

## IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE YELD

1845-1938

GEORGE YELD, who recently passed away full of years and honour, was a remarkable man. Born in 1845, he received his early education at Hereford Cathedral School. Passing out as head boy, he entered Brasenose College, Oxford, as a scholar. Here he won the great distinction, in 1866, of the Newdigate Prize for English verse, thus following in the footsteps of Tennyson, Southey and Matthew Arnold. In after years, Yeld reminded one with pleasure of Matthew Arnold's kindness to him on many occasions, and not least on the day when he received the prize, for it was Matthew Arnold's privilege to make the public oration at that event.

He was destined by his father for the law, but the instinctive leanings derived from his mother's family towards the profession of teaching were made manifest at the beginning of his career, for soon after he had taken his degree in 1867, he went to St. Peter's, York. He remained on the staff for the unprecedented period of fifty-two years, and became so closely identified with the school that in the minds of many pupils who passed through his hands, it might have been said that he was the school. Headmasters might come and go, but Yeld stayed on and upheld the traditions of the school.

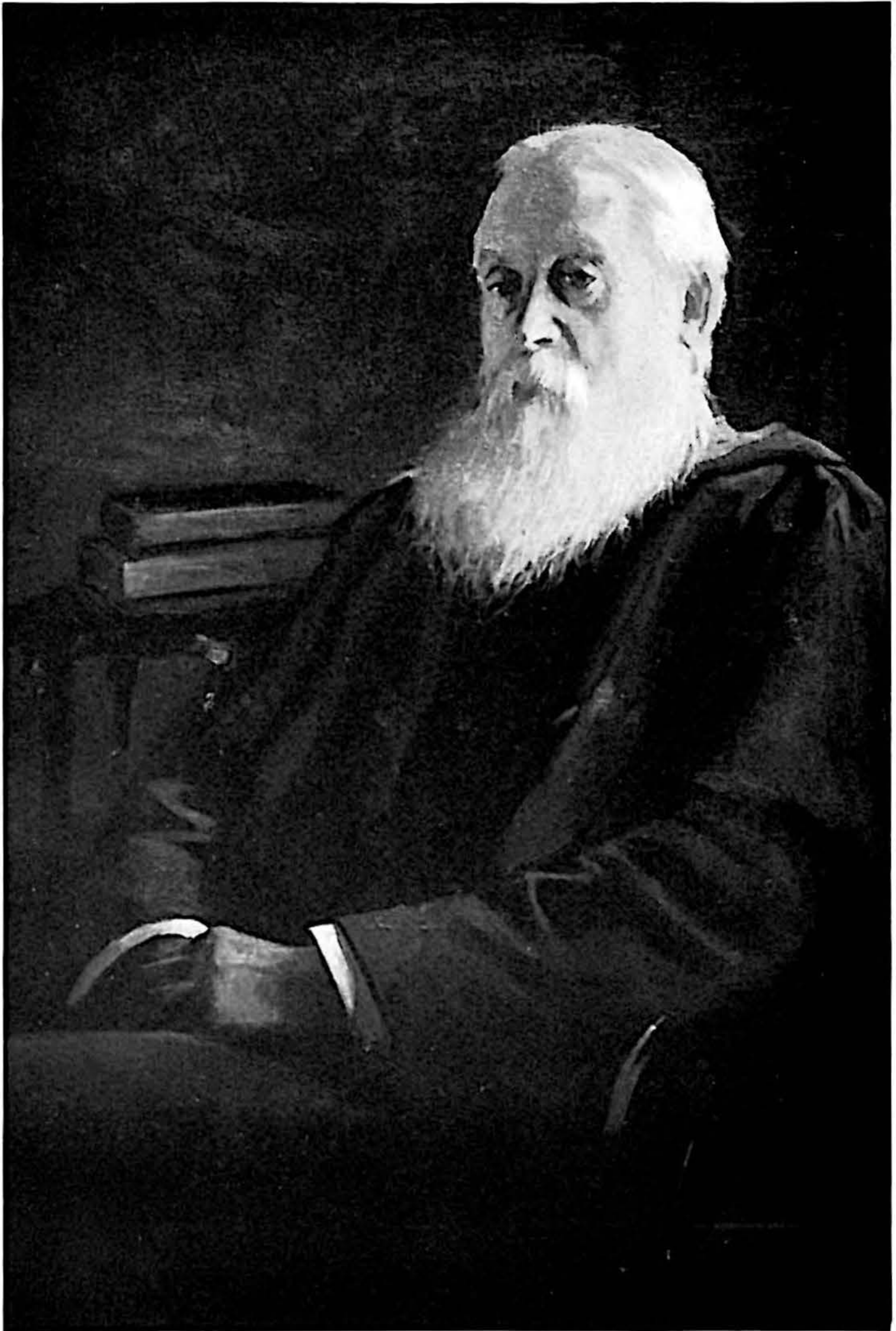
A colleague who worked with him has recently written that he was looked upon as belonging to the finest type of schoolmaster; that he deemed himself fortunate that when he began teaching he was privileged to have Yeld as a friend and confidant.

Another old boy, now a K.C., writing to the family says: 'he was such a grand old man, and I have such a flood of memories of the happy days under him at St. Peter's, that it seems like a different world to know that he is no longer in it: but he had a splendid innings, and you can never know how many men today feel grateful to have known such a man, and feel they are the better for having known him.'

Yeld was full of keenness about all he took an interest in, whether teaching, books, or games; he did everything with the unfailing love of boys that made him the true schoolmaster.

In the '80's and '90's Yeld was responsible at St. Peter's for the school play, generally a comedy of Shakespeare, when the prologue or epilogue for the theatricals in verse was written by him.

Yeld had a wonderful memory for names and faces, and it was said that on school festival days, when the old boys returned to the playing fields of their youth, he was rarely at fault in recognising former pupils, some of whom he had not seen for a decade. With remarkable ease,



*From an oil painting by G. Gould, 1918, at St. Peter's School, York.]*

GEORGE YELD.

1845-1938.

the veteran master could run over a hundred of Old Peterites who had attained great positions in the Church, the scholastic profession, in medicine, law, the Army and Navy, the Civil Service, the world of sport and many other walks of life. But Yeld was more than a schoolmaster; together with his duties at St. Peter's, he had other and wider interests. It was at Oxford that he got his first zest for climbing. It was Arnold who wrote of 'the cheerful silence of the fells,' and from these and their loftier companions, the mountains, Yeld had drawn a rich fund of inspiration, upon which those who have sat at his feet have drawn freely. The unbeaten tracts of the Lake Country fells, the ranges of the Welsh mountains, the glassy peaks of the Alps, and the pinnacles of the Eastern Caucasus were to him as an open book.

Another of his activities was horticulture; he became intensely enthusiastic in raising and hybridising irises and hemerocallis, adding to the beauty of our gardens many new plants, and for this and other work he was awarded in 1925 the Victoria Medal of Honour of the Royal Horticultural Society. He was one of the founders of the Iris Society, and its first President.

Over a period of more than half a century Yeld was my oldest and most valued friend. We have climbed for weeks together in Wales, Skye, the Alps and the Eastern Caucasus; in our gardens I can recall many pleasant hours spent in Yeld's company, and owe to him more than I can say for his guidance in horticultural problems.

A man of a nature entirely unselfish, pure and lofty, I have never known him say an intentionally unkind word of a single human being. The memory of his friendship remains behind, a sacred and priceless possession.

This obituary to our dear old friend would be incomplete without mention that on Yeld's completion of fifty years of service at St. Peter's in 1917, past and present Peterites and friends of the school combined and placed in the school his portrait in oils; and that there should be a more personal tribute of affection to their devoted teacher, a purse containing a very substantial sum and a gold watch were presented to him through the head boy at that time.

G. P. B.

I have been requested to add something to Mr. Baker's admirable words concerning our mutual friend George Yeld's mountaineering career and long connection with the ALPINE JOURNAL.

Yeld was sole editor of the latter from Vol. 18-32 (1896-1919) and joint editor with Percy Farrar from Vol. 32-38 (1919-1926). His task on assuming the editorship was no light one. A kind of interregnum had occurred following Coolidge's brilliant work, while the latter's two immediate followers had found the task a laborious one. Neither was able to devote the requisite care and time and both resigned, the first after completing two volumes, the second after completing but one. The Club was then fortunate enough to find in Yeld an editor who, in spite of his strenuous profession, so well described above, was willing and capable of filling the position. He had already

contributed many articles and notes, his first paper being in *A. J.* 9. 474 *sqq.*, on 'Excursions in the S.W. Graians.' Regarding these Alps he remained up to his death the greatest authority, no fewer than thirteen papers besides notes appearing in the *JOURNAL*. They constitute but a few among many articles on other parts of the Alps or the Caucasus. Among the most notable of these are 'Daghestan and the Ascent of Basardjusi' (*A. J.* 16), 'Fusshörner' (*A. J.* 19), 'Lipari Islands' (*A. J.* 22), etc. He also contributed several obituaries, notably those of his great friends Tempest Anderson (1846-1913) and E. T. Compton (1849-1921), and of his favourite guide, Benjamin Pession (1870-1921). In the November number of Vol. 49 (1937), Yeld submitted some verses on the ascent of Kamet. Although the *JOURNAL* does not appear to be the most suitable outlet for poetry, it is known that publication gave much pleasure to a veteran then feeling the approaching end of a peaceful and happy life.

'The Mountains of Cogne,' written by Yeld in collaboration with Coolidge,<sup>1</sup> remains as a testimony to the knowledge and industry of both. I need not point out that no future editor of the *ALPINE JOURNAL* can hope to approach Yeld's long and remarkable term of office, 1896-1926. Elected to the Club in 1877, he was made Vice-President in 1915, while his great services were rewarded most deservedly with Honorary Membership in 1919. I might add that the unprecedented honour of a portrait—during lifetime—was accorded in *A. J.* 38.

In the course of a very long mountaineering career, Yeld met, of course, all the most distinguished climbers of the day. He was on terms of friendship with many and esteemed by all. Among his great friends were G. P. Baker, E. T. Compton, Coolidge, Bonney, Freshfield, Farrar, Bobba, Vittorio Sella, Tempest Anderson, but a full list would include the names of nearly all prominent Italian, French and British mountaineers of his day.

