

suggest that technical disadvantages render the cleverest artist incapable of doing herself justice through this medium.

Mr. J. O. Walker's 'Mont Dolent' was, perhaps, of all the pictures in the exhibition, the one at which we gazed with the greatest pleasure. There is no mountain in the Alps which photographs more beautifully, and it formed a worthy subject for the Menu Card at the Annual Dinner. Mr. Walker's other studies were all without exception fine ones.

We would like to see more portrait studies of guides, peasantry, etc. Mr. H. S. Bullock's 'Study of a Guide' was first-rate, and we look forward to seeing more like it next year.

Space prohibits mention of many more exhibits equally good. The ones we have chosen are representative of their kind, but we thank the exhibitors heartily for their co-operation and in particular Mr. Spencer. Anyone who saw him arranging the photographs will have realised how much the club owes him for his painstaking and artistic planning of the exhibition.

## IN MEMORIAM.

### JOHN PERCY FARRAR.

(1857-1929.)

JOHN PERCY FARRAR was born on Christmas Day, 1857. He was the second son of Charles Farrar, M.D. (Heidelberg), L.F.P.S. (Glasgow), of Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, and Helen, daughter of John Howard of Bedford.

He was educated at Königsfeld, Black Forest, and Lausanne, Switzerland, where he learnt at an early age that facility in colloquial French and German which characterized him in later life, and one may suppose that it was then he imbibed that love for the mountains which played such an important part in his life. For a time he became private secretary to his uncle, James Howard, during the time he was a Member of Parliament. James Howard was an agriculturist in Bedford, and was distinguished for taking out patents for agricultural machines, including the first iron wheel plough; he was M.P. for Bedford from 1868 to 1874, and M.P. for Bedfordshire from 1880 to 1885. One may presume that it was in this latter period that Farrar acted as his private secretary.

Farrar's two brothers, George and Sidney, went out to South Africa in the early 'eighties as representatives of the firm of James Howard to manufacture agricultural implements, for at that time South Africa was still an agricultural country and gold had not been discovered, and later they were established there as the



Photo

Vandyke

J. P. Farnum

firm Howard and Farrar. Here they were joined by Percy Farrar. The Farrars then were active young men, and with the discovery of gold they foresaw the possibilities of great development. They secured land and began to produce gold, and at the same time they turned their business of manufacturing agricultural implements into one for making mining machinery. They prospered exceedingly, and Farrar Brothers, as the firm became, rapidly rose to be important people in the growing colony. They were intimate with Rhodes and Jameson and all those leaders who were making the country. The eldest brother, later Sir George Farrar, took part in the Jameson Raid and lay for a time under sentence of death. Later he rose to be Prime Minister of South Africa, and was killed accidentally in a railway accident during General Botha's S.W. African campaign, 1914.

Percy Farrar was not so interested in political schemes or in high finance as his two elder brothers; when he had made as much money as he wanted, he left South Africa and travelled.

In 1899 he went to the Canadian Rockies and to Japan, and the record in the *Alpine Club Register* shows that he was busily climbing in Japan when the South African War started. He hurried back to South Africa as soon as he heard the news and took a commission in the Kaffrarian Rifles, an irregular corps raised by George Farrar. Later he became adjutant of this corps, which did good service, and it was while serving with this regiment that he was severely wounded by a bullet which passed right through his body, jarring the spine and causing temporary paralysis of his legs. He was wounded early in the day, but he kept command of his company and they fought off the Boers till nightfall, when they were able to slip away.

At the end of the war Farrar was made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, and was given the right to retain the rank of Captain, by which title he was since commonly known.

In 1901 Farrar was back in Europe, climbing again, and from that date to his death, except for the period of the Great War, he had an almost continuous record of climbs.

The outbreak of the Great War found Farrar climbing in the Maritime Alps, and it was on August 2, 1914, on descending to Crissolo, after climbing the Monte Viso, that he was greeted by the news that war was declared. Like many others he made his way to Genoa, but with characteristic energy he found means of arriving by devious routes at Boulogne long before the average refugee, and he arrived there just in time to see the British Expeditionary Force landing. At Avignon, on the way, he was challenged as a spy, but with the help of an old passport was able to establish his identity. Too old to fight himself, he sent his only son, his only child, who joined the Northamptonshire Regiment, and was killed, having already attained his Captaincy, in 1915. Of this great grief Farrar spoke but rarely, and the measure of his sorrow could only be

gauged by the letters of understanding sympathy which he wrote to those of his friends who had lost their sons.

Farrar as a man : He was not tall, but sturdily built with powerful trunk and limbs. As a young man he was a tremendous goer, and even after he had passed middle-age he kept himself fit and in hard condition, so that he was able to outwalk many of his younger companions, and was capable of accomplishing first-rate expeditions even up to the age of seventy.

The most prominent of his personal qualities were his virility, his amazing vitality, and lovable disposition. He loved the game of life and he played it hard, but he liked to laugh, and he would smile in the face of any difficulty. His speech, like his character, was firm, crisp, and decisive, and his decisions, hasty perhaps, were not easily shaken. As a companion he was delightful : never dull, full of anecdotes and quaint quips, accompanied by caustic and sometimes biting remarks on people he did not love, such as politicians and time-servers. Although his temper was even on the whole, he could blaze with anger on occasion, but it was over quickly, and if he had been in the wrong he would say so at once. Perhaps he was at his best with young men ; he loved them and they loved him, and he would go to any lengths to help them with advice and often with help of a more solid character. With men in trouble he was tender as a woman, and there are many who will bless his memory for kindly actions of which the world has never heard.

This interest in men was not a pose, for he was genuinely interested in them. It was a regular education to go for a walk with him, preferably up a mountain valley. He would stop and talk to all the peasants he met and would ask them their name, where they lived, whether they were married, how many children they had, and what they earned ; whether they remembered so and so whom he had met there years ago. He said he had learnt to do this in South Africa among the Boers. It was certainly appreciated.

The undisguised interest he took in men made him much beloved and brought him many friends, and there can be little doubt that he was the best-known and best-loved man in the Club. Yet withal he was a keen judge of character, and if once let down by a man, he did not say much but he would watch him. He used to say : ' I don't mind being bitten once, but if I'm bitten twice in the same place, I'm a fool.'

Farrar as a mountaineer : Farrar ranks as one of the best of amateur mountaineers. He was good on rock, superb on ice, and unsurpassed as a route finder—altogether as good a man all round as ever trod a mountain. Good as he was, and he knew he was good, he did not consider that any amateur could compare in ability with a first-rate guide, or approach anywhere near the standard of his favourite guide, Daniel Maquignaz. His knowledge of the Alps was prodigious, and his climbing record shows that there was scarcely a district or considerable peak in France,



JOHN PERCY FARRAR.  
1857-1929.

Switzerland, Austria, Italy, or Germany with which he was not familiar, and in addition he had climbed in South Africa, the Rockies, and Japan. In addition to his personal knowledge of the Alps, he had an intimate knowledge of Alpine literature, and he maintained this knowledge by correspondence with climbers of all nations. Ball's Alpine Guide was one of his bedside books.

As an exponent of the craft of mountaineering, Farrar was a master. He was eminently safe, and always declared that he was not going to be killed on a mountain; neither did he intend to allow anyone with him to be killed. He excelled in his judgment of weather conditions and the state of a mountain. He would never start on an expedition if the conditions were bad, and while younger members of his party might be fretting to be off, he would just curl up and sleep till he thought the time was ripe. The mountains meant much to Farrar; he treated them with respect, for, as he said, they never forgave a mistake.

His services to the Club: No man has ever done more for the Club, or served it more faithfully. He was on the Committee from 1883-85, and on numerous occasions as an Extra Member. He was Vice-President in 1909-11, President 1917-19, Assistant Editor of the JOURNAL 1909-19, and Joint Editor with Yeld 1920-26.

The JOURNAL is a record of his thought, action, and writings, and shows the immense amount of work he put into it as well as the intimate knowledge he had of everything to do with mountaineering in all parts of the world.

His knowledge extended to the minutest detail of mountain equipment, a fact which made him a most useful member of the Everest Committee, for which he did great service.

His idiosyncracies in dress, all of which were eminently practical, rendered him conspicuous on the mountain-side. How we loved to see him, his coat rolled up over his shoulder, his knickerbockers pinned up by huge safety pins, leaving his knees and legs bare, and his tin can dangling on the back of his sack. By his garb he could be recognized afar. On one occasion he was climbing high up near the summit of Monte Rosa, when a party passed far down below on the snow slopes, making for Italy: a shout was heard, a voice came faintly up the slopes—'Êtes-vous, Monsieur Farrar? Bonjour, Monsieur Farrar—Bon voyage!'

In 1886 he married Mary, the daughter of F. Beswick of Queenstown, who survives him, by whom he had one son, killed, as related, in the Great War.

He is survived also by his brother, Fred Farrar, of Bedford. Howard Barrett, a member of the Club who died in 1921, was his cousin.

Farrar was not ill for long. He was not feeling well about Christmas time, and was unable to go abroad as he intended. The end came suddenly, and without suffering, in the early hours of February 19.

The Club has had in him a great Member, a great President, and a great Editor. His influence on the sport of mountaineering has been enormous; by his help the traditions and prestige of the Alpine Club have been enhanced. There are none of us who cannot but feel that we have been charmed and helped by his friendship. Although he has left us, his influence and memory will survive while the Club lasts.

G. E. GASK.

Farrar's love for and interest in the hills must have begun very early in life. To have been a boy at school at Lausanne must have attracted him to the mountains, for who with an enthusiastic nature such as Farrar's could look daily on the panorama across the Lake of Geneva without longing to explore those wonderful ranges? As Farrar's expeditions occupy *seven* pages in Arnold Mumm's *Alpine Club Register*, vol. iii, it is clear that they cannot all be mentioned here, as in most districts he left but little undone. Here follows a list of his chief ascents:

1881. Pateriolspitze, first ascent of W. peak of Stammerspitze, Äussere Ölgrubenspitze, and first ascent of N. peak.

1882. Weisshorn, Matterhorn, Dent Blanche, Rothhorn.

1883. Wetterhorn, Schreckhorn, Jungfrau traversed from Wengern Alp, Finsteraarhorn from the Studerfirn by S.E. arête, Weisshorn second ascent of W. face by a new route—a tremendous expedition with 'der Köderbacher.'

