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"Good Morrow To You, My Valentine!"

MANY curious old charms are said to be potent on St. Valentine's eve-all, like most charms ever invented, connected with the procuring of husbands. Even before surplus woman dawned on the scene, this seems to have been a subject of much anxiety.

Five bay leaves, pinned respectively to the four corners and the center of the pillow, are said to bring certain dreams of the future partner, if the sleeper has gone to bed without eating or speaking.

Another infallible spell was to write

the names of admirers on separate pieces of paper, enclose them in clay balls and throw them into water. The one which came to the surface first contained the name of the fated

It is a sign of great good luck if the swain you favor should be the first man seen on February 14. The modern girl who does not pin her faith entirely to signs and omens, can always practice the ruse of a shrewd maiden of long ago, who, knowing where her heart had gone, "lay a-bed and shut my eyes all the morning till 'he' came, for I would not have seen another man before him for all the vorld."

She was far-seeing and lucky. But f she had set eyes first on the wrong man, she would have wedded him, so a poet tells us:-

Last Valentine, the day when birds of kind

find.

Afield I went, amid the morning dew.
To milk my kine (for so should house-wives do),
Thee first I spled, and the first swain

we see, In spite of fortune, shall our true love be."

Some of us wish that a quaint old custom practiced in the time of Pepys was still prevalent—the rule that a man must give a present to the first woman he saw on February 14, Pepys, gay old rascal that he was, much bewalled himself that his own tribute had to be offered to his wife-a proceeding he considered very dull, when there were plenty of pretty young girls at the light-hearted court of

Charles II. Old people still remember the time when valentines were as popular as Christmas cards, and the postman groaned under his load on the morning of the 14th. This is still the case in the United States, but the idea of

with these bright cards. Nowadays Shakespeare's greeting:-

"Good morrow, 'tis St. Valentine's day,
All the morning betime,
And I a maid at your window,
To be your valentine."
simply reminds us of the passing of a

delightful old custom. placing each feast day under the patronage of a saint, and so St. Valentine, who never married himself, be came the patron saint of lovers.-The ady's Companion.

For Your Valentine Party 600,000,000,000,000,000,000

"GRACIOUS goodness," said Cupid, looking at the calendar, "here I am sitting around and dawdling hours away when it's my busiest time in the whole year." "James," he cried, "bring me that quiver of arrows and the polish. I've got to get ready for St. Valentine's day!"

And while Cupid is busy getting ready for his annual archery program, there are plenty of others who are preparing to receive him, fortifying them-selves against his invasion or preparing a fitting welcome, as the case

Naturally, nobody wants to take a chance with this skillful archer without plenty of others present to help deflect flying arrows, so there will be parties, parties, and then more parties.

First, a Valentine party calls for a clever form of invitation. A verseoriginal if possible-could set forth the wish of the hostess in an appropriate jingle, running something like this:

I beg to indite that a gay little sprite,
Will stop at my home on St. Valentine's night:
Can you meet him at eight, on this special date,
I'm expecting you over so please don't be late.

Another insitution might mad:

Another invitation might read:
On Saint Valentine's Day
Will you come to my party?
I'll see that you have
A welcome right hearty.
The verse can be written on dainty

Valentine postcards, or correspondence cards ornamented with Cupids and ar-

Their paramours with mutual chirpings rows or with red heart seals. Another verse may invite the guest in this wise:

The Sign-of-the-Heart is pleased to invite Your presence at eight on Saint Valen-tine's Night; Hearts that are brave and loving and true
Will be ready and waiting to welcome

you.

The password is Love, which alone has

the power
To gain you admittance to Cupid's
bower.
Note paper decorated with Valentine seals could be used for this form of invitation. For a decoration to conform to the first line of the verse, an immense red heart, hung against the glass of the front door would be ap-

Old-fashioned valentines, with lace paper and sentimental verses, make appropriate invitations. So do the old

The valentine party rarely takes the form of a masquerade, but the hostess courtship is no longer much connected usually plans caps and favors for the guests, to give a festive air to the

Almost any crude cap of crepe paper can be made highly decorative by adding long tassels or fringe at either side. Heavy necklaces of cardboard with a ruffle of red crepe paper hung about Christianity brought the custom of the neck on a ribbon are effective and

> the wrist, with long red and white crepe paper streamers.

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