I never saw Yeld on a mountain, but his contemporaries are agreed that he was soundness itself. He was equally good on rock and snow, a fine topographer and excellent pathfinder. I do not think that he accomplished much without guides; he appears to have preferred to climb with a couple of steady men—preferably Italians—and to have himself assumed all the directorship and a considerable part of the leadership. The names of Sylvain and Benjamin Pession seem to have been most associated with Yeld's, but doubtless there were others as well, notably the Payot brothers, Alphonse and Michel. Yeld was an Honorary Member of the C.A.I. as well as of other Alpine societies.

His ascents were numerous and important. I give a few of the most notable, compiled from 'Mumm' iii, and accomplished after his election to the Club:

1878. Col de Séa and Ciamarella, Albaron, Roc du Mulinet, Col du Grand Méan, all first ascents or new routes; Central Levanna, Pointe de la Galise, first ascent; Aiguille de la Grande Sassièrè by S.E. arête, second ascent, etc.

<sup>1</sup> Conway and Coolidge, *Climbers' Guides*, 1893.

1879. Pointe de Ceresole, new route; Ondezana, first British ascent; Gran Sertz, first ascent and traverse; Gran and Piccolo Paradiso, new routes, etc.

1881. Erbetet, new route; Grivola, new route; Col de Grand Crou—Punta di Gay, new routes; Punta Foura, new route; E. Levanna, Colle di Ciarforon, Col de Miage, Aiguille du Chardonnet, etc.

1882. Punta Valetta, first ascent; Torre di Lavina, new route; Levanetta and Monte Meialot, first ascents.

1883. Grand Nomenon, Grande Arolla, Col de la Muraille Rouge, Fenêtre de Dzasset, Col du Grand Neiron, Tresenta—all first ascents or new routes.

1884. Kl. Nesthorn, first ascent; Breitlauhorn, second ascent; Jäghorn, Wilerhorn, Lonzahörner, E. peak—all first ascents.

1885. Punta Budden, first ascent; Tour du Grand St. Pierre, Testa di Money; Testa di Tribolazione and Grivoletta, first ascents; Becca di Montandayné, new route; Gran Paradiso, Becca di Moncorvé, etc.

1888. Punta Nera, first ascent; Gran Paradiso and Col de l'Abeille, new route; Becca di Noaschetta, Testa di Valnontey, Cresta Gastaldi, all first ascents; Becca di Monciair, Cols de la Lune and Ciarforon.

1890. Daghestan, Caucasus, guideless, with G. P. Baker. Many new passes and peaks and first ascent of Basardjusi, 14,620 ft.

1892. Tour St. Ours, Bec de la Patience, first ascents; Grivoletta, new route, etc.

1893. Cresta and Colle Paganini, Cima di Leviona, Colle Teleccio, Jumeaux de la Roccia Viva, E. peak, all first ascents or crossings; Punta Crevasse, new route.

1894. Fusshörner; Tour du Grand St. Pierre, new route; Jumeaux de la Roccia Viva, W. peak, first ascent; Pointe du Pousset.

1896. Pointe des Papillons, N. peak; Aiguille de Tronchey, both first ascents, etc.

1897. Becca di Monciair, new route; Tour d'Arpisson, first ascent, etc.

1898. Lötschentaler Breithorn traverse, Fusshörner, both new; Clocher du Lac des Cugnoz, first ascent.

1899. Dreieckjoch, first crossing; Punta di Cian, etc.

1901. La Vierge, La Noire, Les Rouges, all first ascents.

1902. Colle Fiorito, first crossing; Trident de la Brenva, first ascent.

1903. Plattenhörner; Col de Collon—Col Budden (Pennines), Tour de Créton, new route; Château des Dames, Pigne d'Arolla, etc.

1904. Lipari Islands, Stromboli, etc.

1905. Beichgrat, first ascent.

1907. Skye.

1908. Grivoletta and Colle, etc.

1909. Punta Vachères, Punta del Tuf, Testa del Grandcrou, Tour de Grauson—all new, etc.

1910–1913. Monte Ruje, Punta del Trajo, Punta del Lavincusse,

Punta Inferno, Tour St. André, Punta Fenilia, Punta Nera (Eaux Rouges), Uja di Ciardonei, Punta Valetta, Becca Dentavu, Punta di Valsoera, mostly first ascents or new routes ; etc., etc.

1914-1921. Welsh and Scottish hills.

Yeld was a constant attendant at meetings of the Club up to the last three years, when he was recommended not to expose himself to the night air. He was, nevertheless, able to attend Ruttledge's paper on the 1936 Everest attempt. Always geniality personified, our members were all his friends, and it may be said truly that he was incapable of making an enemy.

E. L. S.

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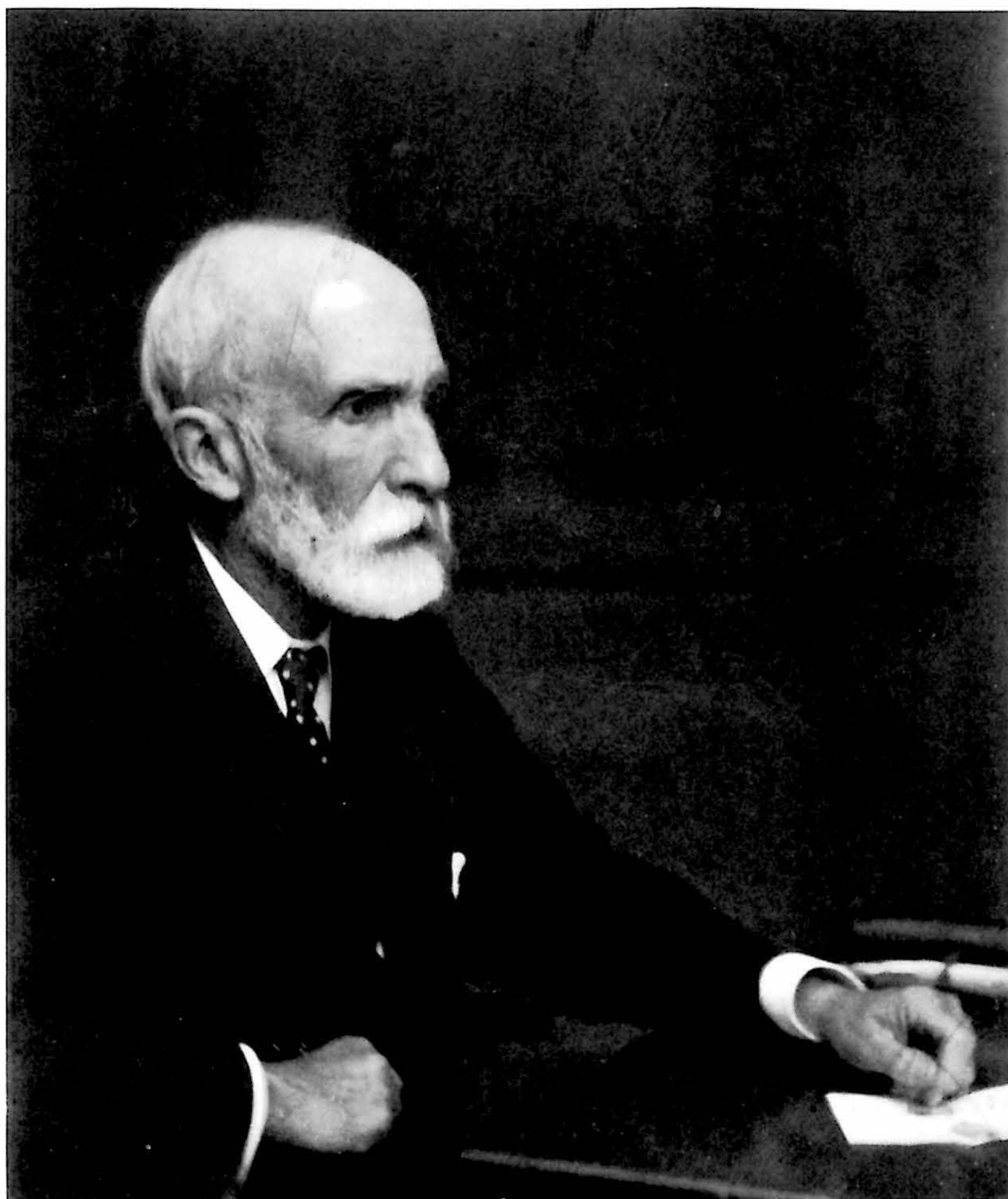
## HENRY GEORGE WILLINK

1851-1938

HENRY GEORGE WILLINK, who took a prominent part for many years in the public life of Berkshire, died at Hillfields, Burghfield, on April 30, 1938, in his eighty-seventh year.

Born in Liverpool, he was the younger son of the late William Williamson Willink, secretary to the Public Works Loans Board and grandson of Daniel Willink, Consul for the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Liverpool. Educated at Eton, he entered the Rev. F. Vidal's house in 1864 and was a pupil of Mr. William Johnson (William Cory) whose influence in these early years was strong and to whom he was much attached. It was here that his skill and delight in drawing and painting began under the tuition of Sam Evans, who is said to have remarked to him, 'Well, young man, your bread is buttered for life.'

His father was an excellent linguist and great traveller, and he introduced his son at an early age to the joys and interests of foreign travel during the holidays, about which journeys a well-kept illustrated journal makes interesting reading. On their first tour in 1866, starting from Martigny they went to Chamonix, where he notes that they walked up the Brévent, 'my first hill of any kind.' They visited Montenvers, crossed the Col de la Seigne to Courmayeur and went over the Théodule Pass to Zermatt. The next tour in 1868 included drives over the Furka and Grimsel Passes and a visit to Grindelwald. A more ambitious programme was carried out in 1869. Starting from Kandersteg they crossed the Gemmi to Visp and on to Saas, going over the Monte Moro Pass to Macugnaga. The diary records that his father's habitual dress even when walking in the mountains consisted of a black frock coat and white top hat with a green veil, and on serious occasions a rope, in case of need, was added and wound round his waist. The return journey took them through Pontresina, which is noted in the journal as 'evidently a good headquarters for the Engadine as a new hotel is being built.' After the crossing of the river Inn at Martinsbruck it took four oxen to pull them up the hill on their way to Finstermünz, an incident recorded in a vigorous sketch made with difficulty at the time.



