

Zinal,
15th August, 1893.

On Monday evening, about 9 o'clock Fred proposed that we should go up the Rothorn next day, so we hastily made preparations and retired to bed. We got up at 1.30, but the natives were so astonished at our enterprise that, though we had ordered our breakfast beforehand, we had to wait countless ages, and only got off at a quarter to three. I had a moke for an hour and a half up the valley, and very glad I was of it, as there was a colossal distance to traverse before we got to the peak at all. About 7 A.M. Fred told me it was quite out of the question that we could get up, that the distance was too great, but I begged and prayed in my most artful manner, and he agreed to go on a bit and see—we made all sorts of little vows—if we didn't get to the col by 10 we would turn back—at 2 o'clock we would turn back, wherever we were—and so on. As a matter of fact we didn't reach the col by ten, but I concealed the fact from Fred, and at last we triumphantly reached the top 25 minutes to two. Then we scrambled down as fast as we could, and if the old fool of a rope didn't go and knock my very superior hat and my goggles down a quite impossible slope and so completely ruin my cherished complexion! I have preserved my skin hitherto with the utmost skill, but of course having no hat has brought my forehead up into the regulation blisters, and even the rest of my face smiles with difficulty. When we got in about 9 P.M. it was a great joke, none of the hotel people would believe we had been up the Rothorn: 'non, Mademoiselle, pas possible!' They are not used to non-guided parties here and the idea that Fred and I could calmly track up their most awesome and revered peak is quite beyond them—they think we must have mistaken some grassy knoll for the Rothorn.

IN MEMORIAM

GODFREY ALLAN SOLLY

1858-1942

THE death of Godfrey Solly at the ripe age of eighty-three leaves a blank in the roll of our veteran members.

He was a great climber, and his mountaineering exploits ranged over many countries during the last fifty years. The Alps, the Caucasus, the Canadian Rockies, Scotland, the English Lake District, all bear witness to his energy and skill, and in each of them he made a number of first ascents, many of them requiring a high degree of daring and efficiency. His first visit to the Alps was in 1885, and from modest beginnings he quickly went on to ascents of first class mountains, and in February 1890 he was elected to the Club with a formidable list. In 1890 he made a memorable ascent of the Dent Blanche, guideless, with Cecil Slingsby and Haskett Smith, when they were overtaken by a severe thunderstorm and had to spend the night on the rocks.¹

¹ *A.J.* 15. 404 *sqq.*

Haskett Smith was struck by lightning, and they only extricated themselves by the exercise of much skill and judgment.

In 1891 and 1892 he was climbing with Ellis Carr, Horace Walker, Slingsby and Mummery. In 1893 he made his first visit to the Caucasus with Woolley, Cockin and Newmarch, a strong party, without guides, but they were dogged by bad weather and, though they did much hard work, the results for them were disappointing. Solly read a paper before the Club on the expedition.² In 1894 he was again in the Caucasus with Joseph Collier and Newmarch, and this time they made two first ascents, Bakh and Machkhin, and crossed the Bear Pass. They again suffered from the weather, which frustrated an attempt on Ushba.

