



Mountain Men Expressions and Words

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| Big dance | A celebration |
| Booshway | The leader of a group of trappers |
| Boudins | Cow intestines that were washed, stuffed with meat, and cooked: eaten whole without chewing |
| Bourgeois | A chief trader with a license from the government |
| Cache | To hide or conceal |
| Child | A mountain man (referring to himself) |
| Didins | Food |
| Dupont | Gunpowder, from the name of the manufacturer |
| Feed fair | To eat only your portion |
| Firewater | Alcohol or whiskey |
| Fix | A problem or trouble |
| Fleece | The layer of fat just beneath the buffalo hide that mountain men loved to eat |
| Flung his pelts | Gambled |
| Freeze into it | To start eating |

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| Go'in a cache | To hide pelts so they will not be stolen |
| Green river | A knife, from the name of the manufacturer |
| Hairy bank notes | Beaver pelts |
| Have it on the prairie | To get something for free |
| Hump ribs | The tastiest part of a cow or buffalo cooked over buffalo chips (manure) |
| Levé, leché, lego | Wake up, turn out |
| Lift their hair | To scalp someone |
| Make tracks | To run fast |
| Meatbag | The stomach |
| On the loose | A free trapper |
| Outfit | A fur company |
| Plew | A beaver pelt |
| Poor bull | Lean meat not considered very good |
| Pork-eaters | Voyageurs or boatmen |
| Possibles | Personal belongings |
| Possibles sack | A leather pouch hung around the neck that contained necessities such as a pipe, an awl, |

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| | tobacco, and a bullet mold |
| Precipitation | An Indian uprising, or a fight or murder |
| Robe season | Winter |
| Rubbed out | A murder or death |
| Sign | Beaver tracks |
| Sky pilot | A priest or minister |
| Tickle his fleece | To scalp |
| Wagh | To show surprise or anger |
| Wolfish | hungry |

Source “Mountain Men Dictionary” Cobblestone, December 1991, page 32
“Mountain Man Language,” The Overland Trail, March 9, 2000
<http://www.over-land.com/mtmantalk.html> May 7, 2003.