*H. C. Wilkins*

1851-1938.

In 1870 he went to Brasenose College, Oxford, where he read Classics and History and took his degree in 1873. He then studied Law, being called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1877, and practising at the Chancery Bar till 1884. It was during this time in London that he became a keen and active member of the Inns of Court Royal Volunteers, where he made many of his best friends, holding finally the rank of Captain. Fencing was always a sport in which he delighted; his quickness and agility led to great proficiency and he won the University Foils at Oxford in 1872 and the first prize for fencing at the Royal Military Tournament in 1886, an event open to the whole army. He was one of the founders of the I.C.R.V. School of Arms, and for many years he drew the amusing and original designs for the programme of the Annual Assault-at-Arms.

1875 was his first year of serious climbing, ascents of the Titlis and Wetterhorn being made in company with his brother, W. N. Willink, and his cousin, Harry Latham, with Peter Kaufmann as guide. Subsequent years were spent in the Oberland and the Pennine Alps, where he was accompanied at different times by C. J. C. Price, H. Latham, C. E. Maude, E. L. Vaughan and H. D. C. Stapleton. Ascents of the Matterhorn, Breithorn, Galenstock, Oberalpstock, and Mönch are particularly mentioned in his diaries, an expedition on the Finsteraarhorn being specially described on account of the narrow escape from an avalanche in which three ice-axes were carried away. His guide on all these occasions was Johann Anderegg for whom he formed a great affection, and with whom until his death he kept in touch (see portrait in *A. J.* 12. opp. 366).

Willink's mountaineering interests did not lie so much with the big peaks, though he was undoubtedly a good rock-climber with a good eye for a route and with sure hands and feet, as is shown by his account of certain unaccompanied climbs up the Pillar Rock and Tryfaen (*A. J.* 16. 33-42). His love of the mountains was more of an exploratory kind, and making passes from valley to valley attracted him more than big mountain expeditions. Nothing gave him more pleasure at any time than to have an excuse to pore over a map, and his diaries show that he rarely stopped for more than two days in any one place. Hill country anywhere always attracted him, and besides the Alps he visited the Pyrenees and made a journey across Sweden and Norway in days when travelling was much more difficult than it is at present. The Lakes and North Wales he loved and knew intimately at all seasons and in all weathers.

He was elected to the Club in February 1880, being a member of the Committee from 1889 to 1892 and Vice-President from 1899 to 1901.

After his marriage in 1880, although he and Mrs. Willink travelled fairly extensively, not much serious climbing was done, but in 1891 an interesting fortnight was spent in the Zermatt district with C. T. Dent, L. Mayne and his own brother-in-law, E. C. Ouvry, collecting material and ideas for illustrating the *Mountaineering* volume of the

Badminton Library ; Ouvry and Mayne acting as models in order to show the right and wrong methods in footwork, step-cutting, hand-holds, etc.

In 1907 he climbed Lo Besso, his last Swiss mountain, in company with his son Francis.

One of his keenest joys in later years was taking his two boys and introducing them to the English, Welsh and Scottish hills which he loved so well. At the age of eighty he walked with a large party including three grandchildren, from Great Hartop up Kidsty Pike and back, at the end of which he and his small grandson of seven were the least tired of the party ; he also climbed Helvellyn from Thirlespot at eighty-two, and a few months later Coniston Old Man which he considered an appropriate end to his climbing days.

On September 9, 1880, he married Mary Grace Ouvry, eldest daughter of the Rev. Peter T. Ouvry, Vicar of Wing in Buckinghamshire, and the first ten years of their happy married life were spent in London. During this time when practising at the Bar he also studied at the Slade School of Art, later becoming a member of the Royal Water Colour Society. Always interested in social welfare, he was drawn to work with the Charity Organization Society, inspired by Sir Charles Loch who became a close personal friend and for whom he had the greatest admiration. Both these interests were shared to the full by Mrs. Willink, and it would be impossible to give an accurate account of Willink without mentioning her influence in his life. He has often said of her that she inspired him in all that he did which was of any value.

The death of his father in December 1883, after a long and sad time of incapacity, and also the loss of his eldest son at the age of a year in 1885, were great sorrows, the latter so acute that even in later years he and Mrs. Willink could hardly speak of it. In 1885 they moved to 1 Hyde Park Street where their daughter and second son were born ; but London did not seem to suit the children, and on doctors' advice they made the difficult decision of leaving work, interests and friends to go and live in the country. They settled temporarily at Highwoods, Burghfield, Reading, not far from his old school friend, the Rev. W. O. Clinton, and it was here that his youngest son was born.

In the summer of 1892 he had a serious illness. C. T. Dent diagnosed it as appendicitis and performed the operation, one of the first to be carried out successfully, no doubt saving his life and thereby forging a close link of friendship with the family.

Shortly afterwards he bought Hillfields, a house on a hill in lovely grounds with a wide view, which became a beloved and happy home where he enjoyed being surrounded by his family and friends. Having given up his profession Willink now turned his energies to Local Government and voluntary work, and his life soon became very busy and useful. He was a member of the Bradfield Board of Guardians through the influence of the Chairman, Mr. Bland Garland, whom he

eventually succeeded in that office, holding it for 13 years. The Board was considered a model one and was quoted as an example throughout the country. He was also Chairman for 15 years of the Bradfield District Council and later, in 1905, was elected to the County Council, becoming a County Alderman in 1913, which position he held until the time of his death. He served on the County Education Committee from its inception in 1903 until 1937 and was Chairman from 1908 to 1932. He was also a member of the Finance Committee for 32 years and represented the Council on the County Councils' Association from 1907 to 1936. He was keenly interested in Reading University from its earliest days, being a Governor of the College before the granting of its Charter and a loyal supporter of Dr. Childs, the first Vice-Chancellor, with whom he had a warm friendship. Later he was made a member of the Court and Council and Vice-President of the latter.

Outside Berkshire he had a long and interesting association with the Birmingham Canal Navigations, his grandfather, Sir George Nicholls, being one of the first members, his father, W. W. Willink, continuing the connection, and he himself being elected in 1875, becoming Vice-Chairman in 1906, a position which he held until his death. The monthly meetings at Birmingham were a great interest to him and he attended them regularly until a short time before his death. It gave him particular satisfaction to see his son Francis elected a member of the Committee some years ago, thus carrying on the family tradition and making the fourth generation to be associated with the company.

For many years he was a member of the Athenæum and his election to life-membership in 1937 gave him great pleasure. His life was always busy and full, but no trouble was too much if it meant helping others, especially those who were unfortunate or in trouble. In the parish he was Chairman or Treasurer of most of the parochial committees and was consulted at all times by everyone. He had a passion for exactitude and detail and kept most carefully tabulated records of all his works, accounts, travels, etc. His habit of making lists became a family joke but the value of these and his orderliness and method had to be universally acknowledged.

A great happiness in his life, second only to the perfect harmony of his home, were his many friendships. The real sympathy and interest he took in other peoples' lives and problems, his power of good talk and of telling a story or joke as well as his keen sense of humour, made him excellent company, and his friends were drawn from among people of all ages and of widely divergent character. His talent as a speaker was marked and he could hold an audience and make his points telling and clear without speaking for too long.

His writings were also considerable, especially on social subjects and the Poor Law, but his chief work in this line was the life of his maternal grandfather, Sir George Nicholls (one of the three original Commissioners of 1834) and very much later, at the advanced age of over eighty, he wrote the life of his own father, a charming and vivid

account which was privately printed for the family and intimate friends.

But Willink's real hobby was drawing and painting, and he was never so happy (or happily miserable) as when he had a pen or pencil in his hand or was painting in water colours out of doors. He invariably carried a small black sketch-book in his pocket, in which he made sketches, notes, and rough diaries of his tours and holidays; these little books are a fascinating record of his many and varied interests. The larger sketches which he made among his beloved mountains and hills are particularly beautiful, especially in contour and line; he seemed to have an inner understanding of this kind of country. His drawings of figures too are full of life and originality, and he had the gift of being able to draw quickly and unerringly anything he wanted to make clear. Children would watch enthralled while delightfully comic people and beasts appeared like magic on the paper.

Members of the Club will be familiar with his illustrations in the Badminton volume of *Mountaineering*; over these he took enormous trouble, making sketches and taking photographs to illustrate different points. He and C. T. Dent (who wrote most of the manuscript) met frequently during this time and letters passed between them almost daily. For many years he contributed landscapes and sketches of climbers in action to the Club exhibitions, and his work received frequent notice in the *ALPINE JOURNAL* between 1885 and 1894. In 1885 he read a paper before the Club on Alpine sketching (*A. J.* 12. 361-80), and in 1893, as a member of the sub-committee appointed to consider Alpine distress signals, he read a paper introducing their report (*A. J.* 17. 151-2, and Appendix to volume). He designed eight of the menus for the Annual Winter Dinner, including that for the Jubilee year, and these must be familiar to many members who recall the staircase in Savile Row. Latterly he took to working in chalk, sometimes adding a little water colour, black crayon, or even ink. It was sad that during the last two years of his life his hand became too shaky either to write or draw much. During the war he overworked himself badly and was seriously ill for some weeks; Mrs. Willink also became far from well, and her death in February 1918, after nearly eighteen months of indifferent health, was a crushing blow. Only six weeks later his son George, a Captain in the Royal Berkshire Regiment, was killed in France while commanding his battalion, during the great retreat of the Fifth Army in March. Pride in this sacrifice helped him to carry on, but all his plans and hopes for the future seemed, for the time, to come to an end. With the help of his younger son, Francis, he set to work to collect all the available information of George's military service and of his doings during those last vital days. This seemed to bring him certain comfort and helped him to face life again and to continue his responsible work in the county during the difficult and trying years after the Armistice.

Although he was constantly in touch with his wife's sister and her

daughters who were frequent guests at Hillfields, it was a lonely life for him, with his son and daughter both settled in the north of England. But he faced it nobly, and his chief wish was to keep Hillfields the same centre for the family and friends as it had always been. He had the joy of seeing his son and daughter with happy homes of their own, and the friendship and understanding with them as well as with his grandchildren did much to bring him fresh interest and consolation. His health was wonderfully good almost up to the last, and he died peacefully after only three weeks of illness.

