lace tablecloths, and such dainty accessories are out of place at "stag" parties. Toasts are always a pleasing feature at any gathering, and especially so at these suppers.

A College Smoker

THE place cards were yellow corn-cob pipes, tied with black, for this reunion was attended by eight young fellows who had been in a school whose colors were orange and black. The names were lettered on the bowls in India ink.

The electric light and candle shades were of orange, with figures outlined in black. The candlesticks were of black wrought-iron. The walls were decorated with college flags and pennants, and on the window seats there was a pile of college pillows. For the occasion orange cheesecloth curtains had been put up, tied with broad bands of black, and there was a rosette of the two colors for each man's buttonhole.

The menu served consisted of oysters on the half shell, vegetable soup, beefsteak with mushrooms, scalloped potatoes, macaroni, lobster salad in orange shells, cheese, crackers, Roquefort cheese, apple pie, and coffee.

Five O'Clock Teas

THE question is frequently asked what to serve at an afternoon tea, how many courses, etc. A five o'clock tea is the very simplest of all entertainments; there are never any courses. The hour is too near dinner time to permit of an elaborate spread. Tea and an iced fruit drink or chocolate, one or two varieties of sandwiches, small cakes, wafers, candies, ginger,

salted nuts, and bonbons are all accessories of the five o'clock tea. Sometimes just a glass of sherbet or a frappé with delicate sugar wafers is served. The main thing is to have something to offer to promote sociability, but not to cloy the appetite.

The invitations are usually issued on the hostess's visiting card, with the words "At home from three to five." It is customary to ask one or two intimate friends to serve the

guests.

A New Dainty

A NEW dainty for the afternoon tea-table is what is called Touraine chocolates. Take whole-wheat bread, butter the loaf, cut off the slices, then cut into strips an inch wide. Cover each piece with melted sweet chocolate; sprinkle thinly with any finely chopped nuts, either almonds, walnuts, or pistachios. Stand aside for an hour to harden. Another novelty for evening refreshments is fruit rounds. With a biscuit-cutter make rounds out of slices of whole-wheat bread. Then chop a quarter of a pound of candied pineapple and a quarter of a pound of candied cherries together. Boil four table-spoonfuls of sugar and three of water for one minute; then when cool add the juice of half an orange, mix with the fruit, butter the bread and spread with the mixture. Ornament with citron or angelica and candied cherries. Serve on a cut-glass plate.

A combination which makes a cup of delicious tea is a mixture of English Breakfast and Orange Pekoe. This has an unusually pleasing flavor. To each cup add a slice of pineapple which has been soaked in rum, and a small amount of maraschino. A small bit of lemon added brings out the flavor

of the pineapple.

A teaspoonful of rum in the ordinary cup of tea is in great favor, while Russian tea with lemon, is always in good form. Some hostesses pass the squeezed and strained lemon juice in a cut-glass pitcher, so that visitors do not have to handle the slices of lemon. Brandied cherries are a tasteful and pleasant addition to the cup of afternoon tea. Sand tarts, fancy wafers, fruit bars, nut glacés, and stuffed dates are all acceptable accompaniments to the cup that cheers. A drink made from cocoa with a third the quantity of coffee added is a change from the ordinary cocoa. This should be served with whipped cream, and tiny sandwiches of whole-wheat bread or graham wafers.

A pinch of salt, a few drops of vanilla, or a dash of cinnamon, improves the flavor of plain cocoa or chocolate. Coffee is rarely served from a five-o' clock-tea table, being reserved for the dinner hour. It is very English, and quite a fad, to serve toasted muffins with orange marmalade at informal teas.

Birthday Parties

IN WHAT MONTH WERE YOU BORN?

JANUARY — Will be a prudent housewife, good-natured, but inclined to melancholy.

FEBRUARY — Humane and affectionate as a wife, and tender as a

mother.

MARCH — A chatterbox, fickle, stormy, and given to quarrels. April — Pretty, dainty, inconsistent, and not given to study.

MAY — Handsome in person and contented and happy in spirit.

June — Gay, impetuous, and will marry early.

JULY — Fair to look upon, but sulky in temper and jealous.

AUGUST — Amiable, practical, and will marry rich. SEPTEMBER — Discreet, affable, and generally beloved.

OCTOBER — Pretty, coquettish, and oftentimes unhappy without cause.

NOVEMBER — Liberal, kind, amiable, and thoughtful for others.

DECEMBER — Well-proportioned, gay, fond of novelty, and inclined to be extravagant.

A POEM FOR EACH BIRTH MONTH

"The Eve of St. Agnes." Keats. ANUARY. "Afternoon in February." FEBRUARY. Longfellow. "A Morning in March." MARCH. Wordsworth. "Welcome to April." APRIL. Tennyson. "An Evening in May." MAY. Walton. "A Day in June." Lowell. TUNE. "Rain in Summer." Longfellow. JULY.

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AUGUST. "Forest Hymn." Bryant.

SEPTEMBER. "Hymn for September." Geo. Herbert.

OCTOBER. "Pleasures of Autumn." Keats.

NOVEMBER. "Death of the Flowers." Bryant.

DECEMBER. "The Holly Tree." Southey.

The calendar given below will be of interest to those who love to observe the sentiments and legends of one's birth month. An old Polish superstition declares that each month has a special jewel or stone, which if worn will prove a lucky talisman.

	Divinity	Stone	Flower	Zodiac Sign
Jan.	Gabriel.	Garnet.	Snowdrop.	Aquarius.
Feb.	Barchiel.	Pearl.	Primrose.	Pisces.
March.	Malchediel.	Bloodstone.	Violet.	Aries.
April.	Ashmodel.	Diamond.	Daisy.	Taurus.
May.	Amriel.	Emerald.	Hawthorn.	Gemini.
June.	Muriel.	Agate or Cat's-eye.	Honeysuckle.	Cancer.
July.	Verchiel.	Ruby.	Water-lily.	Leo.
Aug.	Hamatiel.	Sardonyx.	Poppy.	Virgo.
Sept.	Tsuriel.	Sapphire. Chrysolite.	Morning-glory.	Libra.
Oct.	Bariel.	Opal.	Hops.	Scorpio.
Nov.	Adnachiel.	Topaz.	Chrysanthemum.	Sagittarius.
Dec.	Humiel.	Turquoise.	Holly.	Capricornus.

BIRTH-MONTH COUPLETS

January

Gabriel as thy true divinity

Brings consolation and gives constancy.

February

Barchiel guards thy early youthful days,

And checks th' imperious will which passion sways.

 \mathbf{M} arch

Malchediel divines thy modest power, But knows thy courage in a dangerous hour.

April

Though oft repentant, thou art innocent. Ashmodel knoweth of thy good intent.

May

In love successful. Amriel doth declare That Hope will give of blessing thy full share. June
In bonds of love great Muriel decrees
For thee long life of luxury and ease.

Verchiel invests thy speech with eloquence, And from disloyal friends is thy defence.

August
Console thyself. Hamatiel shall be
True guardian of thy heart's felicity.

September
May Tsuriel preserve thy life from care
And give of happiness a well-earned share.

October
Injustice and misfortune may distress,
But Bariel will give thee happiness.

November Adnachiel sends friends both wise and true; Guard well the favors that they bring to you.

December
With forethought wise Humiel brings success
That crowns thy life with highest happiness.

A Birthday Custom

A PRETTY birthday custom is observed by a family rejoicing in the possession of six beautiful children. On the first natal day of each child a tree is planted, and each succeeding year the same custom prevails. When the tenth birthday is reached a real festival is held, and the tree-planting is made the feature of the occasion. There is a procession around the lawn, and the "birthday child" is permitted to choose the variety of tree to be planted, and, if possible, it is obtained. Oftentimes there is a "tree-guessing" contest of some kind, or the refreshments will all be from tree products. It is needless to say that these children are devoted to their own special trees, and watch their growth with scrupulous care. It is certainly a custom worthy of being observed, and not expensive, so it is within the reach of almost every one.

A Child's Birthday Party

THIS describes the prettiest kind of a party for the little tots ranging in age from three to six. The mother had a kindergarten table seating ten, with red chairs, and the regular dining-room table and chairs were pushed aside for these. The room was decorated with quantities of gay Chinese lanterns, which delighted the children.

Under each plate there were a white lace-paper doily, a paper napkin, a place card, and the name spelled out with alphabet crackers. Six tiny red candles with shades made from red Christmas tree candle-holders, were on the table, besides a huge angel-food cake, which held three red candles, and was surrounded by a hoop containing red candles put in as close as they would stand; the hoop was concealed by ferns.

Cocoa was served in small "Buster Brown" mugs with a sandwich of whole-wheat bread, then plain vanilla ice cream in ramakins. After this a Jack Horner pie was placed on the table, and each child took hold of a red ribbon which had a little metal animal on the end of it, and at a signal all pulled, and peppermint patties came out. Two were tied together with red ribbon, and there was one for each child. Then there were snapping-cracker caps containing "surprises," and on leaving the dining-room each child received a bag of confetti to throw after getting outside the house.

The hours for this party were from three to five, and the children came promptly and went home promptly, so they

were not tired out.

When the invitations were sent out the birthday was not mentioned.

A Party for a Three-Year-Old

ALL mothers are interested in parties for children, and the wee tots seem to be entering the social whirl at a very tender age, so this description of a three-year-old's birthday celebration may not come amiss.

The invitations were issued on the attractive stationery prepared for children, some of the designs being especially good. After the twelve guests had assembled, the first thing on the programme was simple games, such as "London Bridge," "The Farmer," and "Here We Go round the Mulberry Bush," played to music, with a young lady to assist in the leading.

Then a circle was formed, and a large jardinière filled with all sorts of odd-shaped parcels was placed in the centre. One child at a time was blindfolded and allowed to take a package from the jar. The opening of these packages caused much joy. There were toys of all kinds and a ball for the youngest guest. The hours were from three to five, and promptly at four the dining-room doors were opened, revealing a low, round table (made from one of the tops to the mother's diningtable) and twelve red kindergarten chairs. There were large Chinese lanterns hanging from the ceiling, making a beautifully soft light. The birthday cake with three candles was the centrepiece.

Plain bread-and-butter sandwiches, with small cups of cocoa, were served first, followed by vanilla ice cream in ramakins. There were cunning little rosebud place cards and small red paper dishes holding hard little candies, which were made of pure sirup. Each child received a dainty cornucopia

of paper filled with popcorn to take home.

A Mother Goose Party

EVERY child loves "Mother Goose," so ornament the invitations for this party with pen-and-ink sketches of the characters so dear to every childish heart, or buy a cheap copy of the book and cut out the pictures, pasting one on each invitation. Say that Mother Goose will be at home on such a day from three to five, or seven to ten (whichever hour is most suitable), and requests all the little goslings to be present. As far as possible the mothers should let the children choose their own characters, no matter if there are duplicates.





ATTRACTIVE WAYS TO SERVE SHERBET
A Rose Sherbet Glass—A Crêpe Paper Sherbet Cup



When all arrive form a grand march, each child repeating

his rhyme when his or her name is called.

When refreshments are served "Little Jack Horner" must be asked to preside over his famous pie, which is made as follows: Take the largest tin pan procurable or a small wooden tub; fill with bran or fine sawdust and put in a souvenir for each guest. These should be small articles tied with ribbon. Over the top stretch tissue paper, through which pull the ribbons; then put a piece of crepe paper neatly around the outside of the pan. At a given signal each child is to take hold of a ribbon and all together sing "Little Jack Horner," and when the words "pulled out a plum" come, the ribbons are pulled, and each child will be delighted over the forthcoming "plum." Tarts supposed to be made by the Queen of Hearts are a feature of the refreshments. A prize may be given for the best costume, the children taking the vote; but this is optional with the hostess.

A Baby's Birthday Party

IF possible, rent or borrow enough high chairs to seat the small guests around the table. Have a birthday cake iced in white, with a pink candle and "one to grow on." Of necessity, the beverage for these little ones must be of milk, but there can be a variety of crackers. For souvenirs and amusement nothing will be more pleasing than toy balloons or bouncing balls fastened to the chandelier over the table by baby ribbons. The balls may be made of worsted, and will delight the babies. Have a generous supply of rattles, jumping jacks, and rubber dolls for playthings, and with plenty of assistance the party should be a great success. Rosebuds, either pink or white, are the most appropriate flowers to use. For the mothers and grown-ups, serve cocoa, whipped cream, chicken sandwiches, charlotte russe, nuts, and bonbons. The babies will provide all the entertainment necessary, both for themselves and for their mothers.

A Mother's Fortieth Birthday

If the weather permits, have a porch party. There is always a novelty about outdoor affairs, and much of the year one is forced to remain indoors. It will probably be possible to get a number of your mother's old-time friends to write letters to be read on this occasion; these will be a pleasant surprise to her, and provide an entertaining feature as well. Of course the birthday cake will be the centre of attraction, with its ring (symbol of eternity), containing forty candles. Make the ring out of a barrel hoop covered with tissue paper. Ask each guest to be prepared to make a wish or give an appropriate sentiment when she blows out a candle. For souvenirs have small fans on which each guest will inscribe her name. A vase containing forty roses will make a beautiful table centrepiece, and be sure to have the refreshments appeal to the honored guest by serving what she likes best, her special cake, for instance, and endeavor to make the day a glad one "from morn to noon, . . . from noon to dewy eve."

Ways to Choose Partners

To choose partners for a cotillion or card party, prepare a number of small cakes; ice with pink for the unmarried women, white for the women who have left the realms of single blessedness, yellow for the unmarried men, and green for those who are married. In these cakes place tiny favors — thimbles, buttons, keys, duplicate mottoes, rings, hooks, eyes, etc. The man who gets a hook finds the girl with the eye, a man getting a key, finds the girl with the ring to put it on, etc. The cakes may be passed on trays.

Another pretty way to select partners is to provide paper Japanese masks and caps. Divide the company by taking out the men into another room, then give them their disguises, at the same time the ladies are receiving theirs. Then bring together, and allow five minutes to tell who is who; of course

sheets are provided to throw over gowns and coats. This is practicable only in small companies, but it is much fun.

Prepare balls of cotton with slips inside bearing words intimately associated, such as "Darby" and "Joan," "Antony" and "Cleopatra," "Paul" and "Virginia," "Desdemona" and "The Moor," "Bread" and "Butter," "Ice Cream" and "Cake," etc. Tie these balls with ribbon or wrap them in crepe paper to look like oranges. Then divide the company in two lines, and at a given signal throw the balls. In the scramble each will retain one, tear it open, and "Darby" will

hunt for "Joan," "Bread" for "Butter," etc.

Ask all the girls into one room, the men into another. Close the folding doors between and then select the wittiest man in the party to act as auctioneer. He is to go to the room occupied by the feminine portion of the guests and describe, not too accurately, one of the men; the girls are to bid, the highest bidder to be given a number, and a duplicate number being pinned upon the man who has just been auctioned. He is then permitted to go in and find his partner, who bears the corresponding number. This proceeds until all have been paired off. It is most amusing and livens the beginning of an evening.

A novel way to find partners is to write on the cards passed to the men the names of States, and the names of capital cities on those for the ladies. Then tell the "States" to find their "capitals." It is surprising to see the mixed-up condition of things for a few minutes, especially if the Western and newer

States are selected.

Cutting hearts, diamonds, spades, and clubs is a "puzzle"

way of distributing partners at a card party.

For choosing partners, try matching animal crackers, which are hidden throughout the rooms. Matching flowers is another pretty way when the company is not too large to have enough varieties of flowers. Have two blossoms alike, — carnations, roses, violets, pansies, lilies, etc.

