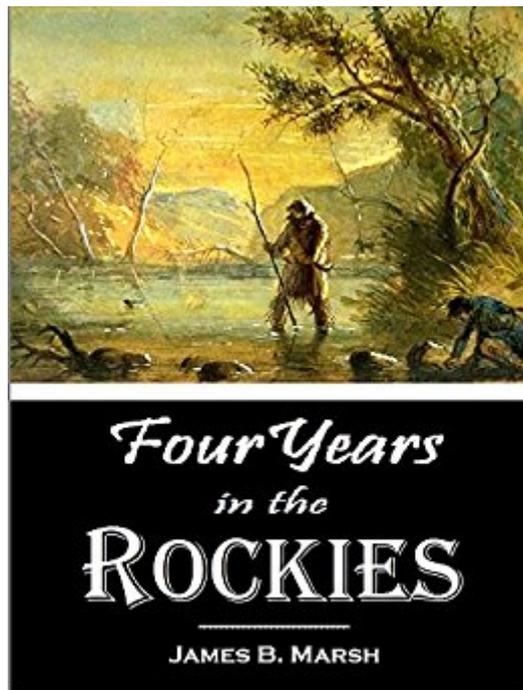


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Four Years In The Rockies -- The Adventures Of Isaac P. Rose--Hunter And Trapper In That Remote Region (1884)



Synopsis

Isaac P. Rose (1815-1899) was a Rocky Mountain trapper and mountain man. No novel was ever written depicting more thrilling encounters with Indians or hair-breadth escapes than were experienced by Isaac Rose and his companions. These are fully recounted in a volume entitled, "Four Years in the Rockies," the authorship of which is accredited to James B. Marsh. It is a work full of interest for all readers. He was nineteen years old when he left his plough and, in company with a companion, Joe Lewis, he made his way to Pittsburg. The boys had cherished the hope of securing employment as stage drivers but, as they found no opening in that direction, they accepted berths at \$15 per month as deck hands on a steamboat that was then loading for St. Louis. When they reached the latter city, Rose found employment as a hack driver in a livery stable, and Lewis a job of attending to the horses. Here the boys became acquainted with a number of "Rocky Mountain Boys," as they were called, and became fascinated with their stories of mountain life, of fights with bear and adventures in buffalo, elk and deer hunting, together with skirmishes with the Indians. Soon after this he joined a company formed by Nathaniel Wyeth, which started from Independence for the Rocky Mountains, with an outfit worth \$100,000, sixty men and 200 horses and mules heavily loaded with goods. At the Gallatin River Isaac Rose and his party were joined by some trappers belonging to the American Fur Company, one of whom was Kit Carson. For years this noted trapper and Mr. Rose were closely associated in their adventurous life. Later, Mr. Rose became so expert a trapper himself that he won a prize of \$300 as a trapper of beaver. In 1836 he had a thrilling experience with Indians, which almost caused the loss of his arm. The author writes: "The hunters and trappers of the far west, at the time when the incidents I am about to relate occurred, were a brave, hardy and adventurous set of men, and they had peculiarities in their characters that cannot be found in any other people. From the time they leave civilization theyâ "metaphorically speakingâ "carry their lives in their hands. An enemy may be concealed in every thicket or looked for behind every rock. They have not only the wild and savage beasts to contend with, but the still more wily and savage Indian, and their life is one continual round of watchfulness and excitement. Their character is a compound of two extremesâ "recklessness and cautionâ "and isolation from the world makes them at all times self-reliant. In moments of the greatest peril, or under the most trying circumstances, they never lose their presence of mind, but are ready to take advantage of any incident that may occur to benefit themselves or foil their enemies. "As, in the course of this narrative, we may have occasion to describe some of the trappers who were comrades of Mr. Rose, and who took part in many of his adventures, I wish my readers to be fully aware of the character of these men, and that their camp stories are not all idle

boasting. A more hardy, fearless, improvident set of men can nowhere else be found."This book originally published in 1884 has been reformatted for the Kindle and may contain an occasional defect from the original publication or from the reformatting.

Book Information

File Size: 581 KB

Print Length: 182 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: October 21, 2015

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01706MVEY

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

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Customer Reviews

I went to Colorado for the first time and was just in wonder at how beautiful the area was. It made me want to just dive into anything about the Rockies and the West. This book is fantastic. It really takes you back in time, and leaves you in awe of these men and the challenges they faced. It's almost unbelievable in our present time of boxed food and cell phones. I am hooked on books about the trappers of the West now. The book is well written. Not only is it enjoyable, but I've learned a lot as well concerning the Indian tribes in the areas...how the Fur trade was run back then...how men hunted and lived in the middle of nowhere for years at a time! Just a great read.

Not many tales of the Mountain Man have been passed on to us. Most were illiterate and few of those who could wrote down their experiences. Some perished in the mountains leaving no one to document their adventures. Others made it back to civilization only to die prematurely from having

lived such a strenuous life. The stories that did get passed along are mostly second and third hand oral histories, subject to all manner of distortions. (Note the recent blockbuster film, "The Revenant.") Here, finally, is the first hand account of one Isaac Rose, who lived the life of a Rocky Mountain trapper for several seasons. Rose was a friend and associate of such luminaries as Jim Bridger and Kit Carson. He met folks like Bill Williams and the Reverend and Mrs. Whitman. He fought Grizzlies with a one-shot muzzle-loader. He befriended numerous Native Americans, was a captive of the Crows and an enemy of the Blackfeet, enduring numerous hardships and pain along the way. His story only survives because upon returning from the mountains he took an interest in education as a means of overcoming a disabling arm injury from his trapper days. Though written decades later, this book captures his experiences in great detail. A must read if you are interested in the daily life and trials of a Mountain Man.

I thought it was a great read. My intent was to learn more information about the Indians, trappers, settlers, and how they interacted with each other and this book was chocked full of great information. It led me to more books about the migration west, and the motivations of those individuals. Plus it was a good story. You can't go wrong for \$.99! It's a bargain!

The stories told of the happenings of those brave men were mentioned as just happenings. The life and times of Rose and others begs for a better told and much more graphic story. Those were tough times and very tough men, that enjoyed themselves without realizing how important their storied lives were to the settling of the great country. I have to read more about it.

I found the book to be very interesting and at times felt that I was there in the wilderness with the characters. A great book of adventure as well as a good dialog of how people lived in those days of long ago.

In spite of the disclaimer at the beginning, some of the stories seemed a bit exaggerated. Nevertheless, the story was an easy read. It was fun to see America through the eyes of someone who lived so long ago.

Fantastic reading. I didn't want to put it down. I've visited Shoshone National Forest, Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons and the book brought all those places to life again, but in a much more primitive, beautiful and brutal way.

Good information in the book but it was a little slow reading and not as "exciting" as some of the fiction books I have read on the same subject. Like a couple of other reviewers, I also considered the book somewhat dull and even boring at times. but still, there was enough adventure to keep me interested although I had to read the book in short spurts as opposed to reading for longer periods of time. Some of the encounters with Indians and bears were treated somewhat nonchalantly and even humorously by the frontiersmen who encountered them. It also did not portray the Native Americans to be quite as blood thirsty and adept at fighting as some of the other books I have read. I am thinking other books on this subject were probably glorified and written to hook readers into the story while this book is probably a bit more accurate reflection of how things really were. Overall, a good book and worth reading but just not as exciting as some of the other books I have read that were obviously and sometimes comically over exaggerated.

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