

Which of strong *Nectar*, full is fill'd,
That from sweet Flowers is distill'd.
Flyes of all sorts, both Fat and Good,
35

As *Quails*, *Snipes*, *Patridg*, are her Food.
Pheasants, *Larks*, *Cocks*, and any Kind,
Both Wild and Tame, you there may find:
And *Amelets* made of *Ants* Eggs new;
Of these high Meats she eats but few.
40

The *Dormouse* yeelds her Milk good store,
For Butter, Cheese, and many more.
This Milk makes many a fine Knack,
When they fresh *Ants* Eggs therein crack.
Pudding, and Custard, and Seed-Cake,
45

Her well- skill'd Cook knows how to make.
To sweeten them, the *Bee* doth bring
Pure Honey, gather'd by her Sting.
But for her Guard, serve grosser Meat;
Of Stall-fed *Dormice* they do eat. 50

When Din'd, she goes to take the Air
In Coach, which is a Nut-shell fair:
The Lining's Soft and Rich within,
Made of a glistering *Adder's* Skin;
And there six *Crickets* draw her fast,
55

When she a Journey takes in hast:
Or else two serve to pace a Round,
And trample on the *Fairy-Ground*,
In *Hawks*, sometimes, she takes delight;
Which *Hornets* are, most swift in flight:
60

Whose Horns, instead of Talons, will
A *Flye*, as *Hawks* a *Patridg*, kill.
But if she will a Hunting go,
Then she the *Lizzard*, makes the *Doe*;
Which is so swift and fleet in Chase,
65

As her slow Coach cannot keep pace.
Then on a *Grashopper* she'll ride,
And gallop in the Forest wide.
Her Bow is of a *Willow* Branch,
To shoot the *Lizzard* on the Haunch.
70

Her Arrow sharp, much like a Blade,
Of a *Rosemary* Leaf is made.

Then home she's called by the *Cock*,
Who gives her warning what's the Clock.
And when the Moon doth hide her Head,
75

Their Day is done, she goes to bed.
Meteors do serve, when they are bright,
As *Torches* do, to give her light.
Glow-worms, for *Candles*, lighted up,
Stand on her Tabl', while she doth Sup:
80

And in her Chamber they are plac'd,
Not fearing how the Tallow wast.
But *Women*, that Inconstant Kind,
Can ne're fix in one place their Mind:
For she, impatient of long stay,
Drives to the Upper-Earth away.

NOTES:

- 1 *Queen Mab* Queen of the Fairies in English folklore (*Britannica*).
- 9 *Bower* a pleasant shady place under trees or climbing plants in a garden or wood (*OED*).
- 16 *Rout* a disorderly retreat of defeated troops (*OED*).
- 31 *Thistle-down* The light parts of thistle flowers that contain the seeds and that blow away in the wind (*Britannica*).
- 54 *Adder* a small venomous Eurasian snake (*OED*).
- 62 *Patridg* Variant of Partridge; a short-tailed game bird with mainly brown plumage, native to Eurasia (*OED*).
- 70 *Haunch* a buttock and thigh considered together, in a human or animal (*OED*).
- 80 *Sup* Eat.
- 82 *Tallow* a substance consisting of a somewhat hard animal fat; used for making candles (*OED*).

SOURCE: *Poems. Or, Several Fancies in Verse. The Third Edition (London, 1668), pp. 253-256 [Google Books]*

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