

IN MEMORIAM.

THOMAS CHARLES FRY.

(1846-1930.)

THOMAS CHARLES FRY, born in 1846, was a son of Mr. P. S. Fry of Emberton, Bucks, and came of a family long settled at Axbridge, in Somerset. From Bedford School he was elected to a scholarship at Pembroke College, Cambridge, later gaining a second class in the Classical Tripos. He held masterships successively at Durham School and at Cheltenham College, in the latter case taking Orders and developing into a very popular and successful housemaster. In 1876 he married the daughter of Mr. Edward Greene, M.P., by whom he had two sons. For a short period he was headmaster of Oundle School. When appointed Dean of Lincoln in 1910, he found himself face to face with the problem of the preservation of the Cathedral, 'the flower of English Gothic,' a task which not only called for qualities of inspiration and leadership of the highest order, but also for the collection of funds amounting to some £120,000, before the work could be completed. Dean Fry was not permitted to see his cherished object fulfilled, and in his case there is no doubt that his devoted labours, which had included several visits to Canada and the United States to collect funds, appreciably shortened his already long life: he died on February 10, 1930.

As a mountaineer Fry from the first showed the same qualities of energy, enterprise, and enthusiasm as he displayed in all his other activities, and his acquaintance with the Alps covered a period of exactly sixty years. His first visit took place in 1868, and in the following year with two companions he made the first ascent of the Diablerets by the 'face' of the Creux de Champ without the help of guides, the one engaged proving unequal to the task.

Most of his early mountaineering days were spent in the Bernese Oberland, and on many of these he was accompanied by his wife. Later on he made the Saas Valley his favourite centre, his usual guide being Adolf Andermatten. Mrs. Fry was believed to be the first lady to cross the Laquinjoch. From time to time, in the company of all his family, he wandered further afield to Tyrol, Dauphiné, the Graians, Styria and elsewhere. Many of his favourite peaks he climbed at least twice, as in the case of the Matterhorn, Dom, Mont Blanc, Jungfrau, etc. Among the guides with whom he travelled in his earlier years were J. A. Carrel and Alexander Burgener—while his special climbing companions were R. W. Brant and the Rev. W. Carter.

His last visit to the Alps took place in 1928, shortly after the death of Mrs. Fry, and once again, at the age of 82, he returned to his old



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haunts in the Saas Valley, spending five weeks at the Monte Moro Hôtel, with his old guide and friend Adolf Andermatten, who also was shortly to 'pass over.'

Dr. Fry was intensely proud of his membership of the Alpine Club, though in 1921 he very reluctantly resigned it in order to be able to economize on behalf of the Cathedral Preservation Funds. It was, however, the very great privilege of the writer in 1927 to be associated with his return to our ranks and to witness the great pleasure it gave him to learn that his re-election had been welcomed.

W. W.

ALFRED HERBERT TUBBY.

(1862-1930.)

ALFRED HERBERT TUBBY was born on May 23, 1862, and was educated at Christ's Hospital, to which he remained much attached all his life, being finally a Governor and Almoner of that institution. After leaving school he studied at London University, where, amongst other honours, he gained a first class in Surgery at the B.S. Examination and the Gold Medal, and a first class in the M.B. (London) Examination.

In 1889 he was working in the Universities of Halle, Leipzig and Berlin, and in the same year became Demonstrator of Physiology and Histology at Guy's Hospital, where he carried out various scientific researches.

In 1895 he was appointed Lecturer in Orthopædic Surgery at Westminster Hospital and held many important posts there, being finally Senior Consulting Surgeon. He was also on the staffs of the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital and the Evelina Hospital for Children.

He published many scientific papers, and amongst other works was the author of 'A Text-book of Orthopædic Surgery,' a subject with which his name will always be connected.

He received numerous honours from many Foreign Universities, Scientific Societies and other bodies.

At the beginning of the Great War he was in active practice in Harley Street, and in 1915, being then Lieutenant-Colonel R.A.M.C. (T.F.), was appointed a consulting surgeon to the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force with the rank of Temporary Colonel A.M.S. In that capacity he served in Gallipoli and in Egypt till March 1916, when he joined the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, remaining with it till March 1919. He was 'mentioned' three times in dispatches and was awarded the C.M.G. in 1916 and the C.B. (Military) in 1918.

In 1922 he retired from the Army with the rank of Colonel (R.A.M.C.).

Returning to London he resumed his practice, but finally retired to Hastings where he lived during the last few years. Gradually



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his health failed and he died on February 23, 1930, aged 68, leaving a widow and one daughter surviving him.

