

# 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 tangled heaps, farther away the foothills sloped gracefully downward, and still farther down in the valley and out over the mining camp he could see the old trail that stretched away to the westward. He was aware of these scenes, having recently come to Wyoming from his home in Boston, and he was drinking in the atmosphere of the new life to the fullest.

"Yes," drawled the girl as she overtook her companion, "but I'm a thinkin' as how we better start for home. It's a-gettin' pretty late, an' we're some twelve miles from town. We can't march more than git there by dark."

"Two-bits," said George, tauntingly, "I believe you're a coward. Here you were 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 until morning."

"But this was not the worst of his failings. Raised in a wealthy family, he had been given everything he wished, and had grown his father's house to suit himself. That he was the most important portion of the family, he did not for a moment 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 there 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 the only one who cared to accompany him on his various jaunts over the hills was Two-bits, a good-looking young fellow who had come from the land of which she had heard such wonderful stories. She had dreamed of such individuals, but had never seen one before. He appreciated the fact that she admired him, and since no one else in that immediate vicinity seemed to share the feeling, he gladly allowed her to dress him up in the system all their own, with just two classes—master and vassal.

"Naw," she drawled, "I ain't no coward neither. But I tell you, we can't go back the way we came, fer it's too long round. We got to go straight back toward the Springs, an' it's a good four hours' walk. Maybe yer don't know that there these hills jest above the camp has got 'em all under 'em. They're great big cracks that there is no warnin' yer can hardly hear yer hand to 'em. Maybe 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, an' I'm going to go there."

"Huh!" muttered Two-bits, "yer best neither." A while back yer thought this was the highest—her yer are, an' that's the highest. I'll be the same way when yer git 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, but the master started along, and the faithful slave followed obediently for it was 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? I hear sweet music in his ear. 'Right this way, Two-bits,' he answered. 'Have you brought help?' She came to the other side of the gulf, and thrusting a stout plank out toward him she drawled:

"Y-s-s. That's er help. Did yer think I was a-goin' ter give yer away ter the gang? Yer would never a-board the last of it. I guess we ain't make it all right with this here. Then, making sure the plank was resting securely on either side, she ordered, 'Now, git s'ry, and don't waste no time. Hop across, I tell yer!'

As they came to the last crevice where the board was necessary, George passed. 'W-a-i-l,' drawled Two-bits, as she waited, with arms akimbo, 'this is the last one. Yer goin' to give up now? If yer do, I'll leave yer fer good, dead sure.'

"Two-bits," said George, and there was considerable pathos 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?"

"Aw, come along with yer," said the girl, greatly embarrassed. "It's my opinion yer fellers in the east jest talk ter hear yer heads roar half the time, and don't mean what yer say."

They neared 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."

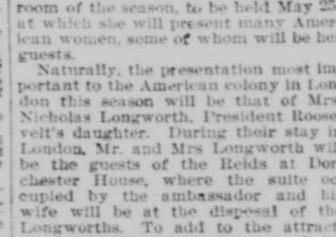
## TO ENTERTAIN LONGWORTHS.

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 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 named Weeks, with a chronic habit of purloining watches, has been given 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, decay the spires 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.



SHE CAME TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GULF.

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

The sun had gone down, and soon the long twilight was drawing to a close. Now and then the howl of a coyote was heard far out 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 may 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 side, for, as it was toward the west, she had taken the responsibility of leading. He secretly wished that he had taken her advice and started home, but he would not admit it to be.

"Yer'll be ter fasten ter that," she remarked, "er it'll be all up with us when

## 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 daring 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 washing. 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 trims. These sometimes take the form of stitched bands of the material or silk, while braids 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 over-lapping 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 are to 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 the long sleeve—but they can be had with the newest imported boleros 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 linens of all kinds from the sheer handkerchief qualities to the fine unbleached linens. Then there are soft cashmeres, raw silks, mohairs and collenues 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.

# PALISADE PATTERNS.



## 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 design with trimming bands of plain color. These simulate a shallow yoke about the neck and add greatly to its attractiveness. The elbow sleeves is 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 reasonable fabric. In the medium size 5 yards of 2-inch material are needed.

