

How did grown-ups have fun?

What grown-ups liked best was to have parties, and dance, and get together with their friends and relatives.

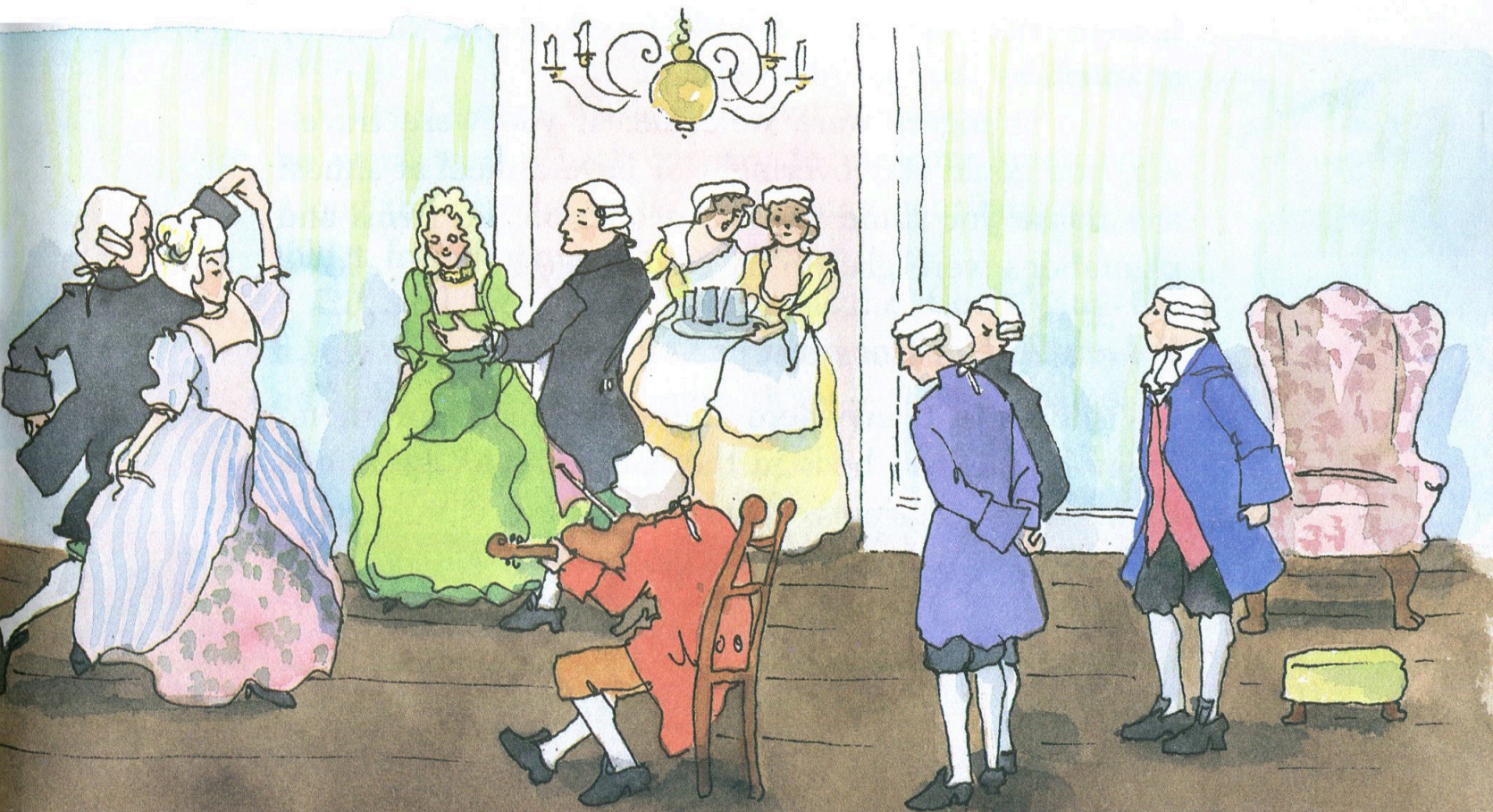
They also liked to ride horses and have horse races and play cards and gamble and go hunting and fishing.

A visitor from England went to a wedding on a big plantation and wrote about it in his diary. He said that after the wedding everybody ate and danced for three days. They danced so hard that every lady wore out a pair of satin dancing slippers every night.



Parties often lasted for two or three days. The guests would stay and have a good time until everybody was tired and there wasn't much left to eat.

People in Virginia didn't wait for a wedding or a big party to visit each other. They loved to go visiting, and they went as often as they could.



A man from the next farm might drop in and stay for dinner. Or a cousin and his wife and their six children and four servants might drop in and stay for a week.

There were no telephones, so people didn't always know when company was coming. But that didn't matter. In Virginia, everyone loved having company as much as they loved to visit.

Even strangers were welcome. If you were traveling, you could stay overnight or have a meal at almost any house you came to. The people on the farms and plantations were glad to have someone new to talk to.