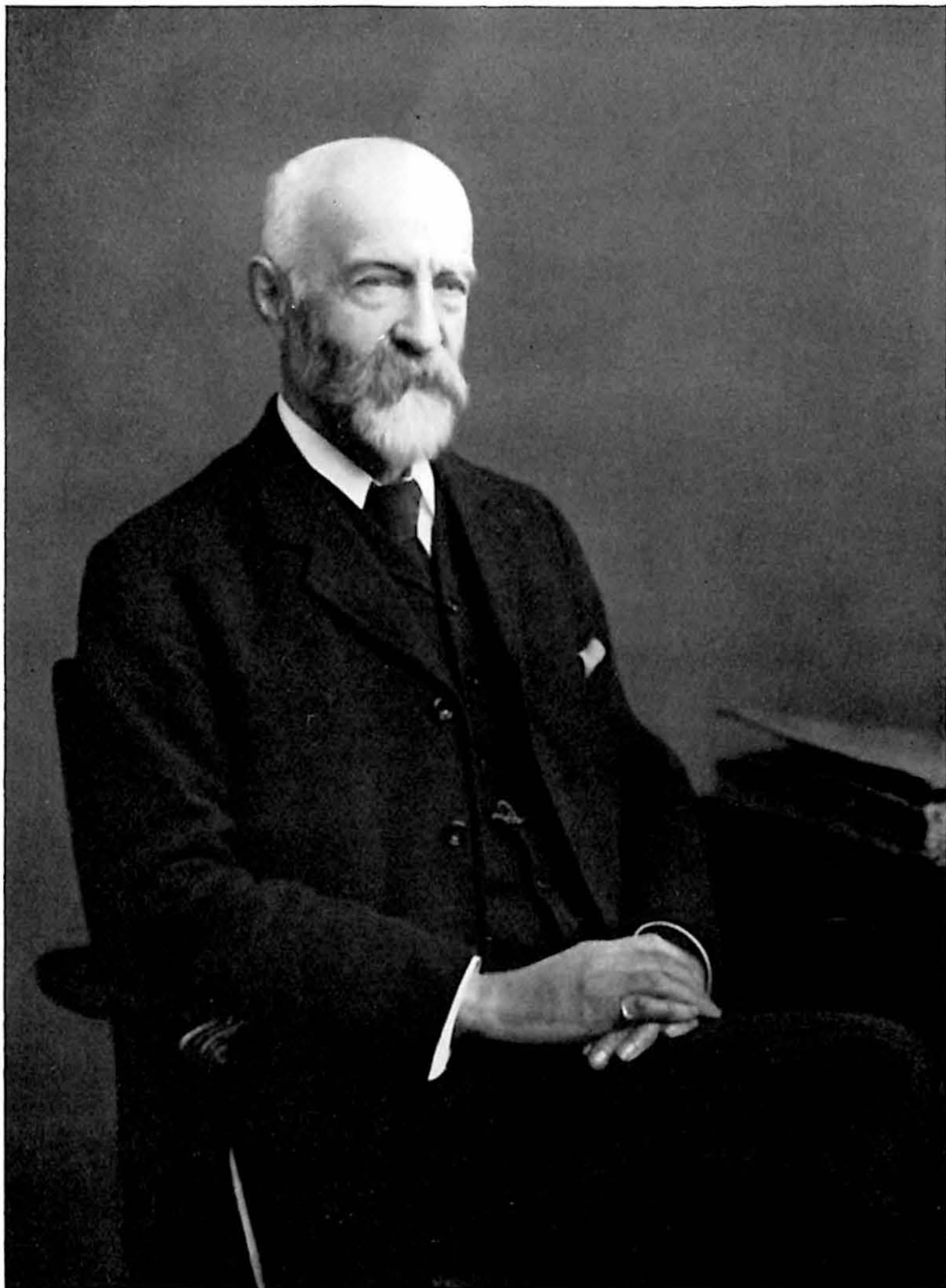
In 1896 with Charles Pilkington, Slingsby and Ellis Carr, he ascended a new peak of the Fusshörner, and the same party, with the addition of Horace Walker, traversed Mont Blanc from the Dôme Glacier to Chamonix.

In 1899 with his brother-in-law, James Maclay, he made the first ascent of another peak in the Fusshörner, and in 1900 a new ascent of the Eigerhörnli. He was out in the Alps every season until 1909, when he joined the Canadian Alpine Club camp in the Rockies, climbing six peaks and crossing six passes. The next five seasons were spent in various districts of the Alps, then came a break of five years owing to the war, but in 1920 he was again active, and at sixty-three years of age traversed the Grépon with a guideless party. In 1925 he climbed two new rocky points on the Galengrat with Claude Wilson and H. J. Mothersill. He continued going to the Alps till 1937, and at the age of seventy-five climbed the Strahlhorn (13,751 ft.). He attended the meetings and annual dinners with great regularity and, I believe, did not miss an annual dinner for fifty years. It was his hospitable custom to give a dinner party before the Annual General Meeting, at which for many years I was privileged to be a guest. He served on the Committee in 1897, and was Vice-President 1921-23.

