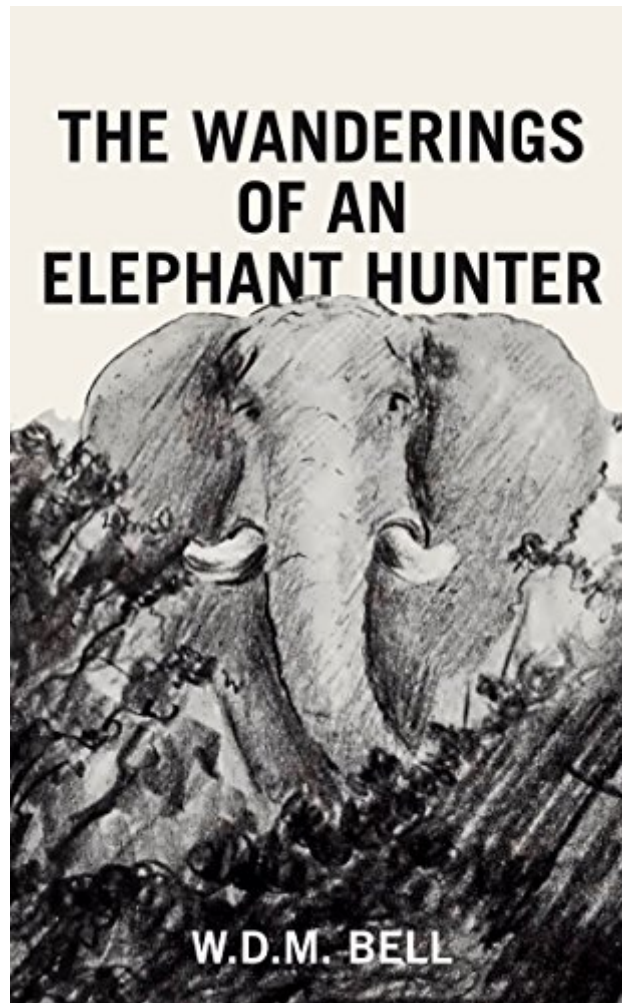




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# The Wanderings Of An Elephant Hunter



## Synopsis

This classic is organized as follows:I. Hunting the Big Bull ElephantII. The Brain Shot at ElephantIII. The Body Shot at ElephantIV. African Medicine, or Witchcraft and Its Bearing on SportV. KaramojoVI. DabossaVII. Through the Sudd of the Gelo RiverVIII. The Lado EnclaveIX. Hunting in LiberiaX. Buba Gida, the Last African PotentateXI. Buba Gida and the LakkasXII. The Ascent of the Bahr AouckXIII. BuffaloXIV. African LionsXV. RiflesXVI. African Administrations

## Book Information

File Size: 514 KB

Print Length: 163 pages

Publisher: Ravenio Books (January 16, 2016)

Publication Date: January 16, 2016

Language: English

ASIN: B01AR309WS

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #156,248 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #63

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Sports > Outdoors & Nature > Hunting & Fishing > Hunting #207 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hunting & Fishing > Hunting #2582 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation

## Customer Reviews

W.D.M. Bell was one of the premier "great white hunters" who ventured into unknown parts of savage Africa. He learned how to best deal with the various native tribes in short order, which is the principle reason he achieved his "fame" and successes in the bush. Mr. Bell admired Selous' hunting and communication methods with Africans in areas where no "white man" has ever been seen. And, he had the wherewithal to put to paper his exceptionally dangerous adventures, so others interested in African big game hunting and travelling could learn from his successes and failures. This book is very well written and is much easier to read (editing of the digital scan from print is nearly flawless) than most of the historic African hunting books on digital format. Also, he

writes with a hint of humor even in the face of danger, which makes this read quite entertaining. I highly recommend this volume for anyone who enjoys studying the ways and means of big game hunting in the "golden age" of the Dark Continent. My only regret is that this is Bell's only book available on Kindle. Cheers!

Mr. Bell covers elephant hunting from tail to trunk. He also provides an excellent analysis of the various native tribes he comes in contact with in his travels. Karamojo Bell was one of a kind! I wish we could have shared a little scotch and biltong around a campfire in Africa!! Alas, I was born too late! No doubt I'll re-read this book many times.

I enjoy reading about hunting in Africa back in the "old days", early 1900's. A combination of hunting and exploring new country, not to mention having to deal with strange people, learn new languages, etc. It was a rough difficult experience to say the least. Overall, a very educational book about a unique place and time.

The writing and story is five stars. This printed-on-demand physical book is three stars because: 1) The figures referenced in the text are missing; 2) The spine is completely blank, even though it's flat, the front cover has the title and artwork, and the spine is a continuous piece of paper with the front and back covers; 3) Can't be 100% sure in this case, but typically a book like this has a table of contents, especially since the text is divided into numbered parts. Small things to be sure, but enough to dock one star.

First hand description of Africa in the early 1900s. Shocking slaughter of elephants solely for ivory. The bad old days.

I thought I would like this book more. He was probably the greatest elephant hunter of all times. The stories were way too few considering how many elephants he had hunted and killed. The book had way too much about the African people and their Kings. It was a fair read at best.

Walter Dalrymple Maitland (W.D.M.) Bell (1880-1951) roamed Africa for a quarter of a century between 1897 and 1922. His main interest there was to collect ivory, and it was much easier back then, as safaris and safari outfitters were uncommon. The elephants and other African animals had no cause to fear men, and shots from the rifles were rare except those made by slave raiders. The

best part was that there were plenty of elephants with tusk weighing 100 lbs or more on each side. Bell took full advantage of the situation. Armed with low calibre rifles, he ventured into the elephant country on foot, and knowing the vital spots of the elephants, he drove the bullets right into their brain, heart or lungs causing instant death to the animals. The bullets were cheap, perhaps a box of 20 for a shilling. But the ivory collected from one elephant brought a luxury life, and Bell collected virtually tons of ivory during his wanderings in Africa, especially an area known as Karamojo (see Bell's 2nd book 'Karamojo Bell' published in 1949) According to a biographer, Bell was 'arguably the greatest ivory hunter: Certainly the last'. Wanderings of an Elephant Hunter was Bell's first book, originally published by Macmillan in 1923. It contained several sketches and paintings prepared by Bell 'on the spot'. This reprint by Safari Press also reproduced all the illustrations and art works from the original edition, and to me it is much superior in quality than the ones published by Neville Spearman, London.\*\*For additional reading: please consult BELL OF AFRICA

Very good book.

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