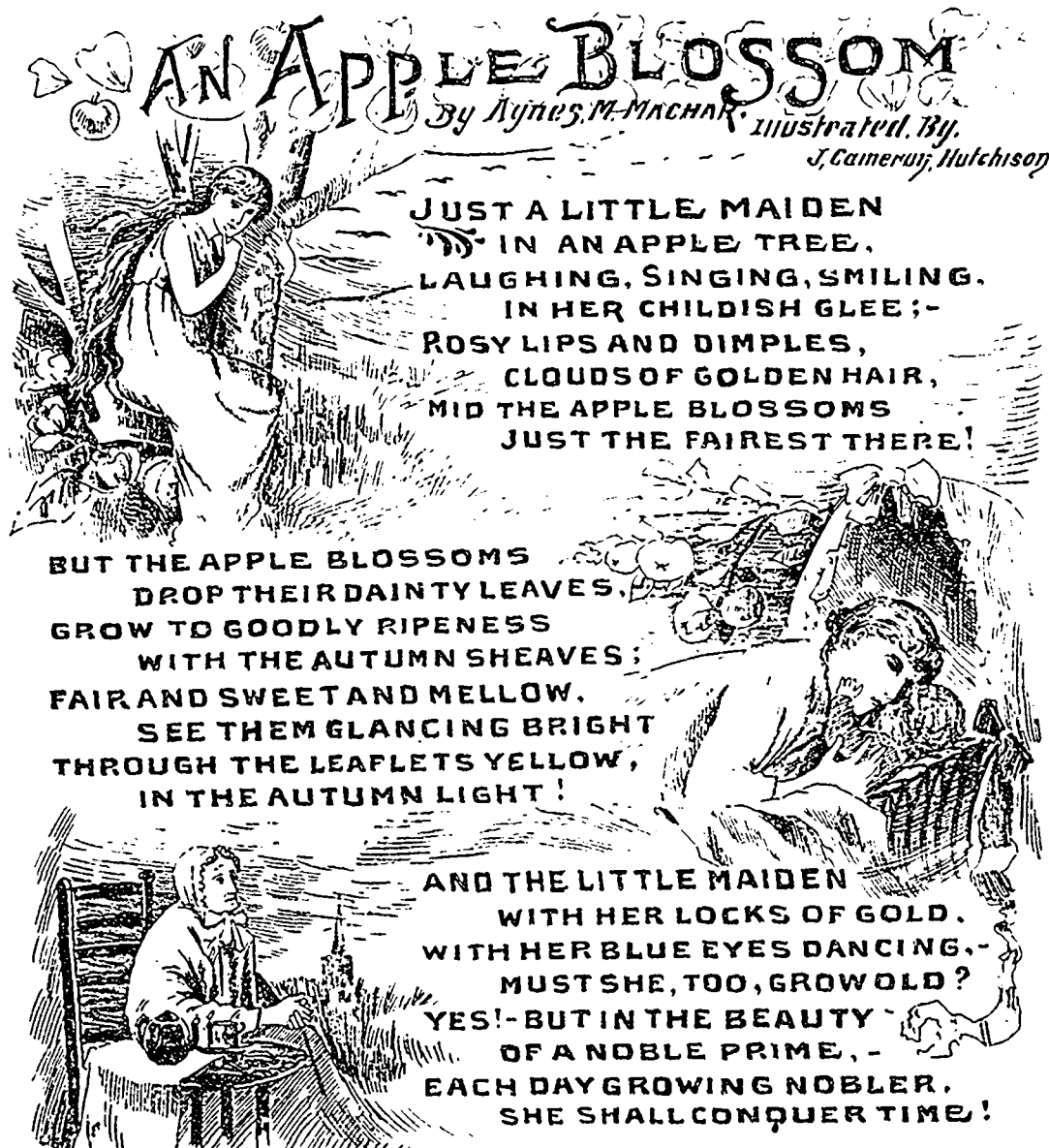


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AN APPLE BLOSSOM

By *Agnes M. MACHAK* Illustrated By *J. Cameron Hufchison*

JUST A LITTLE MAIDEN
 IN AN APPLE TREE,
 LAUGHING, SINGING, SMILING,
 IN HER CHILDISH GLEE;-
 ROSY LIPS AND DIMPLES,
 CLOUDS OF GOLDEN HAIR,
 MID THE APPLE BLOSSOMS
 JUST THE FAIREST THERE!

BUT THE APPLE BLOSSOMS
 DROP THEIR DAINTY LEAVES,
 GROW TO GOODLY RIPENESS
 WITH THE AUTUMN SHEAVES;
 FAIR AND SWEET AND MELLOW,
 SEE THEM GLANCING BRIGHT
 THROUGH THE LEAFLETS YELLOW,
 IN THE AUTUMN LIGHT!

AND THE LITTLE MAIDEN
 WITH HER LOCKS OF GOLD,
 WITH HER BLUE EYES DANCING,-
 MUST SHE, TOO, GROW OLD?
 YES!- BUT IN THE BEAUTY
 OF A NOBLE PRIME, -
 EACH DAY GROWING NOBLER,
 SHE SHALL CONQUER TIME!