

church. Mr. Stafford Leake's sketches showed marked originality. He wields a facile pencil.

These are a few impressions gleaned in a tour of the Exhibition. The number of new contributors suggests that the mountains have a growing attraction for the people who paint. May it be so. It would be ungracious to conclude without a word of thanks to the Alpine Club for their courtesy in throwing these Exhibitions open to the general public.

IN MEMORIAM.

WILLIAM CECIL SLINGSBY.

(1849-1929.)

THE FATHER OF NORWEGIAN MOUNTAINEERING.

A LEAF OF HISTORY.

IN 1872 a strong young Englishman, 23 years of age, standing on the Sognefjeld and gazing at the Horungtinder, became lost in the sight. 'Undoubtedly,' he afterwards wrote, 'the finest mountain range in Norway. I shall never, as long as I live, forget my first view of Skagastölstind, the grandest European mountain north of the Alps. Our guide told us that it was the highest mountain in Norway, that it had not yet been ascended, and that no doubt this was impracticable. Can it be wondered that I determined, if possible, to make the first ascent?'

This young man was WILLIAM CECIL SLINGSBY, and at that moment his vocation as a mountaineer was born within him.

Four years previously a Norwegian mountaineer, Mr. Emanuel Mohn, from the summit of Galdhøtind had viewed with wondering eyes the mountain ranges of the Jotunheim, and it then happened to him, as later it happened to Slingsby, that the first overwhelming impression created in him an irresistible desire to dive into this wonderful nature and to explore its secret marvels.

The stakes made by these two pioneers form the basis of Norwegian Alpine sport. Thanks to their achievements the rhythm of mountain life may be felt, as it is noticeable how their first strong impressions, after having been duly sifted in their minds, enabled them to see and to grasp that particular aspect of the sport for which their physical and mental qualities destined them. They did their work within the same period of years, and the results of their pioneering activity are so intimately dependent on the peculiar and the supplementary character of their nature that their history must be read connected.



W. CECIL SLINGSBY.
1849-1929.

Striving to gain his object, Slingsby came to Norway in 1874, and in 1875, when in Jotunheim, he made a number of maiden ascents and traverses which made his name well known throughout the country. Thus, in 1874, accompanied by Algernon Dewhurst, he made the first traverse of the Horung group of mountains with the object of getting better acquainted with the position of the great peak, and this first traverse represents in more than one way a very important victory for the sport of mountaineering in Norway. The mass of wild and rugged mountains, seamed with glaciers, called by the common name of Horungtinder, was at that time the only region of Jotunheim still unexplored. No matter from which part this mountain region is approached, everywhere broken-up glaciers must be surmounted before the narrow passes, 5000 ft. high or more, may be reached, and dominating it all is the Great Skagastölstind, which at that time was generally considered the highest mountain in Norway. The peasant population of the surrounding valleys had, from times remote, had their intercourse by routes circumjacent to the Horungtinder, and no time- or distance-saving trade routes had as yet been forced through them, such as elsewhere, for instance across the Jostedal Glacier.

The Horungtinder had remained in a most peculiar state of retredness, and both the mountains and the glaciers impressed people with such an awe that no one had so far ventured to trespass on their threshold. No wonder, therefore, that the news of the first traverse was received by the general public with a mixed feeling of awe and admiration. It constituted, in fact, the first breach through a wall of incomprehensible prejudice barring the district, and which did not fully disappear till after the Skagastölstind itself had been conquered.

MOHN, our first self-dependent mountain pioneer, had also won a name for himself, and when he and Slingsby met in 1874, both had a feeling of meeting a companion—the only one—capable of attaining with the other the loftiest summits. Slingsby, the foreigner, needed the vast local topographical knowledge of the mountains possessed by Mohn, and Mohn on his side felt attracted towards the Alpine sport, new to him, by Slingsby's many brilliant feats. A true friendship sprang up between them, and they agreed on an extensive campaign together for the summer of 1876. The Norwegian mountain world lay open to them, adventure was calling, and they fancied there could be no obstacles they could not jointly overcome.

And then came 1876, the year in which mountaineering as a sport won its decisive victory in Norway. The two friends engaged for their expedition the reindeer hunter Knut Lykken, a man of considerable experience on ice. The campaign turned out a veritable *via triumphalis*: 'In six days five notable maiden ascents had been made, which is probably the most successful little campaign ever waged in Jotunheim.'

In the afternoon of July 21 they found themselves high up on

the steep glacier (the Slingsby Glacier) squeezing itself up towards the lofty gap (Mohn's Skar) 500 ft. below the summit of the Skagastölstind. This glacier had been observed by Slingsby from Friken in 1875, when he immediately realized that this would be his high-road to success.

After the strenuous work of the preceding days, with far from sufficient rest, the ascent of the steep, 2000-ft. high glacier proved very tiring, but Slingsby, restless in his eagerness to attain his end, unroped and worked his way towards the gap ahead of his



Photo, H. Tönsberg.]

STORE SKAGASTÖLSTIND AND MOHN'S SKAR.

(Slingsby's route in the middle.)

companions, and there, just below the aim of his dreams, bitter disappointment waited him: 'Looking towards the true Skagastölstind, I felt I was beaten after all, and my dream at an end, as it is difficult to imagine any mountain presenting a more impracticable appearance than is shown at first sight of this peak from the skar.'

While Slingsby was gazing at the summit in despair, his two companions joined him in the gap, and Mohn asked: 'What do you think of it? Shall we declare it inaccessible?'—'I don't know; but we have not yet proved it to be so, we must not give up without a try. Will you come?'—'No.'—'Knut, will you?'—'No, I shall not risk my life.' Then Mohn said, somewhat unreflectingly: 'If

there had been two well-trained Alpine climbers here I think they might have managed it.'—'Well, I will at least try,' exclaimed Slingsby, and hurried along the gap towards the steep wall of the summit, and 'Now, farewell to snow, that great aider of mountain ascents, and 500 ft. of cold rock!'

He threw in his lot—and won!

What was it then that made Slingsby feel startled in Mohn's Skar, and why did not Mohn accompany his friend in the final attack?

Both were men of excellent technical abilities, and the homage both of them had met with made them feel they were ranging above most others. To them their victories had come easily, and this had partly deceived them. At last they found themselves in Mohn's Skar, and the mighty vertical shape of the summit had a paralyzing effect on both of them.

But Slingsby was a man physically predisposed for climbing. His inclinations were evident from the very first moment: 'Can it be wondered that I determined to make the first ascent?' He *must* go through with this ordeal, and he came out of it a ripe and self-possessed mountaineer. This great and happily accomplished ascent gave to Slingsby the confidence of his own abilities, and made him feel that for him there was no other kind of sport like climbing on rock and ice.