E. F. P.  
C. D. P.

## HAROLD ANTHONY BEECHING

1866-1938

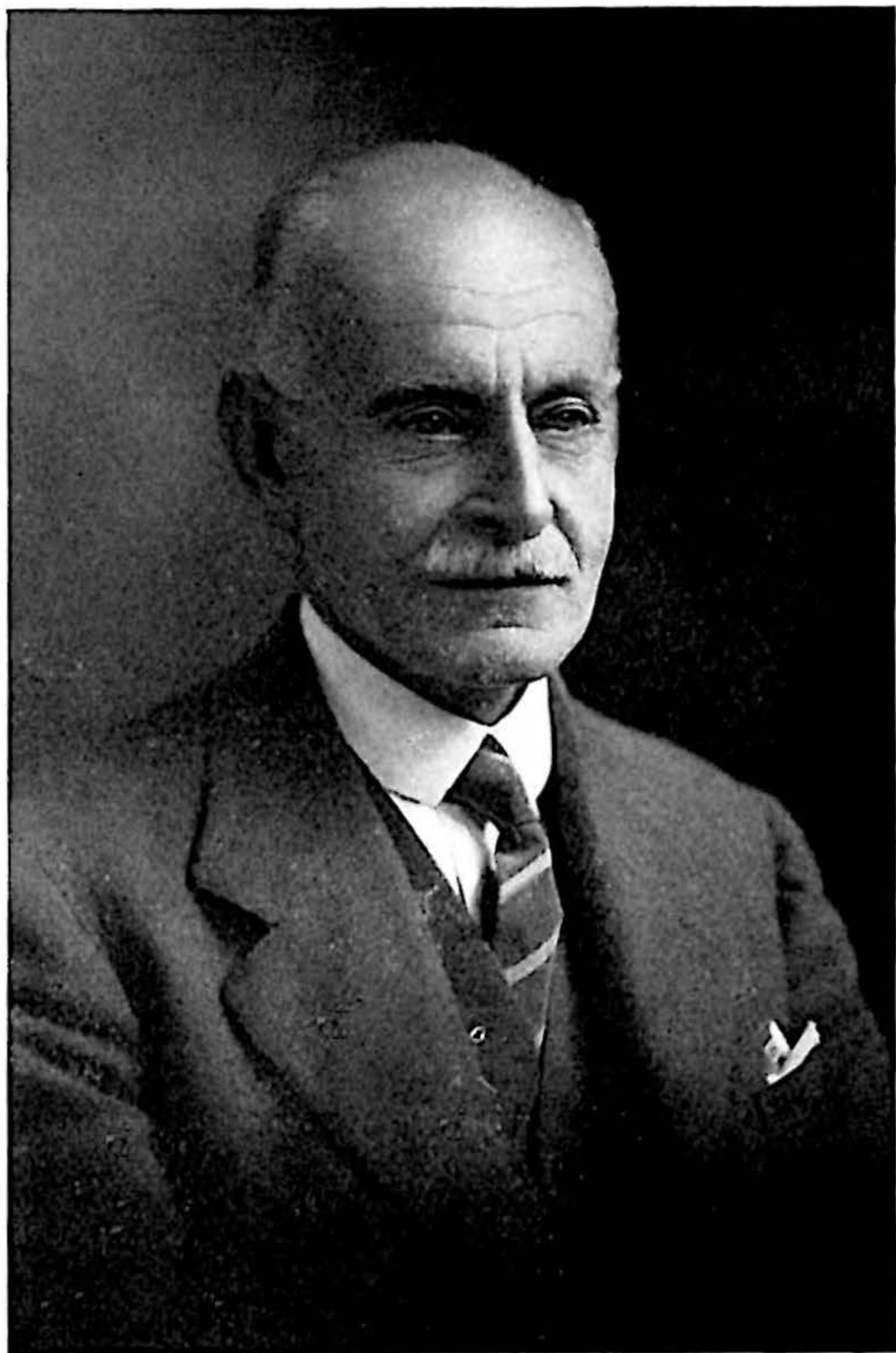
HAROLD ANTHONY BEECHING was born in 1866 and was educated at Chatham House, Ramsgate, and Magdalen College, Oxford. He was manager of Lloyds Bank (formerly Beeching's Bank), Tunbridge Wells, from 1901 until his retirement in 1931. He took a very prominent part in the local affairs of Tunbridge Wells, being Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and for eleven years Chairman of the Gas Company. He devoted much time to helping the charitable and sporting organisations in his town, and in a way that endeared him to all. For fifteen years he served with the 1st Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteer Corps. During the war he commanded the Tunbridge Wells Company of the 3rd Battalion Kent Volunteer Regiment with the rank of Captain.

His mountaineering began as a boy in 1881-2-3 with many minor expeditions above the snow line, and then, encouraged by the late W. A. B. Coolidge, he began to climb the big peaks, seldom missing a season in the Alps, and for two seasons (1890-1) climbing in Norway. He also loved the rock problems of Cumberland and Wales.

From a very long list of climbs, many without guides and in all districts of the Alps, the following may be mentioned:—1886, Höhlenstock, guideless, with W. C. Slingsby and P. A. L. Pryor, first ascent (*A. J.* 13. 134 *sqq.*); 1892, Barre Noire, first ascent (*A. J.* 16. 260), Roche d'Alvau, first ascent, W. summit (*A. J.* 16. 259); 1895, Campanile di Val di Roda, first ascent by W. face (*A. J.* 17. 592); 1896, an attempt on the N.W. face of the Ailefroide (*cf. A. J.* 27. 437). I have heard Beeching call this one of the most difficult and interesting of his climbs; he described it in *Lloyds Bank Magazine*, No. 1.

In 1914 he was climbing in the Oberland with his wife and sons when war came. They were unable to leave Switzerland until August 26 and had an exciting four days' journey to England.

I first met Beeching in 1899 at Arolla and climbed with him and H. V. Reade, and we had some delightful days. Then, high up on the E.N.E. arête of Mt. Collon a falling stone injured my hand, and



*Photo, Lafayette, Ltd.]*

H. A. BEECHING  
1866-1938.

I can never forget his kindness and skill in getting me down the mountain.

His physical strength was great and he had all the steadiness and calmness of the real mountaineer. We felt sure he could never slip, and he made difficult passages appear quite safe, if not easy.

Later we spent an Easter holiday in Cumberland.

He was a delightful companion, always cheerful, and told many a good story on the mountain and in the hotel. I was amused to read of him as 'somewhat austere in manner.' We saw nothing of this side of his character in the mountains or in his very happy home.

He had been in ill health for three years before his death.

L. W. R.

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### EDOUARD ALFRED MARTEL

1859-1938

E. A. MARTEL, who died on June 4, 1938, began life as a barrister, but this sedentary profession was not likely to satisfy such an ardent, adventurous spirit. He himself describes, in *Les Abîmes*, the effect produced upon his young mind, at the age of seven, by a visit to the stalactites of Gargas and the underground river of Eaux-Chaudes. Thirteen years later, a visit to the Adelsberg grotto near Postumia stimulated his interest, and thus he began in 1883 his systematic exploration of the gorges of the Tarn and Causses, a region then almost unknown. The publication of his two first works, *Les Cévennes* and *Les Abîmes*, relating his pioneer work below ground, created a great sensation, appealing to the imagination of the young like some novel by Jules Verne.

Martel was one of the pioneers of tourist activity in France. With his gift for publicity, he was one of the first to attract public attention to the unknown beauty of the French countryside. He was also the founder of a new science, the science of caves, or speleology. In the opening pages of *Les Abîmes*, published in 1894, he sets forth the whole programme and method of this science, comprising as it does geology, mineralogy, geography, physics, chemistry, biology and history. This programme has remained virtually unchanged through nearly fifty years. His work on the circulation of underground rivers in broken country brought him into touch with public bodies and questions of public health, thus leading to important practical results in this branch of 'applied speleology,' and widening the field of his investigations.

The story of animal and plant life in the caves was not a primary object of Martel's researches, and he was not always happy in his approach to this domain of science. Nevertheless, one must in justice admit that from the outset he foresaw the importance of studying the transformation of animate life in the subterranean world. If neither he nor his pupils have scarcely played an active part in the progress of 'biospeleology,' their work prepared the way for those who later were to specialise in this subject.



*Photo supplied by the Société de Géographie, Paris.]*

E. A. MARTEL  
1859-1938.

An inspiring teacher and an excellent lecturer, Martel won further distinction in the number of his disciples and followers. In every country his name will be associated with every branch of subterranean study. He leaves with his friends and with the Club Alpin Français the memory of a kind and devoted teacher, who was always ready to encourage and assist those who wished to benefit by his knowledge.

He was an Ordinary Member of the Alpine Club from 1896 to 1902, and was elected to Honorary Membership in 1918.

(From the notice by Dr. René Jeannel in *La Montagne*, by the courtesy of the Editor.)

