



# HUNTING THE GRIZZLY BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT

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**F**OR some days after our arrival on the Bighorn range we did not come across any grizzly. Although it was still early in September, the weather was cool and pleasant, the nights being frosty; and every two or three days there was a flurry of light snow, which rendered the labor of tracking much more easy. Indeed, throughout our stay on the mountains, the peaks were snow-capped almost all the time. Our fare was excellent, consisting of elk venison, mountain grouse, and small trout; the last caught in one of the beautiful little lakes that lay almost by timber line. There were plenty of black-tail deer in the woods, and we came across a number of bands of cow and calf elk, or of young bulls; but after several days' hunting, we were still without any head worth taking home, and had seen no signs of grizzly, which was the game we were especially anxious to kill. One day I



We sat still to wait for his approach.

reached camp early in the afternoon, and waited a couple of hours before Merrifield put in an appearance. At last I heard a shout—the familiar long-drawn Elkoh-h-h of the cattle-men—and he came in sight galloping at speed down an open glade, and waving his hat, evidently having had good luck; and when he reined in his small, wiry, cow-pony, we saw that he had packed behind his saddle the fine, glossy pelt of a black bear. Better still, he announced that he had been off about ten miles to a perfect tangle of ravines and valleys where bear sign was very thick; and not of black bear either, but grizzly.

Merrifield's tale made me decide to shift camp at once, and go over to the spot where the bear-tracks were so plenty. Next morning we were off, and by noon pitched camp by a clear brook, in a valley with steep, wooded sides, but with good feed for the horses in the open bottom. We rigged the canvas wagon sheet into a small tent, sheltered by the trees from the wind, and piled great pine logs near by where we wished to place the fire; for a night camp in the sharp fall weather is cold and dreary unless there is a roaring blaze of fumes in front of the tent.

That afternoon we again went out, and I shot a fine bull elk. I came home alone toward nightfall, walking through a reach of burnt forest, where there was nothing but charred tree-trunks and black mould. When nearly through it I came across the huge, half-human footprints of a great grizzly, which must have passed by within a few minutes. It gave me rather an eerie feeling in the silent, lonely woods, to see the unmistakable proofs that I was in the home of the mighty lord of the wilderness. I followed the tracks in the fading twilight until it became too dark to see them any longer, and then shouldered my rifle and walked back to camp.

That evening we almost had a visit from one of the animals we were after. Several times we had heard, at night the musical calling of the bull elk. This particular night, when we were in bed and the fire was smoldering, we were roused by a ruler note—a kind of grunting or roaring while answered by the frightened snorts of the ponies. It was a bear which had evidently not seen the fire as it came from behind the logs, and had probably been attracted by the scent of the horses. After a moment or two we went on again, but slowly, for we had,

of course, to keep a sharp look-out ahead and around us as we walked noiselessly on in the sombre half-light always prevailing under the great pine trees, through whose thickly interlacing branches stray but few beams of light, no matter how bright the sun may be outside. We made no sound ourselves, and every little sudden noise sent a thrill through me as I peered about with each sense on the alert. After going a few hundred yards the tracks turned off on a well-beaten path made by the elk; the woods were in many places cut up by these game trails, which had often become as distinct as ordinary foot-paths. The bear's footprints were perfectly plain in the dust, and he had lumbered along up the path until near the middle of the hillside, where the ground broke away and there were hollows and boulders. Here there had been a wind-fall, and the dead trees lay among the living, piled across one another in all directions; while between and around them sprouted up a thick growth of young spruces and other evergreens. The trail turned off into the tangled thicket, within which it was almost certain we would find our quarry. We could still follow the tracks, by the slight scrapes of the claws on the bark, or by the bent and broken twigs; and we advanced with noiseless caution, slowly climbing over the dead tree trunks and upturned stumps, and not letting a branch rustle or catch on our clothes. When in the middle of the thicket we crossed what was almost a breastwork of fallen logs, and Merrifield, who was leading, passed by the upright stem of a great pine. As soon as he was by it he sank suddenly on one knee, turning half round, his face fairly aflame with excitement; and as I strode past him, with my rifle at the ready, there, not ten steps off, was the great bear, slowly rising from his bed among the young spruces. He had heard us, but apparently hardly knew exactly where or what we were, for he reared up on his haunches sideways to us. Then he saw us and dropped down again on all fours, the shaggy hair on his neck and shoulders seeming to bristle as he turned towards us. As he sank down on his forefeet I had raised the rifle; his head was bent slightly down, and when I saw the top of the white head fairly between his small, glittering, evil eyes, I pulled trigger. Half-rising up, the huge beast fell over on his side in the death throes, the ball having gone into his brain, striking as fairly between the eyes as if the distance had been measured by a carpenter's rule.

