Planting a Melodious Vegetable Garden

Where the History of Food & Drink Meets a Musical Composition

Kira A. Dietz

Acquisitions and Processing Archivist

& Unofficial History of Food & Drink Archivist!

Special Collections, Virginia Tech

November 8, 2013

MARAC Fall 2013
The History of Food & Drink Collection @ Virginia Tech

- Established in 1999
- Currently contains more than 4,200+ publications
- 2,800+ of these are housed in Special Collections
- 50+ manuscript collections
- Handwritten receipt (recipe) and home remedy ephemera
- Handwritten receipt (recipe) and home remedy papers, pamphlets, and culinary/cocktail books, household account ledgers, faculty papers, household account ledgers, faculty papers, pamphlets, and culinary/cocktail books, household account ledgers

Established in 1999-2000
Core Collecting Areas

- American cocktail history
- Regional cookbooks and nutrition literature
- Manuscript recipe/recipe books
- Extension/home demonstration agents, chefs
- Papers from regional faculty, dietitians
- Food behavior, food processing, & technology
- Social, domestic, & economic history; changes in
- Menus, nutrition education, & kitchen planning
- Brand-name/advertising pamphlets & publications
- Community cookbooks (Virginia and Appalachia)
- Regional cookbooks & early American imprints
The Book

Vegetable Verselets for Humorous Vegetarians
by Margaret G. Hays; with illustrations by Grace G. Wiederseim.

(Yes, it's out of copyright and available in its entirety online.)
1911
J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA AND LONDON

"I'll give you food for thought"

GRACE G. WIEDEMANN
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY
MARGARET G. HAYS

FOR HUMOROUS VEGETARIANS

Vegetable Verses
FOR disobeYing papa so?
WHERE you miNg to go
have you thought, Ned?
Oh what a naughtY oyster plant!
"I say I shan't!"
"I say you shall!"
A wealthy bridegroom to wed,
I try to force his gay son red
This dreadful papa oyster plant
"I say I shan't!"
"I say you shall!"
WELL?
I'm pretty.
But goodness, gracious me!
I am not rich, or great, or witty.
I wish a prince would pass this way.
"Is that me?" asked the dimpled Gary.
The book is dear, looking-glass.
She saw herself reflected in
A dainty green young lady.
Oh, once there was a chimney-

NARCISSUS CUCUMBER
Over the garden wall,
Story and grey and tall,
A lover Gauld was climbing,
To see his sweetheart small.

She lived on the other side,
In riches, pomp and pride,
While he was poor, but honest,
And his parents all had died.

And goodness—what a fall!
But his "stem", broke when he reached the top,
He climbed that cased wall,
"Oh, alas, alas, alack!
Why did he not turn back?
For now his little sweetheart
Will have to dress in black.

But his "stem", broke when he reached the top,
It is a shame to smile, a perfect shame and sin,
But the "mess", that Humpty Dumpty made
Was "nothing" next to "him".

The Lover Gauld
THE MINUET

In the garden late one night
Some one saw a pretty sight,

Tall was he and slim and stately;
Though bowed and stopped sedately;

Oh, they bowed and stopped sedately;
Curling lowly—rising slowly;

Went straying pictures round one, left and right.

Lady Lettice—young and green—
Wore a spreading crinoline.

With the country Lima Bean;
Quite entrancing was her dancing.

Oh, the sight filled one with pleasure—
While the moon shone in the night.

Whispering—clapping with delight—
All the little leaves were clapping—

Were the silvery moonbeams playing.

White the breeze played one with pleasure—
Oh, the sight filled one with pleasure—

While the moon shone in the night.

White the breeze played one with pleasure—
Oh, the sight filled one with pleasure—

While the moon shone in the night.

