

TWO-BITS AND A NICKEL.

By H. WALTER BURR.

"Oh, this is grand!" exclaimed George Casey, as he passed for a few moments to enjoy the embracing air and scenery. All about him the mountains lay in tumbled heaps, farther away the foothills sloped gracefully downward, and still farther up the valley and out over the main camp he could see the old trail that stretched away to the westward. He was new to these scenes, having recently come to Wyoming in traveling looking after some business in the atmosphere of the new life to the fullest.

"Y-a-s," drawled the girl in a slow, overcast voice, "I'm a thinkin' as how we better start for home. It's a gettin' party late, an' we've come twelve miles from town. We can't much more than get there by dark."

"Two-bits," said George, tauntingly, "I believe you're a coward. Here you've been born and raised in this country, and you're scared about being out in the hills after dark. Now, I'm a tenderfoot, and yet I wouldn't be afraid to wander all over these hills from now 'til morning."

George Casey was indeed a "tenderfoot," but this was not the worst of his failings. Raised in a wealthy family, he had been given everything he wished, and had ruled his father's house to suit himself. That he was the most important portion of the family, he did not feel a moment's doubt, and it was his greatest desire that others should share that opinion with regard to him. When he found that he was to spend the summer in Wyoming looking after some mining interests, he determined that of all other things he would show the people there that here was one tenderfoot that was not so tender after all. The few friends whom he had made on first arriving at Cold Springs, had soon tired of his lordly ways and his opinion that he was the best of every body. He had ruled the hills as a tyrant, and his friends had soon learned to look upon him as a tyrant. He had no other friends but those who followed him around like a faithful dog.

Nobody could tell where Two-bits got her name. She was a rough, uncouth girl of fourteen years, born in the wilds and true to her birthright. She had a high cheek bone and swarthy features, and of Indian blood—a fact of which she was proud.

No two characters could possibly have been more opposite than those of George Casey and Two-bits. She had always been accustomed to associating with roughly-dressed, brown-skinned, low-legged cowboys, who treated her like one of their own kind, and sometimes enjoyed teasing her for the amusement of the gang. An admiration had been awakened in her for this smooth-shaven, well-dressed, polite young gentleman who had come from the land of which she had heard such wonderful stories. She had dreamed of him, and had appreciated the fact that he admired him, and since no one else in that immediate vicinity seemed to share the feeling, he gladly allowed her the monopoly of it.

So the two had formed a sort of social system all their own, with just two classes—master and vassal.

"A-w," she drawled, "I ain't no coward, neither. But I tell you, we can't go back the way we come for it's too long round. We got to go straight back toward the Springs, an' it's a good four hours' walk. Mebbe yer don't know that them hills here ain't nothin' but a big pile of rocks under 'em. They're great big cracks there, that is so warm yer can hardly see yer hand in 'em. Mebbe yer wouldn't like ter fall down one of 'em into the fire."

"Ho, ho, ho!" laughed the tenderfoot, such a ghost story. Now Miss, he added, do you see that big pile of rocks yonder? Well, that's the highest place there is around here, and I'm going to go there."

"But," muttered Two-bits, "yer best neither. A while back yer thought this was the highest—her yer are, an' that's the highest. It'll be the same way yer get that, the highest will be just beyond. I tell yer, it's time to go home."

"Go home, then, if you want to, and are afraid. I'm going on. It isn't more than a mile farther."

"It's all of five miles!" she declared; and the master started along, and the faithful vassal followed obediently. If he were going, there was nothing for it but that she must accompany him. They trudged along in silence for half an hour, and still the peak seemed as far away as ever.

"Confound it!" said George, at last, "if we had not stopped so long to talk about it, we could have been there before this. I suppose it's too late to go any farther."

Had Two-bits been more cultured and learned, it is likely she would have said, "I told you so." But she only turned as

Then he remembered that she had not been in the best humor, and decided that she would probably enjoy the sport as much as any of the others.