Throughout his career as a climber Slingsby preserved a marked preference for the Horungtinder, where he had had the privilege to pick out and to scale the loftiest summit. It may therefore seem strange that he should let so many years pass by before returning to this district. But to Slingsby this was only natural. He was an adventurous explorer, who wanted to see everything, so as to be able to pick out the best, and he felt he had to hurry on. 'For some years I had the field, as far as the sport of mountaineering was concerned, almost to myself, as English climbers had not yet recognized the value of this northern playground. Though I have made above fifty good new expeditions (in Norway and in the Alps up to 1904), I could easily have doubled the number if I had adopted the principle of making headquarters, and of making ascents from and returning to these places. However, this method never much commended itself to my taste.'

From the very first moment Slingsby had an open eye for the excellent possibilities the Norwegian mountains offered to Alpinism, and he had a strong presentiment of where and how to find the most important and exciting Alpine problems. The results of his 15 expeditions in Norway up to 1904 give evidence of his brilliant ability to find the right districts, and the mountaineer of to-day would have great difficulty in finding any mountain district in Norway where this remarkable pioneer has not left his mark. On the lofty summits of Jotunheim, of the Western Coast districts, of Lofoten, Lyngen, etc., has he built his cairns, and the many great

glaciers, like Folgefonnen, Smörstabbræen and others in Jotunheim, as well as the 70 miles long Jostedalbræ, were all familiar fields to him, where he practised that side of mountaineering which he, maybe, considered the best: that of ice-work.

During his many travels in Norway, Slingsby constantly increased his knowledge of Norwegian conditions of life, and he acquired a deep sympathy for the Norwegian nation, to which he felt himself strongly attached.

Accounts of his extraordinary experiences may be found in the *Aarbøker of Den Norske Turistforening*, in the ALPINE JOURNAL, and in his principal work, 'Norway, The Northern Playground of Europe,' which excels in praise of the country and all Norwegians. It may safely be said that no other foreigner has done more to make the name of Norway known abroad.

Slingsby was an honorary member of 'Den Norske Turistforening' and of the 'Norse Tindeklub,' and he will always live in the memory of Norwegian climbers as the FATHER OF NORWEGIAN MOUNTAINEERING.

Oslo, October 1929.

H. TÖNSBERG.

E. SUNDT.

The following is a list of first ascents and new routes in Norway in which Slingsby took part:

1874: W. Memurutind.

1876: Torfinnstind.

Galdebergstind.

Uranaastind.

Gjertvastind.

Store Skagastölstind.

1877: Stölsnaastind.

1881: Store Vengetind.

Heilstuguhö.

Uladalstind.

Knuthulstind (new route).

Melkedalstind.

1884: Middagsnibba.

1885: Mjölner.

1889: Austabottind (new route).

Brekkestind.

1898: Kjöstind.

Stortind (Lyngen).

Jægervassstinder.

Tornestind.

1900: Mellemeste Skagastölstind (new route).

1912: Strandaastind (new route).

Osantind.

Skeistind (new route).

Others who were companions of Cecil Slingsby from year to year in the Alps or in Norway, and who knew him well in the time of his greatest activity, will no doubt be writing a full account of him and his work as a great mountain explorer and skilful climber, but perhaps an old member of the Club, who must have known him longer than any other member still living, may be allowed to add a few words of a personal character.

I knew Slingsby for nearly 70 years, from the time when as boys we walked together over Pen-y-ghent and the hills of Craven, or when we climbed in the Lake District, when even the gullies on Doe Crag or the Pavey Ark Chimneys were little known, to later days when we had one or two expeditions together in the Alps, including a glorious day on the Mont Blanc de Seilon. But it was Norway that seemed to appeal to him most, and where he was as truly at home as among the fells and dales of Yorkshire or Westmorland. It was a privilege even to follow in his footsteps in places where he had stayed and left happy memories among the Norwegian peasants. Among the higher mountains, many of them almost unknown when he began his expeditions there, it might truly be said that St. Olaf and Cecil Slingsby shared the honour of being the Patron Saints of the country. He was a true Norseman, and his book on Norway is a record of pioneer work in districts which, but for his introduction, we might hardly have heard of.

He was an ideal companion, eager, indomitable, ever cheerful and unselfish. No one was a better leader, but none was more ready to take a second place if he thought it would amuse a less skilful comrade to lead. It is interesting to record that Cecil Slingsby was probably the first Briton to wear ski.

My brothers, who were members of the Club, were also among his close friends, and one expedition with my brother Charles—the first ascent of Mjölner in 1885—is recorded both in his book on Norway and in the *ALPINE JOURNAL*. I do not know whether the mountain is now considered difficult or not, but it certainly looked both forbidding and attractive as seen from the Vengetind many years ago.

There was never a truer lover of the mountains than he, or one more beloved by the people who lived among them. The oldest among us can remember no keener climber, no more generous and affectionate disposition, and no more constant friend.

A. H.

The following is a list of a few of Slingsby's principal ascents in the Alps :

1878. Guideless attempt on Grand Cornier.

1879. Mont Blanc traverse *via* Aiguilles Grises, Courmayeur to Chamonix in 22 hrs.; Matterhorn; Dent d'Hérens traverse to Prarayé.

1886. Höhlenstock, guideless, first ascent.

1887. Dents des Bouquetins, first ascent of several peaks, guide-

less ; Aiguilles Rouges d'Arolla, first ascent of S. peak, first traverse, guideless ; Dent de Satarma, first ascent, guideless.

1890. Dent Blanche, storm, guideless. Many other Pennine peaks.

1892. Grands Charmoz, guideless. Attempt on Aiguille du Plan by N.W. face, an expedition of 54 hrs., with Mummery and Ellis Carr.

1893. Dent du Requin, first ascent, with Mummery, Hastings and Collie. Aiguille du Plan, first ascent from W.N.W. and first traverse with same party. Grand Combin, new route, with Hastings and Collie.

1895. New routes in Fusshörner and on Gross Nesthorn, guideless.

1896. Galenstock, etc., guideless ; Mt. Blanc traverse, guideless, etc.

1902. Mont Blanc, etc. ; Grand Combin ; Mt. Vêlan, etc., all guideless.

1910. Apennines, etc.—see 'A.J.' 25.

1913. Alps and Apennines again.

Numberless ascents in the British Isles, *cf.* 'Mumm,' iii. pp. 273–282.

Mr. W. Cecil Slingsby, who has just died in his 81st year, was a notable representative of a family which has been for centuries active in the public, social, and sporting life of Yorkshire and our country. He himself reproduced remarkably a type of Englishman of which we have perhaps the best portrait in the diary of his seventeenth-century kinsman, Sir Henry Slingsby, the great country gentleman, Royalist, and nature-lover, who was beheaded for his quixotic loyalty to the person of Charles I. Like his prototype, an all-round sportsman, well known in earlier years in the hunting field, Cecil Slingsby was even more passionately devoted to the living beauty of birds and animals, flowers and trees. An ardent lover of his own countryside, of its dales and rocks, its archaeology, traditions, and dialect, he was also an adventurous traveller and explorer of other lands, equally appreciative of all natural beauty and good humanity wherever he might find it. A traditional English Tory, with a keen interest in politics and education, he was at the same time the most democratic of men in personal intercourse, no less loved as an employer than as a neighbour, with an old-world courtesy of manner and a joyous sympathy for people of every race and class and age, for children and for animals no less than for men and women. A musician, the author of a delightful book of travel, 'The Northern Playground,' and a speaker who could capture any audience with his first impulsive sentences, he enjoyed all good literature, painting, and music with the same genuine enthusiasm.