But it was not only in the Alps that he was active. He was an enthusiastic member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club and attended the meets and dinners regularly, and served as Vice-President 1908 and President in 1910. In 1894 he, with Collier and Norman Collie, made the first ascent of Buchaille Etive Mor by the Kingshouse face, some new climbs on Aonach Dubh and Bidean nam Bian, and the first ascent of the Tower Ridge, Ben Nevis, and in 1898 a new route to the Pinnacle Ridge of Sgurr nan Gilleann. In 1902 he made the first ascent of the Married Men's Buttress on Sgor an Dubh.

In the Lake District, too, he did much pioneer work, the second ascent of the North Climb on the Pillar Rock, with the first passage by the Hand Traverse, and the first ascent of the Eagle's Nest Ridge on Great Gable, a very difficult and daring lead, and the first complete ascent of the Arrowhead Ridge. When the Fell and Rock Climbing Club was founded, he was elected an Honorary Member, and served as President in 1920.

² *A.J.* 17. 165 *sqq.*



Photo, T. & R. Annan & Sons, Glasgow.]

G. A. SOLLY
1858-1942.

[To face p. 376.]



By courtesy of the Editor, Fell and Rock Climbing Club Journal.]

ON PILLAR ROCK

In celebration of G. A. Solly's 80th birthday.

*From left to right : The Rev. E. Freeman, R. S. T. Chorley, Col. Westmorland,
G. R. Speaker, G. A. Solly.*

Educated at Rugby, he was admitted solicitor in 1882, and in 1888 was appointed Clerk to the Justices of the Wirral Division of Cheshire, which office he held until his retirement in 1938. He also served as Mayor of Birkenhead, and in 1933 he was made a Freeman of this borough in recognition of fifty years' devoted service.

A man of sincere piety, of mellow humour, and of an engaging youthfulness and kindliness of spirit, he had a wide circle of friends, and had climbed with most of the leading mountaineers of two generations. Those who remain will mourn the loss of a dear friend, and not only his own contemporaries but many younger climbers, to whom he was always ready to give encouragement and a helping hand. He was fortunate in his married life and was accompanied on many of his climbs by Mrs. Solly, herself an ardent lover of the hills. His example of a full and well spent life will not soon be forgotten.

W. N. LING.

MALCOLM LANGTON HEPBURN

1866-1942

MALCOLM HEPBURN was born in 1866, went to school at Uppingham and received his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Here he had a distinguished career, gaining a prize at entrance and securing finally the highest professional qualifications, the M.D. London and the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons. After holding the office of house surgeon, Hepburn went into practice in Lowestoft, where he married Ruby Elizabeth, the daughter of James Copland Worthington, J.P.

The life of a general practitioner of medicine did not satisfy him, and in 1904 he returned to London to start practice as an ophthalmic surgeon. With characteristic steadfastness of purpose and industry Hepburn worked at the subject of his choice and rapidly established himself. He was appointed to the surgical staff of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital and ophthalmic surgeon to the Royal Free Hospital. In due course he became President of the Ophthalmological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, an examiner in Ophthalmology, and in 1935 he delivered the Doyne Memorial Lecture at Oxford.

Hepburn seems to have started climbing in 1887, and the love of the mountains became for him a steadfast love, almost a passion, which lasted the length of his life.

In 1892 he was elected a member of the Alpine Club, a privilege which he felt deeply, for he was a great respecter of the craft and traditions of Alpine climbing. Mountaineering suited him, and his character showed clearly in the sport he loved and the profession he adorned. Sure-footed and sound-minded are the two words that come to the mind of the writer of this notice as appropriate, for there was nothing flashy or petty about Hepburn: no sensational *tours de force* for him, but sound honest climbing for the purpose of refreshment of mind and body.

Many of his climbs in the early days were made with Larden about Arolla, which both knew so well, and I think if he could be asked which of the climbs he loved best, he would reply that the days on the Grand Combin and Mont Blanc de Seilon with Larden were among his finest hours. Now he has passed on, his memory lingers in the minds of his friends as the warm evening glow on the Delectable Mountains.

G. E. GASK.

HERBERT SPEYER

1870-1942

A GREAT friend of England has died after a successful laborious life. All of us who have been in close contact, in public life or on social or sporting occasions, with Herbert Speyer have appreciated his fine intelligence and his youthful enthusiasm.

