

guns created temporary confusion, and enabled the boys while loading afresh to get out of the deadly circle and on a couple of hundred yards more toward the ice. The whole herd once again joined in full chase, and just as Arthur and Fred got to the edge of the lake and were about putting on their skates the snarling crowd were within fifteen paces. They fired full into the faces of the leaders, emptying four barrels; then hastily finished fastening their skates; but this time the enraged mongrels did not hesitate long after the shots, but bounded forward, and reached the edge of the blue ice just as the boys were ready to strike off. Arthur was first on the ice, but as Fred was sliding down the bank a huge dog bounded forward and fastened its teeth in his shoulder. There was not a minute to lose, for all the rest had reached the brink, crying and howling, so Arthur raised his gun and struck the assailant with the stock a great swinging blow upon the head which sent him stunned and sprawling upon the ice. Away then the two went as if their feet had wings, their trusty steel skates fairly singing over the smooth, hard, blue ice.

After they got well started and had swung fully a hundred yards away from shore they turned and saw some of the disappointed pack tumbling and scrambling along the ice at a safe distance behind them. The remainder raced with might and main along the bank, but they could not keep up with the two expert and muscular young Northern skaters. Their cries were now those of baffled rage, and the sound echoed everywhere among the hills, but the two young sportsmen felt little concern, for a shining stretch of ice fully four miles long lay before them. When they reached the end of it, which did not take them a great many minutes, there was nowhere to be seen any of the wild dogs nor a cry to be heard. Then they fastened on their snowshoes, ran quickly over the crust till they reached the next chain of lakes, and got home safely. The story of their adventure filled the settlement with wonder for many a day, and the boys were applauded as a pair of true heroes.

EDMUND COLLINS.

MR. DUVAR'S critical papers in the Charlottetown *Guardian*, which were attracting considerable attention throughout the Dominion, have, we are sorry to see, been discontinued for a time, owing to other engagements. If there is one thing more than another that our literature wants just now, it is wise and just critics.

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