Another way is to put the initials or the first name of the girls in envelopes and pass them to the men; the cracker

alphabet letters to be obtained from the large grocery stores may be used. Of course this method is of use only in a company well known to each other. A jolly way to pair off is to play the old-fashioned game of "Silent Blindman's Buff." Make a circle, blindfold one at a time, place in the centre with a cane, then the one the blindman touches is the partner. Of course it is arranged so that a boy points to a girl and vice versa.

The nicknames of States provide a good way to select partners. Write the names of the States for the girls, and the nicknames for the men, and then let them find each other. A lively time is likely to ensue. To save the hostess from racking her brains some examples follow:

NORTH CAROLINA — Old North.

NEW YORK — Empire State.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Palmetto State.

RHODE ISLAND — Little Rhody.

OHIO — Buckeye.

CONNECTICUT — Nutmeg State.

DELAWARE — Blue Hen.

NEW HAMPSHIRE — Granite State.

PENNSYLVANIA — Keystone State.

LOUISIANA — Creole State.

ILLINOIS — Sucker State.

INDIANA — Hoosier State.

MASSACHUSETTS — Bay State.

TEXAS — Lone Star State.

MAINE — Pine Tree State.

VIRGINIA — Old Dominion.

Matching rosettes of ribbon is done in the same way. Make of baby ribbon rosettes as large as a quarter, fastening a pin in each.

Obtain baby pictures of the boys and girls and let them find the originals. This will take up considerable time, and may be a feature of the evening's entertainment only when the company is a small one.

For a musical entertainment, write a few bars of a well-known musical composition, then cut the paper in two. When the melody is completed partners will be found. Quotations

that are well known may be arranged in the same way, and the parts hidden about the rooms.

Put a mask on the girls one at a time, and in a room alone. Let the men guess whom the eyes belong to, and the successful guesser wins his partner.

To Find Places by Fads

A HOSTESS who wished for something out of the usual for her place cards at a luncheon to which she had asked six guests, went to work to find pictures that would illustrate each one's

particular fad or individualism.

One girl had the habit of sitting Turkish fashion on the floor. After repeated search in magazines and advertisements, a picture was found to illustrate the subject. It was cut out and neatly pasted on red cardboard. The golf girl was easy, also the girl who loved boating. The equestrienne of the party, and the girl whose latest fad was cooking, were easily illustrated, also the girl with the camera.

No names were put on the cards, each guest found herself.

At an evening company where there were a number of guests, the hostess took this method of pairing them off. She wished to mingle the party as much as possible and break up cliques.

Each man received a paper and pencil, was introduced to a lady, and told he could talk with her for five minutes; at the end of that time he was to retire to a corner and write a description of the lady's gown, hair, and general appearance. After ten minutes these papers were collected; then when refreshments were served, the papers were scattered promiscuously among the men, and each was to find the lady of whom he had the description, and escort her to the dining-room.

A Reunion Luncheon

A PARTY of ladies, who had been abroad together, decided to hold reunions at certain intervals and so continue the friend-

ship made on board ship, on the Continent, or in London, as the case might be. The first affair was called a Scotch-English luncheon, and the hostess had sent direct from Inverness a quantity of heather, which came in perfect condition. It was used at each place, tied with lavender ribbon. Instead of the name each place card bore some joke or pertinent reminder of the journey.

Individual mutton pies, Scotch oat cakes, orange marmalade, curds and whey, and delicious toasted English muffins were served. For amusement the hostess had pinned on the wall pictures of public buildings, and placed on the table and mantel prints of famous paintings, and portraits of noted

personages seen in Europe.

A prize was given to the one guessing the most. Many of the pictures were souvenir postals, of which perhaps the very finest are made in Germany.

Clipped Favors

THESE are tiny presents for each child, daintily wrapped and suspended by various colored ribbons from the chandelier or doorway. Each child is blindfolded, told to walk to the end of the room, turn and walk to where the parcels are hanging. Then a pair of scissors are handed to the "blindman" with which to clip the ribbon and secure a favor.

This scheme may be carried out with older people and partners found by having two ribbons of a color or two favors

alike.

A Progressive Breakfast

This breakfast was served by a club of six who wound up the affairs of the season with an annual spread. Each hostess kept her table decorations and eatables a secret, and the result was a pleasant surprise at each house. Twelve blocks away from the house where the dessert was served the guests assembled and had the first course, consisting of the fruit. The table was ornamented with a strawberry centrepiece, and at each place there was a box in exact imitation of those in which strawberries are sold; it held six enormous berries with a mound of powdered sugar on a berry leaf. The place cards bore an original line of greeting, decorated with a watercolor

spray of strawberries.

Hats were donned, and eight blocks on the street car brought the soup course. Here the centrepiece was white carnations. Bouillon was served with a spoonful of whipped cream on top of each cup. Breadsticks, olives, and wafers were passed. The place cards bore tiny black-and-white sketches of a little old man mixing together things in a bowl.

Three blocks, and the fish was served in ramakins, with delicious shoe-string potatoes. Before going into the diningroom the hostess passed slips of paper with the names "Riley," "Hood," "Tennyson," etc., and explained that places would be found by recognizing a quotation from the author whose name was on the card. This caused a flow of wit and laughter till the lines were recognized. The centrepiece was a mass of lovely bridal wreath, which was then in season.

The next hostess was telephoned that the company were ready to start; and the heavy course was in readiness by the time the guests arrived. The table was all in green and white. White sweet peas on a round mirror made a pretty centre, and the place cards were tied to the handles of little green baskets. Creamed sweetbreads in pastry cases were served with Julienne potatoes; almonds and hot rolls with green peas

completed this course.

Another two blocks brought the salad course. Such a gorgeous table! Yellow tulips, standing erect in a Royal Worcester bowl filled with sand, were in the centre of the table; the bowl was resting on a lace doily over yellow. There were tumbler doilies of yellow, and the wafers were on yellow china plates. The salad was a tomato and nut aspic with a great dab of golden mayonnaise dressing. The place cards were cut out of green and yellow paper to imitate tulips.

After a shower of congratulations, the merry party pro-

ceeded three squares to the sixth and last course. The table was done entirely in lilacs, the doilies and centrepiece being carried out in that delicate color. No artificial light was used,

as this shade does not lend itself kindly to candles.

Jolly little rhymes told the guests where they were to be seated at the table, and there was a snap-shot of the club baby in one corner — the only daughter of this last hostess. The dessert was a fruit gelatine, with whipped cream, bonbons, and sunshine cake. Japanese water flowers were passed, with a tiny glass of water with which to try fortunes; two of the girls declared that miniature men unfolded themselves in their glasses, so the club began to look for dénouements.

A Literary Luncheon

HERE is a menu which was served to a club of literary people, upon which the hostess did not expend five dollars. Much merriment was afforded by guessing what each course was before it appeared on the table:

"Lays of Ancient Rome." MACAULAY.

(Stuffed Eggs.)

"The Red Skins." COOPER. (Lobster à la Newberg.)

"Lamb's Works." CHARLES LAMB.

(Chops and potato croquettes.)

"Cometh Up as a Flower." RHODA BROUGHTON.

(Mushrooms.)

"Salad for the Solitary and the Social." F. SAUNDERS.

(Lettuce.)

"The Queen of Curds and Cream." Mrs. GERARD. (Cheese.)

"Man, and the Glacial Period." Dr. WRIGHT. (Orange ice served in the skins.)

"Coffee and Repartee." BANGS.

(Coffee.)

After-Dinner Tricks

TAKE a dinner plate and fill with water to the depth of an eighth of an inch, perhaps a little more. Then put a small

candle in the centre, light it, and over it place a tall glass tumbler. Just as the inverted tumbler touches the plate the water will rise within the glass. The taller the covering the more effective the trick.

When fruit has been served with the dessert, and in consequence there are finger bowls on the table, it is curious as well as amusing, to wet the middle finger and pass it slowly around the rim of the bowl, keeping a firm pressure. In a moment a low, long-drawn-out musical tone will be heard; each glass will give out a different tone and the result when several glasses are emitting sounds at the same time is a strange mixture of harmony.

An after-dinner trick much enjoyed by children is to put walnut shells filled with brandy or alcohol into their finger bowls and then light them. These burning ships at sea are a wonderful sight, and grown people as well as the children are not averse to watching this exciting end to a dinner party.

Your Fortune in a Teacup

To ADD zest to an afternoon tea leave some tea leaves in each cup. To do this the use of the strainer must be omitted. Memorize this rhyme, which is the translation of an old Chinese tea song, and it will prove of interest to the guests:

"One leaf alone, alone you'll be;
Two together, the priest you'll see;
Three in groups, your wish you'll gain;
Four, a letter from a loving swain;
Five, good news the letter will bring;
Six in a row, a song you'll sing;
Seven together, great fortune waits
For you, so say the Teacup Fates.
Tea leaves short and tea leaves tall
Bring you company great and small;
Tea leaves many and dotted fine
Are of bad luck the surest sign;
Tea leaves few and clean the rim,
Your cup with joy o'erflows the brim."

Fortune teacups with the signs of the zodiac may be purchased, and one always causes amusement at a party.

CHAPTER XV.—ENTERTAINMENTS FOR CHURCH AND CLUB

Japanese Affairs

An International Tea

THIS is a delightful affair to be given by a club or a church society. Decorate the rooms with the flags of all nations; these may be purchased in the department stores in all sizes. Young ladies dressed in costumes to represent "America," "Italy," "Scotland," "France," "England," "Germany," "Japan," "Manila," etc., form the reception committee and serve the refreshments.

National songs, such as "America," "La Marseillaise," "God Save the King," "The Watch on the Rhine," "Blue Bells of Scotland," "Beautiful Venice, the Bride of the Sea," are sung or played during the evening. When refreshments are served, the guests are asked to choose at which table they will sit. "America" will serve an abundance of baked beans, doughnuts, and pie. "Scotland" will have porridge, oat cakes, scones with cheese, and haggis. "Italy" presides over vermicelli soup, macaroni, grapes, and figs. Sausage, pretzels, and rye bread will be found at "Germany's" table. The "French" table will have dainty rolls, salads, and omelet. "England" will be represented by roast beef and plum pudding. "Japan" will be gay with chrysanthemums, cherry blossoms, tea with delicate sweetmeats, rice, and wafers. "Manila" will serve bananas, lemonade, and oranges.

For Sweet Charity

A LITERARY club of thirty members wished to make some money for a special charity, so they devised and carried out this very clever scheme. Thirty baskets were purchased at wholesale, and each lady took one and filled it with the most delicious supper that she could prepare. Her card was placed inside, the top covered with tissue paper, then tied down with ribbon. Invitations were sent to thirty men, asking them to come to an "auction supper," on such an evening, giving the address and hour.

On arriving each man was required to bid for a basket; after opening it, he was to find the lady whose card was concealed in the basket. Tea, coffee, chocolate, and napkins (paper ones) were provided, also small tables and folding chairs. There were ices and creams which could be purchased at so

much a plate.

The men entered into the spirit of the affair, and declared it was the jolliest charity party they ever attended. There is a way of doing things that appeals to a man. He loves things that he has a part in, and he likes a little mystery, and not a man knew a word of what this "auction supper" was to be, which speaks well for the girls who managed the affair.

to be, which speaks well for the girls who managed the affair.

Between fifty and sixty dollars rolled into the auctioneer's hands, and the men all said it was cheap for half the money.

A Daisy Fortune Booth

At a bazaar this daisy booth made a goodly sum for the treasury. The decorations were entirely of green crepe paper and paper daisies. Over the booth a large sign was placed, "Let the Daisies Tell Your Fortunes." There was a "Vassar" daisy chain across the counter, made from a procession of dolls dressed in white carrying garlands of daisies. There were large daisies containing one hundred and fifty petals, for, as the bazaar lasted two days and evenings, many fortunes were prepared. A fortune was written on each petal with invisible ink. The petal was sold in this case for ten cents, as it was in a wealthy community where ten cents was no object when fortunes were concerned; but I think five cents would be a fairer sum to charge. Then the petal was

ironed with an electric iron (a common everyday flatiron will answer the purpose) and the fate of the purchaser was therewith revealed. The attendants were gowned in white, with daisy wreaths in their hair. The background of the booth was made from dark green cheese cloth studded with white daisies.

A German Booth

HAVE bare wooden tables and chairs; decorate with the German colors and palms to make it look as much like a garden as possible. Have the waiters in peasant costume, hair braided, white caps or the large Alsatian bows; short skirts, velvet bodices, and white waists. Any or all varieties of soft drinks may be served, such as root beer, ginger ale, lemonade, seltzer, and phosphates.

Small steins, corncob pipes, and tiny German flags would be suitable for favors. If no other place is provided for serving tea, coffee, and chocolate, they may be added to the list

of drinkables.

A Measuring Party

Two young women, who belonged to a circle of "King's Daughters," issued invitations for a unique affair to be given at the home of one of the girls. The jingle given below explains the nature of the entertainment. There was a short programme and daintily served refreshments.

"A Measuring Party is given for you;
'T is something novel, something new.
We young ladies ask all to come,
And each one bring to aid us some
Two cents for every foot you 're tall,
We 'll measure you on door or wall;
An extra cent for each inch give,
And thereby show how high you live.
With music and song, refreshment and pleasure,
We 'll meet one and all at our Party of Measure.'

CORRECT COSTUME FOR MAIDS



Grab Garden

HERE is a good scheme for the church fair that has had grab bags and fish ponds. Make a flower bed and plant in rows a quantity of paper blossoms; attach to the root of each flower a small article done up in tissue paper. Upon the payment of five cents, or whatever sum is agreed on, the buyer is allowed to pull one blossom. The garden is in charge of "Mary, Mary, quite contrary," and this feature of the bazaar ought to be a very profitable adjunct.

A States Dinner

THE idea of a States dinner is a good one, adding both interest and novelty to the ordinary church dinner. Send out invitations, with the request that in the acceptance the guests designate the State in which they were born. Then the people from one State are to sit at the same table, or there may have to be two or three tables for one State if the space forbids

seating more than a limited number.

There must be a host and hostess for each table, and the decorations must be characteristic of the State. For instance, at a recent dinner of this kind New York's table had a pyramid of fruit, mostly apples, pears, and grapes. New Hampshire and Vermont sat together; a row of miniature trees was the decoration, with a hill of cotton sparkling with diamond dust snow, down which sleds were gayly sliding, also tiny figures on toboggans. New Jersey's table had a mound of clam shells and yards of strung cranberries outlining pretty figures on the tablecloth. Pennsylvania had a pile of coal and an oil well at either end. The guests from Georgia had real cotton blossoms and rice sheaves, and sweet potatoes scrubbed to whiteness to hold the candles, while a log cabin with an old "aunty" and "uncle" made the centrepiece. These examples will show how the affair was carried out. Toasts were given, and the young girls of the church acted as waitresses.

If there are enough guests to warrant it, there could be tables provided and characteristically decorated for those of foreign birth. Such guests might be asked to contribute for the purpose quaint mementos brought from the Fatherland.

An Idea for a Missionary Society

A MISSIONARY Society sent out these unique invitations accompanied by a tiny silken bag, the result being a goodly sum for the treasury:

"'Hail to thee, lady! and the grace of Heaven,
Before, behind thee, and on every hand,
Enwheel thee round!'
This gracious greeting Shakespeare wrote so long ago,
And we repeat it to thee, bidding thee to our feast.
A silken bag we send, and ask of thee
To place within its lustrous folds
A coin for every rich-crowned year
That o'er thy head has passed, and,
Lady, straightway reach the century mark,
That every silken fold be rounded out to fulness."

On the date mentioned each lady on arriving deposited her bag in a receptacle provided and in charge of an attendant.

After the serving of a cup of tea or chocolate the bags were emptied and the contents counted. A short musical programme followed.