"Hello!" called a voice, "Where are yer, Mr. Casey? It was the voice of Two-bits, and she was waiting for him on the other side of the gulch. "Right this way, Two-bits," he answered. "Have you brought help?"

"The same to the other side of the gulch, and I'm bringin' a stout plank out toward him she drawled."

"Y-a-s. That's er help. Did yer think I was a goin' ter give yer away for the gang? Yer would never hear the last of it I guess we ken make it all right with this here. Yer got to give up now? If yer do, I'll leave yer fer good, send sure."

"Two-bits," said George, and there was considerable noise in his voice. "Two-bits," he repeated, "will you forgive me for calling you a coward? You are the bravest girl I ever knew, and you've been real kind to me to-night. Will you forgive me?"

"A-w, come along with yer," said the girl, greatly embarrassed, "it's my plinjon yer feelin' in the east just talk ter hear yer heads roar half the time, and don't mean what yer say."

"They nussed the town, walking side by side, the board had been thrown away, and from their appearance no one would have known that anything out of the ordinary had occurred. As he left her at her own door he pressed her hand tightly, and said:

"You are a brave girl—a regular little heroine."

Next day she found a pony tied to the post in front of her mother's house, and on the beautiful saddle which it bore, was pinned a note which read:

"This is Nickel, a present to Two-bits, the brave little girl who was good to a coward."

TO ENTERTAIN LONGWORTHS.

Ambassador Reid and Wife will Present Young Couple to England's Court.

The Longworths will be guests, while in London, of the American ambassador and his charming wife.

Refreshed by her long vacation, Mrs. Reid has returned to the Court of St. James with her hands full of preparations for King Edward's first drawing



MRS. WHITLAW REID.

room of the season, to be held May 25, at which she will present many American women, some of whom will be her guests.

Naturally, the presentation most important to the American colony in London this season will be that of Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, President Roosevelt's daughter. During their stay in London, Mr. and Mrs. Longworth will be the guests of the Reids at Dorchester House, where the suite occupied by the ambassador and his wife will be at the disposal of the Longworths. To add to the attractiveness of these rooms, some choice boudoir furniture has recently arrived from France to lend a fresher bridal beauty to them.

Exiled Queen Ranavaloa.

Among the members of the ruling families of the world, most of whom have known many sorrows, there are few figures so pathetic as that of Ranavaloa, the ex-Queen of Madagascar, who is now on a visit to Paris, and who since 1897 has been a queen without a throne, living in Algiers on the charity somewhat grudgingly vouchsafed her by the French Government.

Ranavaloa is now forty-four, and, although her complexion inclines to a dusky shade, she is by no means unattractive. She possesses a distinctly good figure, dresses with much taste, and wears her clothes with distinction. She ruled over Madagascar for fourteen years, and like the two queens who preceded her, became the wife of the Prime Minister. When she began her reign the country was at war with France.

Chinchillas Becoming Scarce.

The chinchilla, the little rat-like animal which produces the popular fur, is in danger of extinction.

The chinchillas were formerly found in great numbers in the high ranges of the Andes, in Bolivia and Chili, but owing to the demand for their skins they have been ruthlessly hunted in season and out of season, and the Chilean Government finds it almost impossible to enforce a law which has been passed for their protection.

The exports from Coquimbo, the principal port for this trade, amounted last year to twelve thousand dozen skins, and the prices paid were almost double those of the previous year.

Joke on Time.

A Pennsylvania man, pursuing a walk with a chronic habit of musing, was late for the demand for the time of his life by the judge, who sent him up for ten years.—New York Evening Mail.

What is the difference? He is no friend of Hours.—Washington Post.

Wait a Minute. We Second the motion.—Chicago Tribune.

Year! Year! What's all this about anyway?—Wichita Eagle.

This squib has been going the rounds so long, that it appears to us a little Decade.

Most Blessed of Emotions.