1892. Watzmann (E. face, fifth ascent), Gross Glockner (traversed), Rimpfischhorn (traversed from Adler Pass), Matterhorn (traversed with Mrs. Farrar), from Zermatt to Breuil and retraversed from Breuil to Zermatt in a single day: ascent 6 hrs. 24 mins., descent 3 hrs. 52 mins., halts 1 hr. 40 mins., total Breuil to Zermatt 12 hrs. 5 mins), Gabelhorn traversed from Arbenjoch to Zermatt.

1893. This may perhaps be best described as Farrar's *Annus Mirabilis*. Balmhorn, Altels; Blümlisalphorn, Tour Noir, Aig. d'Argentière, Meije, Barre des Écrins traversed, S. Aig. d'Arves, Meije from La Grave to La Bérarde in a single day. Mont Blanc by the Brenva Glacier, Aig. du Dru, Petit Dru; Aig. de Grépon (traversed), Dent du Géant, Aig. Noire de Pétéret, Aig. Blanche de Pétéret, ascended from the Brenva Glacier thence traverse of Mont Blanc de Courmayeur and Mont Blanc (second ascent). Dents du Midi, all nine summits in one day. Second ascent, with improvements, of S. face of the Bietschhorn.

1894. Mont Pelvoux, Pic d'Olan traversed, Meije traversed from La Bérarde to La Grave—his third ascent; Monte Disgrazia from the Forno hut, over Monte Sissone and Pizzo Pioda by S.W. face, making a new route up the latter, recrossing Pizzo Pioda to the Passo di Mello, descended to the E. to the Disgrazia Glacier, skirted the E. base of Cima di Rosso and Cima di Vazzeda to the Muretto Pass route, and reached Sils Maria in a single day. Piz Roseg, Crast' Agüzza (first ascent by S.W. face), Piz Bernina,

Tödi, Wetterhorn and Mittelhorn, Schreckhorn, Dom, Matterhorn up and down by Z'mutt arête, first descent. All peaks were traversed except Pelvoux, Disgrazia, and Matterhorn.

1897. He climbed many peaks in the Eastern Alps. Jungfrau traversed from the Rottal to the Wengern Alp. Wetterhorn by the Hühnergutz Glacier, Schreckhorn from the Lauteraarfirn, Mönch up and down from and to the Wengern Alp; Eiger.

1898. Aig. de la Tsa, Dent des Bouquetins, Aigs. Rouges d'Arolla, Mont Collon traversed; Grand Combin traversed ascent by S.E. arête, Grivola (third ascent by N. arête); Grand and Petit Paradis, Bec de Montandeyné, Pta. Budden, Herbetet in one expedition. Aig. de Bionnassay, Dôme du Goûter, Mont Blanc (? third traverse of Bionnassay—Dôme arête, Mont Maudit, Mont Blanc du Tacul, (from the Col de Miage to Montenvers in a single day!) Attempt on Aig. Verte from Col des Grands Montets reaching the *Pointe Farrar*; Nord End from Macugnaga by E. face. Five peaks of Monte Rosa traversed. Lyskamm traversed.

1899. He visited Canadian Rockies and Japan.

1900. South Africa. Various peaks while on active service.

1901. Winklerthurm, Rosengartenspitze by S. ridge, Cimone della Pala by N.W. ridge, Sass Maor and Punta della Madonna, Pala di S. Martino.

1902. Dent Parrachée, Grande Casse; Pointes d'Ouilleuse, Albaron, and Ciamarella traversed. Levanna all three peaks and Levanetta. Pointe de la Traversière; Tsanteleina and Aig. de la Grande Sassièrè traversed; nearly all guideless.

1903. Lötschenthaler Breithorn traversed; Aletschhorn traversed, ascent from N.W., descent by N. face. Gross and Hinter Viescherhörner traversed. Gross Grünhorn, with attempt on N. arête. Finsteraarhorn traversed from S.E. to W. Dürrenhorn-Hohberghorn-Stecknadelhorn-Nadelhorn traversed. Lenzspitze and Nadelhorn traversed. Weisshorn traversed from S. to E. Dent d'Hérens from Staffalp to Breuil. Various routes on the Matterhorn (Galerie 'Carrel' and Col Félicité). Täschhorn traversed (ascent by *Teufelsgrat*).

1904. Aig. des Grands Charmoz (traverse of all five points), Aig. Verte, Les Droites, Col des Hirondelles, Grandes Jorasses, Dôme de Rochefort, Mont Mallet, Aig. de Rochefort, Dent du Géant (N. face), Mont Blanc *via* Mont Blanc du Tacul and Mont Maudit.

1905. In the Eastern Alps. Ortler by the Marltgrat, Königspitze, etc. Bec de Guin and S. peak of the Jumeaux.

1906. The following expeditions were guideless: Grand Pic and Pic Central of La Meije<sup>1</sup> (his fourth ascent). Aig. des Grands Charmoz traversed: Mont Blanc from the Col du Midi, descent by the *Ancien Passage*.

<sup>1</sup> He made at least seven ascents of La Meije—mostly traverses—and the last three or four guideless.

1907. Without guides: Lötschenthaler Breithorn traversed; Aletschhorn traversed. Finsteraarhorn by S.E. arête; Gross Grünhorn, new ascent by N. arête and first traverse.

1908. Without guides: Gspaltenhorn; Balmhorn traversed. Colle delle Loccie to Capanna Val Sesia: Sesiajoch and Parrotspitze to Gnifettihut. Traverse of all the peaks of Monte Rosa (except Nord End), descending to the Rifel (18½ hrs.) Rothhorn traversed. Breithorn by N. face.

1909. Without guides, Hinter Sustenhorn and Sustenhorn traversed: Dammastock traversed to Rhône Glacier: Gross Lauteraarhorn.

1910. Without guides: various cols, Bietschhorn ascended and descended by E. arête, Pollux by N. arête, Wetterhorn by Hühnergutz Glacier and N. ridge.

1911. Schwestern twice, Piz Bernina, Wetterhorn by Hühnergutz Glacier and N. arête (for the third time). Made a month's journey in the Canadian Rockies.

1912. Kammljoch: Claridenstock (lower summit) traversed from Klausen Pass to Clariden Hut: Cheval Blanc.

1913. Various cols. Grand Combin traversed. With one companion ascended crest of S.E. arête of Finsteraarhorn to 13,500 ft., descending to Viesch through icefall of Viescher Glacier. Pollux.

1920. Aig. de Pélen.

1921. Wetterhorn, Strahlegg, Lauteraarjoch, Schrecksattel (W. slope), Wetterhorn, Schreckhorn (traverse), Rotbretthorn, Gspaltenhorn, Gamchilücke, Petersgrat, Lötschenlücke, Matterhorn (Breuil to Zermatt).

1922. Triglav (traverse), etc. Table Mountain, Majuba, Mount aux Sources.

1923. Wetterhorn, Ebnefluhjoch, Rotbretthorn, Lauitor, Schmardrijoch.

1924. Ebnefluh by N. arête and Gletscherhorn traversed: Grossjoch first passage: Jungfrau traversed from Guggi Hut.

1925. Cima Tosa: Presanella, Adamello, Ago di Sciora, Piz Badile, Aig. de Grépon.

1926. Mont Aiguille, Trois Pics de Belledonne (traversed), Pic de l'Etendard, Aig. de l'M, Dent du Requin, Aermighorn (E. face, S. arête), Hundshorn, Wilder Andrist, Zahmer Andrist, Dündenhorn.

1927. In the Oberland. Bad weather prevented serious climbing. (I believe that he made another ascent of the Wetterhorn by the Hühnergutz, his fifth or sixth!)

1928. Rheinwaldhorn, Pizzo Rotondo, Basodino, Bifertenstock, Tödi.

For eighteen years Farrar and I worked together on the ALPINE JOURNAL. No union could have been happier, for I cannot remember a single disagreement. I looked forward to a meeting with Farrar as one of my greatest pleasures, and I believe he enjoyed

our conferences as much as I did. His good temper, his cordiality, his shrewdness combined with a genial appreciation and generous judgment of others, will always live in my memory, and recall Farrar as a delightful colleague and ever lovable friend.

It was not long after our union that Farrar began to do the main part of the work—and latterly he did almost all of it, though he always generously insisted that I was necessary to him. The field of the *JOURNAL* gradually grew wider, for Farrar had a personal knowledge of foreign climbers and a very wide acquaintance with foreign Alpine literature. He was deeply interested too in the Canadian Rockies, the Himalayas, and New Zealand, and kept all foreign climbing news up to date. He was not long in acquiring a clear, incisive, vigorous, and effective style.

Here are two specimens of Farrar's writing. The first is from his account of the ascent and descent of the E. arête of the Bietschhorn, full of a humorous enjoyment of difficulty :

'My friends huddled together, after very improperly cutting a good rope and tying themselves up again, on what I believe was a very comfortable spot, offering the greatest facilities for a quick descent in every direction. I myself remained at the other end of the rope, seated on a very narrow ledge with my feet dangling over space and my back against a very unstable rock. It was unsafe to balance oneself for a moment in order to put on any other clothes or fresh stockings, nor could one put one's feet in the sack. Under such circumstances, the best way is to stuff all spare clothes under one's coat over the stomach, and to lodge the rucksack on one's feet to minimise radiation. The snow fell intermittently all night, but the lowering clouds prevented any excessive radiation. At the same time, I should have been quite willing to undertake, in exchange for immediate transport to a warm bed, to spend my future summers at Margate, forswearing for ever the folly of mountaineering.

'My friends hailed me at intervals all night, under the quite mistaken impression that I might topple off, and malice more than once prompted me to delay my reply, so that I could measure their care for me, or possibly their anxiety not to be involved in my descent, by the increase of anguish in their tones. However I played wolf too often, so that their tones eventually partook somewhat of invective, even of abuse.

'We got off at 4.40 A.M., cold and stiff, slid over the Bergschrund in the still soft snow, and, going at a furious pace, forgot our discomforts, and were soon busy evolving fresh plans. We were not sorry to get to the first water, as all we had had to drink since the previous morning was a pint of black coffee and snow. We regained camp at 7.30 to meet the warmest welcome of Sydney Gask, who had spent a great part of the night a couple of hours above the camp, watching for our return.'