A Camp-Fire

This military social may answer in churches that have a boys' or young men's military organization, or if practicable, a local Grand Army post might be pressed into service. At any rate the idea is a good one, and may be adapted to several purposes.

Arrange the room with three small tents on one side, and three opposite. At one end have an officer's tent. Near the centre of the room have a camp-fire, with uniformed sentries keeping guard. There must be a fife and drum corps, and the

military company will arrive in uniform and make a grand entrée. Sing the old war songs and have a bevy of pretty girls, dressed as Red Cross nurses, to serve the refreshments, which should be regular army rations — coffee in tin cups, corn bread, hardtack, doughnuts, baked beans, and pie.

An amusing feature is a push cart with buns, and a man carrying yards and yards of wienerwurst and a pair of large

shears to cut off the sausage.

Another push cart bears a box with a hole in it, the hand to be thrust in and a hard-boiled egg drawn out. On each egg there is a number; the guests are to be told to preserve these figures, and late in the evening the announcement will be made that Nos. o and 13 have drawn prizes. These will consist of trifles to add to the fun, such as a sword, toy gun, or military hatpin. There will be a burlesque court-martial and war-time stories, while "taps" from a bugle will close the evening after the singing of "Tenting To-Night on the Old Camp Ground."

A Girls' Club

A CLUB of young girls have a rather clever custom. They meet once in two weeks, and each time they have worn a costume and provided refreshments that served to indicate the topic of the evening. There is a twenty-minute paper, then the remainder of the time is devoted to sociability and a good time generally. The dues are ten cents a member, and this sum is kept on hand for little charitable acts. A bouquet is sent to a hospital for some charity patient, or groceries are delivered to a needy family. They have had a Japanese night, a mock wedding, a ghost party, and an "old maid" evening, to which all came attired as spinsters. The paper for this event gave excellent reasons why one should be a bachelor maid, and how to be happy though single.

Occasionally the men are asked, as when the Dutch lunch was given. The honor is considered very great, as the girls conduct their meetings with much secrecy. All live in the

neighborhood, so no escorts are needed in going back and forth; but sometimes the boys are permitted to call at ten o'clock, the hour the club sounds "taps." Meetings open at seven and close at ten, so all are at home by eleven.

A Church or Club Entertainment

This evening of living pictures was called "The Bells," and was worked up in a most effective manner. A large frame was prepared for the picture, and the lights were thrown on from the side in colors most befitting the subject. There was a slightly raised platform. The preparations are so simple, the entertainment could be an invitation affair and given at a private house, taking up a silver offering; but more money would be made by charging a regular admission. First there was a ten-minute paper on "Bells." Much of interest is obtainable on this subject at the library: How they are made, chimes, great and historic bells, etc. The first picture shown was "Those Evening Belles." There were two or three girls in up-to-date evening gowns, while that old-time piece, "Those Evening Bells" was played on the piano. Picture number two, "Those Morning Belles," showed the same girls in negligee costumes, while the music was "Oh, What a Difference in the Morning!"

"The Modern Belle" showed a girl in outing costume with a golf bag. "An Old-time Belle" was a dear grandmother in kerchief and cap, knitting a stocking. "Long, Long Ago," was the melody played. "A Scotch Belle" was a girl in Highland costume, and the music was "Blue Bells of Scotland." "The Convent Belle" was a sweet-faced nun, and "The Monastery Bells" was played softly. The last picture was called "The Belle of the Future," and revealed a baby. Many more pictures may be added, but the secret of a successful programme is in having it short, with the audience wishing for

more. It is usually best not to respond to encores.

An Evening in Holland

A CLUB composed of a dozen ladies who are studying the Netherlands, invited their friends to a pretty little entertainment. They had twelve living pictures from Dutch masters, reproduced in costume and posture as like the originals as it was possible to have them. Each member of the club was responsible for just one picture and she did her best to show it as perfectly as she could. The platform was on the stair landing, where all could see from the drawing room and hall, and the effect was lovely. A Holland brand of cocoa was served by a number of young girls dressed in the quaint Dutch peasant costume of orange and blue. The guests were so pleased that the club was asked to repeat the entertainment in a hall, with an admission fee, which was devoted to defraying the cost of drawing lessons for a poor but very talented boy.

The Seven Ages of Woman

A SERIES of impromptu tableaux was enacted in a hotel parlor, which was worthy of a far larger audience than was present; but the sum realized for charity was a good one, owing to the generosity of the appreciative spectators. The pictures shown represented the seven ages of woman: First, "Infancy" was a real live baby, hastily borrowed for the occasion, with a real live angel bending over it. The second scene, "Childhood," was modelled after Jessie Wilcox Smith's charming picture, called "The First Love." "The Schoolgirl" came, next with books and slate. "Maidenhood" showed a young girl daintily gowned, with a letter in her lap and a box containing a diamond ring. "Wifehood" and "Motherhood" were followed by "Old Age."

With the exercise of some ingenuity and imagination it will be easy to work the pictures out with very little preparation. It is a simple matter to have colored lights, and they will

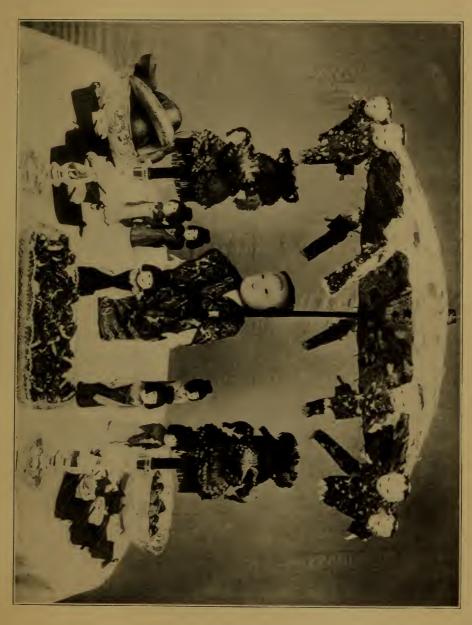
greatly enhance the beauty of the pictures. If music is played very softly during the scenes, it adds to the pleasure in a marked manner, and suitable selections may be found, such as "Auld Lang Syne" or "Long, Long Ago," for "Old Age"; the Wedding March, for "Wifehood"; and "Hush-a-by Baby" for "Infancy." Frappé might be served, after the pictures were presented.

A Candy Booth

HAVE only homemade candies for sale; these, with the addition of salted peanuts, pecans, almonds, and popcorn will be found profitable. Decorate with white and pink cheese cloth with a fringe of pink tissue paper rosettes across the front. Let the attendants wear white with pink belts and collars, and caps with huge pink bows. Arrange the candies attractively in boxes, baskets, and fancy china bowls. Have a pair of scales and play fair, giving accurate change and taking orders for Christmas candies. The candy box favors find a ready sale. Dainty cards to accompany gift boxes should be provided; dinner and card party score cards could be made a lucrative side line.

A Japanese Dinner

In a large city one can purchase at an importing house nearly all the requisites for such a dinner, such as the salted plums, pickled fish, chop suey, soy to mix with rice and salads, and dainty rice cakes, or, at least, the rice flour, and all sorts of delicious preserved fruits, which are served with forks for that purpose; or if these be lacking, toothpicks may be used. With such materials as the average housekeeper has at hand she could serve boneless meat of some kind (the Japanese never serve meat with a bone in it at the table), and olives. Rice is cooked with tea, but this would not be relished by the average guest. Salads are always made of salted or pickled fish; herring could be used. Sweet cakes are served, with tea in cups without handles. The room should be decorated with





Japanese lanterns, umbrellas, and fans, with lanterns used as candle and globe shades. Tiny fans come expressly for hair ornaments, six being none too many for the decoration of one's coiffure. Napkins come folded most intricately into shapes of frogs and other animals, and it is quite a trick to see if they can be refolded in the original shape. The repast in Japan would end with salted plums, so pass the olives again.

A Japanese Lawn Party

For decorations there must be an abundance of lanterns, and umbrellas may be suspended over booths where tea both hot and cold is dispensed. In Japan this would be the only beverage, but to quench the thirst of our American citizens there must be all sorts of iced drinks, a table for *jrappé*, and small tables for ice cream and ices. Doilies, mats, and a great variety of Japanese napkins can be purchased, also lanterns in all sorts of odd shapes and sizes. The invitations could be written upon tiny Japanese fans which are very inexpensive when purchased in large quantities. Another way would be to write them on Japanese napkins and then fold the napkins in odd forms. Those in charge of the affair should wear kimonos and do the hair à la japonaise, with innumerable ornaments. The flags of Japan should figure in the decorations, and the small ones should be offered for sale, or given as souvenirs if expense is no object. Over the gateway and porches bamboo fishing poles could be crossed, and from them lanterns suspended. Burn red fire at intervals from dark corners of the lawn, and a fringe of firecrackers on the verandas would be ornamental.

The Japanese are great lovers of flowers, especially the cherry and chrysanthemum blossoms; those of paper are effective, and they cannot be too much in evidence.

As a novelty, boiled rice could be served in small blue bowls. Candied ginger, cocoanut, and pineapple are favorites with the Japanese. An orchestra of stringed instruments would add much to the affair. The Japanese play a game with bean bags which could be suited to the occasion. Yellow should be the predominating color, and bowls of goldfish would help to carry out Japanese characteristics.

Japanese Entertainment

Ask all the guests to wear kimonos, with the hair done as Japanesque as possible, which means a liberal supply of tiny fans, and even diminutive lanterns to be used as ornaments — five or six is not too many for one coiffure. Lanterns in all shapes, fans, screens, and parasols will transform rooms into bowers of beauty, and crepe tissue paper cut in strips makes charming portieres and window drapery. Chinese lilies growing in green or yellow Japanese bowls are effective, and artificial cherry blossoms, chrysanthemums, and water lilies should be used in profusion. Incense is not expensive, and the pungent odor is delightful, giving a distinctly Oriental flavor to the affair. Tea should be served in cups without handles. While the Japanese do not use sugar many Americans do, so waive that point and serve it, also lemon.

The Japanese always begin and end a feast with salted plums; olives must be substituted unless there is a Chinese restaurant near where all sorts of Oriental things may be purchased, or a large importing house. Fish is served in some form at all Japanese functions, sometimes cooked, and sometimes even alive. Rice, delicious sweetmeats, and cakes of rice flour make up a really appetizing meal. The meat is usually cut in small bits. For vegetables they are fond of a special lily bulb, but onions will be a fair substitute.

Tea is served immediately upon the arrival of a guest and many times during a repast, but only the tiniest of cups are used. Mats come in all sizes to be used as doilies, and they are very decorative. There are several Japanese songs that are pleasing and not difficult, which would add to an affair of



A JAPANESE COSTUME



this kind. Then there are quaint porcelain spoons made in China, also chop sticks, which are inexpensive, and could be given as souvenirs; at a church entertainment they might be sold.

Patterns for kimonos are easily obtainable; they should be worn with a wide sash or *obi* tied high under the arms, a huge bow in the back, with short ends. A glance through illustrated books on Japan will give correct ideas as to arranging the hair, and show the proper way to adjust the kimono.

Here are two genuine Japanese recipes: Sushi is made by boiling a half-cup of rice with two tablespoons of chopped preserved ginger. When cold mould into cakes about two inches long and one inch wide, flattened on top. Cut up a half-pound of any kind of fish into narrow strips, boil, then add a small bottle of sho-yu, which is a sauce to be obtained at a Japanese store. Cool the fish and serve a strip on the top of each rice cake.

Kuri-kinto is a mixture of chestnuts and sweet potatoes, made by cooking a quart of chestnuts, Spanish ones if possible, until soft. Pick out a cup of unbroken meats and put the remainder through a masher. Combine with a quart of the mashed potatoes and add the whole chestnuts.

A Penny Social

THE Junior Society of a church devised this method of raising some money for a picture they wished to purchase. They advertised the affair by hand bills and posters and did considerable talking themselves, so every one was consumed with curiosity to see what those young things could do. On the night in question "they" found it took a penny to get in, as well as a penny to get out. There was popcorn for a penny a glass; it was popped on the spot by a street vender, who was glad to come for a small share in the profits; and then there was a very popular candy table, and there were refreshments which were retailed by the pennyworth.

Fortunes were told for a cent, and the present, past, and future were continued to an indefinite length by the forthcoming cent. These ingenious Juniors had concocted many a scheme to inveigle the little red Indian out of the pockets of the long-suffering public. You could find out your weight, your height, and buy a stick of gum for a cent each. There was a flower booth, a penny a blossom; a bootblacking stand, with a seat reserved for ladies, which was under a huge umbrella. The street fakirs peddled fruit, and there was a scissors-grinder, also a hand-organ man. It was conducted on the order of a street fair, and the treasurer found the result of the evening's profit to be more than enough for the picture. This fair was managed entirely by the young people, of whom the oldest was fifteen.

A Bandanna Sale

A BANDANNA Sale was announced by a coterie of young women who were interested in supplying the winter coal to a fatherless family much in need of assistance. It was held at the house of one of the girls and was an invitation affair. The articles had all been made from gay handkerchiefs and consisted of aprons, sofa-pillow covers, sleeve protectors, sweeping caps, turnover collars and cuffs, protectors to use when combing the hair, dresser and chiffonier covers, pincushions, and bags both great and small. These parti-colored handkerchiefs may be purchased by the dozen for a mere trifle, and the work had been done during the summer, so that the effort was not great.

The refreshments were most unique. In the dining-room a real colored "Aunt Jemima" baked waffles which were served with maple sirup, and there were hot corn muffins, tea, coffee, and chocolate, served by little darkey maidens, their

heads enveloped in bright red bandannas.

A Seven-Cent Luncheon or Supper

This is a novelty to attract attention. There may also be a seven-cent sale of small articles. The menu may be arranged according to the season, but should have at least four courses, the entire meal costing twenty-eight cents, or seven cents for each course à la carte. The following verses written on the invitations will explain:

- "On the seventh instant, without fail,
 Will be held the annual seven-cent sale
 By the tireless ladies of Grace Church Guild,
 With high and heavenly ardor filled.
- "The door of the Parish House is wide, And for seven cents you may go inside, And every luckiest seventh one May go in free and see the fun.
- "There'll be bargain packages piled up high, And seven round cents your choice can buy; For seven cents you can buy such cake As your mother herself never dared to make.
- "You can eat ice cream for seven cents, So good you'll forget all about expense, And of fancy-work you'll find a feast At prices that end in seven at least.
- "So remember every one, I pray,
 At seven o'clock on the seventh day
 Of this present month, come wet or dry.
 Please gather to laugh, and talk, and buy!"

An Indian Meal

Put up one or two tents for wigwams and send the invitations on paper arrows through which a feather is thrust. There could be a sale of baskets, bead-work, and pottery, if the affair is given for a church or charity. Girls dressed as squaws may serve as attendants at the booths and act in the capacity of waitresses. There are Indian post cards which would make very good place cards or souvenirs. For refreshments serve:

Corn meal mush, with milk Fish or some kind of game Bean soup Corn bread, corn muffins Maple sirup Indian meal pudding.

A Mandarin Tea

Chow Min. Boiled Rice.

Plums

Crystallized Fruits. Crystallized Ginger. Chop Suey. Tea.

Costumes, service, and viands as indicated above should be in Chinese mode.

CHOW MIN FOR A MANDARIN TEA

Obtain the Chinese noodles and macaroni at a Chinese market, or make them in narrow, long strips. Boil until tender. Sauté roast fowl in oil, add chopped celery, olives cut in pieces, and one small onion sliced. Add a small quantity of brown sauce or gravy, and cook until the mixture is well heated and done. Season with salt and paprika, pour over the macaroni and noodles, and serve with boiled rice.