Oh, tolling hands of mortals! Soon, soon it seems to you, you must come forth on some conspicuous hilltop, and but a little way further, against the setting sun, a desery the prince of El Dorado. Little do ye know your own blessedness, for to travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive, and the true success is to labor.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

The Newest Wearing Apparel.

The Princess gown occupies the centre of fashion's stage for spring and summer, and will doubtless "go to mill and to meeting" during the coming months. It appears in all sorts of gowns from the exquisite creations for evening to the walking skirt and its accompanying bolero, but there are those who cannot and will not wear this style of garment, and for these there are very pretty skirts, cut circular, and flaring widely about the lower edge. These skirts are constructed from all sorts of materials, even to the thinnest of summer fabrics, and if properly made they will not necessarily give much trouble by sagging. However, for the skirt of washing stuff, the gored models are much more satisfactory and patterns for these can be obtained with the modish flare about the bottom.

The vogue of the circular skirt has led to the fashion for flat skirt trimmings. These sometimes take the form of stitche bands of the material or silk, while bands of one or several kinds are often interlaced in design about the bottom. Another mode of skirt trimming much used is consecutive rows of shaped flounces, one overlapping the other and often ending at each side of the front panel. One might almost say that the front panel in unbroken length from waistband to hem prevails in the majority of gowns.

When bands of the same fabric as the skirt are put on as trimming they are usually piped with a contrasting color, the tunic and flounce being often suggested by the manner in which these are applied.

As for coats, the bolero is in high feather this year, and figures in all varieties of wear from the ornamental to the useful. As an ornament it appears in the negligee of the morning as well as upon the evening toilette. The little lace and embroidered boleros will be much worn with soft silk and summer gowns and will prove very fetching adjuncts to the toilette.

Every woman and girl will do well to provide herself with several lingerie waists for nice wear. These little blouses are very important in the wardrobe, no matter how meagre or sumptuous it be. They can be had in a great variety of styles and in all of the sheer summer fabrics. Those embroidered, or inset with lace, are very dainty and considered quite suitable for any occasion where one needs to look well. On cool days they can be worn over a slip of pink, blue or lavender and be very pretty and becoming. Many of these waists are made with elbow sleeves but they can be had with the long sleeves—and some of the newest imported blouses are made with sleeves which end in a long point over the hand.

In materials, no one will go astray in purchasing voile and linen for her spring and summer gowns. There are lines of all kinds from the sheer handkerchief qualities to the fine unbleached linens. Then there are soft cashmeres, raw silks, mobairs and collenases as well as the immortal serge. White is promised much vogue for summer, and mixed with black it is very smart for the new suits. These suitings are mostly in small checks, or stripes.

Was a "Noymous" Letter.

A certain Congressman from Virginia has long retained in his employ a colored man by the name of Ezekiel. One morning the master started for the Capitol, leaving behind him a letter he had forgotten. Sometime in the afternoon he remembered the communication, and as it was of some importance, he hastened back home only to find that the letter was nowhere to be seen in his library. He had a distinct recollection that it had been left on the table. He summoned Ezekiel and asked if he had seen it.

"Yassah, yo' left it on yo' table."

"Then where is it now?"

"I mailed it, sah."

"You mailed it? Why, Zeke, I had not put the name and address on the envelope!"

"Jes so, sah! I thought it was one of dem noymous communicashuns."

PALISADE PATTERNS.



Number 6416. PRICE, 10 CENTS EACH.

A DELIGHTFUL MORNING GOWN.

If a dainty material be used, the morning gown is one instance where "simplicity is grace." The gown shown is developed in a pretty, flowered dimity with trimming bands of plain color. These simulate a shallow yoke about the neck and add greatly to its attractiveness. The elbow sleeves are finished with a narrow band and two bias ruffles. The back of the gown is fitted while the front hangs from the shoulder and is girdled at the waist by a broad crushed ribbon. The design is easily carried out at home and suitable to any seasonable fabric. In the medium size 8 yards of 36-inch material are needed.

