

THE RAMBLES OF ROVER

A Dog's Life

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Paramount Pictorial

None of Rover's ancestors came over on the Mayflower. He has never worried about a pedigree. From his first portrait he looked as if he had been born in a toy shop.

Scenes- Front and side views of Rover.

Rover had two outstanding traits, his ability to make friends and an overwhelming sense of curiosity. The first brought him many adventures, the second sometimes led him into difficulty.

Scene- Box up-side-down, dog watching.

One of his first thrilling experiences, he uncovered in his own back yard. A mole is equipped with a pointed nose and two front paws like little scoop shovels to push his way under ground and hump up the surface of the lawn.

Scenes- View of mole, dog barking at ground humping up.

The pup was not vicious. He just wanted the mole to come out and play. The mole's idea was that it was a one-sided game and Rover had all the advantage. So he preferred to stay under cover. Once or twice he was pulled out but made haste to dig in again.

Scenes- Mole disappearing in ground, Rover following and barking. Mole digging in again.

Then came the day of days when Rover had a chance to start out to see America first. He chose a modern method of travel.

Scene- Auto going away.

Along the highway, he stopped to see where the road was cut through the solid rock.

Scene- Child and Rover.

In the open country of fields and hills, he loved to hunt squirrels with the children.

Scene- Children going away, dog following.

The squirrels were eager to be hunted. They had all the best of it. One sat at the edge of a hole and watched Rover's approach. The disappearance of the squirrel was a challenge for Rover to dig him out.



Scenes- Squirrel at hole. Rover digging.

The squirrels had under ground passages so they could come up at some other doorway and laugh at the pup. This was only an added insult.

Scenes- Another view of squirrel. Near view of dog digging.

Then Rover found a much larger hole where something was digging. If this was a squirrel, he was as big as Rover.

Scenes- Animal moving in hole.

This happened to be a badger who lives on squirrels. He was digging for his dinner. With short legs and a flat body, he has a reputation for being savage.

Scenes- Badger looking out of hole. Comes out, and Near-up view of badger.

The badger didn't want visitors so he scooted off toward home, which Rover took for a retreat, and charged after him.

Scenes- Another view badger looking out of hole. Comes out, runs away, and dog follows.

When Mr. Badger stopped for Rover to catch up, Rover was the kind of a dog to let the badger run away and fight another day.

Scenes- Badger looking and running away. Dog follows. Badger stops; runs away again.

The hotel Rover loved best was a haycock in the field so he could sleep under the stars. He was up with the sun, for that is the time wild folks are moving around.

Scene- Bed in hay field, dog crawls out of bed.

Rover loved to keep things stirred up. His next adventure exploded the theory of universal brotherhood. He discovered a nest of seven young pussies.

Scene- Seven young wood-pussies or skunks.

He had never seen such gentle kittens with wonderful plumed tails. In his brief career, Rover had never bumped against anyone who carried a scent gun.

Scenes- Rover following a skunk. Near-up of skunk.

Even a wood-pussy gets tired of too much attention. When he lost his patience, something happened. Rover realized that something was wrong, very wrong.

Scenes- Dog following skunk. Near-up dog gassed by skunk, pawing at nose. Close-up of skunk and head of dog.



For the first time in his life, he realized that he was in bad with his friends. He tried nature's cleaning plant, but it seemed as if he would never be the same sweet dog again.

Scene- Rover swimming stream.

When Rover reached the pure air of a higher mountain range, he came to the conclusion that nothing would do except a complete scrubbing. It is a slow but sure process without soap and towels.

Scene- Dog rubbing and rolling in snow.

To a dog, Yellowstone Park is a weird puzzle. The whole scheme of things is bigger and harder to understand.

Scenes- Children and dog at Yellowstone Falls. Second view of Falls.

Streams and pools had always been cool for swimming and drinking. There were no fires, but the waters were boiling hot. He learned to keep close to the children's heels and watch every step he took. Sudden explosions of steam and hot water shooting into the air were almost like fire-crackers tied to his tail.

