

Book XI.
Title XXXXVI. (XXXXV)

Concerning the May Festival.
(De Maiuma.)

11.46.1. Emperors Arcadius and Honorius to Caesarius, Praetorian Prefect.

It has pleased Our Clemency to give back to the provincials the enjoyment of the May-festival, but decency and modesty and chaste manners must be observed.

Given at Constantinople April 25 (396).

C. Th. 15.6.1.

Note.

In 399 A.D. the festivity was again prohibited because decency had not been observed. C. Th. 15.6.2. But being mentioned as lawful in the Justinian Code, it must have been permitted again later. It is uncertain what this festivity was. Probably a May festival, accompanied by considerable lasciviousness. It originated in the Orient and was probably in the main confined there. It seems to have been celebrated at Antioch. Goth. Theod. 15.6.2.