



THOUGHTS of courage and hope and highest expectation, growing habitual, may lift out and up many a weary pilgrim.

—Purington.

## A Hallow'en Festival

By Virginia Frederic



ONCE a year, on the night of the last day of October, all maidens have an opportunity to look into the future and to ascertain their prospects in the matrimonial line. On that occasion, during the mysterious hours of Hallow'en, the powers of the spirit world are in control of things, spooks of all kinds are abroad, and witches go flying through the air on broomsticks, scattering good and bad fortunes.

Some clever girls, who thought that the witch with her cat and broom had become rather hackneyed, decided that they would give a Hallow'en party of a different kind.

As a color scheme they chose the red of apples, the yellow of corn, and the varied coloring of autumn leaves.

Invitations were sent out on post-cards—each different—showing owls, cats, leaves, grapes, corn, etc. The girls wore white dresses with red or yellow sashes.

On the night of the party, the home of the hostess was lighted by candles, covered by shades of red and green autumn leaves. Each person was given an ear of corn and a picnic plate, decorated; she was then told to shell the corn and count the kernels. A memorandum was kept of the numbers; and all the plates of corn were emptied into an immense wooden bowl decorated with autumn leaves. All the guests were asked to guess the number of kernels in the bowl, and two prizes were given to the man and girl making the closest guess. The man was given a shaving-paper case showing an ear of corn, and the lucky girl was remembered by a photograph frame also decorated in corn. As a means of finding partners for the evening, real autumn leaves had been gathered, and on the back of each was glued a slip of paper with a rhyme or fortune; duplicates were made, and the fortunes for the men were put in a bag of red tissue-paper, and for the girls in a bag of yellow; these were suspended from a door frame and a blindfolded girl struck one open, scattering the leaves for the girls to gather. The other was opened by a man in the same way, and the guests matched fortunes to find partners.

In one corner of the room an apple tree was represented by two step-ladders covered with green boughs, and suspended in these were red ap-

ples, to each apple being attached a souvenir of the evening. The apples were arranged so that the gifts did not show. After the autumn leaves had been gathered and partners found, the guests stopped at the apple tree, where two old fortune-tellers read their future from their palms, and bestowed on each an apple with its accompanying gift. They began all



kinds of apple games. If a girl wishes to ascertain some facts about the man she is to marry, she must conform to the rules of magic. For instance, in trying to learn the true lover's name, it is absolutely necessary to begin peeling the apple at the end opposite the stem. The peel must be taken off in one continuous ribbon, while the maiden employing the charm utters not a single word, but thinks all the



Biting at the Apple Suspended by a Cord.

time of the young man she likes best. Then she must whirl the strip of peel three times around her head, and let it fall upon the floor behind her; the apple paring will assume the form of the first letter of the name of her future husband. The seeds of an apple, of course, vary in number, and hence the opportunity for speculation. As she counts them the maiden recites: "One, I love; two, I love," etc.

If there is an open fire, much fun will be found in toasting apples and marshmallows over the glowing coals, while a good story-teller closes the evening with ghost stories.

### The Menu.

Witches' Brew Broomsticks  
Turkey in Magic Rings  
Salad Served in Apple Cups  
Nut Wafers  
Cream Crescent Hallow'en Cake  
Coffee Bonbons Nuts

The brew was bouillon, served with brown and white bread sandwiches, cut broom shape. Breast of turkey was served in a ring of cranberry jelly. The salad was made of celery, apples, nuts, raisins, and mayonnaise served in scooped-out apples. Pis-

Leaf Blotter.—This blotter, of green blotting-paper, nine by eleven inches, has mounted on it three leaves, cut from leather in shades of tan and green; the edges and outlines are burned and it is laced together by thongs of leather.



Bobbing for Apples in Pan of Water.

tachio and vanilla cream was sliced and cut into crescents. The Hallow'en cake was brought in with red candles burning on it, and on the platter surrounding the cake was burning brandy, in which large raisins were scattered. As it passed around, each guest tried to secure a raisin out of the flame. This is called "snap dragon" and the raisin grasped from the flame is supposed to bring good luck.

### Favors and Prizes.

Cigar Case.—Tan leather forms this simple case—it is decorated with a monk's head, and bears the quotation: "It's better to smoke here than hereafter."

Match Case.—A cat head is cut from sand paper and glued, as a flap, to a little pocket for matches. Tan leather is used for the case, the edges being stitched by machine.

Whisk-Broom Holder.—The rope is

Candle Shades.—The candle shades for decorating the rooms are made of cardboard and tissue paper. The foundation of the candle shade is cardboard or white Bristol board; it may be covered with dull red and green maple leaves of tissue paper in autumnal tints.

Key Rack.—A seven-inch wood part covered with tan leather, a cat's face is burned on it and hooks are screwed in at intervals. It is suspended by leather thongs and tassels.

[See next page for illustrations of articles described above.]

### A Barn Party for All Hallow'en

The night before All Saints' Day is the most sacred to midnight revels and rollicking fun of any day in the calendar for young folk. All the sprites of mischief are at liberty at nightfall, and their spirit is contagious. A crowd of girls wishing to entertain on this night lent themselves to the inspiration of the time, and as a result gave an opportunity for a frolic which stays long in the memory of those who were fortunate enough to be present.

The guests who were the men, were summoned by invitations printed upon corn husks, to appear promptly at the stroke of eight at the door of a new hay barn that had just been completed, on the edge of the town. The husks were rolled and tied with a twist of corn silk.

The next few days were busy ones, for the girls scoured the country for autumn leaves, pumpkins and corn stalks. When they stood back and viewed their finished work, the result was eminently satisfactory.

The side walls were banked with shocks of corn placed at intervals, as in a field, and at their base jack-o'-lanterns lay about, as if still on the vine. The ceilings were hung with festoons of red and yellow ears of corn. Large branches of gorgeous-hued autumn leaves lent a touch of color in every available space.



In a far corner of the loft was a black draped gipsy tent containing a tripod and kettle; within, an artistically garbed gipsy maiden idled fortimes by cards and real palms. At the top of the tent a box with a moon cut in its side and covered with yellow paper shone down upon each who sought to know his fate. Just before