The second from his article on the traverse of Mont. Blanc by the S.E. arête (in 1893), which he wrote as a memorial of Daniel Maquignaz ; a grim description of very serious work :

' I do not remember that we stopped to eat—we carried raisins and sugar in our pockets—but once, for a moment, Daniel half reeled with the continuous work—he had been leading for *fourteen* hours. We restored our leader with some wine and food, standing in our steps. About 6 an occasional downblast of wind gave us a warning of what was in store. It was still light, and once more Daniel set to work with the axe. But each step brought us more into the wind, and soon, every other minute, we heard the howl as of a thousand wolves, and, quickly jamming our axes, bent our backs in mortal fear of being blown clean away. I exchanged, now and again, a few words with the usually loquacious Baptiste, but only in the intervals could one make oneself heard. We hardly noticed the daylight vanish, for it was full moon or nearly.

' At about 10 P.M. the arête opened out to form a sort of rocky headland. I was rather keen to stop there, although the shelter was of the scantiest, as the quickly recurring blasts of the hurricane were becoming trying in the extreme. However, we faced it once more, always step-cutting, until, about 11 P.M., we could take to some rocks on the left, and climbed a broad rock couloir, which gave the leader some relief. Baptiste had for some little time been complaining that he could not feel his feet. There was nothing to be done but to stick steadily to it.

' The rock couloir ended in a snow arête, when the wind seemed to drop. Thirty yards higher Daniel halted, and, looking up in the half-light, I saw he was under a great cornice. It was just midnight by my watch. We brought up Baptiste, so that he should not be knocked over, and Daniel proceeded to flog a passage through the overhanging lip. I closed up to him, and he half scrambled, and was half pushed, through the hole. I followed, helped by the frozen rope. Almost before I could look round and see that we were on the top itself, the frightful N. gale almost beat us to the ground. Baptiste followed, and for a moment we clung to our rammed axes, gasping for breath. Daniel, as ever, the quickest to pull himself together, beckoned (the wind drowned even a shout) to get under the lee—one could not call it a shelter—of a little outcrop of rocks a few yards farther on. Round one of these Daniel flung the rope, and we huddled down on the snow ; for facing that gale—even across the broad, almost level, arête leading to Mont Blanc—would have meant an accident. He and I put our feet in our sacks, regardless of the contents. We made signs to Baptiste to do the same, but he would sit on his sack and kick his heels against the snow ; there was no arguing with him—one could not make oneself heard shouting. We could not eat, for one dare not take a glove off for a moment.

'Those of you who know the desperate misery of such a night need no remarks of mine. As to you others, I only hope you may not have any such experience.

'The only part which seemed to retain any pretence of heat was the stomach, over which one fondly clasped the arms.

'All night long the hurricane continued, clouds scudding across the moon. We now and again exchanged a sign.

'There we crouched for five mortal hours, and even when broad daylight came one felt little inclined to stir and face the full force of the icy blast. However, at 5.5 A.M. Daniel and I scrambled to our feet. Baptiste asserted that his feet were frozen, and that he could not move. With a little encouragement he managed to stand up, and we fairly towed him across the summit of Mont Blanc, passed at 5.35, whence we ran down in thirteen minutes to our quarters of a fortnight earlier, the hut on the Rochers Rouges. There was at that time, of course, no Observatory on the summit, nor a Vallot hut.'

Farrar wrote many reviews and articles on Alpine nomenclature and history, including papers on old Führerbücher—all of high interest. These were, as Mumm says, 'the outcome of a gallant resolve to keep the ALPINE JOURNAL interesting during the war years.'

Many *In Memoriams* also came from Farrar's pen—all of them full of sympathetic feeling, fine judgment of character, and warm appreciation.

Farrar had at different times travelled with H. Topham, H. E. Marsh, R. Corry, T. L. Kesteven, J. E. C. Eaton, C. B. R. Ellis, F. Bergne, R. Cajrati, L. W. Rolleston, S. Gask, R. W. Lloyd, W. A. Wills, Miss Frances Wills, E. H. F. Bradby, C. Wilson, J. M. Davidson, but his most frequent companions were H. V. Reade, G. E. Gask, and V. A. Fynn.

He employed at different times many different guides, but his favourites were Johann Grill ('der Köderbacher'), Christian Klucker, and, above all, Daniel Maquignaz, of whom he wrote a most appreciative and touching *In Memoriam*.

Farrar was an Honorary Member of the French, Italian, Swiss, Canadian, American, and Austrian Alpine Clubs, of the G.H.M. (of the C.A.F.) and of the Appalachian Club, as well as a member of many other mountaineering societies.

By his death a cloud has darkened the mountaineering world. Farrar was so well known, so well loved, so much looked up to by climbers both English and foreign, that probably no mountaineer was ever as widely mourned as a master and a friend. Many letters have been received from the leading Alpine clubs and from prominent foreign climbers, all breathing the same reverence for the master and the warm regard for the man. It is impossible to quote them all, but those we give will indicate the warm feeling and sympathetic regard inspiring one and all.

*From the C.A.F.*

(Telegram : February 20.)

‘Profondément attristé vous prie agréer condoléances plus sincères du Club Alpin Français avec les miennes pour le décès de votre ancien Président le Grand Alpiniste Capitaine Farrar.

(Signed) GATINE, Président

*Par intérim.*

*From Dr. H. Dübi.*

‘BERNE,

March 26, 1929.

‘I mourn deeply the premature death of Captain Farrar. It is a great loss for us all. I shall never forget the first time I met him personally. It was at the Jubilee of the S.A.C. at Luzern in 1913, where Farrar represented the A.C., and we were invited to lunch with Herr Carl Seelig at Kastanienbaum to commemorate the day when Captain Farrar with his guides saved the life of Herr Seelig, who was nearly killed in an accident in the Schreckhorn Couloir. Since then, I have been in constant communication with Farrar, who honoured me with the title of mentor on matters of Alpine history, and I may testify now that I never had a better pupil. It was at his instigation that Montagnier and I published the results in the Paccard-Balmat and other Alpine questions. It was a pleasure to correspond with Farrar, even when he was on the opposite side, and his criticisms were always loyal and frank.’

*From Cav. Guido Rey.*

‘Captain Farrar était pour nous tous un exemple admirable de sagesse et de bonté auquel nous cherchions de nous approcher autant que possible dans nos actions et dans nos pensées à fin d’être dignes de son amitié.

‘Cet exemple vivra longtemps après lui parmi les jeunes alpinistes, mais pour les vieux (comme je le suis) le souvenir des heures passées avec l’incomparable maître et ami parmi les Alpes aura toujours un charme qu’on ne peut pas exprimer par des mots sans lui enlever sa poésie.’

*From M. Jacques Lagarde.*

G.H.M.

LYON,

8/3/1929.

‘Je viens d’apprendre par Ségogne la mort du Capitaine Farrar. Cette nouvelle bien inattendue m’a causé une véritable peine, car l’amitié qu’il me faisait l’honneur de me témoigner depuis quelques années—amitié bien réciproque—m’était très chère. Malgré son âge déjà avancé, sa verdure physique, sa charmante jeunesse morale, semblait devoir lui assurer un avenir long encore.

‘Je regrette maintenant plus que jamais de n’avoir pu le ren-

contrer l'été dernier, comme je l'espérais. Le souvenir d'une première et rapide rencontre en 1924, puis de plusieurs semaines passées ensemble à Chamonix en 1926; une liasse de lettres courtes, directes, amicales, d'un ton bien personnel, plus rares depuis qu'il n'était plus "editor" voilà—tout ce qui me reste de lui. C'est un des plus grands alpinistes de la grande époque qui disparaît, ainsi qu'une charmante et noble personnalité. Je crois que la montagne n'a pas eu d'adepte plus fidèle que lui.'

*From Howard Palmer, ex-President of the American Alpine Club.*

'Although we had never met, correspondence over many years had revealed his winning nature and had kindled an intense personal regard, quite apart from admiration and respect for his great accomplishments on the peaks and elsewhere. One felt that he was a true man in the fullest sense of the word: kindly, resolute, generous, just, broad-minded, sincere.

- His personality and influence, strongly felt on this side of the Atlantic as on the Continent, was most potent in cultivating solidarity and goodwill amongst the mountaineers of all nations. We were most gratified at his acceptance of Honorary Membership in the American Alpine Club.'

*From Henry B. de Villiers Schwabe, President of the American Alpine Club.*

'Although I had never actually met Captain Farrar, I have corresponded with him for years. Admiration for his deeds and of his character almost amounted to reverence.

'With his extraordinary knowledge, his facile pen, and his keen interest in everything that transpired in the mountaineering world, Captain Farrar came to occupy a unique position with us over here. For some he was largely a legendary hero, for others he was a very vital personality, but to *all* his nobility of character, his tact, his sympathy, and his broad interest in the climbing fraternity was patent.

'He held a secure place in all our hearts. Our sense of personal loss is profound.'

Letters and telegrams of sympathy have been received, among others, from the following gentlemen:—

A. O. Wheeler, Hon. President, Alpine Club of Canada; T. B. Moffat, President, Alpine Club of Canada; W. S. Ladd, President, Appalachian Alpine Club; A. Gassmann, President, A.A.C., Berne; Giovanni Bobba; Gugliermi Brothers; Paul Montandon; Dr. Erb, President, S.A.C.; R. Cajrati; Victor de Cessole; Walter Amstutz; Dr. Julius Kugy; H. Lauper; Dr. A. Rudovsky, President, Austrian Alpine Club; Signor Vigna, Vice-President,

C.A.I.; Louis Friedmann; Henri de Ségogne; Messrs. Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co.; etc., etc.

To one and all, nearly one hundred in number, the Alpine Club expresses its profound thanks.

The Alpine Club has had many distinguished Presidents who have made it their pleasure to use their great abilities in its service, and many excellent editors who have given much time and labour to the *ALPINE JOURNAL*, but none of them have surpassed Farrar in zeal and devotion. As a member of the Committee he was unremitting in his efforts to maintain the life of the Club at a high level. Whilst he never advocated reckless adventure, he always encouraged enterprise with a proper regard for safety. Courage and circumspection—daring if you will—but always with a due respect to the weather and the state of the mountain characterised Farrar's great climbs. He preached what he practised.