During his busy and anxious life he never faltered in his great love for the mountains. Going regularly for his annual holiday to the Alps, he took up climbing with his characteristic enthusiasm, and in 1894 was elected a member of the Club. He climbed actively for some years, but in 1901 turned towards mountain sport, and spent many seasons chamois hunting in the neighbourhood of Cortina and afterwards in the Valpeltine, his adventures being recorded in a paper which he read before the Club in May 1911.¹ He did good service in the work necessary for the publication of the New Edition of Ball's 'Central Alps' in the district round Davos.

In all that he undertook Tubby was the soul of thoroughness and care. Nothing was too much trouble. So in his friendships Tubby was the very essence of steadfastness; nothing would shake him. He leaves behind him the memory of an indefatigable worker, a true friend and a devoted lover of the mountains.

J. J. W.

ADAM FOX,

(1872-1930.)

MR. ADAM FOX, elected a member of the Alpine Club in 1903, died on February 3, 1930, after a short illness. He was the senior partner in the firm of A. & G. W. Fox, Solicitors and Notaries of Manchester. He was the son of Mr. Adam Fox, the original member of the firm. Mr. Fox was 57 years of age. He was a past President of the Manchester Law Society, and was Treasurer at the time of his death. He was educated at Shrewsbury School, and later took up cross-country running as one of his sports. Tennis, cycling, walking, and climbing were his additional recreations.

He commenced his Alpine career in 1898, but had for some years previously practised rock climbing in Cumberland and North Wales. At that time Haskett-Smith's book was almost the only published source of information for the rock climber, and many of the classical rock climbs were in process of making. In the course of his annual visits to the Alps, including the Dolomites, down to the outbreak of war in 1914, Fox had climbed in most districts from the Tarentaise to Eastern Tyrol, and had made quite a considerable number of first-class ascents. He was a sound and safe climber, especially on rocks. He was an excellent mountaineering companion, and had a never-failing fund of quiet humour. This quality would often, under trying or adverse conditions of a climb, dispel the gathering gloom of a party. He had much personal charm of manner revealing itself behind a very slight reserve. His social activities were many,

¹ *A.J.* 25, 575-89.

but in particular he was a faithful friend of the Royal Residential Schools for the Deaf and Dumb, Old Trafford, and the Hulme Day Nursery; whilst for many years he was the untiring administrator of a Dispensary for the poor in a crowded district of Manchester.

Fox was a widower and left no family.

J. W. R.

JOHANNES HANSEN VIGDAL.

(1851-1929.)

VIGDAL must have been almost the last of the Norwegian guides who learned their craft from Slingsby. He did nearly all his climbing with Englishmen, and consequently was not so well known to Norsk mountaineers as some of his contemporaries. He did not confine himself to one centre, or one district; he was always ready to go anywhere and try anything, and his list of new expeditions is a long one. Most are recorded in the JOURNAL and in the *N.T.F. Årbok*.

There is an amusing description of him in his early days in 'Fur and Feather Tales,' by Hamblen Sears, an American sportsman, where he appears as a reindeer stalker in what the author calls a Derby hat and in top-boots. He adopted a more suitable headgear later, but the boots he refused to cut down, nor would any arguments ever induce him to get them nailed.

He was a beautiful mover, even for a Norwegian, over any kind of ground, and in many seasons' climbing I cannot remember his making a false step on ice or rocks or 'ur.' He had a very long reach, and in the most difficult places seldom failed to find what he always called 'splendid good fastenings for the fingers.' He would lead, and lead well, when he was asked to do so, but he was quite happy and contented anywhere on the rope.

He had numerous English friends and delighted in reminiscences of them, but his hero was W. C. S., and his stories about him usually wound up with 'Ah, Slingsby, he was so wise a man in the mountains.'

When he and I climbed together, between 1894 and 1907, he was at his best, and we generally managed to get what we started for; but no failure nor any disagreeables ever ruffled the serene temper which was the most endearing feature in a very attractive personality.

In the autumn of 1928 he had a slight stroke of paralysis, and was bedridden for most of his last year. He died on October 22, 1929, at his home in Solvorn, where he had spent the greater part of his active life as master of the school and 'kirkesanger' (parish clerk) in the church.

These few lines of tribute to his memory are a most inadequate acknowledgment of a forty years' friendship and of the many long and happy days spent in his company on Jostedalsbræ and in the Horunger.

C. W. P.