Belgium has lost a great lawgiver who was for many years a member of the Permanent Legal Council in Brussels. Having escaped from occupied countries in 1940, Herbert Speyer was soon appointed President of the new Legal Council of the Belgian Government in London. He was a member of the Colonial Council, where he took an important part in the creation of the Belgian Colonial Charter. He was also Professor of Constitutional Law in Brussels University, and a Liberal Member of the Senate. In all these activities Herbert Speyer was appreciated for his strong views on freedom of thought, and always fought with energy for his ideals.

I was personally on charity committees over which Herbert Speyer presided in Brussels, and to which he devoted a great deal of time, and made generous gifts anonymously. He loved all forms of sport, and I could not go for an early ride in the 'Bois' without meeting Herbert Speyer on his way home from his daily exercise. It is not surprising that a man of such vigour was attracted in his young days by mountaineering on the Continent. I know how much he appreciated his membership of the Alpine Club, so I can only wish that this modest tribute to him may revive his memory among us for a few moments.

P. L. PHILIPPSON.

I wish to add a few words of tribute to the memory of Herbert Speyer, whom I first met in the Alps some years ago. I was attracted by his genial friendliness and I welcome this opportunity of expressing on behalf of the Alpine Club, and for myself personally, my grateful recognition of the princely hospitality which he showed when I stayed with him on the occasion of the Jubilee celebrations of the Club Alpin Belge, which I attended as the representative of the Alpine Club. The delightfully cordial reception given to me by all the members of the Belgian Alpine Club, including that ever memorable great man H.M. King Albert, remains one of the pleasantest recollections of my life.

SYDNEY SPENCER.

ROBERT HALL WARREN

1869-1941

ROBERT HALL WARREN was elected to the Club in 1899 on the nomination of Francis F. Tuckett and Wilberforce Tribe.

He received much encouragement in his early days from Tuckett, who entrusted him with messages and gifts of knives and pipes for his old friends in Tyrol.

He does not appear to have kept any record of his climbs, but for a period of about ten years at the end of the last century and beginning of the next he paid regular visits to various parts of the Alps. His chief love, however, was Tyrol, and he did many fine climbs in the Dolomites. He preferred to climb with guides as his companions, and amongst those with whom he climbed were Antonio Dimai of Cortina and Antonio Tavernaro of San Martino. He also climbed for many years with Ulrich Fuhrer of Innertkirchen, who subsequently kept the Hotel Flora at Meiringen. It was with Ulrich Fuhrer that he journeyed one summer from Piz Morteratsch to the Matterhorn, and climbed new peaks and passes on the way, the journey taking three weeks, which he considered to be the outstanding weeks in his memory. He was a man of fine physique and he appears to have shown untiring energy during his climbing holidays. On his marriage, however, he gave up serious climbing, and it was for him a happy thought that his last peak, the Kleine Zinne, was climbed some twenty years later by his elder son, who was followed by his younger brother a few years later still.

Although he gave up climbing, he preserved to the end an intense love for Switzerland and Tyrol, and nearly every summer found him in some Alpine village under the shadow of the mountains he loved so well. Just as he preferred unbeaten tracks when climbing, so he preferred the lesser known places on his subsequent visits to the Alps. Thus, Soglio and Binn were two of his favourite haunts. Binn was, in fact, probably the last place visited by him—in 1938—and he related how he found himself then wearing the same boots in which he had stood at Binn forty years earlier when walking from Tosa Falls over the Ofenhorn on his way to Gondo.

In his home city of Bristol he was well known as the head of the large firm of iron and steel merchants which bears his name. He also took a keen interest in local institutions and charities, and in the activities of his old school, Clifton College. He was also a keen collector of coins and pottery and his collection of Bristol Blue pottery became one of the best private collections in the country.

He was a man of the most kindly and courteous disposition and was much respected by all who came in contact with him. He died after a long illness, patiently borne, and left a widow and two sons, the younger of whom, N. S. S. Warren, is a member of the Club.