But it is as one of the greatest of mountaineers that he will be longest remembered. For a mountaineer and explorer he had the ideal equipment—a magnificent physique, exceptional hardihood,

grace and agility, an unerring judgment, and an imperturbable coolness and courage. Above all he had the gift of infecting others with his own quiet confidence; and however daring the exploit in which he took part, it seemed always assured of a successful and safe issue. Beginning as a small boy with scrambles on his own home crags, he mastered independently every branch of the difficult climbing craft. His name first became known in the Alps, where, with his cousins the Hopkinsons and his friends, Mummery, Norman Collie, and Hastings, he helped to inaugurate a new era of guideless climbing. He was also one of the chief pioneers of English rock climbing, and in later years, as he became in turn president of almost all the British clubs and a vice-president of the Alpine Club, his generous encouragement, combined with the universal affection with which he was regarded, contributed much to the development of mountaineering and of climbing organizations in our country. His last climbs, when he was over 70 years of age, were made upon some of the most difficult of Cumbrian cliffs.

It is, however, with the exploration of the peaks and glaciers of Norway that his name will be especially connected; and his first ascent of the greatest of Norwegian peaks, Store Skagastölstind, when his companions turned back and he intrepidly completed the ascent alone, will remain an epic so long as mountaineering stories are read or told. For Norway, indeed, he felt some hereditary affinity, and he acquired an almost unique knowledge of its people, legends, and remote fastnesses. In return, Norway celebrated his name and exploits, even in his lifetime, almost as those of some hero of saga or myth; and when he returned for the last time, to unveil a memorial to the 4,000 Norsk fishermen who had lost their lives in the War, his welcome had the dignity of a royal progress.

The mountaineering which made him famous was only one, if the principal, outlet for a vital personality of singular charm. A man of untouched purity of heart and thought, of great modesty, shrewdness, simplicity, and an infectious gaiety, he retained even into old age a boyish delight in all that he saw, or read, or heard, of beauty and gallantry, in nature, in art, and in human actions; and, with this, a capacity to express his delight in immediate gesture and speech, impetuously and gracefully, which inspired others with the same feeling. It is this atmosphere which he created for others, of joyous admiration and affection for the best things in life, which surrounds his own memory.

Mr. Slingsby married the daughter of Mr. W. Farrer Eckroyd, of Credenhill, the member for Preston, and had three daughters and two sons, of whom the younger, Captain and Adjutant Laurence Slingsby, M.C., was killed in 1917—one of nine gallant Yorkshire and Lancashire cousins who gave their lives for their country.

G. W. Y.

[From *The Times*, September 2, 1929. By kind permission of the Editor.]

HUGH E. M. STUTFIELD.

(1858-1929.)

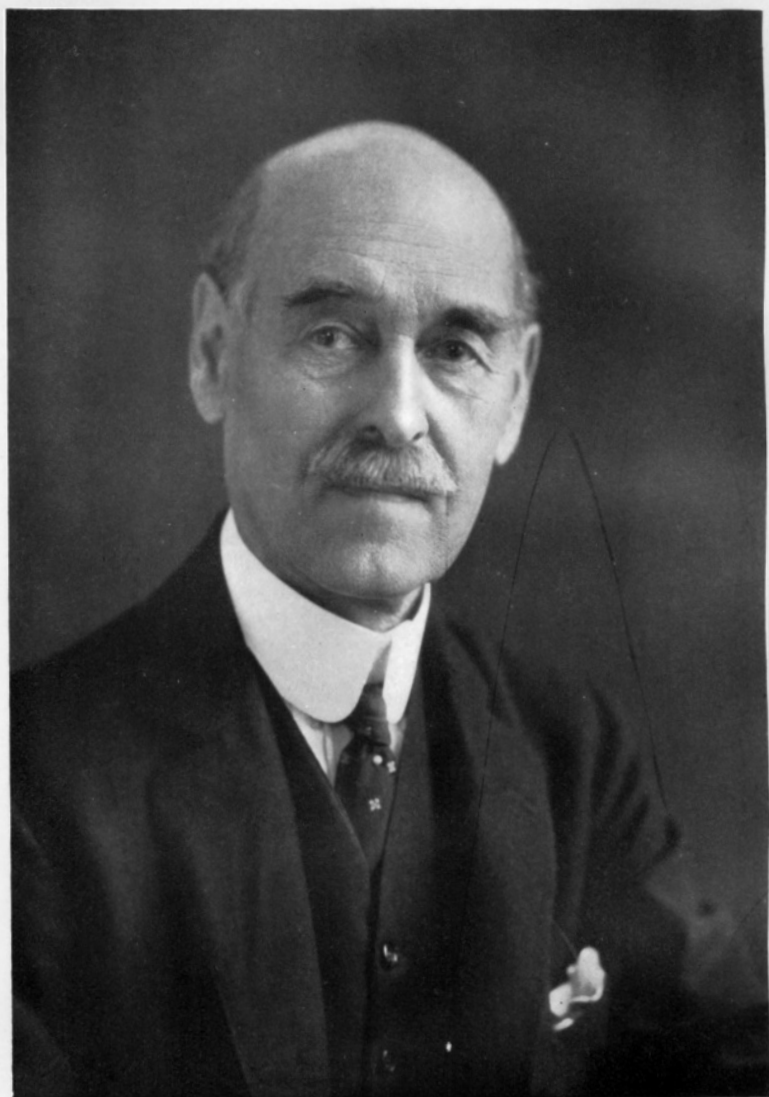
IN the death of Hugh Stutfield on April 1, 1929, the Alpine Club has to mourn the loss of a member who rendered it much valuable service of a varied nature, and who did much to maintain its prestige in the Alpine world.

He was born in 1858 at Dingwall and was educated at Rugby and Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he obtained a 2nd Class in the Classical Tripos. He was called to the Bar in 1884, where however he never actually practised, and was for some years on the Stock Exchange, from which he retired, finding the work somewhat too strenuous for his rather nervous temperament. He was always a keen traveller, visiting in his youth Spain and Morocco, writing an entertaining description of his experiences during his travels in the latter country in a book entitled 'El Magreb.' From 1881 to 1897 most of his holidays were devoted to climbing in the Alps, which brought him into the Alpine Club in 1886, where he served on the Committee from 1898 to 1900 and as Librarian from 1907 to 1909. In 1898 and 1902 he joined Hermann Woolley and Norman Collie in two highly successful expeditions to the Canadian Rockies, during which many remarkable first ascents were achieved and a great deal of valuable information was gained of districts which were then comparatively unknown. Again in 1900, with Collie and myself, he took part in a very interesting and instructive journey in the same district up the Bush Valley which, although somewhat unsuccessful from the point of view of climbing, effected the useful purpose of adding to the map a considerable tract of unknown country. After 1902 he did no more climbing and spent most of his holidays shooting and fishing in Scotland. He was a good and safe climber, of which I had actual evidence on such peaks as the Grépon, La Meije and many others which we climbed together.

