

THE MONROSE JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, NEWS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE, AND MORALITY.

S. B. & E. B. CHASE, PROPRIETORS



MISCELLANY

From Miss McIntosh's Christmas Gift.

The Gothic Guest.

By C. Whittemore.

During the winter of 1844, being engaged in the northern part of Maine, I had much leisure to devote to the wild sports of a new country. To none of them was I more passionately addicted than to skating. The deep and sequestered lakes of this State, frozen by the intense cold of the northern winter, presents a wide field to the lovers of this pastime. Often would I bind on my skates, and glide away on the glittering rives, and wind, each, many streaks beneath its fators, on toward the parent ocean, forgetting all the white time and distance in the luxurious sense of the glittering motion—thinking of nothing in the easy flight, but rather dreaming, as I looked through the transparent ice at the long weeds and reeds that nodded in the current beneath, and seemed wrestling with the waves to let them go; or I would follow on the track of some otter, and run my skate along the mark he had left with his dragging tail until the trail would enter the woods. Sometimes these excursions were made by moonlight, and it was on one of these occasions that I had a rencontre which, even now, with kind faces around me, I cannot recall without a nervous feeling.

I had left my friend's house one evening just before dusk, with the intention of skating a short distance up the noble Kennebec, which glided directly before the door. The night was beautifully clear. A peerless moon rode through an occasionally fleecy cloud, and stars twinkled from the sky and from every frost covered tree in millions. You wonder at the light that came glittering from the ice, and snow wreathed and incrusted branches, as the eyes followed for miles the broad gleam of the Kennebec, that like a jeweled zone swept between the mighty forests on its banks. And yet all was still. The cold seemed to have frozen tree, air, and water, and everything that moved.

Even the ringing of my skates on the ice echoed back from the Moosan Hill with a startling clearness, and the crackle of the ice as I passed over it in my course seemed to follow the tide of the river with lightning speed.

I had gone up the river nearly two miles, when, coming to a little stream which emptied into the larger, I turned in to explore its course. Fir and hemlock of a century's growth met overhead, and formed an arched radiant with frost work. All was dark within, but I was young and fearless, and as I peered into an unbroken forest that reared itself on the borders of the stream, I laughed with pure joyousness, my wild humor rang through the silent woods and I stood listening to the echo that reverberated again and again, until it was hushed. I thought how often the Indian hunter had concealed himself behind these very trees—how often his arrow had pierced the deer by this very stream, and his wild falcon had here rung for its victory. And then turning from fancy to reality, I watched a couple of white owls, that sat in their hooded state, with ruffled pantlets and long ear tabs, debating in silent conclave the affairs of their frozen realm, and wondering if they, "for all their feathers, were cold" when suddenly a sound arose—it seemed to come from beneath the ice; it sounded low and tremulous at first, until it ended in one wild yell. I was appalled. Never before had such a noise met my ears. I thought it more than mortal—so fierce and amid such an unbroken solitude, it seemed as if a fiend had blown a blast from an infernal trumpet.

Presently I heard the twigs on shore snap, as from the tread of some animal, and the blood rusted back to my forehead with bound that made my skin burn, and I felt relieved that I had to contend with things earthly, and not of a spiritual nature—my energies returned, and I looked around me for some means of escape. The moon shone through the opening of the mouth of the creek the same way by which I had entered the forest, and considering this the best means of escape, I darted towards it like an arrow. Was hard a hundred yards distant, and the swallow could scarcely exceed my desperate flight; yet as I turned my head to the shore, I could see two dark objects dashing through the undergrowth at a pace nearly double in speed to my own. By this great speed, and the short yell which they occasionally gave, I knew at once that these were the much dreaded grey wolf.

I had never met with these animals, but from the description given of them I had but little pleasure in making their acquaintance. Their untameable ferocity, and the untiring strength which seems part of their nature, render them objects of dread to every benighted traveller.

"With their long gallop, which can tire, The fierce bound's hate and the hunter's fire." They pursue their prey—never straying from the path of their victim—and as the wearied hunter thinks he has outstripped them, he finds that they but waited for the evening to seize their prey, and falls a prize to the tireless inmates.

The bushes that skirted the shore flew past with the velocity of lightning as I dashed on in my flight to pass the narrow opening. The outlet was nearly gained; one second more, and I would be in comparative safety, when my pursuers appeared on the bank directly before me, which here rose to the height of ten feet. There was no time for thought, so I bent my head and dashed madly forward.—

"I sleep that there is nothing to interrupt the sweep of the wind, come which way it will."