M. G. MEADE-KING.

WILLIAM HENRY GOVER

1853-1941

W. H. GOVER, whose death in December 1941 was noted in the JOURNAL last May, came of a family much esteemed for three generations in both civic and legal circles. His father, William Sutton Gover, F.I.A., F.S.S., was Managing Director and Actuary of the British Equitable Assurance Co., and a member of the Common Council. His unusual ability and energy descended in full measure to his son, whose long life was enriched with a wide variety of interests, enthusiastically followed but never interfering with his steady devotion to his profession. In this indeed he attained a distinction which would have been much more conspicuous but for his unfortunate deafness. He was called to the Bar early in life, and I have pleasure in quoting an appreciation sent by one of the leaders of the Chancery Bar: 'Until his retirement a few years before his death, W. H. Gover had enjoyed a long and distinguished practice at the Chancery Bar. His innate modesty and retiring disposition did not tend to bring him into the limelight of publicity. But among his colleagues and the Judges his reputation stood high as a Real Property and Equity lawyer and an expert in Conveyancing. He was for many years an esteemed and respected member of the ancient and select club for Conveyancers known to all Chancery men as The Institute. He was the author of two well known textbooks, *Hints on Advising on Title* and *The Law of Capital and Income*, each of which ran into several editions. Unlike most legal works, which are too often marred by undue prolixity, these are distinguished by an economy of language and a clarity of statement which have made them exceptionally valuable to both branches of the legal profession. They will long continue to be quoted with authority in arguments in the Courts. Their author will be much missed in Lincoln's Inn.'

Gover became a member of our Club in 1900, having already a long record of climbing to his credit, and much travel in Norway as well as Switzerland. Many of his early Swiss expeditions were in the company of his friend the Rev. A. G. Girdlestone. It was at Zermatt in September 1897 (a year of very early snow) that I first met Gover and Girdlestone and had a very pleasant scramble with them on the E. face of the Mettelhorn. This led to annual invitations to my wife and self to Girdlestone's famous tea parties in his Alpine garden at Clapham Park, and Gover was always there. Girdlestone died in 1908 and Gover wrote his obituary.¹

From 1900 to 1913 Gover was continually extending his wide knowledge of the Alps and his mountain experiences. He always told me that his best climb was with the late C. H. Brook in August 1913, when they traversed La Meije from La Bérarde to La Grave. He was then sixty, and had reason to be especially pleased with the

¹ A.J. 24. 504.

day. I remember Brook, who was eighteen years younger, telling me at our next Winter Dinner how extremely well Gover went on that day. Years before I had seen his safe and easy progress on difficult rocks, in style very reminiscent of that of the late H. V. Reade. In 1904 Gover was a member of another party at Arolla who climbed the Aiguilles Rouges on the same day we did, and we lunched together on the summit.

In 1905 my wife and I had off days with Gover on the Riffelhorn from the Gorner Glacier, and the Unter Gabelhorn from the Trift side, the memory of which lingers. Gover was always eager to pass on the pleasure or profit of his experiences to others, and as a voluntary lecturer on subjects connected with mountaineering, astronomy, etc., he was in much demand, and his singularly fine photographs particularly appreciated. In 1907 and 1908 he was specially occupied, helping E. Foa in the revision of Section 34 (Prätigau) of the new edition of Ball's *Guide to the Central Alps*.

The outbreak of war in 1914 interrupted for many years his excursions abroad, but for ten years from 1921, when his real climbing days were over, he was able to enjoy, in the companionship of a late but happy marriage, repeated visits to his old haunts. He may indeed be considered a happy example of those who grow old preserving unimpaired all the essential faculties of mind and body. When Switzerland became finally impossible he was back again for some years to another old playground—the Lake District. He spent his eightieth birthday clambering among the rocks on the Sty Head Pass, evoking the respectful admiration of a young climber who ‘could wish for nothing better than to be like you, sir,’ on *his* eightieth birthday. Such indeed was the usual impression left by him in all his dealings with his fellow men—that of a man in whom vigour of mind and discriminating judgment were united with a rare integrity, simplicity and humanity of character.

