



THE ROOSEVELT BEARS ABROAD

By SEYMOUR EATON

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"And they got me landed safe at last
On a ledge of rock, where they tied me fast."

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XIII—THE BEARS IN SWITZERLAND.

The Bears were now in Switzerland;
With snowy peaks on every hand,
And winding roads and lakes of blue,
And mountain sides of every hue,
And waterfalls and deep ravines,
And ever-changing landscape scenes;
With sky for roof and farms for floors;
For Switzerland is all outdoors.

At Berne, the capital, they saw
The famous bears and shook each paw,
And with the cubs they had some fun,
And gave them views of Washington,
And made them promise that some day
They'd spend a summer in the U. S. A.
Then at Lucerne they spent a week,
And rode to the top of each mountain peak;
Up Rigi in a puffing train,
And Stanserhorn pulled by a chain,
And old Pilatus in a car,
Which beat the ride with the Russian Czar,
For it made their hair stand straight on end,
As they curved around each mountain bend.
But when they reached Pilatus' peak,
They looked amazed and didn't speak,
For all about them here unfurled,
The grandest view in all the world.
A mountain goat who made his home
On the very crest of this mighty dome

Made friends with each and showed surprise
That bears should climb so near the skies.

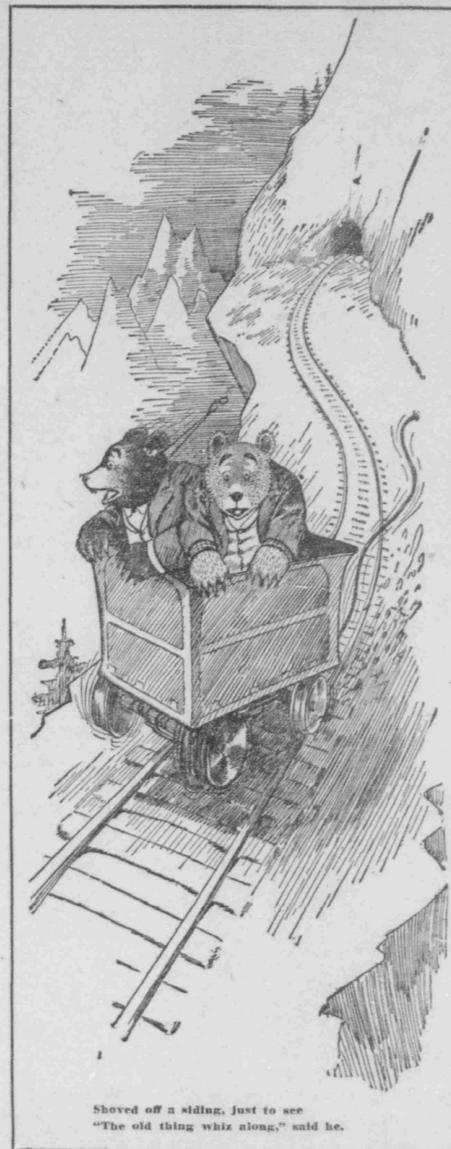
At Stanserhorn they tried a trick,
To ride the mountain double quick,
In a baggage truck which TEDDY-G
Shoved off a siding just to see,
"The old thing whiz along," said he.
It whizzed along for a hundred yards,
When it hit a stone and smashed the guards,
And tossed the Bears head over paw,
The worst upset you ever saw.
But bears have luck and they struck a rock,
And all they got was a nervous shock,
And some words in French which sounded cross,
From a gruffish man, the station boss.

They saw the Lion of Lucerne,
Who, arrow pierced and visage stern,
Defends with paw his country's shield,
To commemorate a battlefield.
They rode on boats from place to place,
And drove around each mountain base.
They stopped at call of chapel bell,
To hear the story of William Tell;
And here it was that TEDDY-G
Bought bow and arrow just to see
If at a hundred feet or more
He could hit an apple in the core.
The apple was laid by TEDDY-B
On the top of his head and entirely free;
The arrow shaved his nose a bit,
And struck the core and the apple split;
While the crowd of peasants cheered them well,
And said it equaled William Tell.

From Interlaken, where was seen
The Jungfrau, famous Alpine queen,
They took a drive up a deep ravine,
Till they reached the ice, a glacier white,
Which glistened in the midday light.
'Twas here in a cave that TEDDY-G
Ordered ice-water instead of tea;
But because the cave was cool and nice;
They charged him extra for the ice;
And ice around them where they stood,
Five million tons and clear and good.

At quaint Zermatt they rose one morn,
To view the peak of Matterhorn,
And to see the sun get out of bed,
And light the snow a brilliant red.
At Chamonix they spent a day,
And hired a guide to show the way
To climb Mont Blanc, that famous peak,
Of which so many tourists speak.
With alpenstock and rope and pick,
And the things folks need to do the trick,
They started out like climbers bold,
To risk their necks and endure the cold;
To climb all day and never stop,
Till they landed safe at the very top.
But of all the climbs they ever had,
And all the rpsets, good and bad,
On-cowboy horse on Western track,
Or in circus ring on camel's back,
Or in old balloon o'er Omaha,
Or with farmer's bull round stack of straw,
Or with Shakespeare deer in Charicote,
Or out on the ocean on the boat,
This climb that day for fright and fun,
Beat everything they had ever done.
In half a day they had lost their way,
And which route to take they couldn't say;
"And to add to the trouble," said TEDDY-G,
"I couldn't catch hold of stone or tree,
And my shoes slipped off the slippery lid,
And I fell on the ice and rolled and slid;
One time I nearly went below,
In a thousand feet of ice and snow,
But the guide stuck fast to the rock above,
And TEDDY-B pulled and I tried to shove,
And they got me landed safe at last,
On a ledge of rock where they tied me fast."
And all night long there sat the three,
Like crows on top of a hemlock tree.

Next day when they landed safe and sound,
Back in the town at their starting ground,
Said TEDDY-E, "Let us view that slope
From where we stand through that telescope."
And when they'd paid for what they saw,
And the little old man shook each Bear's paw,
Said TEDDY-G to some tourists there,
"Please take the advice of a Teddy Bear,
And when Mont Blanc, its heights sublime,
You have ambition keen to climb,



Shoved off a siding, just to see
"The old thing whiz along," said he.

Just come round here and take a peep,
And say to yourself the Mount will keep;
I'd rather twice ride a balloon,
Or go on a journey to the moon."

"Switzerland," said TEDDY-B,
"Has fun and fame enough for me;
But before I turn my feet toward home,
I want to let them stand in Rome."
"Rome's all right," said TEDDY-G,
"But Turkey's the place I want to see,
And Egypt, too, and the pyramids,
And on the way those Spartan kids."

(Continued next Sunday.)



"Just come round here and take a peep,
And say to yourself, the Mount will keep."