

Idyls by Our Own Idylor.

NO. 6. "HOMME, SWEET HOMME."

"Twas in the Arctic Ocean, 'neath the Oriental skies,
The captain of the "Seagull" went aloft to scrutinize,
And what he saw when there was calculated to surprise.

He put his capstan to his eye and spied upon his lea
An isle to windward, on its shore a solitary tree,
And fourteen pristine blacks enjoying *homme-la-fricasseo*

He ordered out his binnacle and rowed unto the land,
Intending to communicate with all that foreign band,
But found *signs* were *sine-quanon* to make them understand.

And so he told (in signs) about the country whence he came.

He blowed about (in signs) his wealth, his rank, and world-wide fame.

He signed his height, his age, his weight, and then he signed his name.

Their feast was spread beneath the tree, to shade them from the sun,

They asked the captain to partake, and said they'd just begun.

He'd find that thigh-stake tender tho' a trifle underdone.

The captain, tho' he felt their hospitality a bore,

He thought he'd pick a bit of thumb or toe, but nothing more.

To say he'd tasted man, a thing he'd never done before.

He tasted; then he helped himself and made no *bonus* about it.

And wondered much how civilized mankind could do without it.

That man-flesh was a sweet meat none that tasted it could doubt it.

He dearly loved his joke, and as he sat upon that beach.

It struck him 'twould be just the thing to make a funny speech.

Of course he'd made the *jest* in signs—*gesticulating* each.

So rising to his feet, he said, "My friends it would be most

Uncomfortable for us all, if now our dinner's ghost

Appeared to haunt your *guest*, and—may I call you all—the *host*.

Then fourteen groans rose on the air in one wild, warlike whoop.

And fourteen outraged blacks advanced, a fierce and vengeful group.

And of that joking captain made a good *digestive* soup.

The "Seagull" lay a mile away, and when her gallant crew

Who waited for their captain, saw dismayed, his awful *stew*.

Set sail, and *weighing* anchor, found it *weighed* a ton or two.

(I merely mention this just incidentally to you).

And when they reached their native land with faces thin and white,

And broke it to the captain's wife, she nearly died with fright.

And shrieked in accents tender, with a dash of wifely spite,

"What! *served* in *stew* for dinner, Oh! the wretch, I think he quite

Deserved it all, in point of fact, those niggers *served* him right."

ROBERT AWDE's anti-INGERSOLL poetry, published in the *Telegram*, seems to have

Awde the great doubter into silence. And it would be rather Awde if it didn't.

Go west, young women, go west. Your mission is in Great Lone Land. Without

your presence there the young pioneers of the country are in imminent danger of being

Cree-mated.

The Galt Reformer says the Grand River

"flows along in a deep wide and yellow stream five or six feet above its usual level."

We did not know that the Grand River passed through Ayr.

The exodus from Ontario is assuming alarming proportions. We are assured by a sober and

truthful person, who has the means of knowing whereof he speaks, that even the trees are on

the point of leaving.

Fashion note.—Breach-of-promise suits are now much affected by ladies who are being

courted. A singular circumstance in connexion with these suits consists in the fact

that they are all of Assize.

The lager loving people of the County of Waterloo are not by any means Waterloo-natics.

JOHN BUNYAN keeps a Guelph Hotel. His Pilgrim's Progress is of the rail fence pattern.

Winter lingers in the lap of spring; but a go-as-you-please tramp says it is the old boy's last lap.

A new serge factory is to be established at St. Jerome, Quebec. Thus does SIR JOHN'S N. P. surge on.

**INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.****Tenders for Rolling Stock.**

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up to Noon on TUESDAY, the 20th APRIL, instant, for the immediate supply of FOUR LOCOMOTIVES.

Drawings and specifications may be seen and other information obtained on application at the Mechanical Superintendent's office, Intercolonial Railway, Moncton, N.B.

By order,

F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

Dept. of Railways and Canals, }
Ottawa, 6th April, 1880. }

**WELLAND CANAL.****NOTICE**

TO

BRIDGE-BUILDERS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned (Secretary of Railways and Canals) and endorsed "Tender for Bridges, Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the Western mails on TUESDAY THE 15th DAY OF JUNE next, for the construction of swing and stationary bridges at various places on the line of the Welland Canal. Those for highways are to be a combination of iron and wood, and those for railway purposes are to be of iron.