He was a sportsman in the best sense of the word; a keen golfer and cricketer and an excellent shot. From 1881 to 1899 he devoted much time to chamois hunting in the Val de Bagnes, the Tarentaise, and particularly in the Valpelline-Valtournanche district, where he was invariably accompanied by that good and cheery guide, Jean Baptiste Perruquet, who was also his companion on many of his climbs.¹

He was an accomplished writer, and besides the book on Morocco already mentioned, wrote several articles giving delightful accounts of his experiences in chamois hunting, and jointly with Norman Collie gave the history of the three expeditions to the Canadian

¹ During the expeditions to the Canadian Rockies, he had also considerable success in the pursuit of those stately and elusive beasts, the big-horn sheep and the mountain goat.



HUGH E. M. STUTFIELD.
1858-1929.

Rockies. In his later years his talents were employed in several works dealing with the methods of Roman Catholic priesthood, on which, as all his friends know, he held very strong views. It should, however, be stated that for such men as the present Pope he had the greatest admiration.

He was a born speaker and entertained the Alpine Club at several of the Winter Dinners with witty speeches full of gay humour. To his personal character I feel that it is difficult to do sufficient justice. He was the most delightful and amusing companion that anyone could desire, humorous, very sound in his judgments, considerate and good-tempered under all sorts of trying conditions, and always generous in his estimation of the capabilities of others. It was a lucky chance which led Alfred Simond to place me next to him in 1895 at *table d'hôte* at Montenvers, when we struck up one of those close friendships which so frequently happen in the Alps. I owe to this lovable man many of the happiest days which I have spent in the mountains. He will be missed much by his many friends in the Club to whom he was familiarly known as 'Stuttles.'

S. S.

HERBERT VINCENT READE.

(1870-1929.)

HERBERT VINCENT READE was the Squire of Ipsden, Oxon. He came of an ancient and honourable family born and bred at Ipsden since about 1665, and he himself succeeded to the estate in 1884 on the death of his father, the Rev. Henry St. John Reade, who had been a master at Haileybury College and was later Headmaster at Oundle. Charles Reade, the novelist, who was born at Ipsden, was Herbert Reade's great uncle, and his mother was Frances Ann, daughter of the Rev. W. Vincent, vicar of Chipperfield, Herts, a descendant of William Vincent, Dean of Westminster. Thus on both sides of the family he had learned literary forbears.

Herbert Reade was born at Haileybury on April 30, 1870. He was educated at Haileybury College, entering Corpus Christi College, Oxford, as a scholar in 1889 when he took Second Class Moderations in 1891 and Second Lit. Hum. in 1893. In 1894 he entered the Secretaries' Office of H.M. Customs, London. In 1908 he became the Principal of the Statistical Office and remained there till 1920, when he became head of the Intelligence Department. Here he showed outstanding talents as a statistician and economist, and for several years his duties included the preparation of revenue estimates and advisory duties in connexion with the annual budget. His services were recognized in 1912 by the award of the C.B. (Civil Division). At the time of his death he was Assistant Secretary, having control of Old Age Pensions and of many important matters connected with the proceedings of the League of Nations.

In 1896 he married Hannah Georgina, second daughter of the



HERBERT V. READE.
1870-1929.

Rev. Edmond Thomas Butler, who survives him. There is no issue. He died on August 13, 1929, after a brief illness, and was buried at Ipsden in the presence of a large concourse of his friends and tenants.

Herbert Reade began Alpine climbing in 1892 while still an Oxford undergraduate. His companions then were E. F. M. Benecke and H. A. Cohen, who were lost climbing in 1895 and whose bodies have never been found; they took a holiday of eight weeks and five days at a total expense of £51! His notebook for that year records that they did four big climbs and two lesser climbs with guides, and four lesser peaks, one glacier pass and one low pass guideless. Complete records of all his Swiss climbs are contained in sixteen notebooks, all carefully docketed and annotated, which was characteristic of the man. He climbed in the Alps from 1892 almost without intermission to 1914, when the Great War put an end to all climbing. His last season in the Alps was 1920, though he still loved to spend short holidays in Wales and in the Lakes, and was a regular attendant at the climbing parties at Penn-y-Pass.

Herbert Reade was spare in build, lithe and light, with the rosy cheeks of a schoolboy. Age touched him tenderly, and at fifty he did not appear a day older than he was at thirty. To him the mountains were a real delight, yielding him his highest pleasure. 'A good man on a mountain' was how Farrar used to describe him, but he was more than that, for he excelled on rock and he seemed at his happiest on a steep, smooth, wet slab, to which he appeared to have an uncanny capacity of adhering, which was sometimes the despair of a heavier companion.

Though the mountains occupied a large part of Herbert Reade's thoughts and were his great delight, latterly the management of the Ipsden estate absorbed more and more of his leisure and interest. He was an ideal landlord, caring for the needs of his tenants with a justice so tempered by mercy that his pockets were impoverished in the process.

In manner he was reserved and reticent, so that casual acquaintances were apt to think him cold, severe and portentous. To those who knew him he was an ideal companion, gay, witty, deeply versed in the classics and *belles-lettres*, above all reliable and single-minded. But his outstanding characteristics were his uprightness and sincerity of purpose, and no one could meet him without being impressed by his high sense of honour and justice.

Some years ago a proposal was made to alter the Club rule that no member of the Committee should serve twice. Reade was instrumental in having this rule reversed, and, as Farrar said, he was the one member of the Club who could have proposed it then, as no one would suspect Herbert Reade of doing it to suit his own purpose.

He has now joined the Immortals, but his memory lives among his friends as a shining example of a man who had clean hands and a pure heart.

G. E. G.

ROBERT F. NORTON.

(1854-1929.)

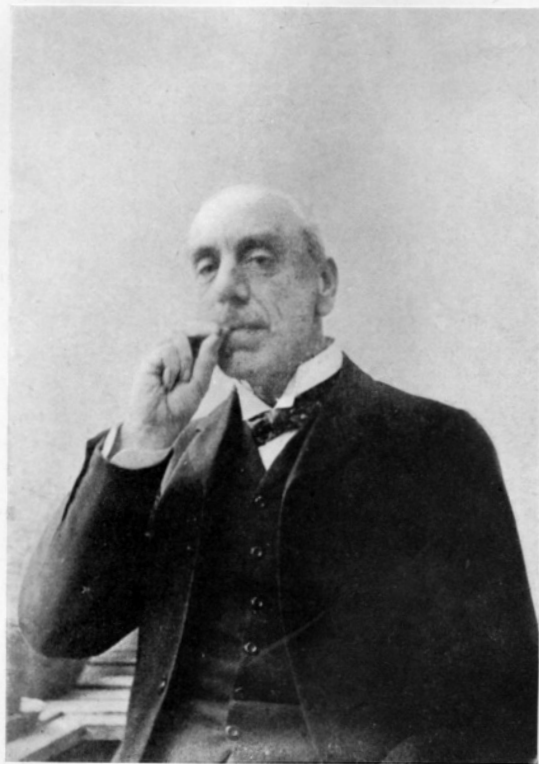
As one who was privileged to be a friend of Robert Norton and was frequently associated with him in his profession and also in his many expeditions to the Alps, I have been asked to undertake the melancholy task of writing an obituary notice for the *ALPINE JOURNAL*.