## WILLIAM HUNTER WORKMAN

1847-1937

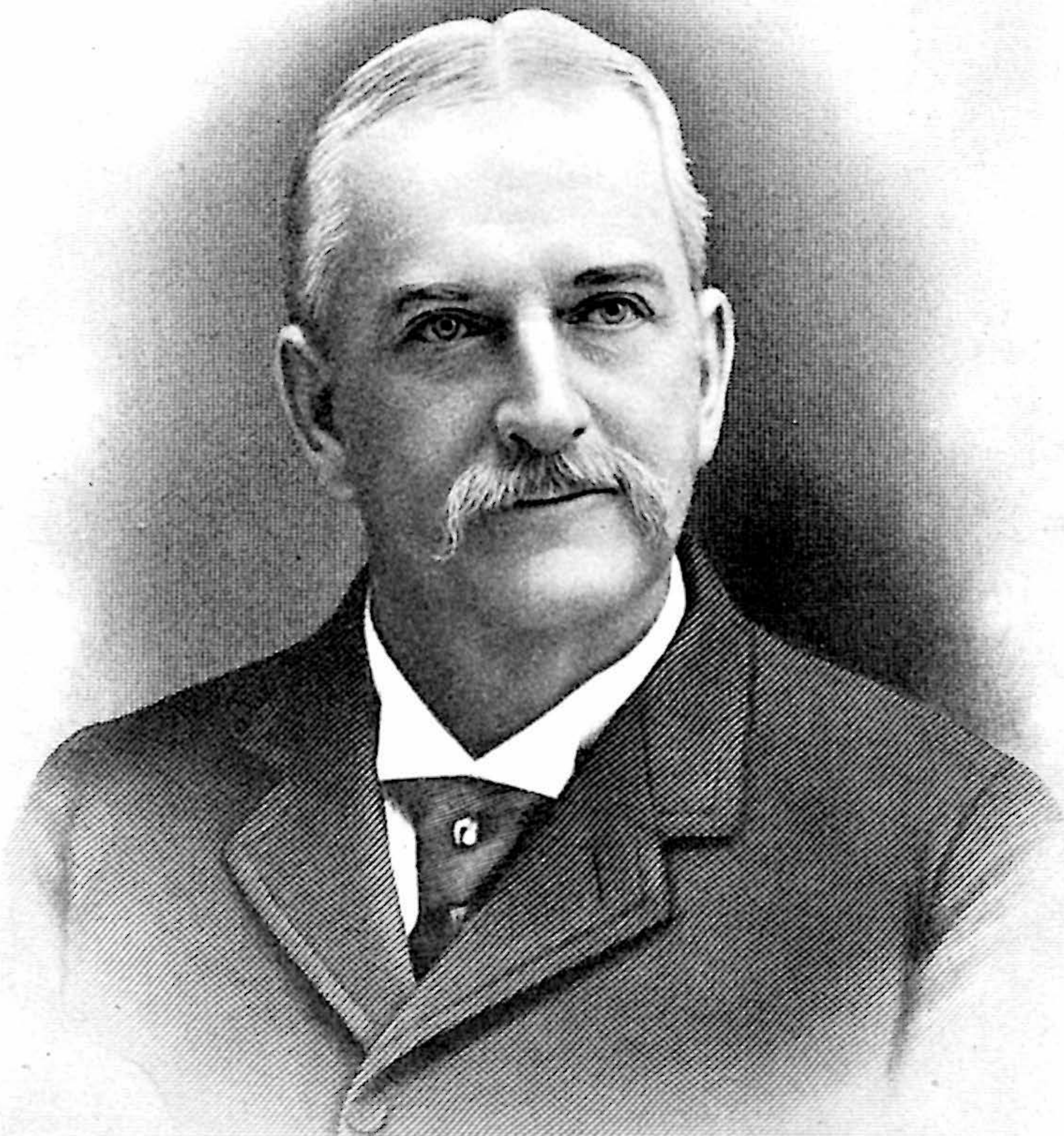
WITH the death of Dr. Workman on October 7, in his ninety-first year, there passed the surviving partner, twelve years later, of that unique American couple who pioneered in the Himalaya at an age when most people have finished strenuous climbing.<sup>2</sup> Their great years were 1899 to 1912 when he was fifty-two to sixty-five and Mrs. Workman forty to fifty-three. At fifty-six he made a then world's record altitude climb of 23,394 ft., and in 1906 she made a world's altitude record for women, of nearly 23,000 ft.,<sup>3</sup> at the age of forty-seven. In these fourteen years the Doctor and his indefatigable wife made six major expeditions in the Himalaya. They were perfect partners on these expeditions, he leading one year and she doing the scientific work, she leading the next and he keeping the scientific records and diaries. Each expedition resulted in a profusely illustrated volume, all indispensable to mountaineering libraries as chapters in the history of Himalayan exploration.

Dr. Workman was born at Worcester, Mass., graduated from Yale in 1869, and from the Harvard Medical School (then known as Massachusetts Medical College of Harvard University) in 1873. After serving an internship at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he took post-graduate courses at Vienna, Heidelberg and Munich. From 1875 to 1889 he practised as a physician and surgeon in Worcester, after which ill health forced his retirement. In 1881 he married Miss Fanny Bullock of Worcester, daughter of Gov. Alexander Hamilton Bullock of Massachusetts. They had one child, a daughter, Rachel, now Lady MacRobert, who survives, and is the wife of Sir Alexander MacRobert of Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

In 1892 he and Mrs. Workman began a series of journeys by bicycle which in the next seven years carried them over much of Europe, into North Africa, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, and finally in the years 1897-99 they covered, still by bicycle, 1800 miles in Ceylon, 1500 miles in Java, and 14,000 miles through the length and breadth of India, visiting the Himalaya in 1898; all with the primary purpose of study-

<sup>2</sup> Cf. *Appalachia*, June, 1925; *A. J.* 37. 180.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. *H. J.* vii. 53.



WILLIAM HUNTER WORKMAN, M.D.  
1847-1937.  
(From a photo taken at Nice in 1907.)

ing the people, their architecture and art. Still more travels took them as far as the temples of Angkor in Siam.

In 1899 came the first great Himalayan expedition to the Biafo Glacier in Baltistan. In 1902-3 they visited the Chogo Lungma Glacier, exploring and mapping virgin territory, and in August, 1903, the Doctor with his two Italian guides made the record climb on Pyramid Peak.<sup>4</sup> In 1906 came the Nun Kun expedition where camp was pitched at 21,300 ft., and Mrs. Workman made her record climb. The 37-mile-long Hispar Glacier was ascended in 1908 to Hispar Pass, and the Biafo Glacier descended, a total ice journey of 74 miles. In 1911 they explored the region S. of the Baltoro, and also the Siachen Glacier, 50 miles long, the largest known glacier in the Himalaya. In 1912 they returned to the Siachen at the insistence of Mrs. Workman and crossed by the Kaberi Glacier and Pass into Baltistan.

Dr. Workman made very extensive studies and investigations throughout on the physiological effects of high altitudes, the structure of ice and snow on the glaciers and snowfields, glacier movement, meteorological observations, including maximum and minimum sun and shade temperatures (recording almost unbelievably high sun temperatures) and altitude measurements by aneroid and boiling point thermometer (hypsometer).

With Mrs. Workman he wrote nine books, five of which dealt with the high mountain expeditions, as follows: *In the Ice-World of Himalaya* (1900); *Ice-bound Heights of the Mustagh* (1908); *Peaks and Glaciers of Nun Kun* (1909); *The Call of the Snowy Hispar* (1910); and *Two Summers in the Ice Wilds of the Eastern Karakoram* (1917). In addition, he wrote many papers for scientific, geographical and Alpine journals.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Workman belonged to and were honoured by numerous European literary, geographical and Alpine societies. They were both original members of the American Alpine Club and in 1914 were made Honorary Members. In 1925, after the death of Mrs. Workman in England, the Doctor returned to the United States, and spent his remaining years in Newton. He attended several meetings of the A.A.C., Appalachian M.C. and Harvard M.C., until warned by his doctors to avoid evening engagements. Only two years ago he seemed to enjoy greatly a visit from Frau Dyhrenfurth, who had just returned from her record climb of about 24,000 ft. on Queen Mary Peak, at the head of the Baltoro; country which he had known so well twenty-five years earlier.

Dr. Workman contributed five papers to the ALPINE JOURNAL, namely, 'Ascent of the Bhayakara La' (22. 16), 'Himalayan Mountaineering' (22. 489), 'Altitude Measurements—the Watkin Aneroid' (23. 30), 'Nieves Penitentes in Himalaya' (24. 139), and 'The Mountaineering Aspect of Himalayan Glaciers' (29. 284), the second and the last of the papers being read before the Alpine Club.

H. S. H. Jr.

<sup>4</sup> *A. J.* 22. 489 *sqq.*, with correspondence *A. J.* 22. 626-9, 23. 82-3.

## WILLIAM MORRIS MORDEY

1856-1938

MR. WILLIAM MORRIS MORDEY, M.Inst.C.E., P.P.Inst.E.E., the distinguished consulting engineer, died suddenly on July 1, 1938, in his eighty-second year.

He was born at Donnywell, in the County of Durham, and was the second son of John Goodchild Mordey, F.R.C.S., who was several times Mayor of Sunderland. At the age of fourteen he entered the Postal Telegraph Service. In 1881 he joined the Brush Electrical Engineering Company as superintendent of the testing department, and remained with them until 1897. After that date he practised as a consulting engineer, and had as partner for many years, Mr. R. A. Dawbarn, M.Inst.C.E., who died in 1916. He took a leading part in this country in the development of alternate-current generators and transformers.