He had carried his study of equipment to such a point that his advice was of the very greatest advantage to the Everest Expedition, and his services were given without stint.

As Vice-President and President he never spared himself whether in the ordinary business of the Club or in forwarding the interests of mountaineering among climbing bodies on the Continent. To foreign climbers he was hospitality itself, and ever ready to interest himself in their service. It was said of Sir Walter Scott: 'Sir Walter speaks to every man as if he was his blood relation'; it might have been said of Farrar that he spoke to every climber as if he was a personal friend. As Editor he was indefatigable and his tactful skill was conspicuous, for he was successful in dealing with the most difficult of mountaineering authorities.

His death has cast a heavy cloud over the mountaineering world. Greatly do we miss him, and deeply do we mourn him. We shall never forget him. As he himself said of Daniel Maquignaz: 'A Great Comrade never dies—he only goes before.'

G. YELD.

I met Farrar for the first time in 1894, and he was one of the earliest of my intimate friends in the Alpine Club. I may therefore be permitted to add a small word of tribute to the memory of one of the most valuable members the Club has possessed. In my capacity of Honorary Secretary I came into contact with Farrar, and on innumerable occasions I have availed myself of his advice which he was ever ready to give. It was always sound and well considered, and although of a naturally masterful disposition he was still open to conviction and ready to listen to any criticism of his opinions. His keen sense of humour and sunny disposition made him a most lovable person, and to me personally his death leaves a gap which no one else can quite fill.

SYDNEY SPENCER.

In the summer of 1907, hearing accidentally from Farrar that he had no definite plans for the climbing season, I ventured to ask him whether he would come and take George Gask and myself up the Bietschhorn by a new route from the E., about which he had talked to me. I hardly hoped that he would accept the invitation. He was a much older man, who had gone all his life with first-rate guides, and had done most of the big things in the Alps; and though he had tried guideless climbing the year before, I did not know how he had liked it. But he agreed at once, and joined us after our first fortnight. The story of that season was told in a paper read to the Club in 1908 ('A.J.' 24, 293). The attempt on the Bietschhorn failed, from lack of time, though Farrar did it with Gask and Fynn some years later, but other good climbs were carried out; and the same party, joined occasionally by Fynn or others, were together for several subsequent seasons. Some of the expeditions made have been described in 'A Night on the Sustenhorn' ('A.J.' 24, 660), and 'Four Days on Monte Rosa' ('A.J.' 29, 129).

To climb with Farrar was a privilege and an education. At first, the prospect seemed a little alarming. We were quite prepared to be ordered about and overruled. But we found Farrar not merely tolerant of guideless climbers' vagaries, but always ready to consider opinions which differed from his own, nor did it take us long to realize that behind a reserved and almost forbidding exterior was hidden a simple, genial, and kindly nature. He seldom laid down the law, but one was always learning something from his vast experience. Autocratic, indeed, he could be when he believed that the occasion demanded it, and though one might chafe at the moment, one generally felt afterwards that he had been right.

His wonderful knowledge of everything that had been done in the Alps, and of the men, guides or amateurs, who had done it, made him a most entertaining companion. All readers of this JOURNAL know how thoroughly he kept in touch with foreign as well as British climbers, and how much trouble he took to obtain first-hand information about any new and notable expedition, or to clear up the history of a particular route. Wherever he went he was adding to this knowledge, aided by his remarkable power of making friends with every one he met in the Alps. No sooner had we arrived in a hotel or a hut than he would begin finding out who was there, and if he did not already know something about the climbers and their guides, he would know their friends or relatives, or what they had done in former seasons. His command of the native patois put him on good terms at once with guides, porters, and everyone else with whom we had to do.

Of his ability as a mountaineer it is needless to speak. He naturally took the lead when there was really difficult ice-work to be done, but on rocks, and straightforward snow and ice, he was content to leave it to others. Habitually abstemious, he always kept himself thoroughly fit, and his powers of endurance were remarkable. One instance of this may be given. When we started

to traverse all the peaks of Monte Rosa from the Gnifetti Hut after a spell of bad weather, and found fresh snow in which we sank knee-deep, he insisted on going first, to keep the rest of the party in reserve, as he said, and for ten hours, with one halt of fifteen minutes, he refused to be relieved from 'snow-plugging' of the most arduous kind. We did not reach the Riffelhaus until 10.15 P.M., but Farrar, finding that Fynn could join us for one climb, insisted on being off by the first train in the morning, walked up to the Trift in the afternoon, traversed the Rothhorn to the Mountet next day, and returned to Zermatt over the Trifthorn the day after.

Mountaineering to him was not a mere pastime, but the main interest of his life. His accounts of his many great climbs were vivid and racy, yet so modest that the casual listener might not have realized that Farrar himself had been more than a 'passenger' between two good guides. But no one could discriminate more clearly between the amateur who does big expeditions so long as he is well led and looked after, and the climber, amateur or guide, who is 'a really good man on a mountain'—the highest praise that Farrar could bestow. For his own climbing companions he had a real affection, which was fully returned. Though it is many years since we made our last expedition together, we feel that we have lost a friend who cannot be replaced.

H. V. READE.

It is the Alpine world, no less than the Alpine Club, which has lost in Farrar its dominant personality. In all that concerned the mountains and the mountaineering, to which he devoted so great a part of his life and driving enthusiasm, he himself recognized no differences of country or of race. Through his work and example, and still more by the magnetism of his forceful, volatile personality, he drew together the dispersed mountaineering interests and organizations not only of Europe but of America and Canada, Australasia and Africa, to an extent inconceivable twenty-five years ago. In this way, and almost unintentionally, by his singlehearted devotion to a single sporting interest, he performed one of the most remarkable works for better international understanding achieved since the war.

In the short history of mountaineering he stands out as an original, and it may be a unique, figure. There have been great climbers, great writers and editors, great presidents. Farrar was all of these; and yet, who ever thought of him as the one or the other? In every capacity he remained always himself: to some perhaps 'Captain —', to others 'Percy —', but always 'Farrar.' And the reason for this must have lain as much in the real bigness of his personality as in its singularity. He had the quality of 'greatness': he was at once very human and individual, and also what we call 'universal.' Never was a leading mountaineer more personal, more intimately human in his relationships with other climbers, kindred or foreign, old or young. And yet he became for

us, in his impersonal judgments and his immense knowledge, an ultimate referee, both as to the practice and as to the traditions of great mountaineering. Not that which Farrar said—which might be humorous or explosive according to his temper or shrewd calculation at the moment—but that which we felt Farrar fundamentally thought was, I think, to most of us a mountaineering criterion, of its standards of conduct no less than of its technique. In all the memories of him that return, in the countless anecdotes, in his writings and in his achievements, we can sense the same fundamental quality—an underlying but absolute standard of mountaineering principle, of the preparation, the precautions, the enterprise, the comradeship, and the self-sacrifice it demands.

It was our consciousness of this underlying, and unchanging, element in him which made his approval, however variedly shown, delightfully inspiring, and his censure (and none could criticize more devastatingly in speech or magisterially in print!) free of personal animus or the possibility of resentment. It was as impossible to suspect Farrar of one envious mountaineering thought as to think of him, ever, as older than oneself!

A typically British figure one might have said: soldierly, distinguished, straightbacked, abrupt, with all the prejudices as also the virtues of its type, with the rough humour, the impulsive initiative, the essential dignity. But so much more lay behind: a heart eternally young, a volcanic energy never wholly free of the guidance of a cool brain, and a wide understanding of humanity, such as had learned to laugh at other human beings from sympathy and not from cynicism and to express, through an entirely original blend of ruggedness, kindly malice and quizzical conventionalism, the inexhaustible generosity, even tenderness, of an essentially masculine and sensitive nature.

Courage, loyalty, hardihood, and independence in action and thought, Farrar set above all other virtues. As a keen and critical student of history, especially of military history, he had determined for himself that which an individual must learn and practise if his life is to make any contribution of value to his generation or to his race. Mountaineering he regarded as the best preparation and field of experience for a vital manhood. And so it came that of a man, or woman, who had made a bold, well-designed or original ascent he would hear no other report. Young or old, to have shown oneself a wholehearted mountaineer was enough to capture his personal interest, and his affection. From that moment all his knowledge and his inspiring help were at one's service, irrespective of nationality, age, or even deserts.

That men should pursue adventure and that young men ought to take risks was his constant theme before the war ('Too many of them creep for shelter under the beds!' was the way he put it.) After the war, and the loss of his only son, he encountered the period of reaction which followed, the inevitable 'playing for safety' of the surviving generation, with the same unswerving principle and

impetuous example. In the pages of our *JOURNAL*, in the Alps, in Wales, on the Continent—he seemed to be everywhere, encouraging, mocking, advising, and, above all, understanding. Many of us have felt his influence directly. Hundreds of other mountaineers, at home or abroad, whether they knew it or not, must have profited in the same way from that which he wrote, and that which he indirectly inspired. Although he never wrote or spoke for personal effect, and jeered at the idea of being considered a writer or a speaker, the sheer manliness, the impersonal generosity, that which I have called the universality in his nature, rang through everything he said or wrote whenever his underlying convictions or emotions were stirred. And this gave him an eloquence all his own (as in his notice of his old guide, Daniel Maquignaz) of a kind which can only be described as ‘prophetic.’

In a mountaineer so alive in his own time and yet so convinced of the value of high tradition, it was not a contradiction but a natural necessity that, as in his writing so in himself and his activities the spirit of reverence for ‘classic’ mountaineering, which he did so much to make us cherish and respect, should be combined, and contrasted, with the originality—sometimes even the eccentricities—of an exceptionally vital and individual modern mountain adventurer. In him the characteristics of the gallant gentleman, the sportsman, and the loyal chronicler were inseparable from the idiosyncracies of the very human man.

Farrar’s best memorial must always remain our lively memory of himself: our ability in Club intercourse to hand on that tradition of masculine enterprise and comradeship with which he inspired us for more than twenty years: our readiness in action to reset his example—of courage to undertake in the van, of loyalty to co-operate unselfishly in line, and of generosity to acclaim, help, and encourage as we pass into the rear ranks.

