

and the cupids and pierced hearts have given place to cunning kittens and puppies, Japanese or Dutch youngsters, aeroplanes, and girls and boys at play.

Valentine parties are fairly popular among young people, who are ready to make the most of any opportunity for a frolic. In the decorations for such parties, pink or red paper or flower hearts in profusion have the field mostly to themselves, and considerable ingenuity is shown in having the ices frozen and the cakes baked in the prevailing heart shape.

Quite a charming idea is to make a Valentine luncheon or supper to announce an engagement. At one such luncheon, the centre piece was a slender Cupid poised above a heart-shaped mound of pink carnations, and over his shoulder a gilt paper quiver filled with tiny envelopes, each stamped with two pink hearts. Pink baby ribbons led to a knot of carnations, at each place, and when the dessert was served, each guest pulled the ribbon, and opening the envelope found a tiny card bearing the names of the newly-affianced pair.—*Canadian Pictorial*.

#### QUESTIONS ON SCOTT'S TALISMAN

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What provision had each made for refreshment? What was there in the manners and food of the Christian that was displeasing to the Saracen?

Describe the Diamond in the Desert. How many times is it the scene of important events in the novel? Tell what happened there on each of these occasions.

What charge did Abubeker Alwaket give to his general and soldiers on their departure to take Syria? Compare with Kitchener's charge to his general and soldiers on their leaving England at the beginning of this present war. Who was Abubeker Alwaket?


Find and write notes of explanation on each of the following: Accursed cities, once proud cities of the plain, horn of the fabulous unicorn, lingua franca, Koran, the seven oceans which environ the earth. Compare these last with Kipling's Seven Seas. Also explain a pitcher of sherbet. How often is this last mentioned?

Give the meaning of gab, mortier, imaums, molahs, Kipil, eleison, hirsute appearance, elritch, Hamoko, Termagaunt, mea culpa.

Who was the Hermit Peter? With which crusade is his name associated? What was the war-cry with which the sermon of Peter the Hermit was echoed back? When, in "The Talisman," do we hear this war-cry?

"Those grottoes so often alluded to in Scripture." Give a few of the allusions. Describe the Wilderness of the Temptation. What were the feelings of the Christian knight and the Saracen when passing through this Wilderness. Account for the difference in their feelings.

Describe the personal appearance of Theodoric, the hermit of Engaddi. Describe the meeting of the hermit



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with the Saracen and Sir Kenneth. What was Sir Kenneth's opinion of the hermit?

Give the different names applied to the hermit of Engaddi. What vision did he have when the Christian knight and the Saracen spent the night at his grotto? How did the hermit interpret this vision? What was the right interpretation? How often does the hermit appear in the story? On what occasions? In what state of mind is he when the story ends?

How much time elapses in the novel? In what chapter does the first day end? What kind of events take place? To what social class or classes of people are we introduced?

Why did Sir Kenneth visit the hermit? Who sent him? Why was he chosen to carry the message? What important character was ignorant of this visit? How did that happen? How did he find out about it?

How long did Sir Kenneth stay with the hermit? Why did he prolong his visit? Tell in your own words his experience in the chapel.

Describe the devotions of the Christian and the Saracen before going to rest in the hermit's grotto.

Describe the dwarfs, especially their eyes. Quote from "As You Like It" on the same subject. Whose property were the dwarfs in the beginning of the story? At the end? Account for the transfer. Who sent them into the chapel? For what?

Describe Richard's personal appearance. What was the opinion of Richard held by De Vaux, Conrade, the Master of the Templars, etc.? Describe Richard's crown and compare with King George's crown.

Make a list of the names of the Christian Princes engaged in this Crusade. Why did each join? Why did each desert the cause? Who never had any enthusiasm for the cause? How many men were in camp at the time of Richard's illness? What objections did Richard raise to having these princes lead the Crusade during his ill-