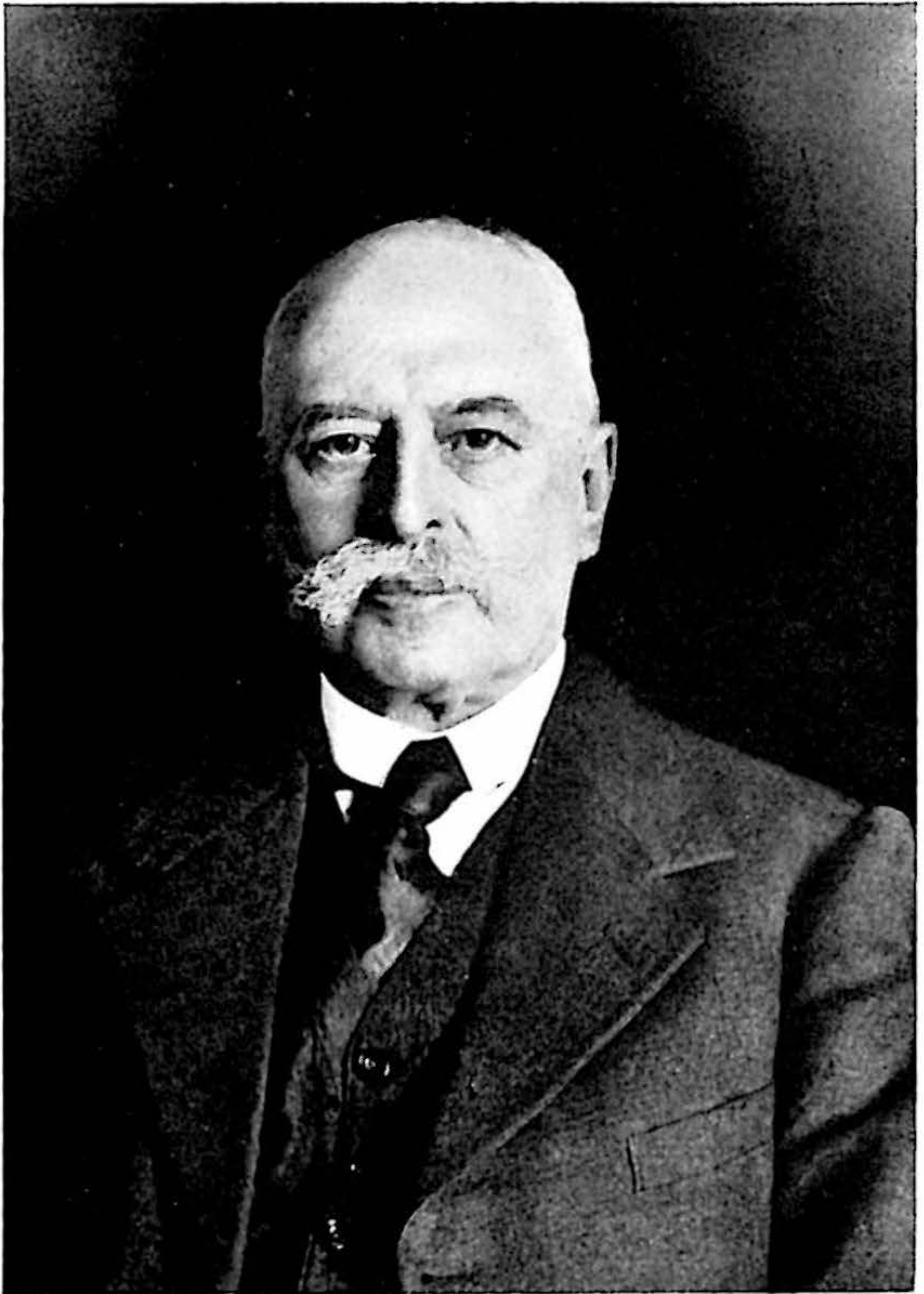
Apart from his work concerning the development of electro-magnetic machinery his name will be remembered for the Mordey-effect discovered by him as the result of long and patient investigation of the properties of matter subjected to alternating magnetic fields. His explanation of these effects was given in his Friday evening lecture at the Royal Institution on May 18, 1923.

The first record of his association with the Alps was in 1890, when he was walking over many passes with various friends. In 1892 this association developed and he climbed the Aiguille de la Tsa and Mt. Collon and traversed several long glacier passes. Nearly every summer after that date found him in the Alps with various friends, often with G. B. Bryant, the original secretary of the Climbers' Club. He climbed most of the well-known peaks in the Central Pennines, was very fond of the Maderanertal, where the writer first met him in 1900, when his daughter (since deceased) used often to accompany him.

He was a good rock-climber in those days—very safe and careful, for he had trained in the Welsh mountains and loved the technique of the rope. G. B. Bryant and often Sir Thomas Rose were his companions in the British hills. I think also Prof. Sylvanus Thompson largely inspired him in his earlier days towards the beauty and grandeur of Alpine scenery.

It was, I think, at Easter 1913, that Mordey, with a large party of climbers, got benighted on Tryfaen, owing to the presence of a great deal of ice and snow. The party was discovered late in the evening on a terrace under the N.W. summit, and flash signals were exchanged which indicated the ability of the climbers to stay out all night. A party from Pen y Pass and Pen y Gwryd brought food and hot drinks at daybreak, and none of those benighted was any the worse.

It was about the beginning of this century that Mordey started visiting the Alps in the winter, and soon became a keen ski-runner.



*Photo, C. S. Priestley.]*

W. M. MORDEY  
1856-1938.

He continued actively to visit the Alps both in summer and winter until the war. He continued his visits to the Welsh hills and to the Cornish cliffs up to about 1930.

He had a great admiration, in this post-war period, for the wilder parts of Surrey, and was very often met on Sundays, accompanied by friends, on his favourite walk from Holmwood to Guildford over Leith Hill, Holmbury Hill, Pitch Hill, and Blackheath.

Mordey was twice married, and his second wife survives him.

He was elected a member of the Alpine Club in 1901, and he became a member of the Climbers' Club in 1911, and served on the Climbers' Club Committee from 1920 to 1924.

He had a very keen appreciation of music, and up to a few years before his death was an active member of the Bach Choir.

He had led an active and useful life, one of lasting benefit to the science and industry of electrical engineering, whilst his well-earned holidays in the Alps and in the hills of Great Britain enabled him to maintain that energy and activity which was so typical of him, and which made him a genial and kindly friend.

S. B. D.

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### CHARLES JOHN STEWART HARPER

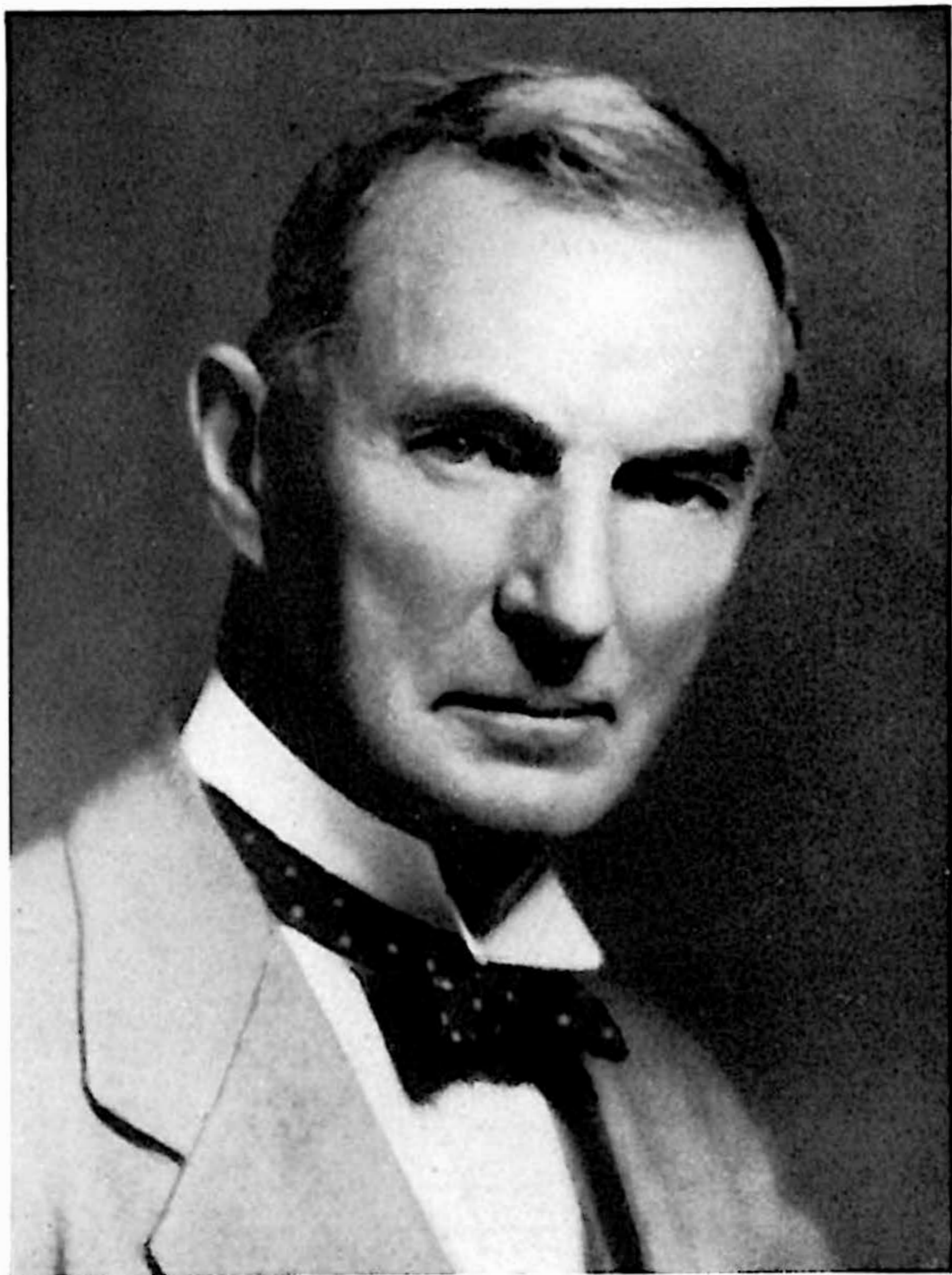
1865-1938

CHARLES JOHN STEWART HARPER was of Scottish descent, his grandfather being a minister of the Church of Scotland, and his father was a doctor. He was educated at Amersham Hall, Caversham, a well-known Nonconformist school, where also the late Augustine Birrell and Lord Cozens-Hardy were educated. After leaving school he went to University College, London, and shortly afterwards was articled to the firm of Waterhouse and Co., Solicitors. He was admitted a solicitor in May 1889 and became a partner in the firm on January 1, 1893. His whole legal career was spent with this firm. In his early days he took a prominent part in the not inconsiderable litigation in connection with the National Telephone Company. In 1911 he was appointed Solicitor to the General Medical Council, and on the creation of the Dental Board he was appointed Solicitor to that body. These posts he held until his death.

He was not perhaps as well known to many members of his profession as many other solicitors, but those who had dealings with him much appreciated his fairness and impartiality. 'He was a very broad-minded lawyer,' writes one client, 'and he always took the sensible view instead of giving a narrow interpretation. In over twenty years of association we never had a shadow of a difference, and I look back on it with real pleasure.'

He was elected to the Alpine Club in 1903.