648—Sizes, 32 to 42 inches bust measure.

PALISADE PATTERN CO.,  
17 Battery Place, New York City.  
For 10 cents enclosed please send pattern No. 648 to the following address:

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

**TO INTRODUCE Artsilk EMBROIDERY COTTON.**

We will send you a handsome doll, 10 inch, 10 inch or 12 inch in diameter, stamped on a fine grade of white embroidery linen, for 10 cents, in case of 10 cents respectively. And though it will work in it. Patterns either Wild Rose, Violet, Daisy or Flowered—100-100.

Art silk is the new embroidery cotton that's taking the place of silk for working table cloths, cushion tops and dollies. Costs less, looks as well and wears better.

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

E. D. LORIMER & CO., 38 3/4 Broadway, New York

**SENT ON APPROVAL STRAIGHT LEGS.**

Our stylish and easy fitting give the legs perfect shape. The trousers being straight and true. Put on or off in a moment, impossible to detect, inexpensive, durable green, blue, black and white. We send them on trial. Write for photo illustrated book and profit mailed free on request.

ALISON CO., Dept. 80, Buffalo, N. Y.

**FRECKLES REMOVED.**

This is a strong medicine, but we will refund your money if not satisfied, the remedy is not applied for the use of the skin.

Million Freckle Cream Co., Dept. 100, Buffalo, N. Y.

**FREE TRIAL of the genuine Edition! No Money Down. No C. O. D.**

TO BE RESPONSIBLE party we will ship a genuine Edison phonograph until direct from us to your home on an entire FREE TRIAL—no money down, no C. O. D. No formality from responsible people—and if you are not pleased to keep the outfit, return at our expense. Otherwise send the cash after FREE TRIAL, or pay at least cash price \$25.00 A MONTH (one week of three according to price of outfit.) Send no money until you are satisfied with the outfit. Write for free literature. Send name, address, and phone number to: Edison Phonograph Co., Dept. 100, Buffalo, N. Y. Pre-10 phonograph owners—see Edison record catalogue.

**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 nutrient 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, sinew, 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.

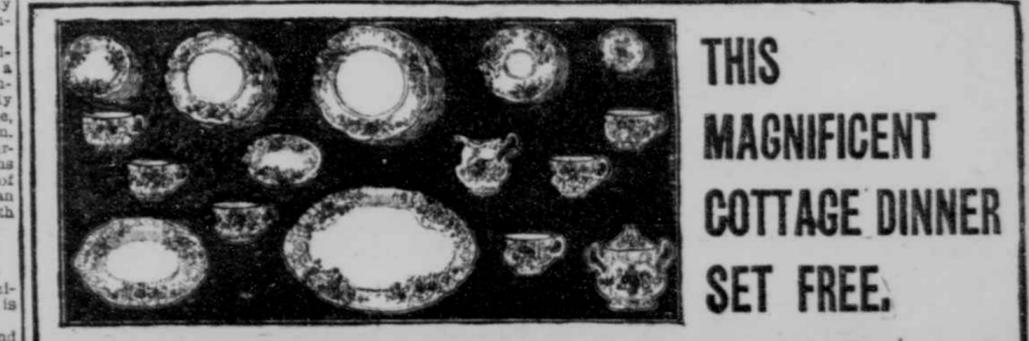
**FREE**

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

F. J. KELLOGG, 2159 Kellogg Bldg., Battle Creek, Mich.

**THIS BOOK FREE**

How to select a good furnace. No. 43 of the Kellogg Publication costs \$10. Freight paid. Other sizes. Write, Room 200, Kellogg & Van G. Co., 754 Tacoma Bldg., Chicago.



**THIS MAGNIFICENT COTTAGE DINNER SET FREE.**

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 fruit, 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.

THE HOUSEKEEPER 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, Coupon No. 2. Please order my subscription to THE HOUSEKEEPER. After receiving three copies I will send you 50 cents for the year's subscription if I think the magazine worth the price. If I do not think it worthwhile I will receive you by sending the 50 cents back to enable me to change for the copies sent me.

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