Scenes- Children and dog, geyser in eruption. Boiling pool.

Then one day Rover joined an expedition into the mountains for bigger game. Back here the Forest Service had cut a trail through the solid rock behind the falls.

Scenes- Rover leading pack outfit through tunnel behind falls. Man drinking and coming out opposite side.

For a month the mountains and forests, swift streams and falling waters were the daily lot of a dog's life, experiences few dogs may enjoy.

Scene- Three men and dog at side of stream.

Then came the big adventure of Rover's life when he saw his first bear. He might have been demolished with one slap, but bears have an ancestral fear of dogs, so Rover rushed in and treed an animal eight times his size.

Scenes- Bear in woods. Distant view bear up tree and dog at base of tree.

There is no greater honor than meeting the enemy on his own ground and forcing his retreat. Rover was not backward in patting himself on the back.

Scenes- Near-up view dog standing up at base of tree. Bear up tree and second view of dog.

Climbing into one of the lower limbs just below the bear's



tail, Rover dared him to come down and fight. All of which proved to Rover's satisfaction that he was a real bear dog.

Scenes- Dog on limb, bear above. Distant view bear up tree.  
Another view dog on limb.

In the south land more strange adventures befel Rover, the strangest being the armadillo. It rolled along like a little tank encased in armor. Curiosity led Rover to find out what was underneath. Even the tail was covered with a bony coat. Humping up the tail made Rover mad, but there was nothing to bite.

Scenes- Armadillo walking, Rover comes in. Close-up of Armadillo. Second view of both.

Then he met the <sup>Comedian</sup> genius of the owl family, a barn owl that bowed and bobbed. No wonder it was called the monkey owl.

Scene- Dog and owl at cavity in tree.

Perched on top of a stump, were the strangest pair of twins. But Rover was a bit reticent about trusting his nose too near a hooked beak and sharp claws.

Scene- Dog and two owls.

Rover had met many wild folks. Then came a climax in his career and he got a new vision of life. He was hunting in a canyon, nosing about in odd places where curiosity might lead him to something new.

Scene- Dog goes in hole at the base of tree and comes out.

He was on the trail of a new scent that lead him into an old hollow tree. He was hot after something he had never seen before. To him, the excitement was in the chase when he was about to gather in game that was just beyond or perhaps might be out of reach.

Scenes- Rover discovers hole in tree, climbs in. The scent is hot but the game is gone.

An old mother opossum with all her children had been out for an airing and paused on the limb of a tree when she heard the distant barking dog. A large family off her hands and approaching danger couldn't worry an animal who knows how to play 'Possum. She rambled on calmly and slowly toward home.

Scene- Mother and young opossums on limb.

When Rover came up and saw this family of nine children riding on the hurricane deck, it was a sight to make him sit down and wonder. For the first time in his life, he felt a sympathy for a mother that is weighed down with such a burden. Yet there must be some joy and excitement in life even with a back-breaking load.



Rover -5-

Scenes- Opossum and young on ground looking. Rover watching, then comes in to sniff the children.

It is not in a dog to be a real mother, but Rover was willing to try anything once. He could at least relieve the old lady and give the children a ride on his back.

Scenes- Rover comes in with young opossums on back, closer view, then lies down.

The novelty of the situation appealed to Rover at first, for every dog likes to have his back scratched. Still, the drawback was the burden of walking.

Scene- Rover standing and goes out to right.

In his rambles Rover had met wild animals of all sorts and kinds but none he liked better than the opossums. Perhaps he had discovered that there is a kindness that makes the whole world akin. Scene

Scene- Near-up dog with opossums on back walking out.

It is not so much who you are as what you are. Rover is just a common dog your boy brings home and begs to keep. There are millions of him, and each is kind and intelligent in his own way.

Scene- Near-up head view of Rover.