F. P. W.



*Photo supplied by Mr. F. P. Winterbotham.]*

C. J. S. HARPER  
1865-1938.

## JOHN MORTON CLAYTON

1857-1938

LT.-COL. CLAYTON, V.D., died on April 1, 1938, at Southbourne, Bournemouth, aged eighty. He was born in Chesterfield in 1857, and when elected to the Alpine Club in 1903 lived at Whittington Hall near Chesterfield. In his earlier years he was a good cricketer and had played for Derbyshire County. He was a well-read man, especially in history, and had a very complete library of Alpine literature. His chief interests were reading, public work, the Territorial Army, and last but not least mountaineering. He was Mayor of Chesterfield on three occasions, and on his first election was the youngest Mayor in England. He was a J.P. for Derbyshire and for Chesterfield, and was elected Honorary Freeman of Chesterfield in recognition of his services. In 1914 he was C.O. of the 6th (Territorial) Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters. After its mobilisation he was asked to raise a second-line battalion, afterwards known as the 2nd/6th Sherwood Foresters, which he commanded until his retirement on account of age in 1916. It was a great disappointment to him that he was not allowed for age and health reasons to command either battalion on active service.

Clayton first climbed in the Alps in 1891, and did so in every succeeding year until 1899 and in most years afterwards until his last visit in 1906. His qualification list shows that he graduated in the once orthodox manner of a series of high passes followed by peaks. This list from 1891 to 1898 comprises about fifty expeditions, including the Mönch (in January), Matterhorn (traversed from or to Breuil), Zinal Rothorn, Dent Blanche, and most of the great Oberland and Valais peaks.

Early in the 1890's he began also to climb frequently in Cumberland, North Wales, etc. with me and other friends (several of whom afterwards became members of the Club) and invited me to climb with him in the Alps. From 1899 he and I climbed together for six seasons until 1906, always with Alois Pollinger (the father) as leading guide. In 1902 we were at Zermatt together, he with Alois Pollinger and I with Clemenz Perren. He had already climbed the Matterhorn and wanted me to do so that year. The weather was very doubtful and he had a rest day, so that I could take both guides and was thus enabled to do the climb, in very bad weather. Incidentally, it was Pollinger's hundredth ascent.

In 1903 we were at the Oberaletsch hut before traversing the Aletschhorn. Clayton was indisposed and in pain but insisted on doing the climb after a breakfast chiefly consisting of Green Chartreuse.

Clayton was a rather heavy, powerful man who on rocks looked and was safe, perfectly happy and ready to hold any jerk on the rope. He climbed more by balance and by using his legs than his arms. On snow and ice he was, in my opinion, very good. He often changed places with Pollinger and led on a glacier, snow slope or couloir. He was fond of passes and of traversing a peak in order to see both sides.

He liked to choose an expedition out of the ordinary, *e.g.* in 1903 with the Alois Pollingers (father and son) we climbed the Ober Gabelhorn, descending by the Arbengrat. On returning to the Monte Rosa Hotel, Clayton was gratified to hear that Sir Edward Davidson had been watching the descent. One year, not very long after the discovery by Mr. W. P. Haskett-Smith of the North climb of the Pillar Rock, Clayton was in a party of four on this climb. He suggested that a Swiss guide, then at Wasdale Head, should accompany us, as the route was said to be rather intricate. The suggestion was adopted, and the guide was rather surprised when he was put and kept as last man on the rope.

Many members of the Club who climbed in the 1890's and before the war have passed on, but there may be a few who recollect Clayton with his dark curly hair, always smoking his pipe and always reading some small book until he was tempted to talk, and then delighting to sit up to any hour of the night talking and joking on Alpine and other subjects. He was easy-going, never out of temper, always cheerful, and most popular.

*R.I.P.* And may he still be able to lift up his eyes unto the hills.

J. K. P.

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## ALFRED EDWIN HOWARD TUTTON

1864-1938

(Reproduced with the courtesy of The Editor from *The Times*,  
Saturday, July 16, 1938)

DR. A. E. H. TUTTON, F.R.S., formerly H.M. Inspector of Schools (Technological Branch), Board of Education, died at his home at Dallington, Sussex, on July 14, 1938, at the age of 73.

Born on August 22, 1864, at Stockport, he was the only child of James Tutton, a Venetian blind manufacturer. After leaving school he spent five years in the solicitor's office of the Town Clerk of Stockport. During the last three of these years he attended evening science classes at the Stockport Mechanics Institute (now the Technical School), and the evening chemistry course of Professor (afterwards Sir Henry) Roscoe at Owen's College, Manchester (now the University). As the result of the May examinations of the Department of Science and Art, South Kensington, in 1883, he was awarded one of the three Royal Exhibitions then annually offered, tenable for three years at the Normal School (afterwards Royal College) of Science and Royal School of Mines, South Kensington (now the Imperial College of Science and Technology). Huxley was then Dean and Professor of Biology, Sir Edward Frankland Professor of Chemistry (succeeded two years later by Sir Edward Thorpe), Guthrie of Physics, Judd of Geology, and Sir Norman Lockyer of Astronomy. Tutton gained the Murchison medal for geology, the Tyndall prize for physics, the Frank Hatton

prize for chemistry, the first of the two £25 extra scholarships for the first two years' work, the first-class Associateship of the Royal College of Science, and a £50 Teaching Scholarship for a fourth year at the college. At the end of this fourth year he was appointed on the staff as assistant demonstrator in Chemistry, and in 1889 was promoted full Demonstrator, and Lecturer on Chemical Analysis.

On succeeding Frankland in the chair of Chemistry, Thorpe started Tutton on the researches concerning the oxides of phosphorus, for which their joint names became well known. For they resulted first in the discovery of a new oxide, the tetroxide  $P_2O_4$ , and later in the isolation of the lower oxide of phosphorus,  $P_4O_6$ , a substance totally different from the expected  $P_2O_3$ . It was shown by direct experiment that its vapour, of garlic-like odour, was the cause of 'phossy jaw' from which the employees in lucifer match works suffered, due to the use of yellow (ordinary) phosphorus in the manufacture. Legislation forbidding the use of ordinary phosphorus was passed, and the disease was eliminated.

During that time Tutton also made the calculations and maps for the magnetic survey of Scotland, which had been carried out by Professors Thorpe and Rucker; and he trained the staff which eventually did the same for the English survey, thus freeing himself for his own researches in crystallography, in which subject he became pre-eminent. After measuring and describing the crystals of a number of new organic substances, including pure aconitine, the deadliest of poisons, he began his greatest work, the study of a definitely related series of substances, with the view of discovering the effect, on the crystal form and properties, of the replacement of one chemical element by another. The similarly crystallizing sulphates and selenates of the alkali metals potassium, rubidium, and caesium, and also of their analogues ammonium and thallium, formed one series; and another consisted of the double sulphates and selenates which the series just mentioned formed with the sulphates and selenates of the metals of the magnesium, iron, and copper groups of eight metals, which crystallize magnificently with six molecules of water, and have since become known as 'Tutton's salts.' In all, no fewer than 91 salts were studied, the results being published in about fifty papers to the Royal and Chemical Societies. The results revealed an important natural law, that the whole of the crystal properties vary regularly with the atomic number (or weight) of the interchangeable elements; for instance, the crystal angles, the dimensions of the unit cells of the lattice-structure, and the optical and thermal constants. The law has since been fully confirmed by the X-ray analysis of the Tutton salts, consequent upon the discovery by Laue that the orderly arranged planes of atoms in the crystal reflect the X-rays, by virtue of the fact that the size of the atoms is of the same order as the wave-length of the X-rays. The crystal work of Tutton also included the study of the perchlorates and the double chromates, and was only completed according to his original plan in 1929, having occupied over thirty years.

An important feature of it was the invention of new and highly refined instruments for crystal investigation.

Tutton's researches after 1895 were carried out in his own private laboratory. For in that year he left South Kensington on his appointment as H.M. Inspector of Technical Schools, a position he held until his retirement in 1924. For the first ten years he was centred at Oxford, then for six years in London, and for the remainder of his service in the south-western district based on Plymouth. While at Oxford he became attached to New College, and took the degrees of B.Sc. (1898), D.Sc. (1903), and M.A. (1905). He was the first doctor of science of Oxford to have proceeded to it according to the terms of the new statute constituting the degree. In 1899 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society for his crystallographical researches. While in London he devised and supervised the construction, for the Standards Department of the Board of Trade, of the Tutton Interferential Comparator, for effecting the official comparisons of the Imperial Standard Yard with its local government and other official copies, by the refined method of the interferometer, the principle of which he had used in his crystal work for the determination of the thermal expansion of crystals. The recorded unit of measurement of this delicate instrument is the one-eight-millionth of an inch. He intended also using this instrument to evaluate the Imperial Standard Yard in wave-lengths of the standard radiation of light (the red line of the cadmium spectrum), but was prevented by his transfer to Plymouth. But after his retirement to Cambridge in 1924 and the completion of his crystal work, he returned to this problem and carried it out in 1930-31; he used an interferometer (his latest original instrument) in his Cambridge private laboratory for the initial basal determination (by actual counting) of the number of wave-lengths (over 5000) in the one-eighth of an inch, and the Tutton comparator at the Standards Department in Old Palace Yard for the gradual stepping-up to the yard. The result, laid before the Royal Society in 1931 (Tutton's last paper), was that there are 1,420,210 wave-lengths of the red radiation of cadmium in the yard at the official temperature of 62° F. This number was wonderfully confirmed in 1934 by the result, 1,420,209, obtained at the National Physical Laboratory, using the method of Fabry and Perot.

Four books were published by Tutton, the most important being his two-volume *Crystallography and Practical Crystal Measurement* (Macmillan, 1st ed., 1911; 2nd ed., 1922), which remains a standard work. *The Natural History of Crystals* (Kegan Paul, 1924) is a more popular exposition, and *Crystalline Form and Chemical Constitution* (Macmillan, 1926) was written for the benefit of students taking the courses of lectures which he gave between 1925 and 1930 at the University of Cambridge. His fourth book, *The Natural History of Ice and Snow, illustrated from the Alps* (Kegan Paul, 1927), was connected with another side of Tutton's character. He was a great lover of the mountains and had spent over thirty summer seasons photo-

graphing, climbing, and studying ice and snow formations in the Alps, as well as visiting the Rocky Mountains and Mounts Kenya and Kilimanjaro in East Africa. Having become quite an authority on glacier movement, he was made a member of the International Commission of Snow on its formation in 1935.