G. WINTHROP YOUNG.

[To the tributes so eloquently paid, but a few lines need be added.

We could speak of the latter part of Farrar’s life—of his courageous resumption of control of the London and South African business, for the benefit of his nieces, after his brother’s death; of his immense post-war activities, travels, and countless personal and Club correspondences. Earlier again, there is the period of his squireship in Bedfordshire and of his and Mrs. Farrar’s delightful hospitality for years, to so many of us. We could write of his hunting—he was a fine, bold horseman—of his shooting. Lastly, of his keen study of military history: he was the most accurate authority we have met on Napoleon’s Eylau and Friedland operations and the immortal ‘Campaign of France,’ 1814.

To the *ALPINE JOURNAL* and to its Editor, striving to follow humbly in his great predecessors’ footsteps, Farrar’s loss is indeed irreparable.—E. L. S.]

## JAMES ALSTON CARFRAE.

(1845-1928.)

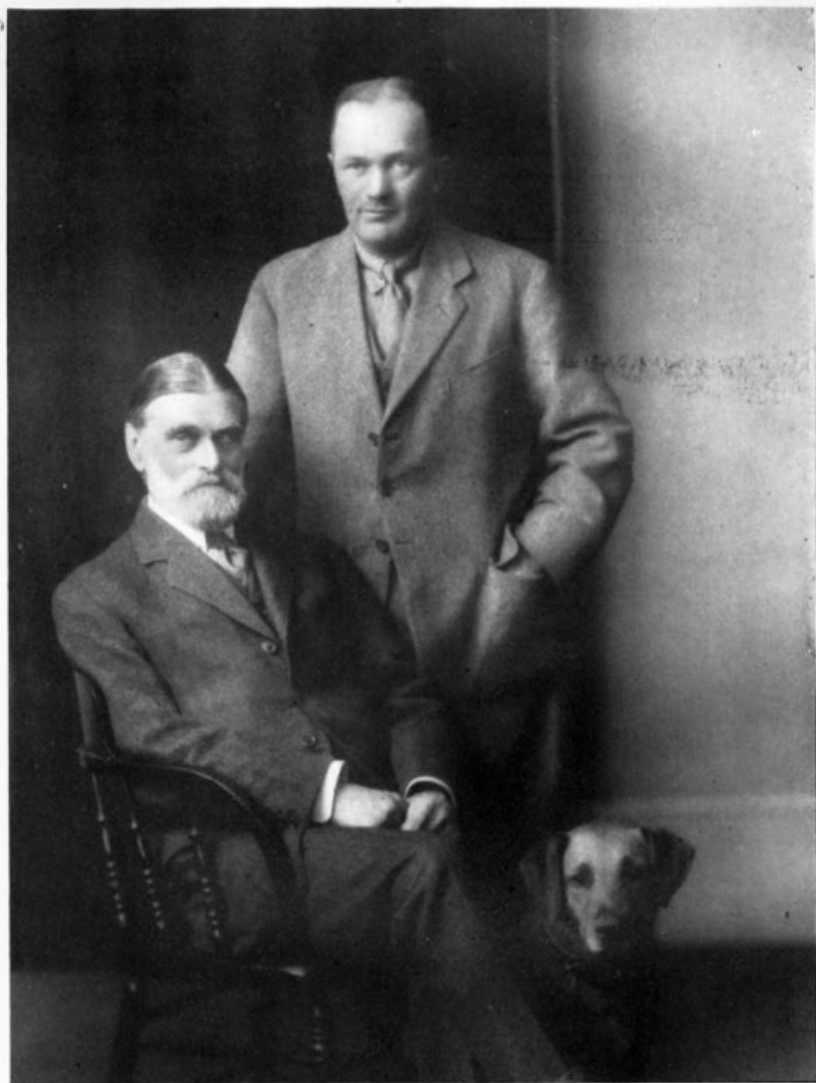
A MELANCHOLY echo of a long-past tragedy has been recently sounded by the death of Mr. J. A. Carfrae, who passed away peacefully at the age of eighty-three sitting in his chair, after having attended a parish church council at Wimbledon on October 8 last. We may well say, 'May my last end be like his.'

On September 6, 1877, two English barristers set out from the Riffel Hotel at 2 A.M. with three guides, who were brothers, Niklaus, Johann, and Josef Knubel, to climb the Lyskamm, one of the giants which tower over the Gorner Glacier. As they did not return by the evening, it was supposed that they might have surmounted the top and descended in safety on the Italian side of the mountain.

But Mr. Carfrae, himself a no mean climber and a member of the Alpine Club, who was staying in the hotel, was not satisfied; so he started with three guides, one of whom was a fourth brother of the Knubels, to ascertain what had become of the party, and he discovered the bodies of the five unfortunate men lying on the Italian side of the Lysjoch under the arête from which they had fallen some thousands of feet. The circumstantial evidence pointed to their having approached too near to a dangerous cornice which had given way, and since then climbers have taken extra care to give corniches a wide berth.

But it was not the fact that Mr. Carfrae happened to be the first to reveal the disaster which had taken place that made him remarkable, though his name became prominent at the time. It was the character of the man. He was eminently one who displayed that charity that thinketh no evil, a man who carried his goodness without being what schoolboys call 'pi,' there was no sanctimoniousness about his Christianity. His evangelical upbringing and natural bent led him to support all kinds of good causes with his sympathy and practical aid. A list of them would include the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Police Court Mission, the Glenavyvian Miners' Mission, the Chinese Bible Women's Mission, the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, etc., for he was ever ready to succour his neighbour.

At the same time a more joyous personality never existed, and those of us who knew him will remember for many a long year the flash of his merry blue eye, and his boisterous laugh whenever a joke was toward. High spirits well became that sturdy little figure which never thickened with age, nor grew stiff, and which was so adapted to the athletics which he enjoyed and practised to the last. Elected to the Alpine Club in 1874, he became a distinguished member, and always attended the meetings of the Club. An oarsman, he rowed on the river in the last year of his life. An original member, and one of the founders of the Wimbledon Skating



JAMES A. CARFRAE (left).  
1845-1928.

Major C. T. Carfrae.

Club, and a prominent skater in his day, he skated on Wimbledon Lake the winter before last when, for an all too short time, the ice bore. No one would have dreamed that this active and vigorous man with only a few silver threads in his bushy hair and beard was fourscore years of age, for his strength was not labour and sorrow, but still green and flourishing.

Although he lived nearly seventy years at Holme Lodge, Wimbledon, there was no stagnation in that prolonged residence. You could not but be cheerful in his presence, as he radiated friendship and loving kindness. Such a character is not easy to describe to others, though one may feel its influence in the living soul. David Grayson comes near it when he says, 'Goodness is uneventful. It does not flash, it glows. It is deep, quiet, and very simple. It passes not with oratory, it is commonly foreign to riches, nor does it often sit in the seats of the mighty; but it may be felt in the touch of a friendly hand, or the look of a kindly eye.'

GILBERT COLERIDGE.

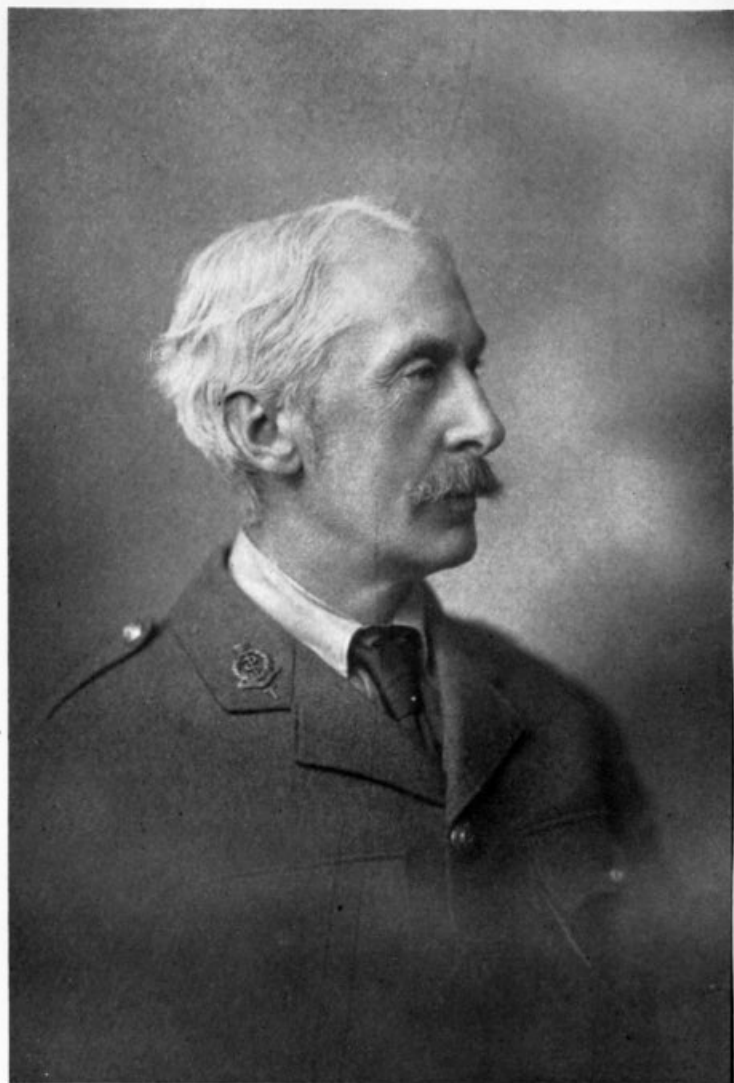
### GEORGE EDWARD WHERRY.

(1852-1928.)

GEORGE EDWARD WHERRY, consulting surgeon to Addenbrooke's Hospital and Hon. Fellow of Downing College, Cambridge, died in August last at the Monte Rosa Hotel in Zermatt—among the mountains in which he delighted, and in the house which had become almost a second home to him.