CHOP SUEY

This is in Chinatown a mixture of chicken livers, gizzards, fresh pork, green ginger root, and celery. For the Mandarin Tea try out slices of canned Cervelat sausage, and sauté in the fat chickens' livers and gizzards. Add a small quantity of green ginger root and celery. When heated in the fat, add olive oil, vinegar, boiling water, Worcestershire sauce, pepper, and a dash of spice. Simmer for thirty minutes. Add a small

Every Day in the Year

can of mushrooms, half-cup of French peas, and serve the mixture with the *sho-yu* sauce, which can be purchased at a Chinese grocery.

A Colonial Tea

Attendants in Colonial costumes. Serve the following menu:

Oyster Pie Cold Ham and Turkey Baked Beans

Hot Biscuit Preserves

Cup Custard Coffee Cornbread Pickles Pound Cake

Tea

Brass candlesticks with unshaded bayberry candles. Have an exhibit of Colonial things.

CHAPTER XVI.—ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS, SHOWERS, WED-DINGS, WEDDING ANNI-VERSARIES

The Bride's Household Linen

NE of the happiest periods in the life of a girl is the time before her wedding, when the days are full of preparations for the new home. Of recent years affairs for the bride-to-be have taken a prominent place in the social calendar, and friends are glad to take this opportunity of showing little attentions which never can be given at any other time. The question is asked frequently, "What is the least in the way of household linen for a bride to start with?" Of course a store of linen is an almost priceless possession, and it ought to be of a good quality.

A half-dozen sheets, one dozen pillow cases, three dozen towels, a half-dozen bath towels, a dozen wash cloths, four tablecloths, two lunch cloths, with three dozen napkins, are about as small an outfit as it is practicable to start with. These pieces should be marked with the bride's own initials or monogram. The old custom of starting dower chests for little girls is much in favor in this country. From time immemorial it has been done in Europe. If a girl never marries she will

always enjoy the things in her own room.

In the olden times, almost simultaneously with the birth of a girl baby her dower chest was commenced. As the maiden grew she spun and wove a goodly supply of household furnishings, besides her own personal linen.

Suggestions for Engagement Announcements

SUCH an announcement is usually made at a luncheon to which the intimate friends of the bride elect are asked. Hearts,



_ PLACE CARD SUGGESTION

FOR A WEDDING BREAKFAST OR A CHRISTMAS AFFAIR

true lovers' knots, cupids, bows and arrows are all appropriate for decorations. Pink is the best color to use, as all the world generally assumes *le couleur de rose* when a girl is in this blissful state.

Before the dessert course is served, have the doorbell ring violently, and the maid will bring in a telegram to the hostess, who asks permission to open and read it; whereupon she will read aloud the announcement of the engagement, then congratulations follow.

Another way is to prepare English walnuts with pretty quotations written and concealed inside the shells, which are glued together; on one write the news.

One hostess in announcing the engagement had a very small envelope at each place, the outside bearing the guest's name, while the card bore the names of the couple. The envelope was sealed with a gilt heart.

Still another hostess had her table decorated with a miniature bridal procession of dolls exquisitely dressed; ribbons radiated to each plate and were attached to heart-shaped baskets containing bonbons. The bride's chair was ornamented with a huge bow of tulle, and the souvenirs were tiny white slippers filled with candied rice. The flowers were bridesmaid roses, the candles and shades pink, with glass candlesticks.

A Story Announcement

THE bride elect had lived in the community all her life, so this manner of telling the world of this most important event was a very pretty way of making the announcement. Her sister, who was married, invited ten of the girl's most intimate friends to a luncheon, and there was nothing unusual in the preparations to indicate the *dénouement*. When the coffee was served in the drawing-room, the hostess said she had a short

original story to read in which she thought the guests would be interested. Then followed a cleverly written résumé of the girl's life from babyhood, under an assumed name. As the events were related light began to dawn, but no one said a word until the story was finished; then congratulations were in order, and a silver loving-cup was passed, in which was some rare old wine used only to drink the health of some member of the family on the occasion of a great event in his life. Some of this sparkling liquor had been used when the mother of the bride elect was married, and at the christening of the baby daughter. The bride's health would be drunk at the wedding, and then the rare old product would be put away to await the next important family event.

A Musical Announcement

This unique method of announcing her engagement was employed by a Western girl; the young man lived out of town, so no one suspected. He was a guest at the house when a number of the girl's friends received an invitation for an informal musicale.

On assembling they received programmes ornamented with a bow of white satin ribbon, and with hearts sprinkled daintily over the surface of the card. At the top was written: "An evening with the bride elect," and the following programme was written on the inside page:

"The American Boy," two-step. FLINN.

"My Lady Love," waltzes. ROSEY.

"Adoration," waltzes. Rosey.

"I'd Leave My Happy Home for You."
"The Bride-Elect," march. Sousa.

"Autumn Tints," valse. Cockrill.

"Wedding March," from "Lohengrin."

"The Honey Moon," march. ROSEY.

"Home, Sweet Home." PAYNE.
"The Sweet Long Ago." BLAKE.

By the time this musical love story was finished the young

man and the clever girl were receiving the hearty congratulations and good wishes of their friends. The ice cream was served in the form of musical instruments, and the place cards were decorated with a few bars of the Wedding March.

A Unique Method

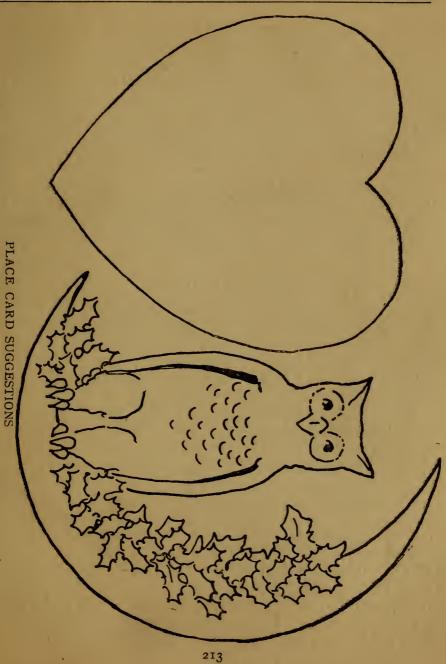
A hostess who wished to announce the engagement of a friend devised this pretty method. Only the very close friends of the girl in question were asked, eight in number. While they were seated around the dining-room table over the chocolate cups, the hostess produced a small jeweller's box sealed, and looking most interesting, as such packages always do. She said the package had been sent to her with the word if no instructions came by a certain hour that she was to open it, and the owner would claim the contents. The uncovering of the box revealed a diamond solitaire. Of course all the girls exclaimed, and all but one disclaimed any knowledge of the circlet. Then the hostess said:

"Here 's to the bride-to-be, All smiling bright and fair, And here 's to those who 'd like to be, If they only knew when and where!"

and placed it upon the blushing owner's finger. Congratulations and questions followed, and there was no need of any further entertainment scheme.

An Engagement Luncheon

THE announcement of an engagement is always full of interest, and here is the description of a beautiful luncheon at which ten of the nearest and dearest friends of the bride elect sat down to the feast. The color scheme was pink; the tablecloth was laid over that color, while the centrepiece was a cut-glass bowl filled with Mermet roses. The candles were pink, in glass holders.



FOR A PRE-NUPTIAL LUNCHEON

FOR HALLOWE'EN

Each plate was outlined with pink carnations, forming a circle, except the place of honor, where the pinks formed a heart. The place cards were Cupids, doing all sorts of things, but that of the bride elect had a heart upon it, pierced by an arrow, and Cupid was putting the rest of his arrows back into the quiver. The almond holders were pink rosebud boxes, and on opening hers the bride elect found her engagement ring. Congratulations followed, and every one was completely surprised.

The regulation luncheon was served. Cupids ornamented the small cakes, and the hostess had put a thimble in one, a ring in another, and a coin in a third. The finding of these articles caused much merriment.

Bridal Showers

THE bride of to-day is a very lucky individual, for, besides her wedding presents, she has all sorts of delightful affairs given by her intimate friends. There are "stocking," "hand-kerchief," "plate and cup and saucer," "linen," "book," "flower," "kitchen," and "novelty" showers. Some or all of these functions are likely to fall to the lot of a girl who announces her engagement, and who gives her friends this opportunity to show their good will. Great care should be taken that only one's nearest and dearest friends are asked to parties of this kind; strangers, or mere calling acquaintances, should not be asked to contribute, for it would be embarrassing both to the giver and the recipient; this is one of the instances where a hostess must be sure of whom the bride elect would like to have present. Remember that "the gift without the giver is bare."

One of the very latest fads is a turnover collar shower. Each guest is asked to bring material for a turnover and her thimble, and at the conclusion of an afternoon the fair (we take it for granted that adjective applies) bride-to-be will have a number of these useful accessories to her trousseau.

The book shower must be arranged by a person who can find out what volumes the recipient does not possess, so there will not be duplicates. The name of the donor with an inscription will greatly enhance the value of the gift, and it is safe to say that this collection will be more than prized when placed upon the book shelves of the new home.

The handkerchief and linen showers are both pretty. Each article can be thrown at the bride until she is fairly

buried under the white offering.

A unique way was devised for the stocking shower by having a large "shoe" candy box in the centre of the luncheon table with a ribbon going to each place; when the ribbons were pulled all drew out favors except the honored guest, who drew out a number of white packages, all rolled tight in white tissue paper — a pair of silk hose from each guest present.

A flower shower is the very prettiest of all, and should be given the day before the wedding. Each guest brings a bunch of flowers, and the bride is literally showered with blossoms from a huge floral ball suspended in a doorway. Have a large ball made of wire, cover with moss, and fill closely with flowers; carnations make a perfect sphere. The ball is made in halves and filled with rose petals. When farewells are being said the hostess pulls a ribbon which separates the two halves, releasing the petals, which fall upon the young woman who is about to leave the realm of single blessedness for the new and unknown way. This scattering rose leaves on the pathway of a bride is a very old custom.

Two Bridal Showers

OF all the varieties of showers, these two have the advantage of being inexpensive and most acceptable to the bride elect. The first to be chronicled is a glass and jar shower. Each guest is asked to bring a jar of fruit, pickles, marmalade, jelly, preserves, catsup, Chili sauce, or whatever she may happen to have. The second is exceedingly clever. It is a washcloth,

soap, and bath towel shower. The packages are deposited in a large clothes basket profusely decorated with white ribbon; there will be every variety of soap, and all sorts of washcloths, all tied up with tissue paper and ribbon. A dainty luncheon will be served, and the souvenirs will be diminutive slippers filled with candied rice.

A China Shower

A PRETTY way is to have each article marked with the donor's name and a suitable sentiment or jingle with it, to be read as each package is delivered by a special messenger; or the parcels may be brought in on a tray at the table, if a luncheon is being served. This prolongs the feast, and is an entertainment all-sufficient. They may also be presented in the form of a "cobweb"; this necessitates the articles being sent to the hostess beforehand. Still another way is to hide the parcels, then have some one play loud and soft music on the piano, according to whether the bride in her search is "warm" or "cold," in other words, whether she is far from or near the object.

A Sachet Shower

HERE is the very newest affair for a bride elect: A sachet shower, the prettiest sort of an afternoon; and it has the merit of being inexpensive. The hostess provided a lot of Japanese paper napkins of good quality, a bolt of pink baby ribbon, a supply of large darning needles, and a bottle of sachet powder. Then in the invitations each guest was asked to bring her thimble and material for some kind of a sachet. And such a variety of sweet trifles fell to the lot of this popular bride! There were tiny triangles of silk to be fastened inside the waists, linen ones filled with lavender to be laid among the sheets and pillow cases; perfumed blotters to lay on the desk; and not least were the dainty drawer and trunk sachets which the hostess told them how to build out of the paper napkins. A thin layer of cotton was placed between a row of three nap-

kins forming the top and three the bottom, being laced together by the baby ribbon; then the two halves were laced together and fastened in the corners with a bow of the ribbon. In this instance an intimate friend had got the size of bureau and chiffonier drawers, and the sachets were made to fit exactly. They will last a year, and being so inexpensive may be thrown away without regret when soiled.

A Handkerchief Shower

This affair for a prospective bride was arranged in a very clever manner. Twelve intimate friends were invited to luncheon, with the request to bring the gift mouchoir rolled up into the smallest package possible. Before going to the dining-room the hostess took all the packages and disappeared. When luncheon was announced, with one voice the guests exclaimed "How pretty!" Suspended from the chandelier there was an inverted Japanese umbrella; from each rib there was a smaller umbrella; and from the centre, hung by ribbons, there was a gilded watering can, the sprinkler of which had twelve holes with baby ribbons of different colors coming out. At the end of each ribbon there was a tightly rolled package. The effect was lovely. The place cards were miniature "Jap" parasols with the cards tied to the handles. The candle shades were ornamented with these same tiny parasols, and a small lantern filled with candied puffed rice was at each place. The mint sherbet, which was the dessert, had smilax twined around the tall glass, with another little umbrella in the top of the glass.

An Apron Shower

An apron shower given for a bride elect proved to be a most enjoyable affair, and the little bride-to-be was delighted with her supply of aprons.

The hostess asked the guests to bring material for any kind of an apron, with their thimbles; the hours were from two

until five. On arriving, the girls were taken upstairs into a spacious room, which contained two sewing machines. There were two kitchen aprons; two of dainty white, made long to cover the best gown while preparing Sunday night tea; two work aprons with bibs and pockets; three of lawn, trimmed with ruffles and lace for serving afternoon tea, and one with sleeves. Amid merry chatter and exchange of confidences so dear to girlish hearts, the hum of the machines and flying fingers, the hours passed so rapidly that when the hostess called time as the clock struck five it was impossible to realize that ten aprons had been made and piled into a basket made by a Dutch peasant, and which henceforth was to be a market receptacle for the new housekeeper.

A maid brought in a tray containing a plate of toasted crackers with glasses of iced chocolate, and tea for those who preferred it. A plate of maple fudge (the usual accompaniment to girls' affairs) had been in circulation during the afternoon;

also a dish of salted Jumbo peanuts.

Two Linen Showers

Write notes to the guests, who should all be near friends of the bride elect; ask them to send their little linen contributions the day before the shower. The hour is usually from two until five. Tie a pretty parasol to a hook in the ceiling or suspend it between two rooms in a doorway. Pile the linen into this, and then tie a white satin ribbon on to one side, so that when pulled it will turn the things out upon the guest of honor, so it will be literally a shower. After all have arrived, get some one to play the Wedding March, and all form in line; when the bride is under the parasol the ribbon is pulled and the rest of the time is spent in admiring the gifts and reading the sentiments attached to them. For refreshments nothing is more acceptable than tea brewed in the drawing-room, with tiny cakes and dainty sandwiches, and these light refreshments do not spoil one's appetite for dinner.

Stuffed dates, candied orange peel, preserved ginger, and bonbons are always permissible accessories to an afternoon tea table.

Make heart-shaped cards out of pink cardboard, punch holes and tie pink pencils on them. Next write the transposed letters of the words of the articles in a bride's trousseau like this: "hseos," "rskit," etc. Correctly placed, these letters become "shoes" and "skirt," etc. Allow twenty minutes for this contest. Then for the "shower," hide the packages all over the rooms and make the bride elect hunt for them to music, played "loud" and "soft."

This will make no end of fun, and as each package is opened when found, it will take some time and provide ample entertainment. If the donors write an appropriate quotation it

will add much to the enjoyment of all.

