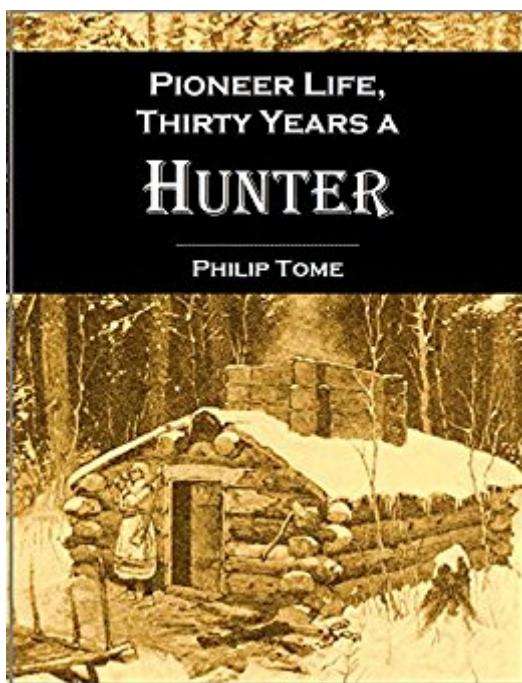


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Pioneer Life; Or, Thirty Years A Hunter, Being Scenes And Adventures In The Life Of Philip Tome (1854)



Synopsis

Pioneer Life is a mostly autobiographical narrative of the life of Philip Tome. Tome was born in 1782 near present-day Harrisburg and lived on the upper Susquehanna for much of his life. He tells colorful (and mostly true) tales about his hunting exploits in the Pennsylvania wilderness, as he tracked elk, wolves, bears, panthers, foxes, and other large animals through the state's north-central mountains, earning wide renown among his contemporaries. His stories contain suspenseful chase scenes, accidents, and narrow escapes, inviting the reader to view a still-wild Pennsylvania through the eyes of one who "was never conquered by man or animal." Pioneer Life, originally published in 1854, has since been reprinted several times. This classic hunting memoir includes the following chapters: I. Birth and Early LifeII. Hunting the ElkIII. Capturing a Live ElkIV. Face of the CountryV. Face of the Country • ContinuedVI. Danger From RattlesnakesVII. Wolf and Bear HuntingVIII. Another Elk HuntIX. Elk-Hunting on the SusquehannaX. Elk-Hunting • ContinuedXI. Nature, Habits, and Manner of Hunting the ElkXII. Elk and Bear Hunting in WinterXIII. Hunting on the Clarion RiverXIV. Hunting and TrappingXV. The Bear, Its Nature and HabitsXVI. Hunting Deer at Different SeasonsXVII. Nature and Habits of the Panther, Wolf and FoxXVIII. Rattlesnakes and Their HabitsXIX. Distinguished Lumbermen, Etc.XX. Reminiscences of CornplanterXXI. Indian EloquenceThis book originally published in 1854 has been reformatted for the Kindle and may contain an occasional defect from the original publication or from the reformatting

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I used this book for research about pioneers of the Western Pennsylvania area. Although it emphasizes the hunter's obsession with capturing, displaying, and selling live elk, it provided me with a multitude of details about the terrain, weather conditions, means of travel, daily living, and the need for cooperative community work to survive in the wilderness during the 1700s and early 1800s. History buffs should enjoy it. It's very readable. Who knew elk could be trained and used as domesticated animals or that one elk could bring in huge amounts of money and provide so much meat?

Well, it does give you a good feel for hunting life in late 1700's / early 1800's northwestern PA ... but not much else, except for some AWESOME glimpses into the eloquence and bad fortune of the native American Indians in the region at the very end of the book. It is an endless romp through season after season of high volume slaughter of elk, bear, deer, and rattle snakes. I have never killed an animal, but after reading this book, I know where to find them, what their mating seasons are, how to catch an elk, smoke out a bear, and barter for the carcasses. I love journals and autobiographical books, and this was no exception. I would give it 4 stars except for the outrageous number of typos and similar errors, including several pages of text SO glitchy that it could be described as hallucinatory at worst, or like a secret code at worst. There was NO editing or proofing here, folks! But if you like historical, real-life writing, you'll like this a great deal. Sort of.

Wow. The pioneers of this era were real men in every sense of the word. We hike and pack light weight tents and the latest of food/cooking gear. These fellows thought nothing of walking-running 20 +'miles, eating what they killed, constructing shelters from materials found in the wild, and using instincts to stay alive. If you want "you were there" experiences read this.

Maybe interesting to some but endless stories of catching Elk just did not keep me interested?

Not well written, but it shows an interesting view of the past in Pa. Well worth reading to learn about the past.

Interesting read. Educating to read about different wildlife and reptiles living in this area a couple hundred years ago. I live in Western Md and the book Forty-Four Years the life of a Hunter about a local pioneer is also very interesting. I have read the book twice and am at it again. Fascinating to read the book and actually to have hunted and traveled the same place as the author!! Too bad the game is not as plentiful.

The book gives you insight on life in North Central Pennsylvania and the early 1800s.

Early day hunters! The big new land as seen through the eyes of settlers in the northern regions. Or "how I caught an Elk and a bear" so many interesting things in this book that hunters, those who are creeped out by snakes, and for those who want a clean, honest report of 'how it was' in late 1700s into early 1800. I recommend to all my hunter friends out there.

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