C. W. NETTLETON.

THOMAS HENRY FITZPATRICK

1866–1942

THOMAS HENRY FITZPATRICK was born in 1866. His father was a pioneer missionary in the Punjab for many years, including the Indian Mutiny, and died before his son's birth. After spending a year with his widowed mother on the Riviera and in Switzerland at the age of eight, he went to school at Rottingdean. Then at Uppingham he made friends with Valentine-Richards, and they explored the countryside together. He was reputed a good scholar, sound in character and unsociable. He became a Foundation Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, where his Second Class in the Classical Tripos was considered to be less than he deserved. A purpose grew in him to follow his father's

way of life. After Ridley Hall and a curacy at Radford he declined to join a proposed exploring expedition to Hausaland, which must have attracted him. In 1893, at the age of twenty-seven, he became Principal of the Harris High School for Mohammedans in Madras. He devoted himself to this for seven years, learning Hindustani and passing the Military Higher Standard Test in Persian in 1900. In the same year his health broke completely; he was carried on board ship and returned to England. Thus at the age of thirty-three he finished what he had thought to be his vocation; and at thirty-five marriage opened before him forty new years of life, whose centre was a happy though childless home. Yearly visits to the Alps restored and continued his health. He was a country parson, beloved by those who knew him. That he lacked some of the arts which make resounding success in that profession does not lessen his human excellence. He gave up his last benefice of High Littleton in Somerset in 1934 on account of his wife's health, and took pleasure in serving neighbouring churches until last autumn. He died in Chichester on March 15. His wife survives him, who shared his love of mountains and many of his journeys among them.

He was intimate with the English and Welsh mountains from boyhood. He began Alpine climbing after his return from India. His companions were generally his wife, Mr. Legh Powell and the Rev. A. V. Valentine-Richards, who was editing sections of Ball's *Guide*. He joined the Club in 1909. Finance kept him from using guides often, and so from many big mountains. Sometimes he shared with his friends the services of Abraham Müller and Siegfried Burgener. He seems to have been happiest in guideless tours through sequestered valleys and ranges, ascending peaks which were by the way. There was one, with his wife and Powell, from Les Plans via the Petit Muveran and Riddes; from Brig to the Meiental and Wassen via Simplon, Monte Leone, Alpe Veglia, Devero and Airolo. Another, when I first joined him, was led by Valentine-Richards from Andermatt to Avers Cresta and Maloja. We crossed the steep Italian ridges because weather prevented the traverse of the Rheinwaldhorn. On the ridge east of Mesocco we went up the Corbet, whose ascent was alleged to be unrecorded. In 1914 he was in the Tarentaise, and stayed, when war broke out, to help the remaining peasants to get their hay in. One of his last visits was to the valleys of Monte Viso.

We who knew him only in his later life can imagine the enthusiastic head master, scholar and linguist of the 'nineties. None of this remained obvious; it had become part of the background of his intercourse. His character was simple and straightforward. He seemed unable to wear the mask of insincerity. This and his rosy face and black hair, which never greyed, showed his almost boyish heart, ready for adventure. At sixty-two he joined a youthful expedition down one of the Mendip Swallets, which are nightmares for the middle-aged. His end began characteristically. He had failed in health during 1941. One day in late autumn he went for a short walk, found

a lane blocked by the army, and went round to climb a steep mud bank to regain his direction. He was found exhausted and brought home. Then he slowly lost vitality. The religion which came from his father's example, his home and the mountains were the keynotes of his life.

J. A. H. BELL.

ALEXANDER ADDISON McCOUBREY ¹

1885-1942

It will be remembered that in 1906 the Alpine Club of Canada was founded at Winnipeg. A. A. McCoubrey was a Winnipeg man, Chief Draughtsman and Assistant Engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway Engineering Department at Winnipeg. One of our earlier members, he joined the club in 1908.

As one of the Old Guard, his keen alpine instincts and steadfast promotion of the club's ideals, as set forth in its constitution, made him a very valuable member and, in due course, Vice-President (1928) and President of the club (1932). In 1938 he was elected an Honorary Member of the club. As climber and explorer, he made his mark and some of his records may be found in the pages of the *Canadian Alpine Journal*.

His chief and most lasting work was done as Editor of the Journal, a work in which he delighted and which he accomplished with universal satisfaction for twelve years. The writer, as Editor of the Journal for twenty-two years, can feelingly emphasise its exactions and diplomatic requirements.