For over twelve years Tutton gave Gilchrist Lectures on Snow and Ice and Glacier Movement, and had given courses of lectures at the Royal Institution and Royal Society of Arts, besides several Friday evening lectures at the former. He also lectured on 'The Seven Styles of Crystal Architecture' at the Winnipeg meeting in 1909 of the British Association, and on 'Crystals and Atoms' at Kimberley during the 1929 visit of the Association to the Cape. Tutton was a talented musician, and played well from memory.

During his residence in Oxford, Tutton married, in 1902, Miss Margaret Loat, of Cumnor Place. He was elected a Fellow of the Imperial College of Science in 1933, this being the highest honour which the Imperial College can bestow upon its most distinguished members.

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### JOHN WONTNER BROWN

1866-1938

THE passing of J. W. Brown in May this year has left a sad gap in the large circle of his friends. He was educated in Germany and Switzerland, and thus early developed the love of mountains, which remained with him throughout his long life. At the age of sixteen he visited Chamonix, and his first expedition was on Mont Blanc up to the Grands Mulets. Two years later he climbed the Wetterhorn and the Eiger.

His professional duties as a mining engineer took him to many parts of the world, and in 1892, when he was in Transcaucasia, he made an expedition with a colleague to the summit of Mt. Ararat, accompanied by one Kurd. Starting at daybreak from a bivouac at about 12,000 ft. after a cold night, they reached the summit (16,920 ft.) at 12.30, where, unfortunately, it was snowing and they had no view.

In 1894 he was at Arolla and climbed the Pigne, Mt. Blanc de Seilon and the Aiguilles Rouges. From 1895 to 1903 he was abroad in South Africa, Australia, Burma and New Zealand, where he climbed Mt. Cook. In 1903 with his brother and two friends he was climbing in the Tarentaise and at Cogne, the expeditions including Pte. de la Galise, Roccia Viva, Erbetet, Tour du Grand St. Pierre, Punta di Gai, and Gran Paradiso. Again there was a sojourn abroad till 1908 when he climbed the Bietschhorn.

During the War he served at Havre in the Army Service Corps with the rank of Captain, when his administrative ability proved very useful. After demobilization, he was again abroad for some years, and was not climbing again till 1924 when he was at Macugnaga. My first meeting with him was in 1925 when he joined a party of the S.M.C. in the



*Photo, T. M. Brown.]*

J. W. BROWN  
1864-1938.

Oberland, and from that time until 1936 we were out together every summer. In that year we climbed the Petersgrat, Tschingelhorn, Lauterbrunnen Breithorn and several passes, and later Monte Rosa from Gressoney. In 1926 the expedition included the Ortler, Königsspitze and Cevedale. Tyrol claimed us in 1927 and the principal ascents were Similaun, Wildspitze, Fluchthorn, Weisskugel, Verpailspitze, Cevedale and four tops along the ridge to Mte. Vioz.

At this time he had retired and taken up ski-ing ardently. It was a joke amongst us that Mr. Brown, returning from his ski-ing holiday, met Mr. Brown starting for his climbing holiday.

In 1928, Zuckerhütl, Wilder Pfaff, Wilder Freiger, Riffler, Olperer, Reichenspitze and Gross Glockner were climbed. The following two years in Maderanertal and district gave Oberalpstock, Claridenstock, Tödi, Piz Medels, Rheinwaldhorn, Düssistock traverse, Piz Tambo, and later Monte Sissone, Cima di Rosso and Monte del Forno.

In 1931 a return was made to Tyrol, Gross Mösele, Gross Venediger, Wiesbachhorn and four other tops in one day, and the following year was again spent in Oetztal, which drew us back year by year. In 1935 he climbed the Wildspitze, Loibiskogl and Gr. Löffler.

Age was now beginning to circumscribe his powers, but in March 1936 at the age of seventy he went up the Gross Venediger on ski without undue fatigue, and next day crossed the Krimmlertor to Tauernhaus. That summer also he climbed the Stubaier Wildspitze and the Ochsner.

In 1937 his strength was beginning to fail, and in May 1938 he was unable to withstand an attack of pneumonia, which brought a sudden end to a long and fruitful life.

He climbed little with guides after his early climbing years; his favourite guide, who accompanied him on several occasions, was Theodor Kalbermatten of Ried, for whom he had a very warm feeling. An excellent linguist and full of geniality and good humour, he made friends wherever he went, and on a mountain his soundness and skill on rock and ice, his balance and great endurance made him a splendid companion.

His death leaves a void which it will be hard to fill.

W. N. L.

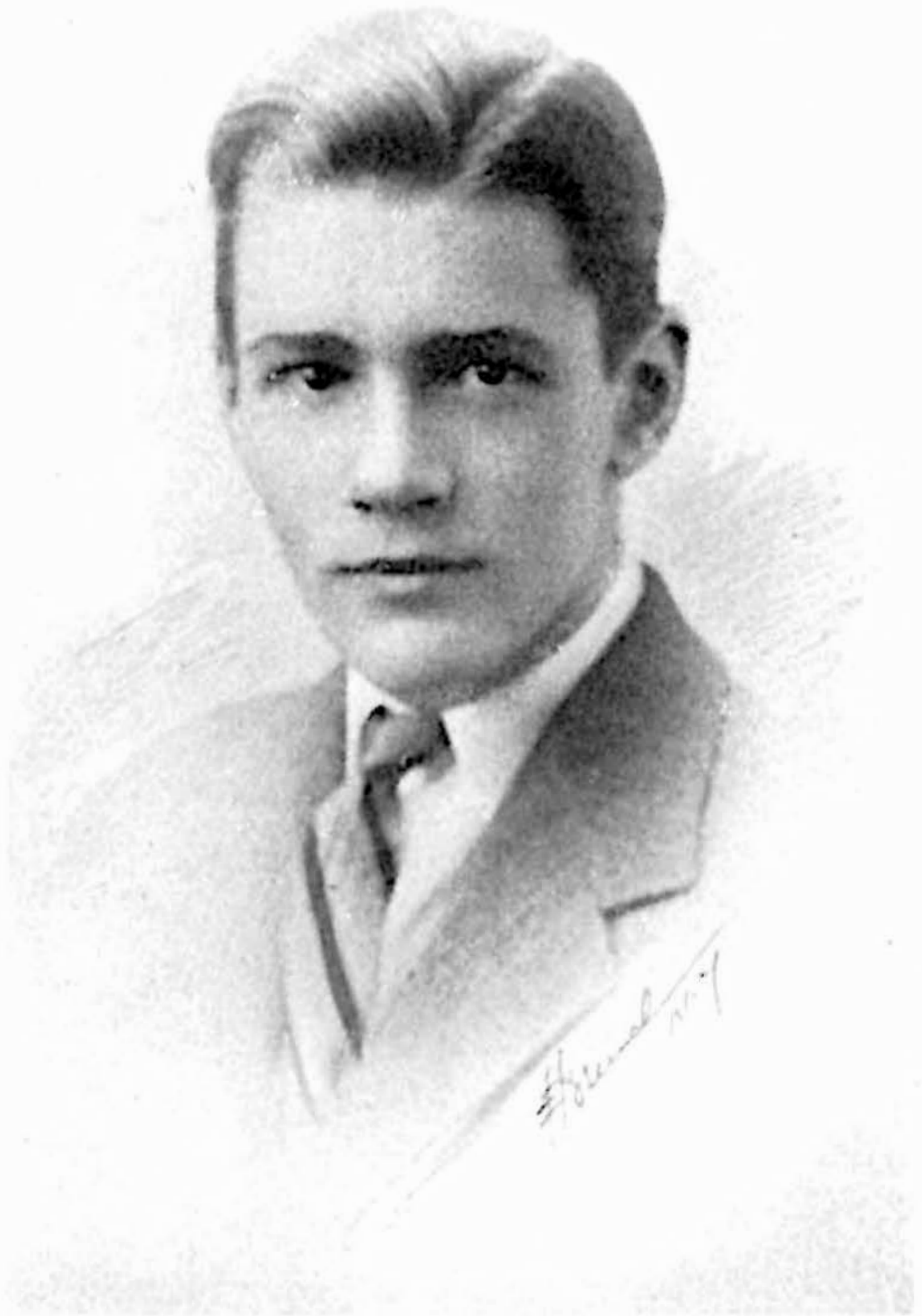
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## HARRISON WOOD

1914-1938

IN the death of Harrison Wood on September 1 in Switzerland the Alpine Club has lost not only one of its youngest members but one of mountaineering's most devoted enthusiasts. While visiting Switzerland to recuperate from a nephritic poisoning contracted this spring in America, his condition became suddenly acute and he was motored to Berne where he passed his last days looking at the north wall of the Bernese Oberland which he knew and loved so well.

Born in Philadelphia on October 22, 1914, Wood passed his early



*Photo, Brunel, New York.]*

**HARRISON WOOD**

**1914-1938.**

life in America and moved to Switzerland with his family in 1924. All the way down the Rhône valley, from Brigue to Vevey, his nose was pressed to the car windows and it was then and there that the mountains claimed him. At the age of eleven he climbed three peaks of the Dent du Midi and thenceforward they became his favourite of favourites. The following nine summers and many of the winters found him in one or another of the Alpine ranges, usually in the company of his older brother or that of his fast friend and guide Maurice Crettex of Champex.

Though his all-round mountaineering ability was mature beyond his years, Wood's sheer love of the mountains for what they are and an insatiable desire to get on the most intimate of terms with localized groups or individual peaks restrained him from doing the greater peaks simply for the sake of having done them. He much preferred scrambling about the crags and glaciers of the Trient group or climbing the Dent Jaune of the Dent du Midi three times in a week to ticking off the big names one after the other. From 1924 to 1933 he made over 200 climbs in the Pennine, Oberland and Mt. Blanc ranges.

Wood graduated from Harvard University in the spring of 1935 and immediately joined the Wood Yukon Expedition, spending three months among the peaks and glaciers of the St. Elias Range and being a member of the party to make the first ascent of Mt. Steele.<sup>5</sup> 1936 found him again in the Yukon, where his tremendous and infectious enthusiasm and humour, in addition to an almost inexhaustible storage of endurance, made him indispensable to the scientific as well as the mountaineering objectives of that year.

While his death is a blow to American mountaineering his loss is greatest to his friends, for he was the finest companion a climber ever had. *R.I.P.*

W. A. W.

<sup>5</sup> *A.J.*, 48. 81-85.