## THE BUTTERFLY GIRL.

By Temple Bailey.

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\* The first rift in the lute came when Albert arrived home one stormy night and found his bride in a fetching pink gown, with her shining hair puffed into a halo of gold, with pink candle shades on the corners of the dining table, with pink roses in the center and with nothing thereon to eat but a third day's cold roast and leftover salad.

Albert, having kissed his wife enthusiastically and having changed his office coat for a more formal one, peered at the platter dubiously.

"I am desperately hungry." he said. "and there isn't much meat left." "I am not a bit hungry." Bettina stated. "I was shopping downtown

and I had such a lunch." "I had a sandwich," was Albert's brief comment, and after that he ate



"I HAVEN'T TIME TO KISS YOU," SHE GAYLY CRIED.

sparingly of the lamb and the tasteless salad and sought final solace in his after dinner cigar.

That evening Bettina found him somewhat unresponsive. In vain she played and sang his favorite songs in her little lilting voice. In vain she prattled of her downtown bargains. In vain she petted him and praised him. Albert met all of her advances stolldly, and the next morning found her at her Aunt Betsey's in tears.

"He has ceased to love me," she de-

"What did you give him for dinner last night?' Aunt Betsey demanded. Aunt Betsey sniffed.

"No wonder be was disagreeable." she said. "Any man's affection would ask you for your daughter. I"be frozen out by cold meat and cold salad and warmed over coffee."

"Albert's love ought to be superior to always to quote things like 'A jug of wine, a loaf of bread and thou beside night all of my singing couldn't make leave it." him smile.

But Aunt Betsey was severely on the defensive.

admitted, "but yesterday it was snow- she." ing, and Albert came in chilled, and you ought to have had something fit to eat."

"Well, thank goodness my love isn't if I should be taken away." dependent on food," said Bettina lofti-

"What did you have for lunch yesterday?" Aunt Betsey probed. "You told me you went to Maillard's."

"We had grape fruit and crab and quail, and a salad and an ice. Every- your style. You can have her. Good"- Laurin, Owl Drug Store. thing was delicious. Mary Luttrell inwited me, with a friend of hers from out of town."

"And poor Albert had a sandwich." Aunt Betsey reminded lier.

"Oh! Oh!" Suddenly the real situation seemed to dawn on the little wife. "He was really hungry, Aunt Betsey. pour dear fellow."

"And he had worked from 8:30 in the morning," Aunt Betsey went on, "and when he came home at night, tired and worn and nervous, he was not in a condition to appreciate lace trimmed ruffles, Bettina, half as much as an appetizing dinner." Bettina sighed.

"Well, it does away with the roтапсе.

"Dear beart," Aunt Betsey told her. "there is a joy in service that is above the joy of mere admiration. Try making Albert comfortable and you will get more solid happiness out of it than by keeping him on the rack with your

But Bettina shrugged her shoulders. "The way to hold a man," she deglared, "is to play with him."

"The way to hold a man," said Aunt Betsey, with a nod of her gray head, "is to love him, and that means to make yourself his equal in endeavor, Then you have his respect. You must be the homemaker, just as Albert is the money maker."

"But you have never married," said little Bettina. "How can you know, Aunt Betsey?

"The people who look on from the outside are the wise ones." said Aunt Betsey, "and I have seen so many matrimonial shipwrecks."

That night Albert's footsteps lagged a little on the stairway as be climbed to his little flat. He knew just what he would find at the top-Bettina, charming in the rosy gown; the pink candle shades, the pink roses and croquettes made of the last of the beef. Bettina always ran to big roasts, and there yet remained to be eaten a fifth day's soup made of the bone.

The sound of his key in the latch summoned no rosy vision, however. He passed through the dining room. The pink candles were not lighted. In front of his place was a copper chafing dish, one of Bettina's hitherto unused wedding presents, and the blue flame burning beneath set the contents bubbling, and the air was laden with de-

"Bettina," he called, and at the sound she came to the kitchen door. She wore a long apron of china blue; her hair was ruffled about her face; hercheeks were flaming.

"I haven't time to kiss you," she cried gayly. "I must watch the

chops.' Albert went into his room somewhat disconcerted. It was the first time that Bettina had falled to kiss him. It was the first time that his rooms had not been in a rosy glow-and he miss-

But his discomfort vanished with the serving of the dinner.

There were oysters in the chafing dish, panned to perfection. There were broiled chops, a crisp salad and a pudding made by Bettina's own fair hands And Albert ate and praised and wondered.

"I didn't know you could do it, Bettina," he said. "You always seemed! such a butterfly girl."

Bettina laughed. "Aunt Betsey showed me how," she said, "and-and I really like doing it." But her eyes were a little wistful. and presently she said, "Don't you miss

anything?" "Yes." Albert said promptly. "I do. I miss the rosy gown and the rosy candles-and you haven't kissed me yet. Bettina."

He went around and stood at the back of her chair.

"I was a bear last night, little girl," be apologized, "but a man's a queer creature, and I was tired"- He folded his hands about the oval of her face. "Kiss me," he said softly.

And when that rite was performed he asked, "Can we have the candles and the flowers tomorrow?"

But Bettina shook her head. "They cost too much," she said, "and you need the hearty food more. But on Sundays we will make a feast of romance to offset the six days of common sense."

Alber#sighed. "If I were only rich," he said. "You are rich," his wife told him,

with her eyes sparkling. "How?" he questioned.

Bettina saucily.

Sure to Get On.

"Mr. Spudlong," began the youth, hanging his hat on the back of the

er. "do you"-

such things," Bettina said, "He used been tenderly nurtured and that she is return of any of those symptoms me, singing in the wilderness,' and last by every luxury. But she is willing to cured, and heartily recommend "Can you"-

"No, sir; I can't quite maintain her in the style to which she has been ac-"A jug of wine and a loaf of bread customed, but I have a good salary. may be all right in hot climates," she and I am ready to chance it. So is

> "Will you"-"Yes, sir; I will keep my life insured for a sum sufficient to provide for her

"Would you"-"No, sir; I would not expect to live with the family. I am able to buy and furnish a modest home for her." "Young man," said Mr. Spudlong, looking at his watch, "I rather like of others." Refuse substitutes. T. F.

"Morning, sir."-London Express. The Scotch Pride.

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"There's the Emperor Macrinus, said he, 'and the great philosopher Macrobius when you come to clear evidence,' he added calmly. 'But why has nobody mentioned Alexander the Great, who, I take it, was one of the MacEdons-was he not?" - St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Nothing There.

The girl had got the young man's purse and was about to look into it. "Don't open it," he said warningly. "Why not?" she asked. "Is there

anything in here I should not see?" "There might be." "That's just why I want to open it." "Yes, but you mustn't."

"I will." And she began to open it slowly. "You ought to be afraid to do that,"

he said reprovingly. She tossed her head. "I am afraid of nothing!" she exclaimed defiantly.

"I know it," he sighed, "and when you see it inside that purse you'll be scared to death."-London Tit-Bits.

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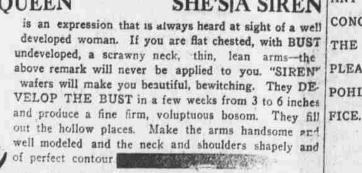
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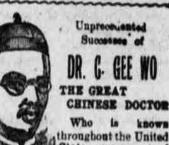
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