Much interested in glaciers and glacial investigation, for many years he was Canada's representative on the International Commission of Glaciology, taking over the job when the writer found it necessary to retire from it. His professional skill made him a very suitable incumbent and many valuable reports of Canadian glaciers have been rendered by him.

Ski mountaineering, at which he was an adept, was a favourite pursuit and its enrolment as one of the club's major activities is due to his organisation and leadership.

A fine, fearless, downright character and personality, he was a friend to all who knew him and the writer desires to acknowledge his very real, practical and moral support during the early and difficult days of the club. We shall miss him greatly and our consolation and hope is that in the heights to which he has now risen his best desires may attain fulfilment. *Sic itur ad astra.*

It was a very great pleasure to have met him again at the Glacier

¹ The above In Memoriam notice is reprinted from *The Canadian Alpine Journal*, vol. xxviii, No. 1, 1941. For portraits, see Frontispiece and facing p. 120, *loc. cit.*

camp last summer, looking so well and so happy amidst his old alpine friends in the surroundings he loved so well.

A. O. WHEELER.

The following passage is taken from an accompanying notice signed F. N.:

'Mac was a competent rock climber, but his special qualities as a mountaineer lay in wider applications of the sport. Few amateurs possessed his knowledge of snow or his judgment in the selection of a route. His insistence on climbing with safety, with proper use of the rope and with consideration to all concerned, made him an ideal leader for younger climbers. He was always at his best, indeed, in the company of younger people, whether they came to climb with him in the rock quarries at Gunton, to join in an evening's entertainment in town or, as men in the Services, to find a congenial haven in his hospitality. His ever active sense of humour, which could be biting on occasion, was ample insurance against mental stagnation. He had the resolution to drive himself day after day, in the mountains or in the city, and he had the quick courage for an emergency. I have a very vivid recollection of a moment during our first climb together, on an unnamed peak in the Purcells. On the descent, with a hard day behind us and the rope in stow, we reached a belt of cliffs. Our easy progress across the face of these was interrupted at one point by an exasperating little traverse of a few steps only, on sloping rock, without contact for the hands. He said, "We'll keep close together here." I reached small holds on the farther side and waited. As Mac came within arm's length his edge nails, worn by long days of travel, slipped on the smooth rock and he started to fall. He made not the slightest attempt to plunge forward and grasp me but merely lifted his arms, so that it was easy for me to lean out and pull him in by the waist. He had deliberately and instantaneously elected to take his chance on the action of an inexperienced man, rather than to risk a double fatality by following an all but overwhelming impulse.'

AIDAN FREDERIC WIGRAM

1907-1941

LIEUTENANT (A.) A. F. WIGRAM, R.N.V.R., who was reported missing in November 1941, and later presumed killed, was thirty-four years old. Ever since his school days he had taken the keenest interest and pleasure in all forms of mountaineering and had developed into one of those thoroughly safe men, whether on snow or rock, who can always be relied upon to keep their end of the rope secure. Five years in the teak forests of Burma from 1930 to 1936 delayed the progress of his climbing career, but he did what was probably his finest climb while on leave in 1934 in a guideless ascent of the Dent Blanche by the

Viereselgrat. His pleasures, however, did not lie only in the conquest of great peaks, as he was equally happy in any form of mountain country and paid several visits to the north-west Highlands of Scotland, whose wildness, remoteness and beauty had always fascinated him.

He was of a rather quiet and shy disposition on first acquaintance and was probably not known to many in the Club, but those of us who were his friends will miss him sadly, and our sympathy will go out to his wife and two small sons whom he leaves.