A Recipe Shower

The recipe book was brought in on a tray, as the last course of a luncheon given for a recent bride. This book was purchased already illustrated with pictures of a housekeeper at her various occupations. There was ample space under each picture for the recipes which were contributed by the guests. They were sent to the hostess some days before the luncheon, and she had them put in the book by an expert letterer; then each contributor signed her own name. As far as possible favorite dishes of the bride had been selected, and she said in her far away Western home she was sure the book would bring to her more comfort and home thoughts than anything that could have been given her.

On the first page of the book this rhyme was written:

"Whatever you happen
To think of our looks,
We're sure you'll acknowledge
We're very good cooks."

This was one of the "salad" recipes:

"Two choice cuts of energy,
And eggs of hard cold cash;
Add freely oil diplomacy,
With salt of tact a dash.
Bedeck with leaves of cheerfulness,
And pepper well with nerve;
Behold your salad of success is ready;
Stir and serve."

A Miscellaneous Shower

By way of novelty this scheme probably exceeds any shower yet bestowed upon a bride elect. Twelve close friends made out a list of things very useful but often forgotten in the best regulated families and when the afternoon arrived for the farewell tea, a huge paper sack was deposited at the feet of the honored guest with the request to look in it for any thing she did n't have, or could not find. The couple were going at once to housekeeping, and the contents had been purchased with that thought in mind.

The following are some of the objects: a paper of tacks, ball of string, paper of needles, labels for bottles, box of wax matches, lead pencils, clipping scissors, tack-hammer, cork-

screw, memorandum pad, and a bottle of ink.

A Pre-Nuptial Luncheon

This charming pre-nuptial luncheon was given for a bride elect. The table was a dream. In the centre, to simulate a lake, there was an oblong mirror, surrounded with smilax and trailing vines. On this lake white swans floated, holding in their beaks streamers of narrow green ribbon, which radiated to the place of each guest. A tiny white swan stood upright on the place card. There was a small box concealed under the wing, large enough to hold the salted almonds. There was a green candle at each plate in a holder of glass. In

the beak of each swan there was a diminutive envelope, sealed with a little gold heart. The card inside bore the names of

the engaged couple.

Celery soup with chopped parsley sprinkled over the top was first served; then creamed sweetbreads in heart-shaped pastry shells, Saratoga potatoes, hot rolls, white grape and pecan nut salad, pistachio ice cream in the form of hearts with an arrow of white, and heart-shaped cakes finished this green and white luncheon. Tiny glasses of crème de menthe were served in the drawing-room. The hostess was gowned in green, with white trimmings. A very pretty feature was the crowning of the bride-to-be with a wreath of myrtle, which signified good luck. She gave each maid a pink garter, to be worn for a year, to bring success in all affairs of the heart.

An Afternoon Tea for a Bride Elect

THE hostess asked her guests, who were all intimate friends of the bride-to-be, each to bring an article used in the kitchen. When all had arrived they were served with a cup of tea, wafers were passed in a new skillet, ornamented with a huge bow of white satin ribbon. Popcorn was passed in a large brass kettle, dipped out with a poached egg lifter; bonbons were passed on tin pie plates, and fruit was eaten with kitchen paring knives. At intervals the maid appeared with all sorts of odd-shaped packages, which were delivered to the guest of honor. After this, the hostess distributed cards decorated with pictures of kitchen utensils and the word "Kitchen Quiz" on them. Inside the folds were these questions:

What a good workman has and to rent? — Skill-let.

A poet and a dog? — Poe-cur.

A vegetable and a conceited dude? — Potato-masher.

A number of mountains? — Range.

Member of a baseball nine? — Pitcher.

What men sometimes do with their money? — Sink (it).

The appearance of being ill? — Pail.

What curious people try to do? — Pump.

Novel Entertainments for

Impudence and a receptacle for pie? — Sauce-pan.

A football ground? — Gridiron.

A letter and what you are in? — B-room.

The branching of a river? — Fork. An affectionate couple? — Spoons.

What the guest of honor is about to become and what every well-regulated household needs? — Cook.

A Silhouette Party for the Bride Elect

A SILHOUETTE Party given for a bride elect was declared by the guests to be one of the most delightful and amusing affairs they had attended. Each guest was given a small square of black paper (procured at a stationer's or picture framer's) and a pair of scissors, with instructions to cut a silhouette of the bride elect performing some household duty. The subjects were: "Her First Baking Day," "Saturday She Scrubbed," "Monday at the Tub," "Tuesday She Ironed," "Thursday Is Sweeping Day," "Friday She Dusted." One of the girls posed for the amateur artists, sitting or standing as she was requested. Of course every one protested that she never could cut out anything recognizable, but the results proved the contrary. After the figures were cut out, they were pasted on white mats, given the titles they were supposed to represent, signed by the artist, and all given to the bride-to-be - a souvenir of a most delightful afternoon. When refreshments were served, the table was decorated with a baking pan which was filled with flowers; a scrubbing brush bore the guest of honor's place card; a small flatiron held her napkin down; while a miniature broom and a half-dozen cheesecloth dusters were on her chair. This was a very practical bridal shower and was much appreciated.

PERTAINING TO WEDDINGS Wedding-Day Omens

It is said — by whom no one seems to know — that if the day chosen by a girl for her wedding proves to be rainy, her

life will be filled with more sorrow than joy. Be that as it may, one of the happiest of marriages was made on Friday the thirteenth day of the month, and at the hour set for the ceremony there was a most terrific thunderstorm. In spite of the fact that for years it has been said that Saturday was the most unlucky day of the week for weddings, of late it has been selected by brides of international fame.

If the carriage containing the bride should meet a funeral procession, the driver must be instructed to turn some other way. If he does not, fate decrees that she will not long sur-

vive the wedding.

To avoid the possibility of any bad luck on her wedding day, the bride elect should not offer to assist in washing or wiping the family dishes, for if by chance she should happen to break a bit of china, it would be an exceedingly evil omen — the old record does not say what, but it would be prudent not to tempt fate.

Gray is the color a bride should choose for her going-away gown if she wishes to wear what for ages has been considered the proper thing to insure good luck. Perhaps that is the reason there has been such an unprecedented demand for gray.

When the cake known as the "groom's" is passed at a wedding supper the girl who gets the longest piece will be the first married. Maidens anxious to leave the state of single blessedness should consult the head waiter and see that the

cake is cut in irregular pieces.

Fate was certainly kind when she decreed that for a bride to shed tears on her wedding day was a good omen, for it would take a pretty stoical young woman to go through breaking home ties without a few tears, no matter how alluring the prospect of the new life.

Snow falling on a wedding day augurs well for the happy couple, being the prophecy of great happiness. That may be the reason why the winter months are so popular for marriages

From the following lists of months the bride may select

Novel Entertainments for

Married in January's hoar and rime,
Widowed you'll be before your prime.

Married in February's sleety weather, Life you'll tread in tune together.

Married when March winds shrill and roar, Your home will lie on a foreign shore.

Married 'neath April's changeful skies, A checkered path before you lies.

Married when bees o'er May blossoms flit, Strangers around your board will sit.

Married in month of roses — June — Life will be one long honeymoon.

Married in July, with flowers ablaze, Bitter-sweet mem'ries in after days.

Married in August's heat and drowse, Lover and friend in your chosen spouse.

Married in golden September's glow, Smooth and serene your life will go.

Married when leaves in October thin, Toil and hardship for you begin.

Married in veils of November mist, Fortune your wedding ring has kissed.

Married in days of December cheer, Love's star shines brighter from year to year.

Marry when the year is new, Always loving, kind, and true. When February birds do mate You may wed, nor dread your fate. If you wed when March winds blow, Joy and sorrow both you'll know. Marry in April when you can, Joy for maiden and for man. Marry in the month of May, You will surely rue the day. Marry when June roses blow, Over land and sea you'll go.

Every Day in the Year

They who in July do wed
Must labor always for their bread.
Whoever wed in August be,
Many a change are sure to see.
Marry in September's shine,
Your living will be rich and fine.
If in October you do marry,
Love will come, but riches tarry.
If you wed in bleak November
Only joy will come, remember.
When December's snows fall fast,
Marry, and true love will last.

As for the days in the week, the following jingle is almost as old as time. Every girl reads it and then of course chooses the day that best suits her convenience.

Monday for health,
Tuesday for wealth,
Wednesday the best day of all;
Thursday for losses,
Friday for crosses,
And Saturday no luck at all.

Probably nine lasses out of every ten go to the altar wearing the proverbial:

Something old, something new, Something borrowed, something blue, And a gold dollar in her shoe.

The following information will doubtless be acceptable to many readers. What the color of one's wedding gown signifies:

Married in gray, you will go far away.

Married in black, you will wish yourself back.

Married in brown, you will live out of town.

Married in red, you will wish yourself dead.

Married in pearl, you will live in a whirl.

Married in green, ashamed to be seen.

Married in yellow, ashamed of your fellow.

Married in blue, he will always be true.

Married in pink, your spirits will sink.

Married in white, you have chosen aright.

Rice at Weddings

At a wedding supper, the guests found at each plate a dainty little white basket made from spun sugar and filled with candied puffed rice, colored pink.

The question was asked why rice was always used at a wedding, and one of the guests related this pretty tradition:

In the early ages doves were symbolical of peace and happiness. A bridal party in passing along a thoroughfare so frightened these gentle birds that they flew away in alarm. To avert the bad omen which their flight signified for the newly wedded pair, rice was thrown in profusion to lure them back. The strategy was successful, and the couple were so prosperous and happy that ever since rice has been used as a symbol of good luck, peace, and plenty.

Custom of Orange Blossoms

This old custom is of Spanish origin; the legend is that a high and mighty ruler in Africa once gave an old Spanish king a flourishing orange tree whose blossoms were the admiration of all who saw them, but all begged in vain for a cutting from this wonderful tree. Most unfortunate was a foreign ambassador who wished to introduce the fragrant blossom into his own country. By accident the head gardener broke off a spray and gave it to his fascinating daughter, who placed it in her hair. The ambassador, seeing it, offered a large sum of money for her dowry if she would give him the waxen flowers. Of course she complied with the request, and on her marriage, remembering the good luck brought by the orange blossom, she secretly broke off another spray and wore it in her hair. Her example has been followed ever since by brides of all nations, who recognize the orange blossom as their especial prerogative.





TWO EXAMPLES OF EFFECTIVE DECORATION
STRAWBERRIES WITH POWDERED SUGAR—GRAPE FRUIT WITH STRAWBERRIES



A Candlelight Wedding

A CANDLELIGHT wedding was a most beautiful affair, and so appropriate for winter. The upright piano held a row of candlesticks, one high, one low, and when the candles were lit the effect was very pretty. The mantels were done the same way, and the plate rail in the dining-room. Then there were tall holders, each with a single tall candle, in the corners of the room.

The tall church candles were used, as they would burn several hours. Just before the ceremony two small boys, dressed as pages, came in with ribbon-decorated gas-lighters and lit all the candles.

The bridal party stood under an archway, and over the top fastened into the wire framework, were hundreds of small white candles.

The bridal table was decorated with a large wreath of green vines and white rosebuds, suspended by broad white ribbons about two feet from the table top. It had a circle of burning candles. The bride, of course, wore white, but the four maids were gowned in pink, and the guests said they never had seen a prettier wedding. Everything and everybody appears to good advantage by candlelight.

A Bridal Breakfast

A RECENT Boston bride carried out the wedding bell idea in a most effective manner. A cluster of five bells, made of wire and covered with ferns, were suspended over the diningroom table by white satin ribbons. The rims of the bells were of white carnations, the clappers were of white rosebuds. At each plate the guest found his name inscribed on a white card decorated with a hand-painted spray of maidenhair ferns, and in the upper left-hand corner a tiny bell was tied with a bow of white ribbon. These bells may be purchased by the dozen or hundred, and are called costume bells.

The ice cream was frozen in bell-shaped moulds, with a spray of orange blossoms at the top, and instead of the regulation square cake boxes for souvenirs, they, too, were bell-shaped, with the initials of the bride and groom in green and white tracery. The ceremony was performed under a huge veil, and the aisle was formed by a bevy of young maids who held ropes of smilax instead of the customary ribbons.

Wedding Anniversaries

First Year — Cotton.
Second Year — Paper.
Third Year — Leather.
Fifth Year — Wooden.
Seventh Year — Woollen.
Tenth Year — Tin.
Twelfth Year — Linen.
Fifteenth Year — Crsytal.
Twentieth Year — China.
Twenty-fifth Year — Silver.
Thirtieth Year — Pearl.
Fortieth Year — Ruby.
Fiftieth Year — Golden.
Seventy-fifth Year — Diamond.

The Cotton Wedding

ONE year of wedded life brings the Cotton Anniversary, and it may be made a most attractive affair. So soon after the original ceremony it will probably not be a difficult matter to arrange for a reunion of the bridal party, and this alone will make the occasion a memorable one. Send the invitations on squares of fine cotton cloth written with indelible ink.

Decorate the rooms with vines, plants, and branches. Over these put a quantity of fluffy cotton flakes. Portieres and window drapes are effective made from strips of white cotton. If cards are to be the amusement, "Hearts" is a good game, and there are so many articles in the shape of hearts which will make appropriate souvenirs and prizes. The

dining-room table may be covered with thin layers of cotton instead of a linen cover. At each place put a cotton snowball tied with ribbon, the name card tucked under the bow. Inside the ball put a tiny souvenir. The centrepiece should be a jardinière wrapped with cotton and filled with the kind of flowers that were used at the event of a year ago.

There should be a wedding cake containing a ring, a piece of money, and a thimble; all young people know the meanings of these symbols, and there will be a jolly time when the bride cuts the cake. Have the ice cream frozen in balls, tied with ribbons of spun sugar candy of the color used at the original

wedding supper.

The gifts to be given the happy pair are, of course, limited to articles made from cotton. One little bride of a year rejoiced in a generous cotton crepe kimono and the groom in a pair of pajamas. These were given by the bridal party and were sent in a huge packing box which was delivered during the party. Opening this box caused much merriment, as on each successive wrapping there was written a clever little rhyme.

The Paper Wedding

THE Paper Wedding is the second anniversary, and it may be the jolliest kind of an affair with little trouble and small expense. These occasions should be confined to the family and intimate friends and in consequence be very informal, full

of good comradeship and sincerity.

Tablecloths and napkins come in really artistic patterns and are just the thing to use, also paper flowers to decorate with and for the centrepiece. Years ago when hothouses were an almost unknown quantity except with the very rich, flowers of paper were always used, and considered the height of fashion. Doilies of lace paper come in all sizes, also paper holders for bonbons, salted nuts, and ices, so the table may be set without a bit of linen.

Have the snapping-cracker caps to put on before refresh-

ments; by having two of each color partners may be chosen. If the hostess wishes and it is practicable, the guests may be asked to come in costumes of paper. The girls can achieve most charming toilets by purchasing for a trifle the last year patterns from a modiste or a pattern maker. The men will probably have to content themselves with neckties of paper and a huge boutonnière. Portieres and window draperies made from strips of crepe paper are astonishingly pretty, especially in pink and white. To make the decorations still more papery, quantities of Japanese lanterns, parasols, and fans may be used. For amusement a game could be concocted from the flags of all nations, which are of paper and come in an envelope for the sum of ten cents. To the person guessing the most, award a prize of a box of stationery or any of the numerous articles made from paper.

The Leather Wedding

THE Leather Wedding is the third anniversary, and a dinner party is an enjoyable way to celebrate. Six or eight well-chosen guests are a good number, and the table may be made most attractive. Use one of those pretty green or brown skins in place of a cloth, with plate doilies to match. The centre-piece can be a low earthenware jar filled with flowers. For the place cards use squares of leather with the letters done in gold. Another very appropriate centrepiece would be three kid slippers, heels together, with the toes pointed out, filled with flowers.

