



A MUSICAL LUNCHEON

By Mrs. Garrett Webster

THE invitations to this little luncheon should read as follows, and be sent out, with only one or two exceptions, to people loving music and having some accomplishment therein :

"Mrs. Garrett Webster requests the pleasure of Miss Morgan's company at a Musical Luncheon on Thursday, October twelfth, at two o'clock, to meet Miss Singer."

In arranging the table the origin of the luncheon must be kept as prominently as possible before the participants. The centrepiece of flowers should be in the shape of a musical instrument, a mandolin, violin, banjo or tambourine making excellent models for imitation in wire, and when lined with moss and filled with fragrant blossoms is itself a little symphony. At each place there may be, in addition to the silver, glass and china required for serving, small paper bonbon boxes in the shapes of toy drums, whistles, trumpets or banjos filled with candies.

This luncheon may be made particularly seasonable by having all the decorations suggest the time of midsummer. Black-eyed Susans, as the ox-eyed daisies are sometimes called, would be suitable flowers for use, as their prototype is the heroine of a musical ballad. If these are used the candies served should be buttercups and orange cocoanut bonbons. The cakes should be flavored with orange and covered with orange icing, and the ices served in the shape of an orange mould with a rose of the gelatine accompanying. The fish may have a yellow sauce. The salad oil should be made into mayonnaise dressing, and the rice border to the chops be colored yellow. All the ribbons used should be yellow, and the effect of August sun will be captured and reproduced. A clever and effective decoration is to drape yellow tulle over the portions of the table unoccupied by dishes or flowers.

THE place cards should bear the guest's name, the date, and some one of the following quotations, as applicable to her musical taste :

For the bashful maid—

"Where words fail, music speaks."

For the engaged girl—

"Love teacheth music,"

or

"One of
Two kindred souls who ne'er were out of tune."

For the unmusical member of the party—

"I am never merry when I hear sweet music,"

or

"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast."

For the girl who, like Charles Lamb, loves music, but is destitute of ear, quote his—

"Sentimentally, I am disposed to harmony;
Organically, I am incapable of a tune."

For the constant concert-goer—

"If you love music hear it."

For the pianist—

"The piano is the musical charm of our social life."

For the songstress—

"Since singing is so good a thing
I wish all folks would learn to sing,"

or

"Let the fair learn to sing."

ON THE reverse of these should be the menu, which might read as follows :

MENU

"If music be the food of love—feed on."

—*Shakespeare* (Abridged).

The Pearl Fishers (Oysters)

Figured Bass (Striped Bass)

Chopin—Ries (Chops in Rice)

Celli (Jelly)

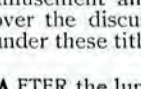
Beats, Ti. Mattei (Beets, Tomato)

Grâssi (Lettuce)

Con Brio, Lucca (Brie Cheese, Salad Oil)

Acis and Galatea (Ices and Gelatine)

Female Fingering (Lady Fingers)



L'Africaine (Black Coffee)

Suites (Bonbons)

If only the musical names of the courses be put upon the menu cards considerable amusement and interest may be aroused over the discussion of the dishes hidden under these titles.

AFTER the luncheon an informal musicale should be held, each guest doing her share to add to the entertainment. The recitation of Owen Meredith's "Aux Italiens"; Austin Dobson's "Child Musician"; Longfellow's description of Ole Bull from "Tales of a Wayside Inn," or of Bunner's charming "Schumann's Kinder Scenen," will make a charming interruption.

Should it be desired to make the affair more elaborate, have the luncheon served at small tables seating four each, which at the close of the meal may be used for a game of "Musical Composers"—a game similar to "Authors." A prize of a music case, book of music, or of a photograph or plaster cast of a famous musician, may be given the winner, and a tin whistle to the person making the lowest score, in order that she may whistle for better luck.