Born in 1852 at Bourne in Lincolnshire, he had a distinguished medical career and in 1874 was elected House Surgeon to Addenbrooke's, a coveted post. For forty-one years he served the Hospital and the University. From 1884 to 1911 he was University Lecturer in surgery. He retired in 1915, on account of age, and was elected honorary consulting surgeon. From 1915 onward, until his resignation in the year before his death, he was a most efficient and popular supervisor of the University surgical examinations. During the war, as a colonel, he continued to do brilliant and devoted work for the wounded. Of the honours which came to him during his professional life, probably that which gave him the greatest pleasure was his election to an honorary Fellowship of his College. The spontaneous testimonial and dinner given in his honour by his University examining colleagues upon his retirement in 1927 were significant of the affectionate esteem in which he was held. At this dinner his speech, full of humour and literary reminiscence, was characteristic of his original personality.

All that he wrote, even his medical writings, demonstrates the same cultivated and almost whimsical interest in the rare, the forgotten and the curious. His 'Alpine Notes and the Climbing



G. E. WHERRY.  
1852-1928.

Foot' (1896) is well known. In 'Notes from a Knapsack' (1909) he writes again not only of mountains but of 'Tree-climbing,' 'A Climb on Stonehenge,' 'Why both Legs are of Equal Length,' 'The Horns of Animals' (a favourite topic), 'The Touching Mania,' 'Tongue-swallowing,' and so on. Whether it was a sunrise ascent in the Alps, an Alpine flower or insect, the Ears of Buddha, or Rings under the Eaves of old Houses, the subject would be pursued in his notebooks with the same quizzical enthusiasm, and illustrated with the same suggestive pencil. For several years he was accustomed to publish an account of his Swiss wanderings, locally. He contributed to the ALPINE JOURNAL, and it may not be necessary to recall the dignity of his final appreciations of a number of his—often notable—climbing friends.

Of the Alps, mountains and mountaineering, he was a lifelong devotee. There were few seasons, from the early eighties to the year of his death, when he was not to be met somewhere among them, in Switzerland or Great Britain. A man happy and constant in his friendships, who relished wit and good company, he enjoyed every climb, the more for the friend who made it with him. For a number of seasons he climbed with Aston Binns, who was killed on the Charmoz in '98, with M. A. Bayfield, a great scholar and one of the finest of climbers, and with A. D. Godley. Those who may have seen him climbing with Godley during their later years of close companionship will never forget the impression: both tall, reserved, gentle and yet alert, alike and yet unlike; exchanging at slow intervals the mere hint or savour of some quip or recondite allusion; accepting each other's hits and apt quotations with scarcely a twinkle of the eye to disturb their seeming gravity. He was only unhappy in that it fell to him to survive all his Alpine comrades, Binns, Bergne, Bayfield, Godley. Writing of the death of Aston Binns, he says: 'This season has been the most disastrous in my recollection, except that of 1882, when Balfour and Penhall lost their lives . . . Penhall was a pupil of mine, and Balfour was one at whose feet I sat in reverence.'

A runner in his early years, spare and active and with a raking stride, there were few corners of the Western Alps in which he had not climbed or rambled. To mention but a few seasons: With his constant guide, Alois Kalbermatten (whom it was like him to rename 'Hercules,' and his brother 'Quinbus Flestrin'), in '91 he crossed the Mischabeljoch, the Alphubel, the Südlenzspitze, the Nadelhorn, the Laquinhorn, and the Rothhorn. In '92 the Matterhorn, the Ober Gabelhorn, the Jungfrau, the Triflthorn and the Lötschenlücke—with attempts, defeated by weather, upon the Rothhorn, the Bietschhorn, and the Dru. In '93 the Dent Blanche, the Weisshorn, Mont Blanc from the Aiguilles Grises, the Dru, the Aiguille Verte, Col Durand and the Furggjoch. In '94 in Dauphiné his expeditions included Les Écrins, La Meije and the Grande Aiguille. In '95 Monte Rosa from the Lysjoch, the traverse of the

Matterhorn and the traverse of the Charmoz. And these ascents do not exhaust the list of climbs and high Alpine wanderings made in any one of these seasons with other guides, with his family, with friends or alone.

But he could be as content down by the lakes or in the valleys as upon glaciers or difficult rocks. By scientific training a quick observer of nature and a tolerant critic of humanity, he had also the artist's feeling for beauty in line, colour and movement. Wide reading had made of his mind a storehouse of illustration. He could be as happy, therefore, with his thoughts alone as in conversation. And, as a result, his talk had much of the quality that belongs to a good essay-writer. It seemed inevitable that Charles Lamb should be his favourite author. He wrote about him; and was himself one of the founders, and the first chairman, of the Cambridge Charles Lamb Dinners. Not only upon the occasion of his presidency, when he spoke admirably in Lamb's manner, but in his usual fashion of thought, and its expression, a sympathetic likeness to the essayist may have suggested itself to many of us.

His friend, Sir Charles Ballance, wrote of him in the *British Medical Journal*: 'I am convinced that had Wherry been attached to a London Hospital his character and attainments in general learning would have won for him a high position in the profession of surgery. But Wherry was an English gentleman who played the game of life manfully. . . . He was shy, reserved, gentle, self-effacing and affectionate. The fairy queens that ruled his life were not the busy elves, gain, fashion, pleasure, power. . . . He let them go "without one envious sigh, one anxious scheme" . . . He was a charming host; and his conversation, punctuated with wit and wisdom garnered from many sources, was delightful to listen to. Seldom I think he was conscious of quotation from prose or poetry. His memory was so good that the illustration of an argument or a jest in this way came naturally to him. Well, for me Lycidas is dead, and I am a better man since I have had the privilege of claiming Wherry as a friend. Some men are remembered less for what they have done than for what they were.'

The tall, distinguished figure, the generous courtesy, and the quickly kindling enthusiasm for all things that had to do with mountains—or men who climbed them—will be missed in the two homes of his choice, Cambridge and the Alps.

He served on the Committee of the Alpine Club from 1910-12, as well as an Extra Member on several occasions.

G. W. Y.

## ALEXANDER B. W. KENNEDY.

(1847-1928.)

SIR ALEXANDER BLACKIE WILLIAM KENNEDY, F.R.S., LL.D., whose death took place on November 1, 1928, was a man of great versatility. To the public he was chiefly known as an engineer of remarkably varied experience, and as one who had attained the highest honours of the engineering profession.

Born at Stepney on March 17, 1847, he was the eldest son of the Rev. John Kennedy, D.D., his mother being a sister of John Stuart Blackie, the well-known Professor of Greek at Edinburgh University.

He was educated at the City of London School and the School of Mines, Jermyn Street, and at about the age of 16 began his association with marine engineering by becoming a pupil with a Thames-side firm of marine engine builders. He was subsequently employed at Palmer's on the Tyne, where he was one of the first few to design and help build compound marine steam engines.

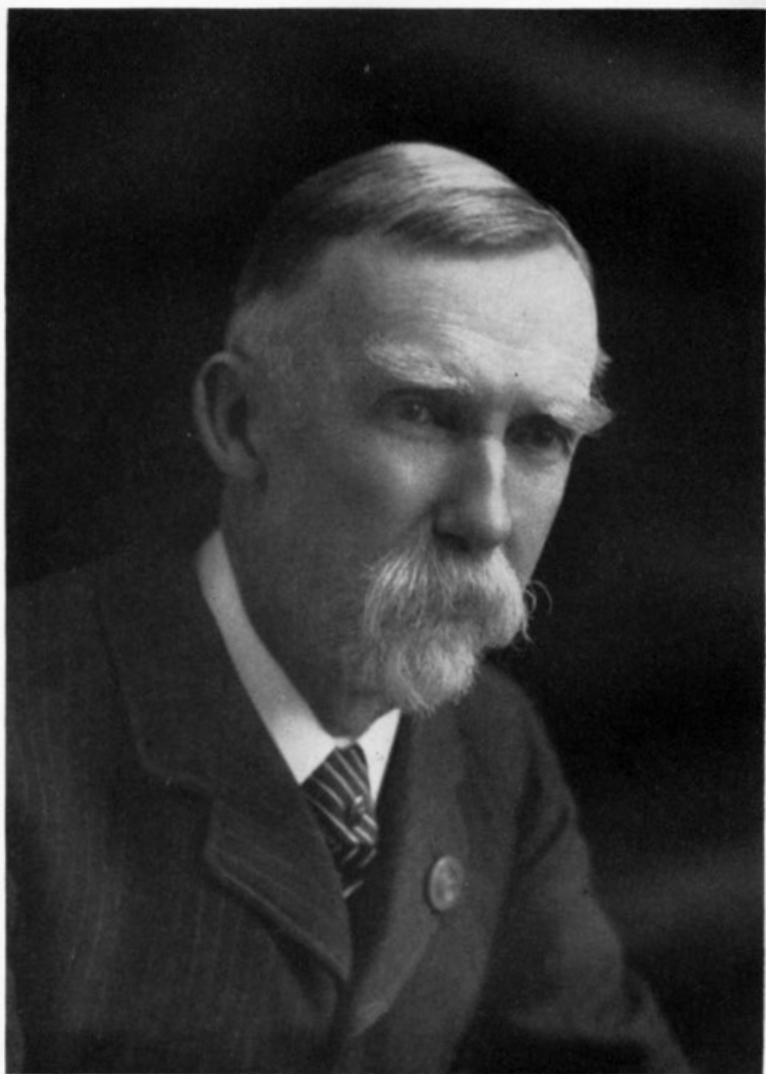
He then went to Leith as engine designer, and, after a few years of consulting practice with a Mr. Bennet at Edinburgh, he ceased his connection specifically with marine engineering.

While working in Edinburgh in 1873 Kennedy was asked by the editor of *Engineering* to go to the Exhibition at Vienna, where he reported officially on the engineering exhibits. It was this first opportunity of seeing the Alps that brought him back to them so often afterwards.

In 1874, at the age of 27, he was appointed Professor of Engineering at University College, London, where, by adopting new methods of teaching and of technical analysis, he founded a method which has extended generally over this country and to the United States. His great work as an engineering teacher was the forming of an engineering laboratory, an adjunct then new to this country, and one that helped, more than anything else, to indicate the importance of accurate knowledge of strength of materials and of results of tests on plant.