If expense does not have to be considered, card cases for all, with the name stamped on the inside, would make exquisite place cards. From the chandelier over the table suspend three wedding bells. After the repast each guest must take a turn with the "good luck" slipper; it must be an old one, or the charm will not work. Twirl it three times around the head from left to right, make a wish, and then throw it on the floor behind the back. If it falls with the toe pointed toward

you, the wish will come true; if the heel, there is no hope of fulfilment; if it lands sideways—

"There's a good time coming. Wait a little longer."

Wooden Wedding Suggestions

Invitations for a Wooden Wedding, which is the fifth anniversary of wedded bliss, may be sent out on squares of birch bark, which takes ink or printing very well. Decorate with fresh, curly shavings, and boughs of trees, if they are procurable. The refreshment table may be most unique. For the centrepiece use a large wooden chopping bowl, filled with fruit. Put olives, bonbons, and salted nuts in little wooden dishes such as grocers use for butter. Pass wooden plates and wooden forks and spoons. At each plate have a birchbark card with the guest's name and a suitable quotation.

Serve coffee, chicken patties, with peas and mushrooms mixed with the dressing, and charlotte russe. In the top of the charlotte stick a little paper-ornamented stick such as

caterers use on lamb chops.

For amusement try a nail-pounding or a whittling contest for the ladies, and let the men dress dolls made from clothespins. Then have a small washtub filled with sawdust, out of which each guest will draw a tiny wooden box filled with wedding cake.

The Woollen Wedding

THE seventh wedding anniversary is the Woollen Wedding, and it can be made a much more enjoyable affair than the name indicates. For the table centrepiece have a large cake; if it is placed on a fern-decorated box to raise it up, the effect will be more pleasing. On the top put a doll dressed as Little Bo-Peep and a lot of tiny woolly sheep, which may be purchased for a penny apiece at a toy shop. At each place, as a souvenir for the guest, have a little sheep with a bell on a ribbon around the neck.

For amusement prepare a number of cards about seven by five inches in size; have needles and various colored worsteds ready. Tell the guests to prick any design they wish in the card and then work it with the wool after the kindergarten method. Allow a half-hour for this and then collect the finished creations and pin them up to be judged after the artists have signed their names. Award a prize for the best and one for the poorest. After the refreshments pass a huge ball of yarn to a person whom you know to be a good story-teller and request him to spin a yarn as the ball is unwound until a package is reached; then that person appropriates the "find," passes the ball to the next person, who continues the story where it was left off until he, too, is stopped by an obstacle in the ball. There are any number of small favors that may be used in making this ball.

Tiny mutton pies may form a feature of this entertainment as they are suggestive of wool. Any of the essays by Charles or Mary Lamb would be suitable for prizes; also a drawing or a framed sketch of the ever adorable "Mary" and her immortal lamb. Worsted balls such as babies love are a pretty decoration when suspended from the chandeliers and

gas jets.

The Tin Wedding

TEN years brings the Tin Wedding, and the very jolliest kind of a time may be arranged by the couple who wish to celebrate this anniversary. Invite ten guests or more, but usually the few tried and true make the most agreeable company for an informal evening. The invitations are written on cards and envelopes bound with a very narrow tin band. Now for the decorations, which are wonderfully effective in the evening when the gas is lighted. Get the tinsmith to save all his tin shavings, and wind these pretty spirals around the chandeliers; hang them as drapery from the grills, over the curtains, and every place they will hang.

At a trifling expense a wedding bell can be made of tin under

which the couple will stand to receive congratulations. A bouquet for the bride, tied with sprays of mignonette, a boutonnière for the groom, hair ornaments, also bracelets and rings, may all be made of tin. Serve refreshments from a tindecorated table.

This is a good menu to serve, and a little out of the ordinary. Creamed fish or chicken in tin patty pans, sandwiches, olives, and coffee in tin cups; small cakes ornamented with silvered candies; chocolate bonbons and cigars wrapped in tin foil. Cider or a fruit punch may be served from a punch bowl concealed in a huge tin pan; use a dipper for a ladle. In choosing partners for supper, pass tin stars, diamonds, squares, etc., which have been cut in halves. When the pieces are matched, partners are found.

The Linen Wedding

Twelve years of married life brings the Linen Wedding, and it can be made a very pretty affair. Write or print the invitations on small squares of linen or fine cotton cloth; inclose these in envelopes of paper made to represent hemstitched linen. Lanterns can be made of white tissue paper, fringed, and stripes of red paper put on to look like towels. The frames are made of wire. Hang these from wires stretched overhead, and the effect is charming. Cover chairs, sofas, couches, etc., with white, and have all portieres, draperies, and curtains of white cheese cloth. Use the finest of tablecloths in the dining-room, and white paper doilies may be purchased to resemble hemstitched linen; use these under the ice cream or sherbet glasses. Serve a white menu. Here is a suggestion:

Cream of barley soup with whipped cream
Whitefish baked in ramakins
Fried breast of chicken. Creamed potatoes
Stewed celery
Apple and almond salad on hearts of lettuce
Grape fruit sherbet
White cake, ornamented with almonds
Lemon ice.

The hostess wears a gown of white linen, and for this occasion the host dons a white linen outing suit. White parasols, opened and suspended by white ribbon, add to the decorations, and they can also be fastened over divans, making fine *tête-à-tête* corners. Light the rooms with white candles and have the gas turned low.

The Crystal Wedding

THE Crystal Wedding day comes fifteen years after the date of the original ceremony, and is one of the very prettiest of all the anniversaries. The invitations may be written or painted upon sheets of thin, transparent celluloid, which is a very good substitute for glass, inclosing these cards in the regulation cream-colored envelope. It is best to have a reception with hours in the afternoon and evening, if there are to be many guests. The dining-room may be made most attractive by keeping everything in white, spreading a canvas on the floor, using glass candlesticks and white candles, with the daintiest of white shades. A pretty decoration is to have a large, hand-somely ornamented cake in the centre of the table, surrounded by fifteen candles. Scatter bride roses over the cloth, or white sweet peas.

The tiny glass icicles for Christmas tree decorations are just the thing for an affair of this kind. Suspended from the chandeliers and gas jets, they catch and reflect the light in a most fascinating manner. In serving, glass must be used wherever possible. In Austria coffee is served in glass cups, and so the fashion could be introduced here on an occasion like this. Of course the bonbons, salted nuts, and olives will be in glass receptacles. In place of loaf sugar, substitute rock candy crystals in a cut-glass bowl. If the hostess is the owner of any lamps or candlesticks with glass pendants, this is the

time to bring them out.

If expense does not have to be considered, the tiny mirrors in metal settings would be charming souvenirs or place cards, the name written on the glass in red ink. A programme of wedding music would be an addition to this reception. As for the gifts to be given, there is an endless variety from which to select. Articles for the desk, the toilet, and the table come in exquisite forms and colorings.

The China Wedding

When the twentieth anniversary comes, the average housekeeper is in need of having her china replenished, so it is a very acceptable anniversary to celebrate. The invitations may be issued bearing the date of the original ceremony and the present date. If possible use china candlesticks, tiny china bowls to hold salted nuts for souvenirs, and then have a musical programme. Or the affair may assume a Chinese character, doing everything à la chinoise, as far as practicable, — decorating with Chinese lanterns, using chopsticks, Chinese spoons, etc. Chinese flags may be obtained for use in decorating. Red should be the predominating color scheme, as to the Chinese it is symbolical of life, love, joy, and hope. Yellow is the imperial color, and the dragon a favorite emblem. Candied puffed rice could figure among the bonbons, and chop suey be served in small blue bowls.

The entertainment would certainly be unique and dif-

ferent from a formal reception.

While it is a debatable question what real "chop suey" is actually made of, we know that it was originally constructed from bamboo twigs stewed with meat. This recipe makes an adequate substitute: Cut a pound and a half of steak from the round into pieces about a finger in length and an inch wide; put in two medium-sized onions, and stew for two hours. Add a good-sized bunch of celery cut into bits and cook for twenty minutes more. Thicken with a little flour and serve inside a ring of boiled rice. See also page 206.

The Silver Wedding

If the purse will admit, have the invitations engraved in silver to announce to the guests the celebration of a quarter of

a century of wedded life. This is an occasion when friends rejoice to participate in the pleasure of offering their love and

congratulations.

The combination of rose color with silver is a very pleasing one and may be carried out in dining and reception rooms. A centrepiece of pink roses with pink candles in silver holders, the shades of frosted silver paper, would make an ideal table. Use side dishes of silver filled with bonbons wrapped in silver paper, nuts, olives, etc. Chains made of silver paper may radiate from the overhead lamp to the corners of the table with good effect. In the same way a canopy may be arranged under which the couple will stand to receive the best wishes of their friends. With pink ribbon, silver paper, and vines, a bower of beauty may be constructed on a framework of wire.

Hang silver bells from doors and archways, or make them

of green with silver rims and clappers

If possible have an original poem read, with letters from absent friends. A programme of the songs popular twenty-five years ago would be an addition to the evening, and if the bride could wear her wedding gown it would add to the sentiment. If not she should choose a lovely gray costume of silk or some thin material, and carry pink roses or violets; both are lovely with pale gray.

Serve the ice cream in cases representing silver bells; and the place cards may be the same shape, bearing the date of

the wedding and the present date.

The Pearl, Ruby, and Diamond Anniversaries are seldom celebrated, but if any one wishes to observe the first two the details should be carried out along the lines of those already mentioned. A couple who are so fortunate as to see the dawn of the seventy-fifth anniversary should surely have the most beautiful diamond affair that could be devised by friends and relatives. The interested pair should be spared every detail and allowed to enjoy to the utmost such a rare occasion.

The Golden Wedding

THE fiftieth anniversary of the wedding day is certainly worthy of observation, especially in this day and generation, where the ties of matrimony seem to bind so lightly. The invitations are engraved in gold letters; the hours are from eight to eleven. Decorate the room with quantities of yellow tulips, jonquils, carnations of the same gorgeous hue, and yellow roses. There should be an abundance of yellow candles in holders of brass and gilt; in the dining-room all shades on candle lamps and gas jets should be of pale yellow. Cover the table with a lace spread over yellow, and for a centrepiece have fifty golden roses in a brass flower-holder. Wrap the bonbons in gilt paper and frost the cakes with the yolks of eggs instead of the whites; the ice cream may be frozen eggnog, moulded into rose shape with the stem of artificial leaves. Have a wedding cake for the honored bride to cut as she did fifty years ago; around it place fifty small candles, and ask some of the guests to be prepared to give a toast or sentiment as the candles are extinguished. A delightful feature of the affair would be to have letters from the guests who were present at the original ceremony to be read on this occasion.

At the dinner preceding the reception, when only the relatives and intimate friends are present, give the happy pair a gift of gold pieces, as many as circumstances will permit. This may be done in a most clever manner by having the florist make a ball of wire in two parts, cover it with ferns and flowers, and suspend in a doorway; place the couple under this, and two little grandchildren will pull the ribbons; the ball will open, literally showering the money, each piece being done up in yellow cotton. Have an orchestra play old-time selections. Or if this is not practicable, some one can be asked to

sing a number of old-time favorites.

CHAPTER XVII.—TOASTS AND SENTI-MENTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

In ancient days the loving cup was used, and toasts were drunk on all occasions when friends met for social intercourse around the board. In this large cup of wine there was often a square of toasted bread; as the cup went the rounds each guest took a sip, made a wish, or expressed some pleasing sentiment; and when the cup reached the host he finished the contents and ate the toast in honor of all the assembled party. The Romans drank to each other's good health, saying, "I drink your health"; the Greek said, "I salute you, be happy."

In these modern times, nothing adds more to the pleasure

of an affair than well-selected and appropriate toasts.

FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light,
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Here 's good cheer all the year Where friendship doth the dish endear.

Fear not the future, weep not for the past.

Here 's to the days that have fled; Old friends, old wine, old memories. Drink to the joys that are dead!

Welcome ever smiles, And farewell goes out sighing.

God keep thee, dear, through all the years, Through all the joys, the sorrows, tears Of life — its commonplaces, too, God keep thee sweet, and brave, and true.

Amid the doubts and fears that rise In every life — the mysteries, Things that are hard to understand, The movings of a mystic hand, God keep thy reason sound and sure, Thy mind alert, thy heart still pure. God keep thee always — this I pray For thee, upon this New Year's Day.

To the days of Auld Lang Syne, To the things we know no more.

Years, following years, steal something every day; At last they steal us from ourselves away.

Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest.

When you have seen a year, you have seen all — the show but recommences. Check up your balance-sheet with life, not by the calendar but by your achievements.

The new year brings nothing new or different; life is reckoned not by the milestones of time, but by the breath of experience and growth of character.

He most lives who thinks most, feels most, loves most, hopes most, works most, reads most, understands most. The passing of the years is of no account, chronologically, in the history of the human soul. The child is often father of the man.

The time to make new resolutions is all the time; a new year commences with every day of our lives.

Ring out the old, ring in the new; Ring, happy bells, across the snow! The year is going, let him go. Ring out the false, ring in the true.

May you live to love, and love to live, And what you get to freely give; But as you live each passing day, Don't love to give poor Time away.

Here 's a health to the future, A sigh for the past; We can love and remember And love to the last.

Novel Entertainments for

He who takes good care of the days, need give himself no worry over the year.

Good luck to you, my friend!
Success attend
The New Year through.
Whate'er you plan to do,
Or enterprise pursue,
Good luck, good luck to you!

I send you my good wishes
And speed them on their way,
And trust that you are spending
The happiest New Year's Day.

Here 's to the girl that 's good and sweet,
Here 's to the girl that 's true,
Here 's to the girl that rules my heart —
In other words, here 's to you.

Here 's to the prettiest, here 's to the wittiest,
Here 's to the truest of all who are true,
Here 's to the neatest one, here 's to the sweetest one,
Here 's to them all in one — here 's to you.

The world is filled with flowers,
The flowers are filled with dew,
The dew is filled with love
For you, and you, and you.

Love is a deep well from which you may drink often, but into which you may fall but once.

Good-morrow, Valentine, God bless you ever; If you'll be true to me I'll be the like to thee.

My Valentine's an artful maiden; She has eyes of deepest blue, And whene'er I call to see her, She exclaims, "Why, is it you?"

Here 's to one that I love,
And here 's to one who loves me,
And here 's to all true lovers
Wherever they may be.

What is the meaning of the song
That rings so clear and loud,
Thou nightingale amid the copse —
Thou lark above the cloud?
What says thy song, thou joyous thrush
Up in the walnut tree?
"I love my love because I know
My love loves me."

I arise from dreams of thee,
And a spirit in my feet
Has led me — who knows how —
To thy chamber window, sweet.

My heart is red,
Your eyes are blue;
My love for you
Is sweet and true.

Give me your heart
To mate with mine;
I'll be your love,
Your Valentine.

Sing a song of love-words, a pocket full of hours, Four and twenty Cupids, hidden in the flowers, When the flowers were opened, dazzled eyes were mine. Was n't that a lovely sight to greet for Valentine?

FOR WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

Oh! well and bravely has he done the work he found to do, To justice, freedom, God, and man, his heart was ever true.

And thus he bore without abuse The grand old name of gentleman.

To Washington and his little axe, A toast we now demand; So let 's admire who tells the truth, With a sharp axe in his hand.

The boundaries of our country: East by the Rising Sun; north by the North Pole; west by all Creation; and south, by the Day of Judgment.

Here 's to the American Eagle: The liberty-bird that permits no liberties.

Novel Entertainments for

The American Eagle — The older he grows, the louder he screams and the higher he flies.

To the memory of George Washington, the childless father of seventy millions.