Robert Norton and I were members of a group of friends and friends of friends who, with a continuity from the 'eighties of the last to the opening of the present century, almost constituted a corporate body devoted to exercise and recreation in the Alps. With one exception—a well-known member of the Alpine Club who early fell out of our ranks to take up more ambitious work—none of us claimed to be a climber in the modern meaning of that word.

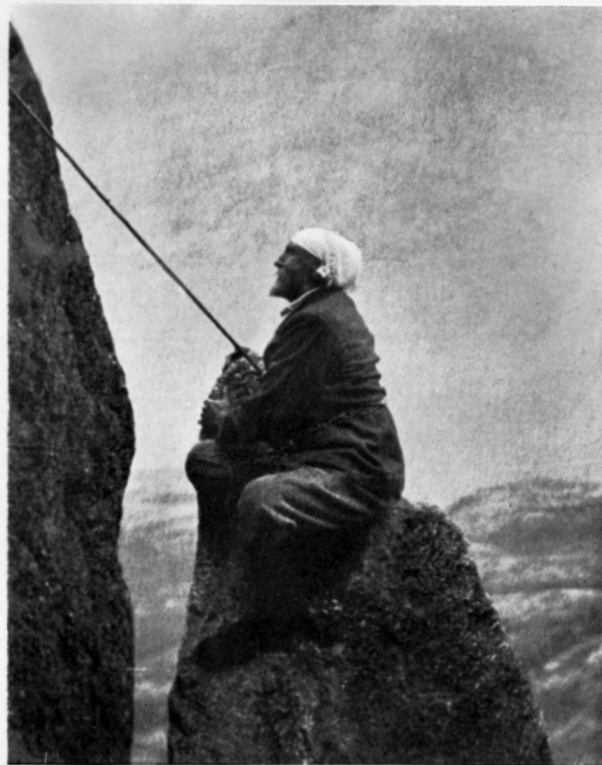
It was our practice, if possible, to spend all our long vacations in the Alps. We loved the Alps, the contact with nature in one of its grandest forms, the people and the delightful exercise, and with our rucksacks and other *impedimenta* we investigated on foot, sometimes with and sometimes without guides, most of the principal districts from the Tarentaise to the Eastern Alps, mainly by passes, but often combining the ascent of a peak. To mention a few I may specify the Aiguille de la Grande Sassi re, Monte Viso, Col du G ant, Bl umlisalp, Monte Disgrazia, Strahlegg Pass, Ortler, Koenigspitze, Zembr , Cima Tosa, Gross Glockner, Hochfeiler, Punta San Matteo, M. Confinale, Piz Aul, Wildspitze, Weisskogel, Giudicaria and Pala Groups, and this enumeration, although, of course, all were not able to take part in every expedition, shows, I think, that the group collectively had a comprehensive general knowledge of the Alps. Later, Norton ascended the Grand Combin and the Dent Blanche.

Those of us who survive are no longer able to bear the strain and long hours of those former expeditions, but one and all look back on them as among the happiest moments of our lives.

Norton was the very soul of the party. He it was who generally worked out the programme for the season and made the arrangements. His untiring energy, yet kindly and unselfish consideration for his colleagues, his cheerfulness and resource in difficulties, marked him out as our leader and endeared him to us all. He was, moreover, well versed in the local history and literature of the countries, especially of the Italian districts, for which he had a great *penchant*. He passed away on the 8th of August last after a long illness, at the age of 75 years. He was the son of the late Mr. Frederick Norton, Principal Clerk in the Chancery Taxing Office; he graduated B.A. at the London University in 1874, and LL.B. in 1877. In 1879 he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, of which he was subsequently elected a Bencher. After holding several offices under the Inn he



R. F. NORTON.
1854-1929.



Photo, F. Schjelderup.

W. CECIL SLINGSBY
on STANDAAATIND, 1912.

received, in the current year, the greatest honour that an Inn of Court can confer, the appointment as Treasurer, which, however, owing to failing health he reluctantly had to resign.

His work at the Chancery Bar was of the highest class. He took silk in 1900 and was one of the joint authors of the standard work 'The Interpretation of Deeds.'

Notwithstanding the heavy claim of his professional engagements he found time for many other activities. He was an enthusiastic member of the Inns of Court Volunteers, retiring as Lieutenant-Colonel, V.D.

During the war he assisted the Commission appointed to inquire as to the treatment of the British prisoners in Germany; from 1916 to 1919 he was Legal Adviser to the Board of Trade on trading with the enemy, for which he was awarded the C.B.E. Later he was appointed to the Commission on Awards to Inventors in connexion with the war.

Further, in 1914 he became one of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. Another voluntary and most important service which he undertook was as a member of the Governing Body of King's College Hospital, which he joined in 1914; he became Vice-Chairman in 1916 and acted as Chairman for long periods during the absence in Egypt of Lord Hambleden, and on his death Norton was elected Chairman. Testimony of colleagues and others is unanimous that to any work or post which he undertook or accepted he unsparingly and without the least self-advertisement brought his marvellous energy, sincere devotion, and the full benefit of his sound judgment and common sense.

This perhaps is not the occasion for me to refer to my personal feelings, still I cannot refrain from expressing my own deep sorrow at the loss of a dear friend whom I, and I am sure everyone who enjoyed the privilege of knowing him well, loved and respected.

R. B. YARDLEY.

C. MYLES MATHEWS.

(1878-1928.)

C. MYLES MATHEWS was born on August 16, 1878, the son of Charles Edward Mathews, the famous mountaineer and sometime President of the Alpine Club.

At Uppingham and King's College, Cambridge, he had a distinguished career, taking a First Class in the Natural Science Tripos, becoming an Honorary Exhibitioner and gaining a half-blue for swimming, being Captain of the team for two years. He was articled as a solicitor, securing second place in the First Class of the Law Final, 1904, and becoming Clifford's Inn Prizeman as well as a Gold Medallist of the Birmingham Law Society. At a later date

he became a partner in his uncle's firm, F. C. Mathews & Company, and ultimately assumed the whole responsibility for this business.

His professional work had a high reputation and was varied and strenuous. His briefs for counsel were noted for their literary merit as well as for the perspicacity of their argument. His advice was always eagerly sought, and was as conspicuous for its humane and sympathetic insight as for its sterling common sense.