6416—SIZES, 32 to 42 inches bust measure.

PALISADE PATTERN CO.,
17 Battery Place, New York City.

For 10 cents enclosed please send pattern No. 6416 to the following address:

SIZE.....
NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
CITY and STATE.....

TO INTRODUCE

Artsilk
EMBROIDERY COTTON

We will send you a handsome dolly, 12 inch, 18 inch or 24 inch in diameter, stamped on a fine grade of white embroidery cloth, for 15 cents, 25 cents or 50 cents respectively, and enough thread to work it. Patterns either Wild Rose, Violet, Daisy or Forget-me-nots.

Artsilk is the new embroidery cotton that's taking the place of silk floss for working table covers, cushion tops and dollies. Comes loose, looks as well and wears better.

To be sure of receiving one of these dollies, write at once, enclosing amount specified. State what pattern and size is desired.

E. D. LORIMER & CO., 1346 Broadway, New York

Don't Be Fat.

My New Obesity Food Quickly Reduces Your Weight to Normal, Requires No Starvation Process and is Absolutely Safe.

TRIAL PACKAGE MAILED FREE.

My New Obesity Food, taken at mealtime compels perfect assimilation of the food and sends the food nutriment where it belongs.



The Above Illustration Shows the Remarkable Effects of This Wonderful Obesity Food—What It Has Done For Others It Will Do for You.

It requires no starvation process. You can eat all you want. It makes muscle, bone, nerve and brain tissue out of the excess fat, and quickly reduces your weight to normal. It takes off the big stomach and relieves the compressed condition and enables the heart to act freely and the lungs to expand naturally and the kidneys and liver to perform their functions in a natural manner. You will feel better the first day you try this wonderful home food. Fill out coupon herewith and mail to-day.

FREE

This coupon is good for one trial package of Kelllogg's Obesity Food with testimonials from hundreds who have been greatly reduced, mailed free in plain packages, simply fill in your name and address on dotted lines below and mail to:

F. J. KELLOGG, 6129 Kelllogg Bldg.,
Battle Creek, Mich.

SENT ON APPROVAL

STRAIGHT LEGS

Our straight and over Form give the legs perfect shape. The trousers being straight and trim. Put on off in an instant, impossible to tear, inexpensive, durable give style, finish and comfort. We send these on trial. Write for photo-illustrated book and proofs mailed free and sealed.

ALISON CO., Dept. H6, Buffalo, N. Y.

FRECKLES REMOVED

We can positively remove any case of freckles with STILLMAN'S FRECKLE CREAM.

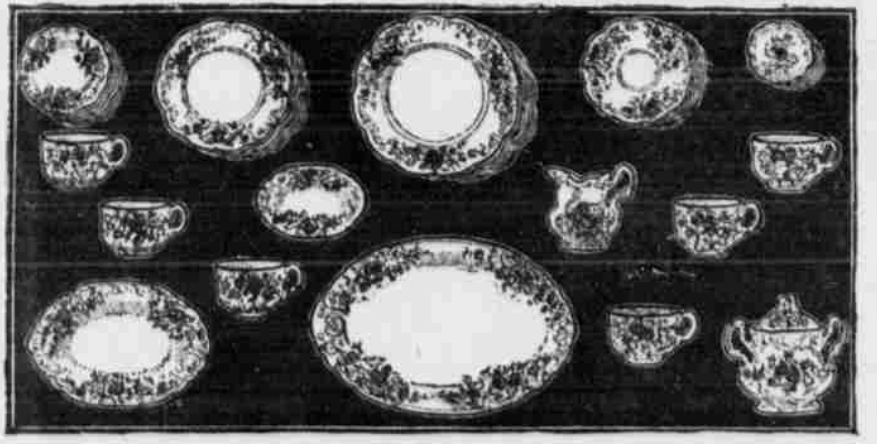
This is a strong assertion, but we will refund your money if not satisfied, the remedy is prepared for this one ailment. Write for particulars.

