

bay; there, he thought, he would create a masterpiece that would outdo even the great Hokusai himself. So he took his brushes, got into a small boat, and rowed across the bay just at dawn.

As he reached the shore and leaped out on the golden sand, it seemed that a snowflake drifted to him from the green bushes, and there before him stood O Kiku, white as a ghost in the darkness of night.

"Lo, here have I waited, my king!" she whispered, lifting her pale face up to his. "The kind waves bore me hither, and—oh, Sanza, smile at me! What is the matter? Sanza, my Sanza, why are your hands so cold, your lips so stern?"

The young painter grasped her fiercely. "Hush!" he groaned, with agony in his heart and voice. "Hush, O Kiku, my beloved, I am married!"

For one instant the blossom of her young face lifted to his, trembling, searching his anguished eyes; then, as though smitten by the midday sun, it fell across his arm. O Kiku was dead.

All that day the artist sat by the shore of the island, gazing across the purple waters. Then, in the sunset, he seized his brush and swiftly painted O Kiku as she leaned against the prow of his boat, her almond-blossom face flung back, her unseeing eyes looking up to his. And in the dusk of the evening he returned, laying her body reverently in the rose-white tomb beneath the silvery willows; but the picture that he painted lies in the gloomy old temple at Nikko, and it is the picture of "The Little Lady of the Sea."

#### Sporting Trips in Canada—Grizzly and Black Bear

Written for Western Home Monthly by W. R. Gilbert

Perhaps the visiting sportsman prizes the pelt of the grizzly above all his other trophies. There was a risk of this species becoming extinct, until the British Columbia government made the pay-

ment of twenty-five dollars a preliminary towards setting out on a hunt. The best time for going after any bear is the spring, and this is especially the case as far as the grizzly is concerned. Their coats are then at the best; the bear are hungry after the long winter fast, and spend a great part of the daylight looking for food; being weak and thin they do not travel long distances, which would make their feet sore, and they spend most of their time digging for roots and insects along the slides in the mountains, while they are seen.

Possibly the best place for grizzly is the valley of the Ishut River, which runs into the Stikine near the latter's mouth. If these quarters be reached by the end of April it is merely a question of straight shooting to get all the specimens desired. The outfitting place is Wrangel, where there are several firms who will supply all the requisites for a hunt. Another centre that has the advantage of being practically new ground is Fort George. The route is from Ashcroft Station, on the C.P.R., by motor stage to Soda Creek, thence by steamer to the Fort. These steamers have only just been started and previously it was only possible to get into this district by longer and rougher travelling than the average sportsmen would care to face. It takes from one to two days to reach the best hunting grounds from the Fort, and the journey is by canoe or steam launch. An Englishman, by the name of W. H. Disbrowe, who has been in this district for several years, will, if given plenty notice, get guides and arrange for everything needed. Guides and ponies are scarce and everything is dear, and therefore \$20 per day is likely to be nearer the mark than the \$15 often mentioned. There are moose in plenty, and also caribou, mule deer, and black bear; in fact, at the moment it would be hard to name a better all-round game country which is so comparatively accessible. The Windermere country, in the Columbia valley, easily reached from Golden by steamer, is also extremely good for grizzly. A guide who can be recommended here is W. Moore, "Buffalo Bill," whose post office address is Atholmer. He is an "old timer," and what he does not know about game and its haunts is scarcely worth knowing. There are good bear grounds to the north of Notch Hill, just west of Sicamous, but it is hard to get guides, though a few days spent in the vicinity usually solves this difficulty. Several other places might be mentioned, including various inlets along the coast, but, as these are somewhat difficult of access, they will hardly appeal to the majority. Suffice it to say in this regard that an enquiry addressed to Mr. Bryan Williams, chief game guardian, Vancouver, will be answered with full details as to where to go, how to go, and whom to employ. Black bear are to be found in British Columbia in the same place as grizzly, but the man who only wants the former animal does not need to travel as far as the West Coast to attain his desire. The black bear is very plentiful in certain parts of Ontario and Quebec, but in these provinces guides are difficult to obtain, especially in the spring, when those who guide in the autumn are in the woods lumbering. For a bear hunt in the spring, therefore, I would recommend New Brunswick. In the south of the province is the little village of Bonny River, where the hotel proprietor, T. A. Sullivan, will look after visitors. He has outlying camps in good game districts, where every home comfort can be enjoyed, and if ladies are of the party no better place can be named for sport without hardship of any kind; also in the month of May—the best time of the year for bear—trout fishing can be had in several brooks and lakes. Flies and mosquitoes do not appear till June, so there are no drawbacks to a combined trout and bear outing in New Brunswick in May. No license fee is required to hunt bear in New Brunswick, but a permit must be obtained from a game guardian to carry a weapon. Upper Keswick, Plaster Rock, and the country north of Newcastle are also good bear districts. At a point just beyond the head waters of the north-west Miramichi one party saw over sixty bear in a month, and five of the animals were killed. Most of the bear hunting is done in the autumn,

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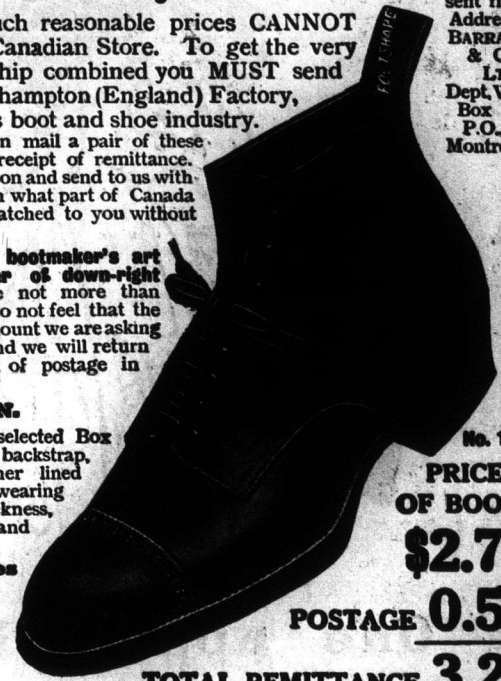
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