THE DOOMED SKATER.

contained the machine most impur-sive creature that ever pointed a moral for headlong youth. Ever in scrapes and difficulties, but never to his dis-honor. Jack fought one-half his ac-quaintances into loving him, which the

which we were forced to settle, fresh from the sunny lanes of Kent and the loved circle at home, and how could it be otherwise? But as for Jack, he was in raptures with everything that disquieted me. Nothing was more charmingly romantic than our hut on the bluff, and no river could equal the brown, melancholy Scugog.

We did not settle down to the regulation life of the settler all at once; we

We did not settle down to the regula-tion life of the settler all at once; we determined to sip the nectar of life on the Scugog, if, in leed, there was any of that ambrosial draft to be d-ained in the townsaip. The fascination of the swift canoe acpt us almost constantly on the dack, mysterious river; and in truth-there was scarcely any other outlet from our dwelling save on its waters. By day we fished and we shot from our frail skiffs, and by night, when the moon was up, we would plaude them in her silvery wake.

skirk, and by night, when the meen was up, we would plated them in her silvery wake.

I have said that a few rough settlers for hed our society on the Sengog. Among them were some half breeds—a species of degenerate Indian—who had sank from the dignity of forest life to the territude and baneting of the white settlers. They were hizy, good for nothing feslows, except in the matter of fishing or shooting, wherein they were proficient. We found them useful in giving instruction in the cance life of our river home. I preferred, for my own part, to go pretey much by myself on our where excursions. Jack, however, had no hach idea of placid enjoyment, and specially leaving me to my aquatic reveries me hired a hangdog, looking secondard named Olier to assist him in the management of his caace.

I am no great das aple of Lavater, but I never hired than half breast. All these dregs of hahma monity are sailow, blear eyed creatures, with a world of cuming, but this fellow was ensel of them all for every epidsive trait. Of course Jack ridiculed my sentiments about this new servitor; he was a match for a half a dozen, twenty fellows life Olier, he said; and it was all right, and I was not to bother my near about him.

It was geving late in the fall; the Indian summer—that beautiful dream of lovelness—had restored to us in evanes.

to bother my head about him.

It was get-ing late in the fall; the Indian summer—that beautiful dream of loveliness—had restored to us in evanescent beauty the gories of a Canadian autumn. The forests were as gay with color as a herale's tabard, and the air was yet balmy with the lingering sweetness of summer. One exquisite evening, born of one of these lovely days, I was listlessly smoking as I lay on the top of the bluff, vacantly sitectining home land-scapes in the dark Scugog rolling beneath. A c. oe shot around the bend of the river below the village; it was paddled by a so..ary figure, who turned out to be Jack. I Thew he had gone down the Scugog to fish along with Olier; but no half breed squatted in the opposite end of the cance. A vague dread seized upon me as Jack, running his little bark shorr up the bank, shouldered his paddle and marched up to me.

"How now, Jack? What have you done with your charming companion?" I mauried, disguising my confectural

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