E. H. L. WIGRAM.

JOSEPH TURC

ob. 1941

JOSEPH TURC, *dit* Le Zouave, of St. Christophe died recently at the age of about eighty. My acquaintance with him was confined within the limit of four short seasons, after which pressure of work and then the war of 1914 cut me off from the Alps. I know little of Joseph's personal history. He was credited, as his nickname suggests, with having served in a Zouave regiment in Algeria, and his appearance and general bearing suggested the traditional member of that famous corps. Indeed he looked, and he consciously tried to look, like the Zouave whose face is so familiar on the outside of a particular brand of French cigarette. Perhaps owing to his military service, he does not seem to have taken any conspicuous part in the great days when the Dauphiné Alps were being first conquered particularly by French mountaineers. His name first appears in Coolidge's *Central Alps of the Dauphiny* as taking part in the passage of the Brèche Lory in 1889. After that his name appears many times, usually in association with that of Maximin Gaspard. In 1898 with Maximin, Casimir and D. Gaspard, he took part in leading M. Eugène Gravelotte in a new ascent of La Meije from the N.; in 1891, with Alfred Holmes and Maximin, he ascended the N. summit of Pic d'Olan from the S., and took part with Holmes in a new ascent of Pic de Turbat. But his great year was 1895, when he crossed the Brèche Joseph Turc and the Brèche Maximin Gaspard, made a new ascent of Le Plaret, crossed the Coup de Sabre, and ascended Les Bans from Valgaudemar. In all these expeditions the leading man appears to have been Maximin and the traveller either M. A. Reynier or M. C. Verne.

My own association with him began in the year 1908, when Mr. R. J. G. Mayor, Joseph, Casimir Gaspard and I, in addition to minor expeditions, ascended Le Plaret, crossed Les Ecrins and La Meije and ascended the S. Aiguille d'Arves. All these expeditions were snatched from the very teeth of the weather, and the conditions on La Meije from the Grand Pic into the Brèche Zsigmondy and thence along to the Pic Central were peculiarly icy and difficult. We then went on to Chamonix; but the bad weather pursued us and we did nothing.

In 1909 the same party gathered together at Courmayeur, and going up the Val de Rhêmes, crossed the Tsanteleina to Val d'Isère, made an unsuccessful attempt on Mont Pourri, crossed the Rutor to La Thuille, went up to the Torino hut and crossed Mont Blanc from the Col du Midi, descending to Chamonix. Bad weather still pursued us, as in the previous year, and all we could do, besides two crossings of the Col du Géant, was to ascend Mont Dolent.

In 1910 (the party being increased by the presence of my nephew George Fletcher) we met at Pralognan, ascended the Grande Casse and the Dent Parrachée, crossed grass passes in the rain to Val d'Isère, ascended the Grande Sassièrè and Mont Pourri, and going thence to Courmayeur, at last managed to reach the summit of the Aiguille du Géant. Returning to Courmayeur, we went to the Quintino Sella hut, and crossed Mont Blanc to Chamonix by the Rochers du Mont Blanc.

In 1911 we began at the Hôtel des Diablerets and crossed in succession Diablerets, Wildhorn, Wildstrubel, and then from the Rottal hut crossed the Jungfrau to Grindelwald. We returned to the Lauterbrunnen valley and, taking the Lauterbrunnen Breithorn on the way, descended to Ried and crossed the Bietschhorn. Bad weather then finished our season.

Neither Joseph nor any of the party whom he led (except George Fletcher) was in the first flush of youth, and, according to modern standards, none of the climbs which I have enumerated is in the very first order of difficulty. But to travel over so wide a stretch of country with so much mixed mountaineering adventure in storm and in fine weather, gave ample opportunity for observing Joseph's characteristics as a guide and as a man. He was an excellent climber on rock, perfectly steady and perfectly confident. For such ice work as came our way he was competent and untiring. Beyond any man with whom I have ever travelled he had an appetite for new scenes and new adventures. He was never out of temper, never dismayed, and never discouraged. He had a peculiar delight in any unusual episode, whether it was large or small, a gift for laughter, and a curious tenderness both for his companions and for anything that came his way which seemed to invite help or a caress. Before he travelled with us I believe that he had never visited any mountains except those among which he was born. Yet he never faltered in way-finding. From the top of Mont Pourri on a beautiful day we examined, though at a great distance, the route from the Quintino Sella hut by the Rochers du Mont Blanc. When we came to the expedition, he went without hesitation and without putting a foot wrong from the hut to the top. The route, as is well known, is nowhere difficult, but it is complicated and long.

If circumstances had allowed me to revisit the Alps after 1911, I should certainly have invited him to accompany me, and it is a continual source of regret to me that our parting at Chamonix in that year should have been final.

CLAUD SCHUSTER.