He carried out many researches in this laboratory, translating some and writing other works for the benefit of his students. Kennedy's students loved him. He was almost as young as many of them, and when they came up against unsolved problems he and they together discovered ways of working them out. There has seldom been a professor at any college who has been held in such respect and admiration by his students as Kennedy. His charming manner, total absence of conceit, willingness to help, and above all his clear and lucid lectures endeared him to all. All his life he has shown to fellow-engineers, as well as to students, a tolerance creating for him a wide circle of lasting friends.

During the latter part of his time at University College he was allowed to carry on consulting engineering, and started in this way to be called on for advice by all kinds of clients. This field



ALEXANDER B. W. KENNEDY.  
1847-1928.

seemed to offer so much greater scope for his abilities that in 1889 he left University College and started in Westminster as a consulting engineer. About that time the electric-lighting era was beginning in earnest, and he built up a very extensive practice as a consulting mechanical and electrical engineer. His services were enlisted in the construction of some of the earliest, as well as some of the later, electric-light-power undertakings throughout Great Britain and then overseas. He advised on and undertook the electrification of tramways and of suburban railways.

He was appointed by Lord Goschen a member of the Belleville Boiler Committee in 1900, he was a civil member of the Ordnance Board since June 1909, and he served on Lord Parker's Committee on Wireless Telegraphy in 1913, and was chairman of the Ministry of Transport's Committee on Electric Railways in 1920. He was widely employed in arbitration cases because of his faculty of absolute fairness, and because in all his long professional career his code of professional conduct was invariably so high.

Kennedy received his knighthood in 1905, and held honorary degrees from the Universities of Glasgow, Birmingham, and Liverpool. He was President of the Engineering Section of the British Association at the Oxford meeting in 1894, of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in 1894-95, and of the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1906. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1887, and was created a Pasha by King Hussein in 1924.

During the war he worked for the Ministry of Munitions in several important capacities, and he acted as chairman of some committees. He was intensely desirous of bringing home to those of his countrymen who had not seen them the extent of the ravages and destruction wrought by the war on the Western Front. To this end he gave several lectures, illustrated by admirable photographs taken by himself, and these appear in his book, 'Ypres to Verdun,' published in 1921.

It was a remarkable proof of Kennedy's energy and intellectual curiosity that at the age of 75 he undertook the exploration of Petra. This involved extreme fatigue, and indeed nearly cost him his life, but it bore fruit in what is probably the most complete work on the subject to date. This work is illustrated by photographs taken by himself.

Kennedy became a member of the Alpine Club in 1895, but had started wandering in the Alps about 1875. From 1878 onwards he was a fairly regular traveller in the Alps during his summer holidays, and his records show that his chief recreation was to wander from valley to valley over passes and occasionally to take a peak on the way. In his qualifications for membership, amongst a lot of passes and smaller peaks, he had then ascended the Aiguille de la Tsa, Aiguilles Rouges d'Arolla, the Zinal-Rothhorn, Mont Blanc de Seilon, Petite Dent de Veisivi, Mont Collon, and the Matterhorn. After his election in 1895 his wanderings were even more

regular than before, and he covered districts from Tyrol to Dauphiné. He served on the A.C. Committee, 1897-99.

In 1918 Kennedy read a paper before the Club (see 'A.J.' 33) on 'The High Level Route.' This was illustrated by slides of his own and of Mr. Spencer, and was a very useful *résumé* of the variations of the route from the date it was first talked of.

In 1914, when returning from the Alps to England by road, he was stopped at the German frontier and had to go back into Switzerland. He managed to get through the Italian frontier, without his car, to Genoa, travelling thence by sea to England with many other Alpine travellers who had not been able to get home before the declaration of war. The car was eventually got out of Switzerland into Italy and was shipped home some months later.

After the war his visits were less regular, and owing to failing health he was not able to climb or even walk far uphill. In 1922 he motored over the Alps with Mr. Douglas Freshfield to visit Cav. Vittorio Sella at his home at Biella. Mr. Freshfield describes an incident this visit involved at the frontier of the Little St. Bernard, because the Prefect of Turin had issued some new edict concerning motor-car *triptyques*, affecting this province. They were allowed, however, after much persuasion to proceed to Courmayeur, where Kennedy reluctantly addressed a firm remonstrance, signed with all his qualifications, both engineering and otherwise, to the British Ambassador at Rome. As a result, within twenty-four hours he received an order allowing him to go where he liked, and the frontier officials thereafter addressed him as 'Eccellenza.' This, of course, was before the days of the present dictatorship.

Kennedy's interest in mountaineering took him also on very many occasions to the country of his ancestors, and he had a very intimate knowledge of and a great admiration for the mountains of Scotland.

He was an Alpine photographer of the first order, as the pages of the JOURNAL show, and the records that he took of his various journeys in the Alps and in Scotland were always faithful representations of what he saw. The same characteristic that applied to his engineering work showed itself in this work, in so far that there was never a failure of any one photograph and that every plate was exposed correctly, and every picture could be looked at with pleasure.

In 1902 he edited a new edition of A. W. Moore's 'The Alps in 1864,' collecting a number of photographs from members of the Club and using many of his own to illustrate Moore's text. This was a valuable contribution to Alpine literature brought up to date in the sense that nomenclature was corrected to conform with later maps. Kennedy made special visits to the Alps to take photographs of views described by Moore.

Kennedy was an amateur musician of taste and enthusiasm. As a young man working in Newcastle he conducted a choir of several hundred people, singing himself frequently. He was presented with a *bâton* by this choir as a mark of their appreciation. In later

days he sang with his wife, and took pleasure in going through operas from beginning to end. He was a friend of Joachim when the latter lived at Campden Hill. He was instrumental in getting up concerts at which Joachim played after the Saturday 'Pops' had come to an end.

His musical evenings at the Albany, especially during the war, became well known, and were kept up specially to soothe the nerves of the older folk who were at work all day. He played the violin himself, and in earlier days took a part in chamber music. He was the proud possessor of one of Joachim's *Stradivarius* violins, which was often used and played on at the musical evenings referred to.

He was held in great affection by his many friends at the Club and at the Athenaeum, and he will always be specially remembered as a man with most varied interests and capacities, capable invariably of becoming really well informed on any new subject which he took up.

He married, in 1874, Elizabeth Verralls Smith, eldest daughter of Dr. William Smith of Edinburgh. He had two sons and one daughter, all of whom survive him.

S. B. D.

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#### HENRY JAMES LAWES ARNOLD.

(1854-1928.)

HENRY JAMES LAWES ARNOLD, who died at Cromer on June 13, 1928, and is buried at North Creake, Norfolk, was a true lover of the mountains. I met him first at Belalp in 1899, and did some climbs and expeditions with him. He became a member of the Club in 1904. Among his climbs were the Aletschhorn, Schreckhorn, Mönch, Eiger, Jungfrau, Dom, Dent Blanche, Matterhorn, and Mont Blanc from Courmayeur.

One who knew him well says: 'He never tired of talking of his dear mountains; he carried the mountains into all his daily life, and many a lesson he has been able to give and teach on the mountains he knew and loved so well.'

He was a keen and clever photographer and had the gift of catching the humorous side of things, and could give a delightful lantern lecture on his Alpine experiences.

The *Norwich Diocesan Gazette* says:

'News of the death of Canon H. J. L. Arnold, which took place on June 13 at Cromer Cottage Hospital, will bring much regret to the Norwich Diocese, and especially to Yarmouth, East Dereham, and North Creake. A Foundation Scholar of Pembroke College, Cambridge, he took his B.A. degree (Sen. Opt.) in 1877, and proceeded to his M.A. degree in 1880. Ordained deacon in 1881 and priest in 1882 (Diocese of Chester), he in the former year took a curacy at Tarpurley, where he remained five years. He then accepted a



T. MEARES.  
1855-1928.



HENRY J. L. ARNOLD.  
1854-1928.

curacy at St. James', Great Yarmouth, whence he removed in 1888 on the presentation to him of the vicarage of East Dereham. There he remained till 1911, when he proceeded to his final charge, that of the rectory of North Creake. His Canonry of Norwich Cathedral dates from 1902. The last two years of his life had been overshadowed by illness. In his prime he was well known as a mountaineer, and every townsman of East Dereham, who knew him well and greatly esteemed him, will agree that he was endowed with a corresponding vigour of mind and character.'

G. W. L.

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THOMAS MEARES.

(1855-1929.)

THOMAS MEARES died in London at the age of 74 on February 3, 1929, after a short illness. He did not become a member of the Alpine Club until 1908, but he must have been qualified nearly twenty years earlier as he began climbing in the Alps in 1884, and had seldom if ever missed a season until after 1914. He went out again several times after the end of the war, but in 1923 found that he was no longer fit for active climbing. After that he made long winter tours in South Africa, India, and South America, and his diary shows that he greatly enjoyed a glorious view of Aconcagua and other peaks in the Andes. He had actually planned and booked his passage for a fourth tour this year, but it had to be abandoned. He was probably not a great rock climber or a leader on big expeditions, but he was a very strong walker and had made many ascents and crossed very many passes in the Central Alps, some of them several times. In his earlier years he was generally accompanied by the late Mr. C. H. Townley. He knew the Highlands well and was elected in 1895 to the Scottish Mountaineering Club of which he was a Vice-President from 1922 to 1925, and he seldom missed an Easter Meet of that Club amongst the hills he loved so well.

By profession he was a Solicitor. After being educated at a private school he was articled to the well-known firm of Beale & Co. of London and Birmingham with whom he remained to the end, having become senior partner in 1914, and as such he took an active part on behalf of the Midland Railway Company in the arrangements for the formation of the London Midland & Scottish Railway Company. Notwithstanding his busy professional life, he undertook munition work at nights during the war, and had a narrow escape on one occasion as his mate alongside of whom he had been emptying shells for some weeks was killed by the explosion of a shell a few days after Meares had been transferred to another department.

He was a strong churchman and a man of high ideals, and his loss is deeply regretted by many friends and companions in the Alps and the Highlands.

G. A. S.

## CHRISTIAN KLUCKER.

(1853-1928.)