Plans, specifications and general conditions can be seen at this office on and after MONDAY, THE 31st DAY OF MAY next, where Forms of Tender can also be obtained.

Parties tendering are expected to have a practical knowledge of works of this class, and are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms, and—in the case of firms—except there are attached the actual signatures, the nature of the occupation, and the residence of each member of the same; and further an accepted bank cheque for a sum equal to \$250 for each bridge for which an offer is made, must accompany each Tender, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the work at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted.

The cheque thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

For the due fulfilment of the contract the party or parties whose tender it is proposed to accept will be notified that their tender is accepted subject to a deposit of *five per cent.* of the bulk sum of the contract—of which the sum sent in with the tender will be considered a part—to be deposited to the credit of the Receiver-General within *eight days* after the date of the notice.

Ninety per cent. only of the progress estimates will be paid until the completion of the work.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Order,

F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

DEPT. OF RAILWAYS & CANALS, }
Ottawa, 29th March, 1880. }

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BALDNESS!

Neither gasoline, vasoline, carboline, or Allen's, Ayer's or Hall's hair restorers have produced luxuriant hair on bald heads. That great discovery is due to Mr. Winter-cornby, 144 King-street, West, opposite Revere Block, as can be testified to by hundreds of living witnesses in this city and Province. He challenges all the so-called restorers to produce a like result.

Send for circulars.

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A Hint for the "Intellectual Centre."

High School Teacher to Pupil.—What is the meaning of *tautology*?

Pupil.—It means uselessly expressing the same idea repeatedly, Sir.

Teacher.—Very good. Now can you give me an example of *tautology*?

Pupil.—Horticultural Gardens, Sir.

Teacher.—What? Oh!—yes. I never thought of that. Now explain what you mean.

Pupil.—*Hortus* signifies a garden, and I think there's the word *cultura*, meaning cultivation.

Teacher.—Very well, put all together then, and what have you in English?

Pupil.—Garden-cultivating or cultivated Gardens, Sir.

Teacher.—Just so. Now, Master SPROUTS, can you remember any other examples of *tautology*?

Pupil.—Old veterans; a graminivorous grass-eater, a floricultural flower-garden, an—

Teacher.—That will do. Now, as you have been so sharp perhaps you will suggest a better name for those gardens. What would you call them?

Pupil.—The ALLAN Gardens, Sir; or the Citizens' Garden; or the People's Gardens; or the Floricultural Gardens; or the City Gardens; or the Arboricultural Gardens; or—

Teacher. (*pedantically*)—Hold on, that's too long a word; but any one of these would be more worthy of a seat of learning like Toronto than the appellation now in use. You may go to your seat, Master SPROUTS. *Aside*.—Smart boy, that.

**WELLAND CANAL.****NOTICE**

TO

Machinist-Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned (Secretary of Railways and Canals) and endorsed "Tender for Lock Gates, Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the Eastern and Western Mails on THURSDAY the 3rd day of JUNE next, for the construction of gates, and the necessary machinery connected with them, for the new locks on the Welland Canal.

Plans, Specifications, and General Conditions can be seen at this office on and after THURSDAY the 30th day of MAY, next, where forms of tender can also be obtained.

Parties tendering are expected to provide the special tools necessary for, and to have a practical knowledge of, works of this class, and are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms, and—in the case of firms—except there are attached the actual signatures, the nature of the occupation and residence of each member of the same; and further, an accepted bank cheque for a sum equal to \$250, for the gates of each lock, must accompany each tender, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into the contract for the works at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted.

The cheque thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

For the due fulfilment of the contract the party or parties whose tender it is proposed to accept will be notified that their tender is accepted subject to a deposit of *five per cent.* of the bulk sum of the contract—of which the sum sent in with the tender will be considered a part—to be deposited to the credit of the Receiver-General within *eight days* after the date of the notice.

Ninety per cent. only of the progress estimates will be paid until the completion of the work.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Order,

F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

DEPT. OF RAILWAYS & CANALS, }
Ottawa, 29th March, 1880. }

xiv-20-qt

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USE MYRTLE NAVY.

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