During the war he joined the Special Constabulary in addition to his many other activities. He served two years as an Inspector, and a further two as Chief Inspector. He remained in the reserve of officers until his death.

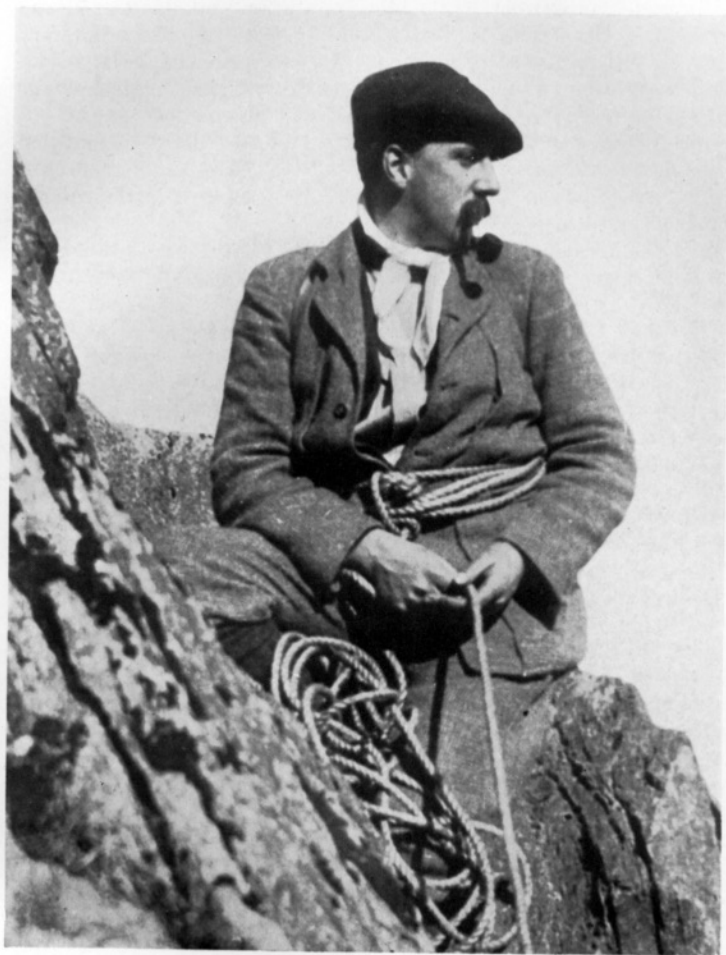
In 1905 he married Miss Edith A. Meredith, who shared his manifold tastes and interests, and he leaves two daughters and a son.

The whole of his life, prematurely cut short, was spent at work, but as a boy he passed his holidays at his father's cottage 'Caer Saer,' near Machynlleth, and this early association established a devotion to the Welsh mountains which only grew with time. At Pen-y-gwryd, of which his father was one of the early discoverers, his signature appears first in 1900, but this cannot have been his first visit. He remained a regular visitor, and had climbed most of the earlier routes discovered upon the Welsh cliffs as well as remaining admirably informed about later explorations. In recent years he spent a number of Easters climbing upon the sea-cliffs of Cornwall.

He first visited the Alps in 1892 at the age of thirteen, and ascended Mont Blanc with his father, thus establishing what was then considered a record. Before he was twenty-one he had twice again reached the summit. In 1899 he was elected to the Alpine Club, his qualifications including Mont Blanc, Aiguille and Dôme du Goûter, Aiguille du Tour, the Charmoz, the Cols d'Argentière, du Chardonnet and du Géant, Monte Rosa, Wellenkuppe, Ober Gabelhorn, Wetterhorn, Triftjoch, etc. His list of proposers and supporters is worth recalling—Alfred Wills and Leslie Stephen; C. E. Mathews, Horace Walker, C. T. Dent, T. G. Bonney, Edward Whymper, Charles Pilkington, and Martin Conway. Circumstances prevented his returning frequently to the Alps, but he was able to visit them once or twice again after the war.

Of the Climbers' Club he was an original member. After serving upon the Committee, he became Secretary in 1908, and remained so until 1925 when he was elected President. His devotion and businesslike energy, inspired by a great loyalty to his father's memory and a romantic attachment to all things that were of the mountains, made him the mainspring of the Club life for many years. During the war and the after-reaction it may be said to have owed its continued existence to him. He left it with its membership larger than it had ever been before.

Much of his best work for it was done as editor of the *Bulletins* which he originated, and as, recurrently, editor or part editor of



C. MYLES MATHEWS.
1878-1928.

the Climbers' Club Journal. He was largely responsible also for the production of the Welsh Mountain Guide Books, the first produced among us and which set the model for the rest. He wrote in a vivid, humorous and trenchant style, and his reviews, poems, and articles in climbing and other publications were often remarkable and always individual.

Besides being a critic he wrote plays and upon literary themes, and he possessed an immense knowledge of the English Poets. Like his family, he was a keen student of the theatre. He acted well, and interested himself in the productions of Vedrenne and Barker, forming a close friendship with Vedrenne. He was Organising Secretary of the third International Art Congress, and edited various publications in connection with it.

Of music he was a first-rate connoisseur, and sang at Cambridge and three times in the *Matthew Passion* at Ely under Sir Hugh Allen. It seemed inevitable that he should also be an expert in food and wines, and a witty, laughter-provoking talker.

At Club dinners for many years he was a welcome guest because of his very considerable gift of after-dinner speaking. In this he carried on and developed his father's tradition, and, at his best, he could rise to a height of moving and even poetic eloquence.

A man built upon an emphatic scale, bulking large both in gaiety and in pugnacious argument, with a caustic and sometimes roughly critical tongue, it is probable that only those who came by force of circumstance or by habit to know Myles Mathews well ever discovered a quarter of his exceptional gifts or adequately appreciated his splendid sincerity, his tolerant wisdom, and the essential gentleness of his nature. There are men whose sheer vigour of evident personality obscures somewhat the exceptional talents and qualities which compose its substance, but the mountains, mountaineering, and his fellow-mountaineers have never had a more poetic-minded, big-hearted and capable votary, exponent and helper, nor his friends a more sage, unselfish and lovable friend.

S. B. D.

G. W. Y.

VALÈRE ALFRED FYNN.

(1871-1929.)

VALÈRE ALFRED FYNN died of blood-poisoning at St. Louis, U.S.A., on March 20, 1929, in his fifty-eighth year. He was elected to the Alpine Club in 1911.

Born in Russia, where his father was engaged in building the Imperial Railways for the Czar, Fynn received a first-class engineering training in Germany and at the Swiss Federal High School in Zürich. After serving with Brown and Boveri, the well-known firm of electrical engineers of Baden, near Zürich, he took up consulting work in this country until 1909, when he was appointed

consultant in electrical engineering to the Wagner Electrical Corporation of St. Louis. His career in the U.S.A. was an extremely successful one. He invented and perfected a new type of alternating current motor which now bears his name—a fitting monument to his great ability and work as an inventor and electrical engineer.

