

THE GHOST.

Martin had skulked into the castle-garden, filled two sacks full of fruit, and was carrying them home one at a time.

As he was going with the first sack along the garden-wall, the church clock just then struck twelve. The air souged awfully through the leaves of the trees, and Martin saw suddenly a black man by his side, who seemed to be carrying the other sack for him.

The terrified thief uttered a cry, let his sack fall, and sprang forward as fast as he could. The black man also let his sack fall, and sprang forward in the same manner by Martin's side as far as the end of the garden wall, where he vanished.

On the following morning Martin told everybody about this fearful ghost—only, he said nothing about his stealing. But the bailiff had Martin sent for the same day, and said to him, "You were stealing fruit last night in the castle garden: the sacks, on which your father's name is found, have convicted you. I shall, on this account, have you sent to the house of correction. But the black man, whom you believed you saw, was nothing else but your own shadow, which, as the moon rose at twelve o'clock, you beheld on the newly whitewashed wall of the garden."

The rogue is never without fear; the evildoer is afraid of a rustling leaf, and runs away from his own shadow.

"The man who keeps his conscience clear Will never have a cause of fear."



Welland Canal Enlargement.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Sealed tenders addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for the Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the Eastern and Western mails on MONDAY, the 25th day of JANUARY next (1886), for raising the walls of the locks, weirs, &c., and increasing the height of the banks of the t. part of the Welland Canal between Port Dalhousie and Thorold, and for deepening the Summit level between Thorold and Ramey's Bend, near Humberston.

The works, throughout, will be let in sections. Maps of the several localities, together with plans and descriptive specifications, can be seen at this office on and after MONDAY, the 11th day of JANUARY next (1886), where printed forms of tender can be obtained. A like class of information relative to the works north of Allanburg will be furnished at the Resident Engineer's Office, Thorold; and for works south of Allanburg, plans, specifications, &c., may be seen at the Resident Engineer's Office, Welland.

Contractors 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 to the actual signatures the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the same; and further, an accepted bank cheque for the sum of Two Thousand Dollars or more, according to the extent of the work on the section - must accompany the respective tenders, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works, at the rates stated in the offer submitted.

The amount required in each case will be stated on the form of tender.

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

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

By order.

A. P. BRADLEY, Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, 9th December, 1885.

A CHEERFUL FACE

Next to the sunlight of heaven is the cheerful face. There is no mistaking it—the bright eye, the unclouded brow, the sunny smile, all tell of that which dwells within. Who has not felt its electrifying influence? One glance at this face lifts us out of the mists and shadows into the beautiful realms of hope. One cheerful face in the household will keep everything warm and bright within. A host of evil passions may lurk around the door, but they never enter and abide there; the cheerful face will put them to shame and flight. It may be a very plain face, but there is something in it we feel, yet cannot express; and its cheery smile sends the blood dancing through our veins for very joy. Ah, there is a world of magic in the plain, cheerful face. It charms us with a spell of eternity, and we would not exchange it for all the soulless beauty that ever graced the fairest form on earth.

It may be a little face, but some how this cheery little face ever shines, and the shining is so bright that the shadows cannot remain, and silently they creep away into the dark corners where the pleasant face is gone.

It may be a wrinkled face, but it is all the dearer for that, and none the less cheerful. We linger near it, and gaze tenderly upon it, and say: "God bless this happy face!" We must keep it with us as long as we can, for home will lose much of its brightness when this sweet face is gone. And after it is gone, how the remembrance of it softens our wayward natures! When care and sorrow would snap our heart strings asunder, this wrinkled face looks down upon us, and the painful tension grows lighter, the way seems less dreary, and the sorrow less heavy.

God bless the cheerful face! What a dreary world this would be without this heaven-born light! And he who has it not, should pray for it as for his daily bread.

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