The wolves sprang, but miscalculating my speed, sprung behind while their intended prey glided out upon the river.

"I should think so, but, by one thing, I have been wondering, in my own mind, how you are to get up your own end?" Jefferson threw up his hands and eyes; never thought of that. The mill was about, of course, and about to dash us to atoms.

You think then, on the whole, that the things that are to be done, cannot fail of complete success?"

"All what that? That's a question I have been wondering, in my own mind, how you are to get up your own end?" Jefferson threw up his hands and eyes; never thought of that. The mill was about,

of course, and about to dash us to atoms.

"I sleep that there is nothing to interrupt the sweep of the wind, come which way it will."

The bands of Mann were evidently then dissolved. This statement agrees nearly with the evidence of the cash book, when Delamater was cashier. That cash book runs from August till October, 1849. I do not know of any other notes than those I have spoken of filled up corresponding to the contract with Mann.

The first contract was for one hundred thousand dollars, and upon the same terms and conditions as a similar contract with Aspel and Thos. P. St. John. None of the Mann issue of notes has been returned to the bank since its failure. It was the first contract with Mann that was adopted in the resolution of the directors, 7th September, 1846.

The whole amount of twenty thousand dollars was issued to the St. John, under the contract with them, dated 5th September, 1849.

Eight thousand dollars of this issue was returned to the bank about the time of the failure.

The other twelve thousand dollars issued to the St. John, are designated by being filled up with the name of David Bates, as above.

Extracts from *Discount Book*.

21st May, 1845.—Paid Wm. Bradley twenty thousand dollar note, signed by Bradley and others, endorsed E. A. Thompson.

23rd May, 1846.—Paid W. Q. Hodgson \$5,000.

4 June, 1845.—Paid Peter Voorhees \$5,000.

11 June, 1849.—Paid Wm. Jessup & Co. \$81,750.00

25 June, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

2 July, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

28 July, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

28 Wm. L. Post, recalled.

The entry in red ink, across the resolution of 13th February, 1847, was made by me about the 5th September, 1849, which was the first time I had read the resolution on the record. Subsequently, perhaps in October, Mr. Avery also signed my entry across the resolution. The minute book was kept in the safe of the bank. I had access to it at all times. I had the book a number of times between the 13th February, 1847, and 5th September, 1849, but had not actually read it in the resolution alluded to of the former date.

At one time, by delaying my turning too long, my fierce antagonist said near that they threw the white foam over my dress as they sprang to seize, and their tooth-clashed together like the spring of a fox-trap. Had my skates failed for a single instant, had I tripped on a stick, or caught in a fissure of the ice, the story I am telling would never have been told. I thought all the chances over; I knew where they would first take hold of me if I fell; I thought how long it would be before I died, and when there would be a search for the body that would already have its tomb; for oh! how fast man's mind "trees" out all the dreadfulness of death's picture; and without payment of any sum by the assignee.

The said assignee have subsequently transferred a portion of their stock to others, as the transfer book shows.

The bank, after these transfers and arrangements, held one thousand four hundred and sixty-five shares of its own stock as I recollect, the cancellation from the books. The transfers of stock to the St. John & Goddard, by individuals, was a gratuity, and without payment of any sum by the assignee.

These two notes are possibly remnants of former notes, before stated.

At the time of the failure of the Bank, the notes were as follows:

Bank notes, good \$5,000.00

Specie, including an account repaid by Delamater \$42,56

David Bates, good \$163.93

E. G. Biddle, good \$46,344.63

Wm. L. Post, recalled \$10,000.00

Feb 21. eleven sundry notes \$25,000.00

John Baker, balance due \$85,244.63

Allen & Paxton, special loan \$45,344.63

July 13, " special loan \$16,000.00

Special loan, (Stock Co. Ass't) \$16,000.00

1849. Extracts from *Discount Book*.

21st May, 1845.—Paid Wm. Bradley twenty thousand dollar note, signed by Bradley and others, endorsed E. A. Thompson.

23rd May, 1846.—Paid W. Q. Hodgson \$5,000.00

4 June, 1845.—Paid Peter Voorhees \$5,000.

11 June, 1849.—Paid Wm. Jessup & Co. \$81,750.00

25 June, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

2 July, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

28 July, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

28 Wm. L. Post, recalled.

The entry in red ink, across the resolution of 13th February, 1847, was made by me about the 5th September, 1849, which was the first time I had read the resolution on the record. Subsequently, perhaps in October, Mr. Avery also signed my entry across the resolution. The minute book was kept in the safe of the bank. I had access to it at all times. I had the book a number of times between the 13th February, 1847, and 5th September, 1849, but had not actually read it in the resolution alluded to of the former date.