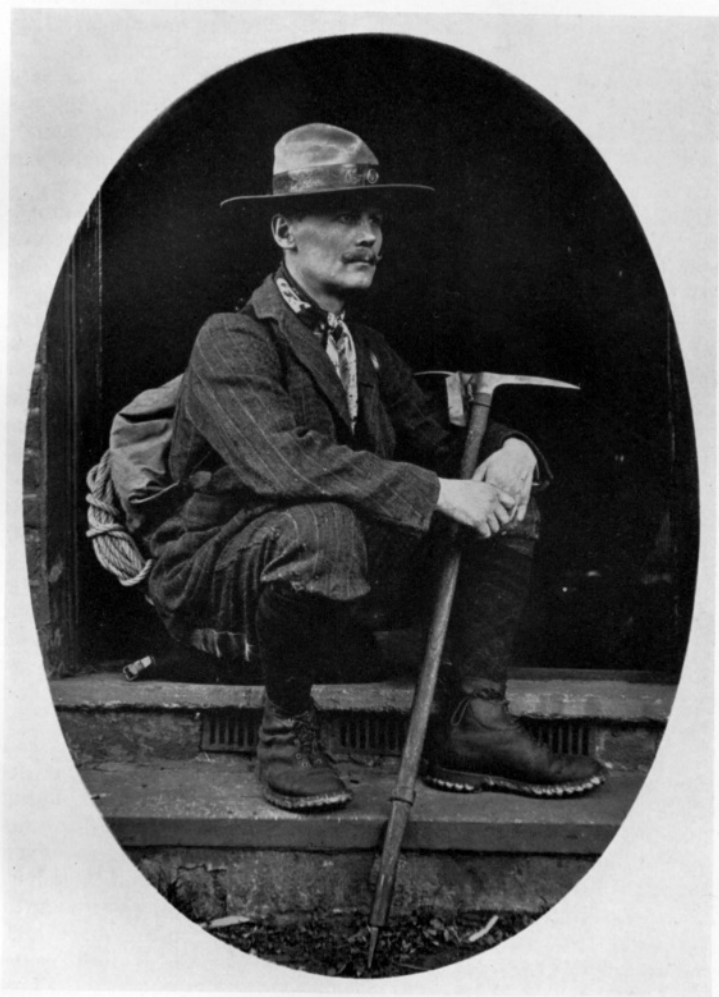
Fynn was acknowledged by no less an authority than the late Captain Farrar as the best guideless climber¹ of his time. He was essentially a pioneer, extremely active and keen, and as such contributed largely to the discovery of new climbs both in the Alps and in Canada.

I have been unable to trace records of Fynn's earliest climbs, but as far back as 1895 he discovered a new and difficult route now known as the 'Fynn Weg' on the Mürtschenstock. In 1905 he was elected to the Academic Alpine Club of Zürich on the strength of a remarkable list of climbs, many of which were new. In the following year he made the first ascent of the Bifertenstock direct from the Biferten Glacier, a formidable undertaking which to-day justly ranks as the finest climb in the Range of the Tödi. In the same year he launched a successful attack upon the tremendous N.E. face of the Finsteraarhorn,² an ascent involving two bivouacs, the second of which he and his companion, A. Brüderlin, spent sitting in rope slings. Fynn also made the first ascent of the Sonnigwichel, a bold granite peak near Amsteg. In doing so it was typical of him that he avoided the one and only obvious line of approach to the summit—long since degenerated into the 'ordinary way'—and completely traversed the whole ridge, a climb which, from the point of view of difficulty, bears comparison with the Grépon traverse. Amongst his other outstanding Alpine climbs may be mentioned the Lauteraarhorn (N.E. face, second ascent) and the N. or Argentièrre face of the Aiguille Verte.

Fynn's prowess as a leader and pioneer stood him in good stead when, on settling in St. Louis, the Canadian Rockies and the Selkirks became his chief fields of mountaineering activity. He contributed to the JOURNAL numerous beautifully illustrated accounts of his climbs in those regions. Climbing sometimes guideless, even occasionally alone, and later with a Swiss guide, Rudolf Aemmer, with whom he eventually formed a close friendship, Fynn carried out several remarkable ascents, of which some of the more outstanding are probably Mt. Louis (first ascent by the E. face; considered to be the most difficult climb either in the Canadian Rockies or the Selkirks), Mts. Hadow, Aberdeen, Colyer, the Devil's Thumb, Mt. Whyte (new routes), Mts. Lefroy, Quadra, Freshfield, Glacier Peak (Mt. Victoria; second ascent and first traverse, an immense

¹ Taking him all round, fair weather and foul, it is unlikely that Fynn, among amateurs, has ever had a superior.

² The second ascent of this face and so far not repeated (*A.J.* 34, 379-87).



VALÈRE A. FYNN.
1871-1929.

ridge climb), Temple (new routes), Barbican, and Geikie (both first ascents), and Mts. King George and Assiniboine.

In 1911 I was privileged to be one of a party of six led by Fynn over the Matterhorn from the Schönbühl to Breuil. It was a unique and never-to-be-forgotten experience to be led and *looked after* by such a man. Conditions were far from good and the weather threatening; but throughout that long day our leader, brimful of his characteristic good humour and with the example of his own remarkable prowess always before us, inspired and maintained our confidence in our mastery of the mountain. On the Tiefenmatten face, where conditions were bad, there could be no hesitating when Fynn cheerily advised us youngsters to 'Just take your time and put your feet down as if the mountain belonged to you, my boys!'

In Fynn we have lost, as in Farrar, another Bayard of the Alpine Club. In their premature death, it seems almost fitting that these two great mountaineers and friends—together with their sometime companion, Herbert Reade—should have left us at nearly the same moment.

G. I. F.

GRAF HANS z. TOERRING-JETTENBACH.
(1862–1929.)

By the death of this well-known sportsman and mountain-wanderer the Bavarian and Tyrolese Alps lose a distinguished and prominent figure. If Hans Toerring, in the modern sense of the word, cannot be described as a great mountaineer, he will be remembered as one of the foremost authorities in Europe on the flora and fauna of the Alps. A magnificent shot with a rifle, a sportsman in the fullest sense of the word, he had hunted mountain-game from the forests of Lithuania to the Carpathians and Dinaric Alps. He possessed a wonderful collection of Alpine heads, stags, chamois, and roe-deer.¹

Of retiring disposition and reserved manner, it is difficult to speak of his varied interests and accomplishments. Behind the scenes the influence of Hans Toerring was enormous. Moreover, this influence was not only great and good but always directed in the truest interests of his beloved Bavaria. Tall and distinguished, dignified in presence yet democratic in manner, gifted with a great and versatile brain tempered with the soundest common sense, it is only in death, perhaps, that his country and friends will realize how great is their loss.