The whole thing was over in twenty seconds from the time I caught sight of the game; indeed, it was over so quickly that the grizzly did not have time to show fight at all or come a step toward us. He was a monstrous fellow, much larger than any I have seen since, whether alive or brought in dead by the hunters. As near as we could estimate (for of course we had nothing with which to weigh more than very small portions) he must have weighed about twelve hundred pounds, and though this is not as large as some of his kind are said to grow in California, it is yet a very unusual size for a bear. He was a good deal heavier than any of our horses; and it was with the greatest difficulty that we were able to skin him. He must have been very old, his teeth and claws being all worn down and blunted; but nevertheless he had been living in plenty, for he was as fat as a prize hog, the layers on his back being a finger's length in thickness. He was still in the summer coat, his hair be-

ing useless to wait longer; and we clambered down and stole out to the edge of the woods. The forest here covered one side of a steep, almost canyon-like ravine, whose other side was bare except of rock and sage-brush. Once out from under the trees there was still plenty of light, although the sun had set, and we crossed over some fifty yards to the opposite hill-side, and crouched down under a bush to see if perchance some animal might not also leave the cover. To our right the ravine sloped downward toward the valley of the Bighorn River, and far on its other side we could catch a glimpse of the great main chain of the Rockies, their snow peaks glistening crimson in the light of the set sun. Again we waited quietly in the growing dusk until the pine trees in our front blended into one dark, frowning mass. We saw nothing; but the wild creatures of the forest had begun to stir abroad. The owls hooted dimly from the tops of the tall trees, and two or three times a harsh wailing cry, probably the voice of some lynx or wolverine, arose from the depths of the woods. At last, as we were rising to leave, we heard the sound of the breaking of a dead stick, from the spot where we knew the carcass lay. It was a sharp, sudden noise, perfectly distinct from the natural creaking and snapping of the branches, just such a sound as would be made by the tread of some heavy creature. "Old Ephraim" had come back to the carcass. A minute afterward, listening with strained ears, we heard him brush by some dry twigs. It was entirely too dark to go in after him; but we made up our minds that on the morrow he should be ours.

Early next morning we were over at the elk carcass, and as we expected, found that the bear had eaten his fill at it during the night. His tracks showed him to be an immense fellow, and were so fresh that we doubted if he had left long before we arrived, and we made up our minds to follow him up and try to find his lair. The bears that lived on these mountains had evidently been little disturbed; indeed, the Indians and most of the white hunters are rather chary of meddling with "Old Ephraim," as the mountain men style the grizzly, unless they get him at a disadvantage, for the sport is fraught with some danger and but small profit. The bears thus seemed to have very little fear of harm, and we thought it likely that the bed of the one who had fed on the elk would not be far off.

No companion was a skilful tracker, and we took up the trail at once. For some distance it led over the soft, yielding mass of moss and pine needles, and the footprints were quite plain, although we could not see them but slowly, for we had,

of course, to keep a sharp look-out ahead and around us as we walked noiselessly on in the sombre half-light always prevailing under the great pine trees, through whose thickly interlacing branches stray but few beams of light, no matter how bright the sun may be outside. We made no sound ourselves, and every little sudden noise sent a thrill through me as I peered about with each sense on the alert. After going a few hundred yards the tracks turned off on a well-beaten path made by the elk; the woods were in many places cut up by these game trails, which had often become as distinct as ordinary foot-paths. The bear's footprints were perfectly plain in the dust, and he had lumbered along up the path until near the middle of the hillside, where the ground broke away and there were hollows and boulders. Here there had been a wind-fall, and the dead trees lay among the living, piled across one another in all directions; while between and around them sprouted up a thick growth of young spruces and other evergreens. The trail turned off into the tangled thicket, within which it was almost certain we would find our quarry. We could still follow the tracks, by the slight scrapes of the claws on the bark, or by the bent and broken twigs; and we advanced with noiseless caution, slowly climbing over the dead tree trunks and upturned stumps, and not letting a branch rustle or catch on our clothes. When in the middle of the thicket we crossed what was almost a breastwork of fallen logs, and Merrifield, who was leading, passed by the upright stem of a great pine. As soon as he was by it he sank suddenly on one knee, turning half round, his face fairly aflame with excitement; and as I strode past him, with my rifle at the ready, there, not ten steps off, was the great bear, slowly rising from his bed among the young spruces. He had heard us, but apparently hardly knew exactly where or what we were, for he reared up on his haunches sideways to us. Then he saw us and dropped down again on all fours, the shaggy hair on his neck and shoulders seeming to bristle as he turned towards us. As he sank down on his forefeet I had raised the rifle; his head was bent slightly down, and when I saw the top of the white head fairly between his small, glittering, evil eyes, I pulled trigger. Half-rising up, the huge beast fell over on his side in the death throes, the ball having gone into his brain, striking as fairly between the eyes as if the distance had been measured by a carpenter's rule.

