

AN UNEXPLORED REGION.

LAST fall a party of sportsmen made an important discovery in the Kettle River country, whereby a very extensive grazing country hitherto unknown was disclosed. The story is told by one of the party as follows:

After leaving Vernon we rode about 16 miles in an easterly direction along a good wagon road, traversing a magnificent valley. On either side were large fields of waving grain, dotted here and there with comfortable homes and luxuriant gardens, while back on the side hills could be seen herds of cattle and bands of horses quietly grazing. On leaving the road we entered another valley through which ran a stream called Harris Creek. We ascended the stream for about 30 miles, occasionally crossing the steep spur of a mountain, but as a rule riding along a park-like flat or bench, where the overhanging trees afforded a welcome relief from the September sun and preserved the velvety carpet of grass.

On leaving Harris Creek we ascended a steep mountain for about four miles, following a blaze which the keen eye of our Indian guide could alone detect. The ascent was very steep and led at times through heavy timber and across the broken surface of a land slide. It was curious here as elsewhere in this country how the different varieties of grouse marked the altitudes. At Vernon the prairie chicken abounded. At Harris Creek we left the willow grouse. After ascending some distance we reached the blue grouse zone, while the black game or fool hen was plentiful on the summit, but at no time did they appear to encroach each others territory. When near the summit we got a good view of a grizzly bear. For some time before we had noticed a rather over-powering odor, which we instinctively ascribed to bear, but although thus forewarned were hardly prepared to see Bruin come crashing through the forest at a gentle trot. We often saw traces of grizzly, but this was the only time we actually beheld one. On reaching the summit we found

A VAST TABLE LAND

which had once been forest, but was now laid waste by fire, and the trunks of trees, varying from one to two feet in diameter, lay thick