Hans Toerring was born on April 7, 1862. He was head of a very ancient Bavarian family, and was connected with the Erskine and Howard families through his Scottish grandmother. He married in 1898 H.R.H. Princess Sophy, Duchess of Bavaria, a younger sister of the Queen of the Belgians, who survives him. He leaves two sons and a daughter. His death came from sudden heart failure, on October 28.

¹ His finest stag was his last, shot in the Bavarian Alps, on Oct. 15.

Although it is nearly twenty years since we climbed a mountain together—Piz Lischanna, in 1910—as a loyal and lovable friend, gifted with the most subtle sense of humour, his memory will be with the writer always.

E. L. S.

JOSEPH SEILER.

(1858–1929.)

GLETSCH had lost many of its attractions when the horses had been finally replaced by the motors; but, until this year the central thing, the Spirit of Gletsch remained in the stalwart figure, the gentle movements, and the kindly face of Joseph Seiler. Quietly, unobtrusively, unobserved, he, behind the scenes, noticed everything, welcomed old friends and saw to it that they got the best of everything, while the crowd of passing tourists alighting from the constantly arriving motor posts and cars never wanted in vain. A wonderful organization: everything ordered to a nicety; a dozen sleeping in the house one night and a hundred the



next, and the catering and service never strained. A Swiss *Gesangsverein* in a char-à-banc and a party of shrill-voiced Americans in another vying as to which shall be heard; and Joseph unperturbed, courteous, low-voiced, seeing that everyone is attended to.

Gletsch, grown from a modest coaching-house to its present great establishment, with its *dépendance* and the hotel at Belvedere, all belonged to him, as did all the land around which he farmed, so far as such land can be farmed. And his interest in the people of the valley, as in those of his native town of Brigue, was as keen as in his many-sided business. There was plenty to absorb his time and fill his mind; but the thing he loved most of all—his horses—had gone. In the old days this had been his first interest, and, in addition to his private and livery stables, over a hundred animals were employed for the five-horse post-diligences over the Grimsel and the Furka. He bought the horses and saw to the shoes, the harness, the coaches, the wheels, and the drivers, and during the thirty years that he was responsible for these services there was not a single accident on those dangerous zigzag roads.

Joseph was the firstborn of the family of sixteen begat by Alexander Seiler, the founder of the Zermatt hotels, and his wife: and the family name is inalienably associated with Zermatt. But the home of the Seilers was at Brigue, where Joseph was born in 1858, and named after his uncle who was at that time president of the well-known college. Six of the family yet survive: Jules (Rev. Dr.), Hermann (Ind. Dr.), Madame Imfeld of the Monte Rosa Hôtel

at Zermatt, two sisters privately married, and Catherine, the companion and helpmeet of Joseph at Brigue in the winter and at Gletsch in the summer, to whom I am indebted for many of the details here recorded—a lady as affectionately regarded by the large circle of their British friends as was Joseph himself.

Joseph Seiler was brought up at Brigue, where he studied at the college, but later on he went to other institutions out of the Canton and finished his education in Rome and, finally, in London. It was here that he laid, well and truly, the foundations of his life-work. Starting at the foot of the ladder he went through all the stages, in addition to acquiring a knowledge of languages, of the customs and habits of society, and the world outlook which served him so well in later years.

His liberal education completed, Joseph joined his father at Zermatt, first assisting in the management of the old Riffelhaus, and, later, as manager of the Mont Cervin Hôtel. But, in addition, he was his father's right-hand man and saw to the general catering of all the hotels, which involved, among other duties, the sending off at dawn every day of some fifty or sixty mules from the square in the village.

But in 1892—a year after his father's death—Joseph left the Zermatt activities to other members of the family and went to Gletsch, and the rest of his life was devoted to the Rhône Glacier area. But though Gletsch was his summer work and his twelve-month problem, he lived for eight months of the year mostly at Brigue, where, in addition to the lively and practical interest he took in the development of primary education, he was Mayor during the important years when the Simplon tunnel was being made. This brought him into intimate and friendly relationship with many prominent Italians, and he was often at Domodossola, where he became a favourite, and eventually acquired a villa, in which he spent the winter months during the last years of his life.

Joseph Seiler held a national as well as a local and cantonal position, and his advice was often sought by the Federal Authorities. His absolute probity, his sound judgment, his self-sacrificing activities, and his kindness of heart were patent to all and were universally appreciated; and many were the honourable titles with which he was accredited.

In his younger days he had been a first-rate mountaineer, and he never lost his interest in climbing and in climbers, while his affection for the early English climbers at Zermatt was extended to the generations that succeeded them: and both they and their guides were always accorded a warm welcome and exceptionally generous treatment. But apart from mountaineering Joseph was an all-round sportsman, and especially a horseman; and until the last few years he rode every day. His 'hobby' lay in collecting old furniture, and coloured prints of Swiss landscape. Many examples of both, and especially his unique collection of prints of the Rhône Glacier, are familiar to those who have made a temporary home at the

comfortable hotel where Strutt and I last saw him and bade him adieu in July 1928.

The winter of 1928-9 he spent in good health at Domodossola, but returned to Brigue in the spring where, after a fortnight of uncomplaining illness, he passed to his well-earned rest on May 25, 1929.

A great procession followed the cortège to the cemetery at Glis, while at Gletsch the initials 'J. S.' in white stones form the centre of a naturally grown wreath of Alpenrose overlooking the valley, the growth of which he had watched for years and proclaimed to be his memorial wreath. It was in 'affectionate remembrance' that these stones were laid, a tribute in which this Club, and many of its members individually, would wish to join.

C. W.

SAMUEL TURNER.

(1869-1929.)

MR. TURNER, who died very suddenly in Wellington (N.Z.) on August 8, was in many ways a remarkable man, having made his own way in life from a small beginning to a successful and prosperous position. A native of Manchester, born in 1869 and educated at the Manchester Technical School, he ultimately went into the produce trade representing large butter interests which took him to various parts of the world and finally to New Zealand in 1911, where he settled down.

Being an enthusiastic climber, he took the opportunities afforded in his business journeys to climb in many countries, while in N.Z. he spent eighteen years of vigorous and successful Alpine work, which included practically all the big peaks. He also did some important exploration in the district round Mt. Tutoko near Milford Sound, and this year made the first Alpine ascents on the Hooker Range and the district behind Lake Wanaka. Most of his New Zealand work and his experiences in other countries have been very fully recorded in his books: 'My Climbing Adventures in Four Continents,' 'Siberia,' and 'The Conquest of the N.Z. Alps'—books which raised a considerable amount of controversy owing to claims made by the author. The chief ambition of his life, so he told the late Captain Farrar, was the conquest of Everest. Circumstances were against him.

Mr. Turner did not belong to either the Alpine Club or New Zealand Alpine Club, as he was one of those keen and self-centred men who find it hard to work with others, a failing which undoubtedly caused antagonism, but in spite of this his ability, his remarkable energy, and his unbounded enthusiasm mark him as an outstanding climber who has a record equal to that of any other in the Southern Alps. It is pleasant to hear that his mountaineering skill has descended in even greater measure to his son.

A. P. H.