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ing short, and in color a curious brindle brown, somewhat like that of certain bulldogs; while all the bears we shot afterward had the long thick winter fur, cinnamon or yellowish brown. By the way, the name of this bear has reference to its character and not to its color, and should, I suppose, be properly spelt grizzly—in the sense of horrible, exactly as we speak of a "grizzly spectre"—and not grizzly; but perhaps the latter way of spelling it is too well established to be now changed.

Commercial printing at the Courier.

## NEW YORK GRANGES.

Some Newsy Notes of the Work in the Empire State.

There are eight juvenile granges in the state. There should be more. Grange fairs are increasing in number every year in New York state. Jefferson and Lewis county Pomona have each established a scholarship in the Canton Agricultural school.

In the thirty-five subordinate granges of Oswego county the lecturer's office in twenty-seven is held by a woman. At the "old home" celebration at Middletown, N. Y., Washkill grange won the first prize, \$50, for the best decorated float; Wawayanda the second, \$40; Goshen the third, \$30.

"In Old New England" is the title of a new comedy drama written by Harry M. Doty, formerly a member of the Chatham (N. Y.) grange, now editor of a live weekly in Connecticut. It has just been published by J. W. Darrow of Chatham, N. Y.

George P. Hampton of New York, who as a member of the grange did so much to bring about denatured alcohol legislation, is to have a large exhibit of appliances for using denatured alcohol at the meeting of the national grange in Washington in November.

Recently a man went through the town of Farmington, N. Y., selling Red Wave wheat for seed at \$5 a bushel, taking orders for about fifty bushels. At a meeting of Farmington grange it was brought out that the same wheat could be bought of a near-by dealer for \$1.75. Many farmers not members of the Order were victimized.

## Delegates to Pomona.

In one of the Pomona grange meetings held recently in New York state a resolution was adopted making the Pomona meeting a delegated body—that is, delegates were to be elected by the subordinate granges in proportion to their membership. There was some doubt about the constitutionality of this proceeding, and the state master was consulted. He advised that the Pomona is not a delegated body and cannot be made such without amending the constitution. This item may be of interest to other granges in the state.

## Neighbors' Night in the Grange.

Where granges are conveniently located one to another it may be well for them to exchange programmes occasionally—that is, a programme prepared at one grange may be given at a neighboring grange and the exchange be made of similar interest. Occasional debates between granges are profitable.

Send your Courier to Eastern friends.

Kennedy's Laxative Cough syrup tastes nearly as good as maple sugar. It cures the cold by gently moving the bowels and at the same time it is soothing for throat irritation, thereby stopping the cough. Sold by Sablin's drug store.

## HELLO PEOPLE

Come and see me at  
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Having bought the Bicycle business of W. A. Paddock I would like to have a part of your trade, not all of it for I can't do it all. I would also like to gring your saws and file your edged tools. I'll do the best for you that I can and charge all I think you will stand.

**G. C. DANIELS**  
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will tell you something you may not know about Farming, Fires, Pearl Fishing, Pills, Woman's Invasion, Flying-Machines, and Actors.

It will give you lots of good short stories and beautiful pictures. You'll like it. Get one to-day. LOOK FOR THE PATCHWORK COVER

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## School Notes.

The Grants Pass basket ball team went to Ashland and met the Normal boys, Friday, January 1, with colors flying. Upon their arrival they were met by Prof. Waldrup, manager of the Ashland team and taken to the hotel. The boys practiced a little in the afternoon to get used to the hall, but the floor was so slippery that it was without avail.

The game was called at 9:30 on account of a handball game which the professors of the Normal played.

The H. S. held the Normalists down to a score during the first half. The score being six to 12 in favor of the Normal. The Normal boys were much taller and heavier than our boys and all were experienced players while two of our men had never seen a game before. With a little more practice and experience the H. S. boys will be a good team.

The score at the end of the second half was Grants Pass 20, Ashland 34. The officials were Profs. A. C. Joy and H. E. Mielke. The players were Noron, center; Spalding and Dykes, forwards; Niday and Bratton, guards; Subs, Herzinger, McCracken, Stanley and Letcher. We hope to have a return game with the Normal next week. Watch for announcement.