A sweeter and a lovelier gentleman Fram'd in the prodigality of Nature, Young, valiant, wise, and, no doubt, right royal, The spacious world cannot again afford.

Such is the patriot's boast, where'er we roam,—His first, best country ever is at home.

WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL TO HIS OFFICERS

"With a heart full of love and gratitude I now take my leave of you, most devoutly wishing that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable."

Then join in hand, brave Americans all; By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall.

FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Come back to Erin, mavourneen, mavourneen; Come back again to the land of thy birth.

The Emerald Isle -- May her sons and daughters resemble a field of potatoes in full bloom, beautiful to look upon; and when called on to assist the distressed, may they, like the roots, prove a real blessing to the poor.

Success attend St. Patrick's fist,
For he 's a saint so clever;
Oh! he gave the snakes and toads a twist,
He banished them forever.

Shoots up, with dewdrops streaming,
As softly green as emerald seen,
Through purest crystal gleaming,
Oh, the Shamrock, the green immortal Shamrock!
Chosen leaf of bard and chief,
Old Erin's native Shamrock!

Dear Shamrock of Erin, so sacred and green, Though ages of sorrow thy past years have seen; From childhood's bright morning to manhood's decline Thy leaflet we wear o'er our hearts ever thine.

Every Day in the Year

Here 's to mavourneen and Erin-go-bragh!
The Dutch make the beer, but I uphold the law.
The Germans are all right in war and in peace,
But, b'gorry! it takes the Irish to make good police.

Ireland — St. Patrick destroyed its creeping things of other days — may his disciples speedily exterminate the political reptiles of the present age.

Come in the evening, or come in the morning, Come when you are looked for, or come without warning, A thousand welcomes you will find here before you, And the oftener you come here the more I'll adore you.

FOR APRIL: APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

The children with the streamlets sing
When April stops at last her weeping;
And every happy growing thing
Laughs like a babe just roused from sleeping.

Golden and snowy and red the flowers, Golden, snowy, and red; in vain Robins call robins through sad showers, The white dove's feet are wet with rain.

I love the season well
When the forest glades are teeming with bright forms,
Nor dark and many-folded clouds foretell
The coming-on of storms.

When proud-pied April, dressed in all his trim Hath put a spirit of youth in everything.

Well-apparelled April on the heel Of limping Winter treads.

Every tear is answered by a blossom,
Every sigh with songs and laughter blent;
Apple blooms upon the breezes toss them,
April knows her own, and is content.

'T is the month before the month of May, And the Spring comes slowly up this way.

In that soft season when descending showers Call forth the greens, and wake the rising flowers; When opening buds salute the welcome day, And earth relenting feels the genial ray.

'T is Springtime on the eastern hills!
Like torrents gush the Summer rills
Through Winter's moss and dry dead leaves
The bladed grass revives and lives,
Pushes the mouldering waste away,
And glimpses to the April day.

I know a bank where the wild thyme blows, Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows.

FOR GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER

One a penny, two a penny, Two a penny buns, One a penny, two a penny, Hot-cross buns.

A carol on Easter morning, From the throat of a brown-winged bird! A song of trust in the Father Who, heeding the sparrow's fall, Will tenderly care for all.

Is there a heart that loves the Spring Their witness can refuse? Yet mortals doubt when angels bring From Heaven their Easter news.

May the glad dawn
Of Easter morn
Bring holy joy to thee!
May the calm eve
Of Easter leave
A peace divine with thee!

Every little buried bud
Into life He raises;
Every wild flower of the woods
Chants the dear Lord's praises.

Chant! the Lord is risen again, Christ hath broken every chain. Hark! Angelic voices cry Singing evermore on high.

The Easter lilies tall and slight
With golden antlers gleaming,
Within their waxen bosoms white
Of holy things are dreaming,
And stirring softly, say apart,
"Blessed are the pure in heart."

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.

Bells in the steeples, your sweetest ring!
Children, your chorusing voices raise!
Lilies, your multitude censers swing!
Hearts reunited, exult in praise!
Sing jubilates! Faith's loyal band
Enters the gates of the Easter-land.

FOR MAY DAY

Of all the daughters of the year,
There 's none her equal, none her peer,
Nor one so beauteous, fair, and gay
As laughing, joyous, merry May.

For lo! the Winter is past,
The rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear on the earth;
The time of the singing of birds is come,
And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.

The butterfly springs on its new-born wings,

The dormouse starts from his wintry sleeping;
The flowers of earth find a second birth,

To light and life from darkness leaping.

In the Spring a fuller crimson comes upon the robin's breast; In the Spring the wanton lapwing gets himself another crest; In the Spring a livelier iris changes on the burnished dove; In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love.

> Daisies pied and violets blue, And lady-smocks all silver-white, And cuckoo-buds of yellow hue.

FOR JUNE

Oh, my luve is like a red, red rose, That 's newly sprung in June; Oh, my luve is like the melodie That 's sweetly played in tune.

The daisies' eyes are a-twinkle With happy tears of dew.

I know the way she went
Home with her maiden posy,
For her feet have touched the meadows
And left the daisies rosy.

The daisy, by the shadow that it casts, Protects the lingering dewdrop from the sun.

The queen of the year has come. Hail to thee, June! Sweet mistress mine.

Hark! she is here —'t is the rosy-faced June Striking the harp to her merriest tune.

June, brightest of the Summer months of flowers.

With sunny smiles and shadowy tears The soft, young June day now appears.

Welcome, bright June, and all its smiling hours, With songs of birds and stir of leaves and wings.

What is so rare as a day in June?

June, bonnie June, I but love thee the more That, evermore smiling, thou sunshine dost bring.

Now good-bye to the books, for our teachers shall be Just the hills and the trees and the glorious sea. In the sunshine of June who so happy as we?

Beautiful June! Sunshiny June! The earth and the air are in perfect attune, Singing to welcome thee, beautiful June.

FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY

The Russian — Here 's to the Stars and Bars of Russia, that were never pulled down.

The Turk — Here 's to the Moon of Turkey whose wings were never

clipped.

The Frenchman—Here 's to the Cock of France, whose feathers were never picked.

The American — Here 's to the Stars and Stripes of America, never

trailed in defeat.

The Englishman — Here 's to the rampin', roarin' Lion of Great Britain, that tore down the Stars and Bars of Russia, clipped the wings of Turkey, picked the feathers off the Cock of France, and ran like hell from the Stars and Stripes of the United States of America.

To the Stars and Stripes, To the land of our birth, The American girl— The best things on earth.

Our Flag — Let it rise, let it rise, till it meet the sun in his coming; let the earliest light of the morning gild it, and the parting day linger and play on its summit.

Thy spirit, Independence, let me share,
Lord of the lion heart and eagle eye,
Thy steps I follow with my bosom bare,
Nor heed the storm that howls along the sky.

'T is the star-spangled banner; Oh, long may it wave O'er the land of the free And the home of the brave!

America, half brother of the world, With something good and bad of every land.

Independence now, and Independence forever.

Thou too, sail on, O Ship of State, Sail on, O Union strong and great. Humanity with all its fears, With all the hopes of future years, Is hanging breathless on thy fate.

Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.

The Fourth of July — like oysters, It cannot be enjoyed without crackers.

Here 's health to Columbia, the pride of the earth, The Stars and Stripes — drink the land of our birth! Toast the army and navy, who fought for our cause, Who conquered and won us our freedom and laws.

The Red, White, and Blue — The emblems of love, purity, and fidelity — May the symbol be as highly and as unanimously worshipped as the colors of our country's flag.

QUOTATIONS FOR AN AUTUMN LUNCHEON

God's love and peace be with thee Wheresoe'er this soft autumnal air Lifts the dark tresses of thy hair.

Under a spreading chestnut tree The village smithy stands.

Tall oaks from little acorns grow.

Thy children like olive plants round about thy table.

And every shepherd tells his tale Under the hawthorn in the dale.

> They led the vine To wed her elm.

But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig-tree.

Under the shady roof Of branching elm, star proof.

The beams of our house are cedar, and our rafters of fir.

From haunted spring and dale, Edged with poplar pale.

And variable as the shade By the light quivering aspen made.

But on and up; where Nature's heart Beats strong amid the hills.

Go forth under the open sky, and list To Nature's teachings.

Nature never did betray The heart that loved her.

FOR HALLOWE'EN

Fresh-dawning Hallow-eve! Sweet, new-old Hallow-eve! For what thou wert, for what thou art, Thrice welcome, Hallow-eve!

O heavens, that one might read the book of fate And see the revolutions of the times!

Oh, could we lift the future's sable shroud!

Fortune is merry, And in this mood will give us anything.

'T is the sunset of life gives me mystical lore, And coming events cast their shadows before.

This day we fashion Destiny, our web of Fate we spin.

Who can answer where any road leads to?

There swims no goose so gray But soon or late She finds some honest gander For her mate.

This is the fairy land. O spite of spites, We talk with goblins, owls, and elvish sprites.

The iron tongue of midnight hath told twelve.

Hang sorrow! care will kill a cat, And therefore let 's be merry!

F'r the Gobble-uns 'll git you, ef you don't watch out.

When the stars shoot,
And the owls hoot,
And bats fly in and out;
When the fire burns blue,
And the candle too,
Witches are about.

'T is now the very witching time of night.

Frame your mind to mirth and merriment, Which bars a thousand harms, and lengthens life.

FOR THANKSGIVING

O dear old dull November,
They don't speak well of you;
They say your winds are chilling,
Your skies are seldom blue.
What if you're dull a trifle,
Or just a little gray?
If not for you we'd never have
Dear old Thanksgiving Day.

To our national birds —
The American Eagle,
The Thanksgiving Turkey:
May one give us peace in all our States —
And the other a piece for all our plates.

Cheerful looks make every dish a feast.

Small cheer and great welcome Makes a merry feast.

Reflect upon your present blessings — of which every man has many; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.

The waning year grows brown and gray and dull, And poets sing November, bleak and sere; But from the bounteous garnered harvest store, With grateful hearts we draw Thanksgiving cheer.

Not what we give, but what we share, For the gift without the giver is bare; Who gives himself with his alms feeds three,— Himself, his hungering neighbor, and Me.

Here 's to the memory of the man
Who owned the land
That raised the corn
That fed the goose
That bore the quill
That made the pen
That wrote the Declaration of Independence.

Our arms, your defence; Your arms, our recompense. Fall in!

Every Day in the Year

Our opinion on the Eastern question: We agree with Russia that Turkey ought to be gobbled.

The health of our venerable host: Although an American citizen, he is one of the best Grand Seigniors that ever presided over Turkey.

Thanksgiving: The magnetic festival that brings back erratic wanderers to the old folks at home.

The Thanksgiving board: While it groans with plenty within, who cares for the whistling of the wind without?

Thanksgiving: The religious and social festival that converts every family mansion into a family meeting-house.

FOR CHRISTMAS

The happy sounds of Christmas-tide Are heard again by all, Old customs of the countryside, With carols in the hall.

Why do the bells of Christmas ring? Why do little children sing? Once a lovely shining star, Seen by shepherds from afar, Gently moved until its light Made a manger's cradle bright, There a darling baby lay, Pillowed soft upon the hay; And its mother sung and smiled: "This is Christ, the holy Child." Therefore bells for Christmas ring, Therefore little children sing.

What shall I wish you? That you drink to-day A draught divine, Of some longed-for joy, Life's choicest wine? Nay, I will wish that Whate'er is best May come to make your Christmas blest.

At Christmas play and make good cheer, For Christmas comes but once a year.

Now I am in a holiday humor.

Be merry all, be merry all,
With holly dress the festive hall,
Prepare the song, the feast, the ball,
To welcome Merry Christmas!

Christmas bells, ringing clear, Bless this season of the year; Ringing loud, ringing low Over fields all white with snow; Ringing low, ringing loud Where gay flowers bloom in a crowd. Christmas bells everywhere Peace and sweet good-will declare.

Frame your mind to mirth and merriment.

GRANDMOTHER — Dear, near, and true — No truer Time himself can make you.

GRANDFATHER — Peace on earth to gentlemen.

MOTHER — Happy we with such a mother.

FATHER — His dining-room is long and wide Good man! Good man!

BIG SISTER — And if any painter drew her, He would paint her unaware

With a halo round the hair.

Heap on more wood! The wind is chill, But let it whistle as it will, We'll keep our Christmas merry still.

May peace, good health, and mirth allied Make very bright your Christmas-tide.

By a beautiful road our Christmas comes,
A road full twelve months long,
And every mile is as warm as a smile,
And every hour is a song.
Flower and flake and cloud and sun,
And the winds that riot and sigh,
Have their work to do ere the dreams come true
And Christmas glows in the sky.

The holly and cedar and mistletoe,

They thrilled when the nights were chill,

For the maiden's glance and the madcap dance
And the lover's foot on the sill.

For the Christmas mirth the brave pine grew,

Serene and straight and tall,

The deep woods knew in their hush and dew

When the dearest of days would fall.

Here 's a health to every one; Peace on earth, and heaven won.

FOR FRIENDSHIP

So long as we love we serve; so long as we are loved by others I would almost say that we are indispensable; and no man is useless while he has a friend.

You must come home with me and be my guest; You will give joy to me, and I will do All that is in my power to honor you.

A long life and a happy one; A good business and a successful one; A firm friend and a faithful one; A swift death and a peaceful one; And God's face beyond.

May friendship, like wine, improve as time advances, And may we always have old wine, old friends, and young cares.

> Keep thy friend Under thy own life's key.

Friendship is a sheltering tree.

I would be friends with you and have your love.

Here's to our friends, whom we like to be free with us In the way of advice (if their counsels agree with us).

A friend is worth all hazards we can run.

FRIENDSHIP — It improves happiness and abates misery by the doubling of our joy and the dividing of our grief.

FOR THE NEW HOME

Hail, guest! We ask not what thou art: If friend, we greet thee, hand and heart; If stranger, such no longer be; If foe, our love shall conquer thee.

East or west, home is best.

A man's home is his castle.

Home is the resort of love, of joy, of peace.

Our house is ever at your service.

The ornament of a house is the guests who frequent it.

FOR THE FAMILY LIVING-ROOM Oh, ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord.

God has given us this ease.

Seek thine own ease.

No place is more delightful than one's own fireside.

To be honest, to be kind, to earn a little and to spend a little less, to make upon the whole the family happier for his presence, to renounce when that shall be necessary and not be embittered, to keep a few friends, but these without capitulation; above all, on the same grim condition to keep friends with himself.

FOR THE LIBRARY
Old wood to burn,
Old friends to trust,
Old authors to read.

There is an art of reading.

The monuments of vanished minds.

Infinite riches in a little room.

FOR THE NURSERY God rest ye, little children.

A child in the house is a well-spring of pleasure.

FOR THE MUSIC ROOM

The hidden soul of harmony.

Music, the speech of the angels.

Of all the arts, great music is the art To raise the soul above all earthly storms.

FOR THE BEDCHAMBER

MORNING PRAYER — The day returns and brings us the petty round of irritating concerns and duties: Help us to play the man, help us to perform them with laughter and kind faces; let cheerfulness abound with industry. Give us to go blithely on our business all the day; bring us to our resting beds weary and content and undishonored; and grant us in the end the gift of sleep.

Evening Prayer — We beseech Thee, Lord, to behold us with favor. Be patient still; suffer us a while longer to endure, and, if it may be, help us to do better. Bless to us our extraordinary mercies. Be with our friends; be with ourselves. Go with each of us to rest; if any awake, temper to them the dark hours of watching; and when the day returns to us, call us up with morning faces and with morning hearts — eager to labor; eager to be happy, if happiness shall be our portion; and if the day be marked for sorrow, strong to endure it.

