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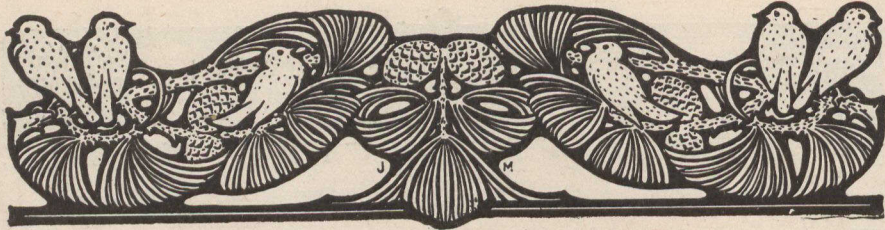
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## FOR THE CHILDREN

### The Pumpkin's Hallowe'en

By M. H. C.

Once, side by side two pumpkins grew,  
And chatted together as pumpkins do.  
Quoth Pumpkin Two, "When I'm full grown,  
I'll be the best pumpkin pie that's known."  
Now Pumpkin One, he laughed in scorn:  
"You're the greatest sugar-plum ever born;  
Pray tell me, if you can, the fun  
In being a pie," jeered Pumpkin One.  
"You listen to me, and I'll tell you what  
A pumpkin can do to make things hot.  
There comes a night called Hallowe'en,  
A night strange things are done and seen,  
When ghostly forms with garments trailed  
Walk 'neath a moon whose light is veiled.  
Weird noises fill the silent dark,  
The night breeze moans, and owl—but hark!  
You'll hear a chuckle by the fence,  
A bold, brown hand will drag you thence,  
Two arms will hold you firm and tight,  
Two legs will run with all their might.

A smothered call at the old barn door  
And you're dragged inside and laid on the floor.  
'Gee, it's a beaut,' says Bill with a grin,  
'Come on, you fellows, I'm dying to begin.'  
There is the lantern's sickly flare,  
They hollow you out, till your sides are bare.  
You're given two eyes, and a three-cornered nose,  
And a mouth with two terrible, awful rows  
Of teeth that grin; O, a fiercer sight  
Could scarce be seen of a Hallowe'en night.  
When you're lighted inside with a candle end,  
Then the four of them sneak down to Murphy's Bend,  
Where a fence rail points to the starless sky,  
And your lighted mask is raised on high.  
There through the whole night long you shine,  
To tremble the knee and shiver the spine  
Of the frightened villagers passing by.  
Oh, don't talk to me about pumpkin pie."

\* \* \*



Hallowe'en Smiles.

\* \* \*

### GINGER JACKS OR HALLOWE'EN FUDGE.

Sugar and milk together boil  
Until in water cold  
They make a soft elastic ball  
Between the fingers rolled.

Remove at once from off the fire;  
Let stand until lukewarm  
Where no rude jar nor shaking up  
Can do it any harm.

Then beat to the consistency  
Of good, rich, country cream;  
Vanilla add and cinnamon,  
And butter's golden gleam.

Salt, nuts and ginger stir in last;  
Pour all in buttered pan;  
When cool and hardening, cut  
In squares, as many as you can.

—St. Nicholas.

\* \* \*

### AUTUMN.

The trees are now all yellow and red,  
And the nuts fall down to the ground;  
The children go shuffling through the leaves,—  
They like the rustling sound.

And since the school-year still is young,  
The books are clean and new,  
And boys and girls must study hard,  
For holidays are few.

—St. Nicholas.

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