The January Tokay will be the boys' number and they are going to make it a hummer. It will be worth reading.

Miss Jessie McGregor from Pomona, Cal., is taking a commercial course with us. She came with good recommendations.

Santa Claus was exceptionally good to the High School and brought us a very good attendance during the first week of the new year.

The Junior class gave a "Pennant Party" at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Gilkey.

Some members of the Alumni visited our school just before the holidays. Among them were Alice McFarland, '08, Randall Hood, '08 and Herbert Gilkey, '08.

County Judge Jewell gave the High School a very interesting talk on the afternoon of December 23.

The debating team has made a New Year resolution, which is: "Resolved, That three-fourths of a jury should be competent to render a verdict. We hope that they will not break their resolution.

The basket ball team have their new uniforms. See how proud they look.

Gordon Griffin, one of our former students, is now studying for he ministry at McMinnville College.

Semester examinations begin on Thursday, January 14. The second semester begins Monday, January 25.

Our teachers have all returned from visiting and they seem much happier and pleasant since the holiday week.

## CAN EAT SAUSAGES AND FRESH BREAD

And Other Favorite Food Without Fear of an Upset Stomach.

You can eat anything your stomach craves without fear of a case of Indigestion or Dyspepsia, or that your food will ferment or sour on your stomach if you will occasionally take a little Diapiesin after eating.

Your meals will taste good, and anything you eat will be digested; nothing can ferment or turn to acid or poison or stomach gas, which causes Belching, Dizziness, a feeling of fullness after eating, Nausea, Indigestion (like a lump of lead in stomach), Billiousness, Heartburn, Water brash, Pain in stomach and intestines or other symptoms.

Headaches from the stomach are absolutely unknown where this effective remedy is used. Diapiesin really does all the work of a healthy stomach. It digests your meals when your stomach can't. Each triangle will digest all the food you can eat and leave nothing to ferment or sour.

Get a large 50-cent case of Pape's Diapiesin from your druggist and start taking today and by tomorrow you will actually brag about your healthy, strong stomach, for you then can eat anything and everything you want without the slightest discomfort or misery, and every particle of impurity and gas that is in your stomach and intestines is going to be carried away without the use of laxatives or any other assistance.

## Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the Most Popular Because it is the Best.

"I have sold Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for the past eight years and find it to be one of the best selling medicines on the market. For babies and young children there is nothing better in the line of cough syrups."—J. D. Allen, Plain Dealer, La. This remedy not only cures the cough, cold and croup so common among young children, but is pleasant and safe for them to take. For sale by all druggists.

## FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTHERN OREGON

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The safest and simplest way of keeping your money is by depositing it in a Reliable Bank. This Bank receives Deposits subject to Check, or on demand Certificates of deposit or on time Certificates of Deposits. On time deposits we pay **4 PER CENT INTEREST**

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One of the most important functions of the Bank. We endeavor to supply all reasonable needs of our customers.

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J. C. CAMPBELL, Vice-Pres.  
H. L. GILKEY, Cashier  
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A DELIGHTFUL  
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Imparts a pleasing softness and delicacy to the skin and restrains the ravages of sun, wind and time.

Its continued application eliminates sunburn, tan and freckles and renders imperceptible annoying minor blemishes and sallowness. It possesses a dainty, clinging odor exclusively its own and is in every way a perfect toilet luxury. Price 50 cents. Ask your druggist for it.

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When summer has passed in these northern states, the sun is only mild under the bright blue skies of Southern California. This is one of nature's happy provisions—a eternal summer for those who cannot endure a more severe climate. California has been called the "Mecca of the winter tourist." Its hotels and stopping places are as varied as those of all well regulated cities. Visitors can always find suitable accommodations, congenial companions, and varied, pleasing recreations.

## Southern Pacific Co.

Will be glad to supply some very attractive literature, describing in detail the many delights of winter in California. Very low round trip excursion tickets are on sale to California. The rate from Grants Pass to Los Angeles and return is **\$55.00**. Limit six months, allowing stop-overs in either direction. Similar excursion rates are in effect to all California points.

For full information, sleeping car reservations and tickets, call on, telegraph or write

R. K. Montgomery, Agent S. P. Co. on  
Wm. McMurray, Gen. Pass. Agent  
Portland, Oregon

## Pioneer Assaying and Ref. Co.

Capital \$100,000. Est. 27 years. Gold base bullion; cyanides, rich ore, etc. bought; assaying 50c. Spot cash on assaying values. 131 5th st. near U. S. Mint, San Francisco, Cal.

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