White the breeze played one with pleasure—
Oh, the sight filled one with pleasure—

While the moon shone in the night.
How a Song Cycle is Born

Serendipity

An archivist and a pianist
+
A composer and a soprano
+
A bunch of people with a great sense of humor
=

"Vegetable Verselets" (A Song Cycle)
The Results

• Outreach opportunities for Special Collections, the University Libraries, and the Department of Music
  • An amazing song cycle
  • An afternoo"hands-on" exhibit
  • A catered reception
  • A lovely afternoo"concert with many laughs
  • A month long display in our exhibit cases

Collections, the University Libraries, and the Outreach opportunities for Special

The Results
Daron Aric Hagen, composer

Caroline Worra, soprano

Tracy Cowden, piano

Vegetable Verselets

World Premiere of

The one hundred thirteen program of the
Squires Recital Salon
Sunday, April 29
8:00 p.m.

FACULTY/GUEST ARTIST RECITAL

Vegetable Verselets
Program

Morning Service

Nelligan Language
Edwards
The Other
Boston Beacon
The Ewok
Well
The Regiment
Harissa Cuisine

Vegan Vegetable Omelettes
open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Breakfast Menu

Full English Breakfast
Omelette of the Day
Homemade Pancakes
Pancake Stack
Fresh Juice

Intermission

Wild Night

Penhorwood

Edwin Penhorwood

SIR RICHARD RODNEY BENNET

Meese Rent Party

BYRON MOTLEY

Drink in Me Only with Thine Eyes

A. J. G. Cott

Card Drink

Tobacco

Leonard Bernstein

Dinner Party

If Music Be the Food of Love

Henry Purcell

Gwen's Piano

Catherine Worrell, Soprano

Guest Artist Recital

Toothbrush Time

Early in the Morning

NED ROEM

7:00 a.m. Breakfast

Intermission

Wild Night

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NED ROEM

7:00 a.m. Breakfast
In the Constabulary Regiment
No time for sentiment
It’s bound to do his duty—
Although he loves your beauty,
Down.com soldier there,
Through more than common pangs;
Weep as they march away;
Sweethearts, adieu. Adieu;
The Rifle and Drum Corps play;
So boom-la-la-la, Gay;
The lads that o’er him bows—
For each Constabulary bows
They have no fear of foes;
The Constables march in rows;

THE REGIMENT

Please note: the original version of this presentation included a link to an audio clip from the concert recording. For copyright reasons, it was removed by the presenter.
Vegetable Verselets

Culinary-inspired art song by Bernstein, Rorem, Bolcom, and others, featuring the premiere of Vegetable Verselets by Daron Hagen

Sunday, April 29, 2012 at 3pm
Squires Recital Salon

Caroline Worrall, soprano
Tracy Cowden, piano

Virginia Tech
www.music.vt.edu

Co-sponsored by the Center for the Arts at Virginia Tech
$15 adults, $10 seniors, $5 students
Vegetable Verslets

/History of Food & Drink Collection Exhibit

Drink Collection Exhibit

Vegetable Verslets/History of Food & Drink Collection Exhibit
D is for the PLANT.
Vegetables and the celery,
the cabbage and the beet.

E is for every PLANT.
Helping our muscles, hearts and brain,
To do their jobs as best they can.
Keeping us happy, healthy and smart.
April 29, 2013
Vegetable Verses Reception,
Don’t Forget to Eat Your Vegetables
(A little advice)

• Have fun!
• Take advantage of the unplanned opportunities
• Communicate often departments
• Be sure to include people from all relevant
• Plan, plan, and plan some more

(A little advice)
"HEART-BEETS"

We thought we knew enough to call...
When Miss Beet heard her lover's plan
To the greenhouse, say Miss Beet
This spoke an noun more able...
I shall not be mine, oh, Roy One?

THE LION WORE—"HEART BEEITS"

The lover wore—"P eet H".
The meaning was quite clear and so
His answer—"Roy Beet it."

Fa-rumfiana's friend the swing—
Before we read, I knew.
But you'd better ask twice, my dear,
She coyly whispered, "Yes!"