Stillman Freckle Cream Co., Dept. "10," Scranton, Pa.

FREE TRIAL

of the genuine Edison
**No Money Down,
No C. O. D.**

To any RESPONSIBLE party will ship a genuine Edison phonograph outfit direct from us to your home on 48 hours **FREE TRIAL**—no money down, no C. O. D. In 48 hours you are responsible people—and if you are not glad to keep the outfit, return at our expense. Orders are shipped cash after **FREE TRIAL** or pay at lowest cash price. **60 A MONTH** (for a week or more according to price of outfit.) Easy payments at positively lowest cash price established by Mr. Edison himself. **50c per week**—no postage needed after free trial. Write at once for free Edison catalogue. **Just as He Does, Mr. Edison Phonograph Distributors:** 125 Michigan Ave., Dept. 626, Chicago, Ill. **Free to phonograph owners.** Send for free Edison record catalogue.



An Unparalleled Offer made by the Leading Magazine of the West.

Forty-two pieces of American China (semi-porcelain) given FREE for a small club of subscribers. Six dinner plates, 6 pie plates, 6 cups and saucers, 6 fruits, 6 butters, a sugar bowl with lid, a cream pitcher, a steak plate, a vegetable dish and an olive dish, all of the best ware, decorated in five colors and gold. This is not a cheap "premium" set, but just such ware as you would buy at a first-class store.

AND WE PAY ALL THE FREIGHT TO ANY POINT EAST OF DENVER.

The Housekeeper has been established nearly thirty years. It has a circulation of over 300,000 copies a month. It is one of the three leading woman's magazines of the country. When it makes an offer you can depend on it.

THE OFFER Send 12 new yearly subscriptions to THE HOUSEKEEPER at 60 cents each and receive the Cottage Dinner Set, freight paid, as a reward for your trouble. There is no community where 12 subscriptions cannot be had.

Sample Copies and Agents' Supplies sent on application FREE. Write to-day. You will never regret it. Hundreds of ladies who have received one set are working for the second.

OUR GREAT "GET ACQUAINTED" COUPON OFFER—TRY IT AND BE CONVINCED.

THE HOUSEKEEPER is the best magazine for the family. It contains serial and short stories, verse, illustrated articles of general interest and the best and most helpful household departments ever put together. If every woman knew THE HOUSEKEEPER we would have all the subscribers we want. Let us get acquainted. We will bear the expense of the introduction if you will cut out and mail the coupon opposite.

If you want an agent's outfit send Coupon No. 1 also.

The Housekeeper Corporation,
Dept. M. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Coupon No. 1.

Please send me Agent's Outfit, Sample copies and a lithograph of the Cottage Dinner Set, by mail, postpaid.

Name.....
Address.....

Fill out and mail this coupon to-day. Do not delay.

THE HOUSEKEEPER CORPORATION, Minneapolis, Minn. **Coupon No. 2.**

Please enter my subscription to THE HOUSEKEEPER. After receiving three copies I will send you 60 cents for the year's subscription if I think the magazine worth the price. If I don't think it worth the price I will write you to stop sending it. You are then to make no charge for the copies sent me.

Name.....
Address.....



SHE CAME TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GULCH.

agedly as before, and followed him back toward the camp.

The sun had gone down, and soon the long twilight was drawing to a close. He saw and then the howl of a coyote was heard far over the hills, and in another direction the answering note of its mate. The echo made the whole region take up the sound, until it seemed that the two lone travelers must be in the midst of an entire pack of the creatures.

"Yer mark as well let me take the lead," said Two-bits; and not waiting for his consent, she pushed her way ahead of him. He had called her a coward, and she would show him that she was not one.

He willingly took his place behind the guide, for he felt safer when he knew that she had taken the responsibility of leading, and he felt that he had taken her advice and started home sooner, but he would not admit it to her.

"Yer'll be ter bustle faster'n that," she remarked, "er yer'll be all up with us when