Now I lay me down to sleep; I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to keep. Thy love be with me through the night, And bless me with the morning light.

Rose dreamed she was a lily;
Lily dreamed she was a rose;
Robin dreamed he was a sparrow;
What the owl dreamed goodness knows.
But they all woke up together
As happy as could be,
Said each one. "You're lovely, neighbor;
But I'm very glad I'm me."

Sleep sweet within this quiet room, O thou, whoe'er thou art, Nor let no mournful yesterday Disturb thy quiet heart.

Nor let to-morrow scare thy rest
With dreams of coming ill;
Thy Maker is thy changeless Friend,
His love surrounds thee still.

Forget thyself and all the world,
Put out each feverish light,
The stars are shining overhead;
Sleep sweet! Good-night, good-night!

And so I find it well to come
For deeper rest to this still room;
For here the habit of the soul
Feels less the outer world's control,
And from the silence, multiplied
By these still forms on every side,
The world that time and sense has known
Falls off and leaves us, God, alone.

OVER THE FRONT DOOR

Farewell goes out sighing, Welcome ever smiles.

OVER A HALL FIREPLACE

The Lord keep thee in thy going out and coming in!

Be kind to every mortal,
But yet select a few
To bear the name of friendship
And tread the road with you.

And you will find that living Is not a dreary bore,
And life has many blessings
You did not know before.

Home-keeping hearts are the happiest,

Hear no evil; see no evil; speak no evil.

The world is so full of a number of things I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.

Home is the resort Of love, of joy, of peace and plenty; where, Supporting and supported, polished friends And dear relations mingle into bliss.

There are loyal hearts, there are spirits brave There are souls that are pure and true, Then give to the world the best you have, And the best shall come back to you.

Every Day in the Year

Give love, and love to your heart will flow, A strength in your utmost need; Have faith, and a score of hearts will show Their faith in your word and deed.

For life is the mirror of king and slave.
'T is just what you are and do;
Then give to the world the best you have
And the best will come back to you.

In the effort to appreciate various forms of greatness, let us not underestimate the value of a simply good life. Just to be good: to keep life pure from degrading elements, to make it constantly helpful in little ways to those who are touched by it, to keep one's spirit always sweet, and avoid all manner of petty anger and irritability — that is an ideal as noble as it is difficult.

It may be proved, with much certainty, that God intends no man to live in this world without working, but it seems no less evident that he intends every man to be happy in his work. It was written: "By the sweat of thy brow," but it was never written: "By the breaking of thy heart."

I shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Something to do, Some one to love, Something to hope for.

We may laugh and jest,
With a pleasant zest,
To the fellow we meet each day,
But we cruelly test,
The friend loved best,
By the words we never say.

A wife congenial to the soul,
A little cash to pay for coal,
A book, a pipe, a fire warm,
A little house to 'scape the storm,
And trust that when at last we die
We reap our sowing — now good-bye.

Here 's a motto just your fit, Laugh a little bit. When you think you've trouble hit, Laugh a little bit. Look misfortune in the face,

Brave the beldam's rude grimace; Ten to one 't will yield its place If you have the wit and grit Just to laugh a little bit.

Cherish this as sacred writ,
Laugh a little bit.
Keep it with you, sample it,
Laugh a little bit.
Little ills will sure betide you,
Fortune may not sit beside you,
Men may knock and fame deride you,
But you'll mind them not a whit
If you laugh a little bit.

FOR THE BRIDE ELECT

Here 's to Love, a thing so divine,
Description makes it but the less.
'T is what we feel but cannot define,
'T is what we know but cannot express.

Two people that we know are going to be married.

There 's not a joy in all the world you will not find within her.

To know her was to love her.

Whatever things be sweet or fair, Love made them so.

And in that twilight hush, God drew their hearts Indissolubly close. For what is love But his most perfect weaving?

May flowers deck your way, sweet, And friends hold close and fast; May the future be so bright, sweet, You may never think of the past. Here 's a health to the future, A sigh for the past, We can love and remember And love to the last.

A good wife and health Are a man's best wealth.

What 's a table richly spread Without a woman at its head?

A perfect woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and command.

FOR DINNERS AND MENU CARDS

Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere.

They eat, they drink, and in communion sweet Quaff immortality and joy.

A night we'll feast together.

Bear welcome in your eye, your hand, your heart.

Now, good digestion wait on appetite and health on both.

Sit down and feed, and welcome to our table.

Let them be welcome then; we are prepared.

A good digestion to you all; and once more I shower a welcome on ye; welcome all.

I am glad to see you; much good it do your heart.

Better cheer may you have, but not with better heart.

Good sister, let us dine and never fret.

FOR BRIDAL DINNERS

To a newly married host: We drink to the undying happiness of our host, the luckiest man in all the world. May he always know the bliss of a lover and never the cares of a husband; may his wedded state be an endless love story without a prosaic passage; may life now be a poem, a song, a jubilate, with never a dirge between its morn and its midnight. A long life to him! And may the happiness of the one who brings all these good things into his life be forever unclouded.

Drink, my jolly lads, drink with discerning, Wedlock's a lane where there is no turning. Never was owl more blind than a lover, Drink and be merry, lads, half-seas over.

Here 's to the heart, though another's it be; Here 's to the cheeks, though they bloom not for me.

For the bride's card: — The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her.

For the bridegroom: - 'T is a lucky day, boy.

TOASTS FOR THE BRIDAL DINNER

Drink a toast to Cupid and to his captive trains, May he ne'er desert them, nor break their golden chains.

Around the bride's unclouded brow The orange wreath we twine, And drink her health as low we bow In sacramental wine.

Love is not love which alters when it alteration finds, Or bends with the remover to remove.

I take you as a gift that God has given; And I love you.

And all hearts do pray God love her, Aye and always, in good sooth, We may all be sure he doth.

Here's to the man with his heart in his hand And the woman who will not resign, Who sticks to her hero on sea or on land, Loves honor and flowers and wine.

May life's cloudless sunshine lighten, All your coming days, And contentment bless and brighten, All your future ways.

FOR A MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

The music in my heart I bore Long after it was heard no more.

Every Day in the Year

Music as an accomplishment refines and enhances the social life, by elevating and sustaining the emotional nature.

Here will we sit and let the sound of music Creep in our ears.

The whispering air Sends inspirations from the mountain heights.

Of all the arts beneath the heaven That man has found or God has given, None draws the soul so sweet away As music's melting, mystic lay.

Melody is the life-blood of music.

A poet's work consists in what he leaves to the imagination.

Hush! the clear song wells forth; now flows along Music, as if poured artless from the breast; Deep, strong, it seizes on the swelling heart, Scorning what knows not to call down the tear.

And the night shall be filled with music, And the cares that infest the day Shall fold their tents like the Arabs, And as silently steal away.

To the true artist music should be a necessity, and not an occupation; he should not manufacture music, he should live in it.

> The finest taste, The deepest feeling, The most delicate ear. An excellent musician.

FOR VARIOUS OCCASIONS

May you never grow older, may each year hence be subtracted from your age now, and so keep you on the sunny side until the end of time.

At your age you should be careful.

May you grow younger each birthday.

A drink to the man who has gained a year to-day, a man of worth.

May you enter heaven late.

Show us how divine a thing A woman may be made.

Gentle and true, simple and kind was she, Noble of mien, with gracious speech to all.

The mildest manners, and the gentlest heart.

True to the kindred points of heaven and home.

The sweetest garland to the sweetest maid.

She is pretty to walk with, And witty to talk with.

She moves a goddess and she looks a queen.

Ah, you flavor everything; you are the vanilla of society.

Her voice was ever soft, Gentle and low, an excellent thing in woman.

Mistress of herself though china fall.

She was a phantom of delight.

Be to her virtues very kind; Be to her faults a little blind.

Blessings be about you, dear, wherever you may go.

The "favorite stream" is the stream we tell about. We fish in another one.

Never weigh the big fish story — the scales may be found wanting.

A wise plan, like salt salmon, should soak a good while.

Let the world slide, let the world go, A fig for care and a fig for woe.

Gold that buys health can never be ill spent Nor hours laid out in harmless merriment.

Thy eternal summer shall not fade.

Be wise;

Soar not too high to fall, but stoop to rise.

Of all sad words of tongue or pen, The saddest are these — it might have been.

Every Day in the Year

Be not the first by whom the new is tried, Nor yet the last to lay the old aside.

Honor and shame from no condition rise; Act well your part; there all the honor lies.

The mouse that always trusts to one poor hole Can never be a mouse of any soul.

'T is education forms the common mind; Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined.

There is a tide in the affairs of men Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune.

There 's a divinity that shapes our ends, Rough-hew them how we will.

The evil that men do lives after them: The good is oft interred with their bones.

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; learn to live, And by his ways reform thine own.

At thirty man suspects himself a fool; Knows it at forty, and reforms his plan.

You've each made your toast
To the one you love most;
You've filled up your bumpers together;
You've sworn love anew
And you've vowed to be true
And merry in all kinds of weather.
But I now take the floor
To pledge you one more,

Then fill up the glass
And let the toast pass,
I drink to the health of my mother.

You'll drink it, I'm sure, if no other.

An excellent man, for is not a man judged by the company he keeps?

A truer, nobler, trustier heart, More loving or more loyal, never beat Within a human breast.

To those who know thee not, no words can paint! And those who know thee, know all words are faint!

Novel Entertainments for

Have a heart with room for every joy.

O, why has happiness so short a day?

'T is pleasant through the loopholes of retreat To peep at such a world; to see the stir Of the Great Babel and not feel the crowd.

Here 's a toast to all who are here,
No matter where you're from:
May the best day you have seen
Be worse than your worst to come.

Woman—The fairest work in all creation. The edition is large, and no man should be without a copy.

If man has won fame in this world, A woman helped him win it; If you will look up all the facts You'll find a woman in it.

Babies — We have n't all had the good fortune to be ladies; we have not all been generals, or poets, or statesmen; but when the toast works down to the babies, we stand on common ground — for we've all been babies.

For a little Woman:

And as within the little rose you find the richest dyes, And in the little grain of gold much price and value lies, As from a little balsam much odor doth arise, So in a little woman there's a taste of Paradise.

A peppercorn is very small, but seasons every dinner More than all other condiments, although 't is sprinkled thinner; Just so a little woman is, if Love will let you win her.

> Have communion with few, be familiar with one, Deal justly with all, speak evil of none.

> It's easy enough to be pleasant
> When life flows along like a song;
> But the man worth while is the man with a smile
> When everything goes dead wrong.

Here is your goot healdth und your family's goot healdth, und may you all live long und brosper.

Be bright and jovial among your guests to-night.

Here 's to woman, the source of all our bliss.

There 's a foretaste of heaven for us in her kiss;
But from queen on her throne to maid in her dairy,
They 're all alike in one respect — contrary.

Who comes to eat of salt with you Gets many a lump of sweetness too.

Let to-morrow take care of to-morrow, Leave things of the future to Fate, Never trouble trouble, till trouble troubles you, For trouble never comes too late.

May this be our doctrine wherever we're twirled, A fig for the cares of this whirligig world.

Here 's to those I love;
Here 's to those who love me;
Here 's to those who love those I love;
And here 's to those who love those who love me.

He builded better than he knew.

A good dinner is better than a fine coat.

Sit down to that nourishment which is called supper.

To thee and thy company I bid a hearty welcome.

No man can be wise on an empty stomach.

Oh, he was all made up of love and charms, Whatever maid could wish or man admire.

He had then the grace too rare in every clime Of being, without alloy of fop or beau, A finished gentleman from top to toe.

His years but young, but his experience old; His head unmellowed, but his judgment ripe; And in a word, . . .

He is complete in feature and in mind, With all good grace to grace a gentleman.

He is very great in knowledge.

Oh, traveller, who hast wandered far, Neath southern sun and northern star, Say where the fairest regions are. To me and you when skies are blue, To you and me when tempests be, To both together in every weather.

Here's to our sweethearts and our wives! May our wives ever be our sweethearts, And our sweethearts be our wives.

As we meet upon the level, may we part upon the square.

May the happiest days of our past Be the saddest days of our future.

Too full of love my soul is to find place For fear or anger.

It is n't the thing you do, dear, It's the thing you leave undone, Which gives you a bit of a heartache At the setting of the sun.

Young budding virgin, fair and fresh and sweet.

A gift with a kind word is a double gift.

APPROPRIATE SENTIMENTS TO SEND WITH VARIOUS GIFTS To send with any gift:

Take — I give it willingly.

The heart of the giver makes the gift dear and precious.

Good wishes go with this, And love, packed in a kiss.

Consider not the gift of the lover, but the love of the giver.

To send with two spoons as a silver wedding present:

Sweet friends of mine, be spoons once more, And with your tender cooing Renew the keen delights of yore, The rapturous bliss of wooing.

To go with a bunch of pansies:

For these pansies, send me back a thought.

To send with a work-basket:

Industry can do any thing which genius can do, and very many things which it cannot.

To go with a wedding gift:

Oh, lovely day, refuse to go — Hang in the heavens forever so.

The guardian angel o'er his life presiding, Doubling pleasures and cares dividing.

To go with a wedding ring:

God saw thee most fit for me.

To send with a box of flowers to a debutante:

The sweetest garland to the sweetest maid.

To go with a box of candy:

Sweets to the sweet.

To go with an umbrella:

Open me and raise me high; And in damp weather keep me nigh; Or, even when the sun shines bright, I'll keep its rays from you all right.

To go with a pair of gloves as a valentine:

A little hand, a soft white hand, A hand I know 't is thine These gloves will fit: So may I ask That gloves and hand be mine?

To send with a brooch at Christmas time:

I'll hold your tie, or ribbon bow; I'll help in any way I know On breast or belt or neck; I'll stay And stick there tight, this Christmas Day.

To send with a pen-wiper:

Oh, when in distant lands thou art (The time will come when we must part And rivers roll 'tween me and thee), Perchance thou'lt write a line to me.

Your letter being finished, then
Here 's wherewithal to wipe your pen.

To go with a purse:

May your purse be heavy and your heart light.

Novel Entertainments for

To go with a cup and saucer:

When out of this cup you are drinking your tea, Perchance you will then think kindly of me.

To send with a humorous book:

A little nonsense now and then Is relished by the wisest men.

To send with a mirror:

In this glass may you see smiles.

To go to a sweetheart with a book:

A book of verses underneath the bough, A jug of wine, a loaf of bread — and thou Beside me singing in the wilderness — Oh, wilderness were paradise enow.

To send with a bottle of wine:

One sip of this will bathe the drooping spirits in delight.

To go with a steamer letter:

When thou art at Rome, do as they do at Rome.

To put on a musical programme:

If you love music, hear it.

To send with a birthday gift:

As this auspicious day began the race Of every virtue joined with every grace; May you, who own them, welcome its return, Till excellence like yours again is born.

To send with a heart-shaped locket:

My heart is as true as steel.

To go with a gift to a singer:

In song he never had his peer.

To go with a volume of poems:

Wise poets that wrap truth in tales.

Every Day in the Year

With a book:

I thought to myself I would offer this book to you, This, and my love together.

This little paper traveller goes forth to your door, charged with tender greetings. Pray you, take him in. He comes from a house where you are well-beloved.

With a piece of one's own work:

Alone I did it.

For the joy in their making
Take them, O fond and true,
And for his sake who made them
Let them be dear to you.

With a watercolor:

A pleasure that can never pall, A serene moment deftly caught and kept To make immortal summer on your wall.

Jingles to go with a knitted shawl or head wrap:

When you to a party go, Wrap this round your shoulders, O.

This little shawl was knit for you, By one who loves you fond and true.

This dainty trifle, soft and white, Is to protect you late at night.

THE END

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