At one time, by delaying my turning too long, my fierce antagonist said near that they threw the white foam over my dress as they sprang to seize, and their tooth-clashed together like the spring of a fox-trap. Had my skates failed for a single instant, had I tripped on a stick, or caught in a fissure of the ice, the story I am telling would never have been told. I thought all the chances over; I knew where they would first take hold of me if I fell; I thought how long it would be before I died, and when there would be a search for the body that would already have its tomb; for oh! how fast man's mind "trees" out all the dreadfulness of death's picture; and without payment of any sum by the assignee.

The said assignee have subsequently transferred a portion of their stock to others, as the transfer book shows.

The bank, after these transfers and arrangements, held one thousand four hundred and sixty-five shares of its own stock as I recollect, the cancellation from the books. The transfers of stock to the St. John & Goddard, by individuals, was a gratuity, and without payment of any sum by the assignee.

These two notes are possibly remnants of former notes, before stated.

At the time of the failure of the Bank, the notes were as follows:

Bank notes, good \$5,000.00

Specie, including an account repaid by Delamater \$42,56

David Bates, good \$163.93

E. G. Biddle, good \$46,344.63

Wm. L. Post, recalled \$10,000.00

Feb 21. eleven sundry notes \$25,000.00

John Baker, balance due \$85,244.63

Allen & Paxton, special loan \$45,344.63

July 13, " special loan \$16,000.00

Special loan, (Stock Co. Ass't) \$16,000.00

1849. Extracts from *Discount Book*.

21st May, 1845.—Paid Wm. Bradley twenty thousand dollar note, signed by Bradley and others, endorsed E. A. Thompson.

23rd May, 1846.—Paid W. Q. Hodgson \$5,000.00

4 June, 1845.—Paid Peter Voorhees \$5,000.

11 June, 1849.—Paid Wm. Jessup & Co. \$81,750.00

25 June, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

2 July, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

28 July, 1849.—Paid Wm. Bradley \$5,000.

28 Wm. L. Post, recalled.

The entry in red ink, across the resolution of 13th February, 1847, was made by me about the 5th September, 1849, which was the first time I had read the resolution on the record. Subsequently, perhaps in October, Mr. Avery also signed my entry across the resolution. The minute book was kept in the safe of the bank. I had access to it at all times. I had the book a number of times between the 13th February, 1847, and 5th September, 1849, but had not actually read it in the resolution alluded to of the former date.

At one time, by delaying my turning too long, my fierce antagonist said near that they threw the white foam over my dress as they sprang to seize, and their tooth-clashed together like the spring of a fox-trap. Had my skates failed for a single instant, had I tripped on a stick, or caught in a fissure of the ice, the story I am telling would never have been told. I thought all the chances over; I knew where they would first take hold of me if I fell; I thought how long it would be before I died, and when there would be a search for the body that would already have its tomb; for oh! how fast man's mind "trees" out all the dreadfulness of death's picture; and without payment of any sum by the assignee.

The said assignee have subsequently transferred a portion of their stock to others, as the transfer book shows.

The bank, after these transfers and arrangements, held one thousand four hundred and sixty-five shares of its own stock as I recollect, the cancellation from the books. The transfers of stock to the St. John & Goddard, by individuals, was a gratuity, and without payment of any sum by the assignee.

These two notes are possibly remnants of former notes, before stated.

At the time of the failure of the Bank, the notes were as follows:

Bank notes, good \$5,000.00

Specie, including an account repaid by Delamater \$42,56

David Bates, good \$163.93

E. G. Biddle, good \$46,344.63

Wm. L. Post, recalled \$10,000.00

Feb 21. eleven sundry notes \$25,000.00

John Baker, balance due \$85,244.63

Allen & Paxton, special loan \$45,344.63

July 13, " special loan \$16,000.00

Special loan, (Stock Co. Ass't) \$16,000.00

1849. Extracts from *Discount Book*.

21st May, 1845.—Paid Wm. Bradley twenty thousand dollar note, signed by Bradley and others, endorsed E. A. Thompson.

23rd May, 1846.—Paid W. Q. Hodgson \$5,000.00

4 June, 1845.—Paid Peter Voorhees \$5,000.