ON December 21, 1928, Christian Klucker, following his invariable custom, summer or winter, of wearing no overcoat, but *per contra* carrying a walking-stick, left his home at Fex and walked down to Sils Maria. He called on his friend, Herr Kienberger, at the Hôtel Waldhaus *en route* and complained of feeling slight heart trouble. He stated that he would see the doctor. On arrival in the village, he asked for a cup of tea in a restaurant, but before consuming it, quietly and painlessly expired. He was buried in the little churchyard of Fex on December 24. The whole Upper Engadine was represented at the funeral, the coffin disappeared beneath a mountain of wreaths, while deputations from Basle, Zürich, Coire, and other towns attended. Snow finches, the rare winter visitors he loved so well, circled over Klucker's grave.

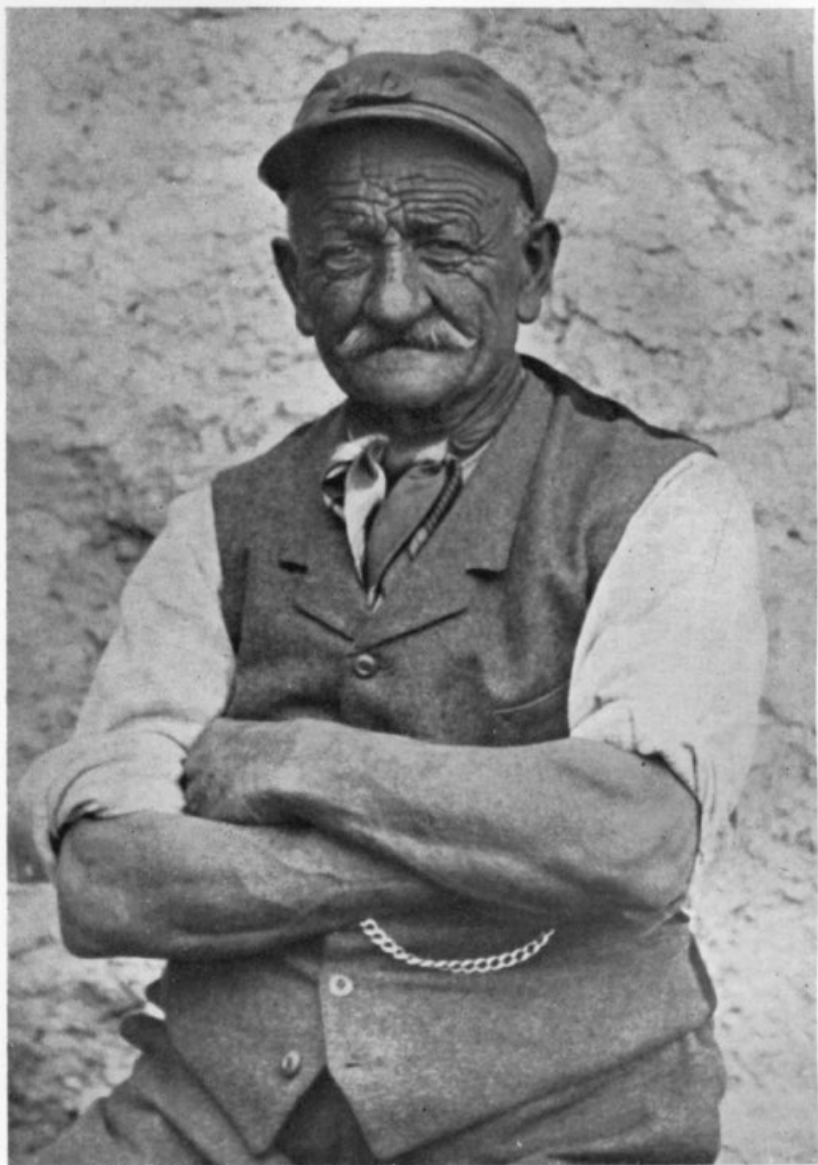
A very wise and learned friend, the late Sir Edward Davidson, once warned the writer against the use of superlatives. Yet I cannot help thinking that in speaking or writing of Christian Klucker, even a Davidson might acquiesce.

Klucker was far more than the *doyen* of first-class guides. This 'grand old gentleman,' to quote the last of many comments made on him in the ALPINE JOURNAL, could have filled with distinction almost any rôle in life. He was the Sils schoolmaster, latterly an inspector of schools; 'Papa Klucker' was a constant and affectionate cry raised by children.

A first-class public speaker, an expert in map-reading and the use of the compass in days when guides and some amateurs were wont to treat such articles with contempt. An ardent lover and collector of books, with an extraordinary knowledge of topography and Alpine History ancient and modern, I feel that the JOURNAL has lost in him one of its most distinguished assistants—'the *fine fleur* of professional culture,' abstemious to a fault, in general knowledge and education surpassing all guides and most others. An excellent geologist, botanist and biologist, there was hardly a limit to his versatile accomplishments.

His name was omitted from a somewhat ambitious and unequal work for the obscure reason that he belonged to Eastern Switzerland. Not many of the Pioneers of the Alps could show a record like his! In a career commencing in 1874 no less than 44 first ascents and 88 new routes—in all parts of the Alps, Dauphiné to Dolomites, but of course largely in the Pennine, Bernina and Rhaetian Alps—stand to his credit. He accompanied Whymper to the Canadian Rockies in, I think, 1902.

Without a superior as guide or mountaineer, a born leader with humorous and epigrammatic insight into his companions' psychology and powers, his equals might be counted on less, perhaps, than the fingers of one hand. Many of us are content to hear of



in guter Verfassung von

Ch. Gluckert  
Februar 1928

our best expeditions first repeated again and again in half the time, finally spoken of with contempt. Not so, Christian Klucker. He vied with the younger men in modern desperate climbs; at the age of 74 he was accomplishing new routes; two months before his death he led—was there ever an expedition in which Klucker did *not* lead?—in the climb of Punta Rasica (without any ropethrowing), Cime del Largo traverse, Ago di Sciora, all first ascents of his thirty to forty years ago.

He towered, as Piz Badile over Bondo, above all Engadine guides past and present, with Martin Schocher an honourable second. Severe judges such as Edward Davidson, with his unrivalled experience of the best professionals of two generations, have bracketed Klucker with Josef Pollinger and Franz Lochmatter as the best step-cutters ever known. The precipitous slabs and ridges of the Mont Blanc Aiguilles and the Bregaglia; the crumbling walls, the decaying chimneys of Rhaetikon or Dolomites will acknowledge no superior cragsman. Small and thickset, short in the reach but gifted with enormous strength, his grace on rocks was extraordinary, while on ice, like Alexander Burgener, he seemed to dilate into a very giant of power.

Of his greatest feats in the Western Alps, I would that Percy Farrar could have written. First there comes the conquest of the great Pétéret ridge of Mont Blanc with Rey and Güssfeldt, the N.E. face of Lyskamm, the first Wellenkuppe-Ober Gabelhorn traverse, and a remarkable attempt alone with Norman Neruda on the N.E. face and N. arête of the Dent Blanche—defeated by iced rocks, July 31, 1890. In the Central Alps, we recall the N. face of Piz Roseg, the N.E. face of Piz Bernina, both alone with Norman Neruda; the N. face of Piz Tschierva; the southern face of Crast' Agüzza and a remarkable expedition on Monte Disgrazia, covering much new terrain, Forno to Sils, both alone with Farrar, but most remarkable of all, perhaps, stands the only descent of the Fuorcla Tschierva-Scerscen (*Güssfeldtsattel*). With a party conspicuous for its weakness, he cut down, alone and unassisted, the fearsome northern slope. Each time that Klucker came to the end of the rope he hacked out a large platform, turned and remounted the slope, let his companions down on the rope, redescended and resumed his cutting, till in five hours, equivalent in his case to an ascent as well as descent of the entire pass, he had brought his almost helpless party safely and magnificently to the base of that formidable ice curtain, in the ascent of which the first party had expended two days!

The great north walls of the Bondasca and Trubinasca Glaciers recall his double ascents of the Colle del Badile and Badilet, the fine climb of Punta di Trubinasca, his ascent and descent of the gloomy Cengalo couloir, his conquest of the Colle dei Gemelli and last, but not least, his solitary and tremendous reconnaissance of the 'awful northern precipice' of Piz Badile.

In the Forno-Albigna, among his innumerable exploits, none were greater than the double traverse of Torrione del Ferro's eastern arête, alone with Herr Rütter, a twenty-hour new expedition at the age of seventy-four!

In the Silvrettas, we recollect the double traverse of the Gross-Litzner and Gross-Seehorn, while in the Dolomites stands out the N. face of the Fünffingerspitze, or actual second ascent of the mountain.

Yet with all his dash, with all his almost matchless skill, there was no more careful climber. He was master of the mountain as he was of his party. The great peaks' hidden dangers were as an open book, easily read, to him. No risk, humanly to be avoided, was run by him. He led his party to victory, never towards defeat, far less disaster.

'Since 1874 I have had the luck to climb every summer and winter in my beloved mountains, and never once in all these fifty years, has a serious mishap occurred. No search parties have had to be called upon, and, although I have traversed many difficult glaciers, I have never had both feet in a crevasse! Now I am seventy-two years old and perhaps twilight is approaching.'

So wrote Christian Klucker to me more than four years ago. That 'twilight' never approached: alone, as he had lived, save for countless friends and admirers, his unconquerable spirit met the end he would have desired. For the rest—let it stand as the epitaph of a great, of a deathless, Mountaineer.

E. L. S.

[Other portraits of Christian Klucker will be found in 'A.J.' 35, 262 and 37, 142.]

## NEW EXPEDITIONS, 1928 (1927).

### *Mont Blanc Group.*

AIGUILLE NOIRE DE PÉTÉRET, 3780 m. = 12,402 ft. By the N.E. face. August 7, 1928. Signor G. A. Rivetti, with Adolphe Rey and Alphonse Chenoz.

At 02.45 we left the Gamba Hut. After crossing the bergschrund by the Glacier du Châtelet, which was all hard frozen snow and ice, we reached the Col dell' Innominata at 04.25. At 04.50, after having roped, we rushed as quickly as possible down the couloir leading to the Glacier du Fresnay. At 05.45 we reached the other side of the glacier just under the Dames Anglaises. Having discarded the idea of going up towards the Central Col and traversing afterwards towards the South Col, we thought that, given the early hour (05.50), it would not be too dangerous, from