

BOSSSED BY A BIG BEAR

A Road Crew Near Maroon Creek
Put to Flight.

WAS THE CEMETERY BEAST

Milkman Pierson Lays the Monster
Low With a Bullet—Mr. R. K.
Sprinkle's Adventure.

That big black bear that recently invaded the cemetery and created a sensation has probably met the fate of similar big black bears bruins that go nosing about near cities. Bruin has been killed, a bullet from a rifle in the hands of Ranchman Pierson laying the monster low a few days ago. Since the bear made its advent in the city of the dead, he or his mate met with more or less adventure and just prior to meeting death amused himself by bossing the men working on the Maroon creek road. R. K. Sprinkle is one of the men who did not dispute the right of way over the county road with his bearship, and he relates the story of the encounter something after this fashion:

It was last Thursday and he and several others were doing some work on the road. They heard a crackling of the brush and looking up saw the bear breaking through the bushes on the hillside. When the animal saw the men it stopped and squatting on its haunches sat eyeing them. Sprinkle, who had in years gone by hunted grizzlies and didn't purpose to have a black bear sit on a hillside and superintend the crew, threw a rock at the animal. It never touched him, and bruin paid no attention whatever to the hostile movement. One of the men then picked up an axe and started toward the bear. The latter did not appear averse to closer acquaintance and started to meet his visitor half way. The latter, however, changed his mind about extending the hand of good fellowship and turned back, moving at a rather rapid pace. His bearship seemed to enjoy the society of the road gang and he remained the entire afternoon on the hillside, at times coming within ~~seventy-five yards of the men.~~

On their way to town the men informed Ranchman Pierson of the bear's presence. The latter, securing a rifle from Roy Parr, kept a lookout for the animal. Monday he was rewarded by seeing the bear at a point near where Sprinkle and the others met him, and at once opened fire on him. The first shot did not reach a vital part, but a second did and now Mr. Pierson has "bar" meat to spare. The carcass scaled 300 pounds.