

KING OF BEASTS.

SOME FACTS OF INTEREST ABOUT THE GRIZZLY.

We Has Almost Disappeared From His Haunts. The Big Fellow is Compared With Other Bears.

The grizzly bear is becoming rare in California. Of late years it has been sometimes said that the animal had almost disappeared from the State.

A few grizzlies may still be found in parts of the coast range, the Sierra Nevada, and the Siskiyou region. In the high Sierra there are many hundreds of square miles which will always remain a wilderness.

It is the general verdict of hunters that it is a mistake to run from a grizzly if the animal be close at hand. To do so is to invite instant pursuit.

Old hunters have laid down the rule that if a man be set upon by a grizzly at close quarters and there is no chance to use a rifle, it is folly to attempt to use a knife or to struggle in any way.

And yet it is related, in a number of Hutchins's California Magazine of 1856, that a colored man who was attacked by a grizzly near Mud Springs, in El Dorado county, succeeded in slaying it.

The grizzly rarely, if ever, hugs an adversary. Its chief weapon is its paw. The tremendous power of the brute is exhibited in crushing the ribs of a steer with a single blow.

The grizzly has sometimes been called the bear of bears, but the polar bear exceeds it in weight and length.

The grizzly prefers a brushy country, such as affords a good cover and an abundance of berries, edible roots, honey and insect food.

Man-Eating Lions. G. K. Pilkington, of the Church Missionary Society, who has just returned to England, after four and one-half years' residence in Uganda, has given a very satisfactory account of the state of affairs there.

Regarding the effects of the railway upon the country, Mr. Pilkington said: "At present the road to the coast is a disgrace. On my way down, I continually passed skeletons, as well as a corpse.

The habits of the grizzly have been modified by its contact with civilization. Before its acquaintance with the white man and his rifle the bear was accustomed to do most of its foraging by daylight.

customary sleeping places, to which it resorts, but often lies in any convenient cover if on a berrying or other expedition far from its accustomed tramping ground.

In cold regions the grizzly hibernates, like other bears, but to a less extent. The male, especially, is sometimes found roaming when snow is on the ground.

The cubs of the grizzly species sometimes climb a tree, though clumsily, but the adult bear rarely or never climbs.

The male grizzly is far from fatality. He has been known to kill and eat young cubs. Even the mother bear, whose devotion to her offspring is usually unquestionable, is said to devour a deformed or dead cub.

One of the habits of the grizzly is that of burying animals which it has slain, after its hunger has been satisfied, or for which it has no immediate need.

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French Superstitions. Old beliefs and superstitions, which are gradually disappearing from the more important of French cities, still retain a powerful hold on the inhabitants of this part of the country.

The counter-charm consists in rapidly pursuing the worker of the spell, and in placing a hand on his or her head. A number of these so-called witches are much dreaded, and create quite a reign of terror around themselves.

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PUSSY A BAD FISHER.

While Trying to Catch Goldfish, Poor Pussy Was Drowned.

Two small boys, wildly gesticulating and uttering shrill cries of encouragement in front of a delicatessen store in upper Third avenue last Sunday afternoon, attracted a crowd of persons.

At last, in one of her attempts to draw back, the cat was more clumsy than usual, and, making a couple of wild leaps, in the air, she upset the top can, and the whole pyramid came tumbling down in a clatter.

A wild shout announced to those on the outside of the crowd what had happened and everybody pushed and shoved to see what the cat would do.

Immortal. Some years ago says the New York World, the Agricultural Department at Washington received a scrawny letter from a Wisconsin farmer.

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Scribner's for Christmas. Frank R. Stockton has a Christmas love story, which bears a characteristic title—"The Staying Power of Sir Rohan."

Sentimental Tommy. By J. M. Barrie. Those who have read (and who has not?) "The Little Minister" and "A Window in Thrums" can anticipate what Mr. Barrie's "Sentimental Tommy" will be.

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