

THE
ALPINE JOURNAL

A RECORD OF MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE

AND

SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATION

BY MEMBERS OF THE ALPINE CLUB

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Pitches.	Remarks.	Elevation (by Aneroid).
11	'Devil's Cauldron.' Climbed by slabs and chimney on right wall (looking up). 120 ft. Severe.	2520 ft.
12)	Snow-masked. 5.20 P.M.	2900 "
13)		(top of climb).

Back at Kingshouse 8.30 P.M.

The elevations given were taken at the foot of the respective pitches. Right and left indicate looking up.

We were unaware this climb had been completed before, until I found later that Mr. Harold Raeburn and Mr. W. N. Ling had made the ascent throughout on May 5, 1906, the lower portion being under deep snow, after Mr. Raeburn had on a previous occasion climbed the upper half and the lower half had been climbed some years before by another party. This is not given in 'British Mountain Climbs,' published in 1909.

N. E. ODELL.

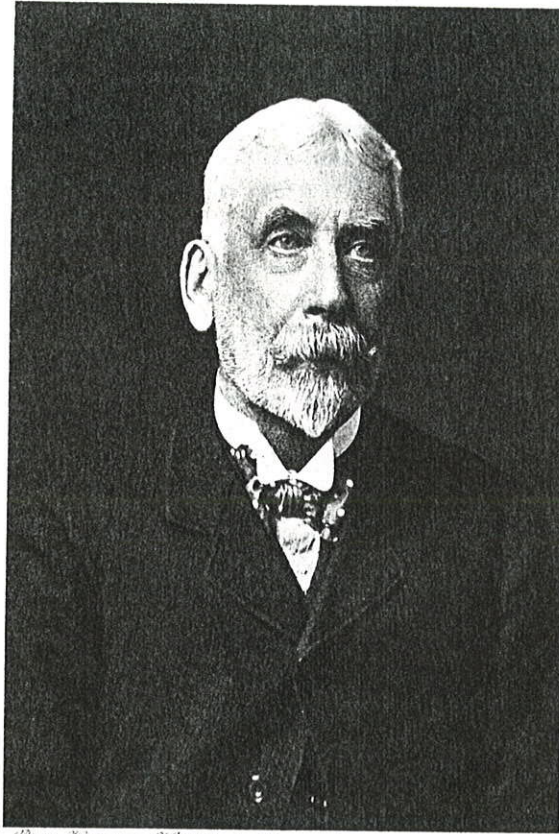


Photo. Harrison, Kidderminster.

Edward A. Broome.

IN MEMORIAM.

EDWARD ALFRED BROOME.

1845-1920.

In Edward Alfred Broome, who died at Zermatt on Sunday, August 29 of last year, the Club loses a very active and devoted member.

He was born on July 31, 1845, of an old Worcestershire family closely connected with the carpet-weaving industry in Kidderminster and neighbourhood. He was trained under his uncle, Sir F. Crossley and Mr. John Brinton, and then started the Castle Mills in Stourport, building up a large business, of which he remained the head to his death.

An ardent musician, he was a well-known figure at the 'Three Choir' and other festivals. He possessed a good baritone voice and was a fine performer on the organ—indeed, one of his occupations just before his fatal seizure was to teach, with many forceful exhortations, his granddaughter, Ursula Corning, to play the organ at the English Church at Zermatt.

He was a good man to hounds in his day, and at his death the father of the Worcestershire Hunt.

He was a good citizen, a lieutenant in his county Yeomanry from 1886 to 1895; served as High Sheriff in 1902 and was a D.L. and J.P. for Worcestershire.

His business ability was recognised by his appointment as shareholders' representative on the audit of the G.W.R., in which he was a large shareholder.

It is, however, with his mountaineering career that we have mainly to deal.

He was, as indeed he remained almost to the end, a prodigious walker, and he had acquired in the hunting-field that quick decision, that calm appraisal of difficulty and danger which stand one in good stead on a great mountaineering expedition. He possessed, moreover, great reach and strength in the hands and arms. He had in earlier years scrambled about the Scottish and Welsh peaks as then known to climbers.

Thus, although he was forty-one when he started mountaineering, he was not nearly so handicapped as one would be led to expect, while his constant physical fitness and an iron constitution account for the tireless energy with which he continued to make great expeditions up to well beyond seventy years of age.

He was able, during a climbing career of nearly thirty years, to carry through a series of expeditions that has been rarely equalled. He was mainly a centrist, oscillating between Chamonix and Zermatt, and had made, many of them several times, all the principal expeditions in those districts.

In 1891 he visited the Engadine, in 1894 Dauphiné. In 1897, however, he fell a victim to the glamour of the Dolomites, and in the course of seven visits acquired, with such leaders as Toni Dimai, Dibona, Verzi, Pompanin, a knowledge of the most difficult Dolomite climbs, probably as was possessed by no other English climber.

His list of expeditions, for which I am indebted to his daughters, Mrs. Corning and Miss Phyllis Broome and to Professor Corning (one or more of whom were his constant companions on many of his Alpine journeys¹), and a rough list kept by himself, of which he evidently was, and had good reason to be, proud, is so instructive that it is well worth recording here. I must not forget my debt to my friend Mumm's *dossier*.

1886. Breithorn, Théodule, Col du Géant, Mont Blanc.

1888. Aig. du Midi, Cols de Talèfre and du Géant, Monte Rosa.

1889. This year is memorable for his engaging Joseph Marie Biner of St. Nicolas, who remained his leading guide every year until 1900, even in the Engadine, Dauphiné, and the Dolomites. It is to Biner's enterprise and sound knowledge, added to the determination, daring, and endurance of his employer, that much of the success of the magnificent series of expeditions carried out in those years must be ascribed.

¹ Mr. H. W. Holder climbed with him in 1889, 1891, and 1894. The association was broken by Mr. Holder's two campaigns in the Caucasus.

The late P. A. L. Pryor was his companion in 1897 and 1898. In 1900 his future son-in-law, H. K. Corning, was his comrade for the first of many seasons.



JEAN BURNET

E. A. BROOME

JOSEF LAUBER

ZERMATT, 1888



1 A. POLLINGER
2 H. K. CORNING
3 MISS BROOME
4 E. A. BROOME
5 J. POLLINGER

1 2 3 4 5

1915



1915



Photo Canon Kidd

THE LAST DAYS, AUG. 22, 1920

Biner, a year older than his employer, survived him two months. He was already known as a bold climber. In 1878 he led Mr. P. W. Thomas in an attack on the Mittellegi arête, when they got as far as the great gendarme. In 1885 he and Alexander Burgener were the guides of Herr v. Kuffner on the descent of the same ridge. Burgener knew what sort of man Biner was before he chose him for such an adventure.

Biner very soon justified his engagement with Broome. With P. J. Truffer as second they made inside a month the following expeditions:

Triftjoch, New and Old Weissthor, Dom, Rothhorn, Rimpfischhorn, Weisshorn, Dent Blanche, Matterhorn (traverse Breuil to Zermatt, with A. Ritz in place of Truffer).

'Biner never attempted anything that we did not succeed in doing, notwithstanding most uncertain weather and the difficult state of some of the peaks.'

1890. Charmoz, Grand Dru, Géant, Tacul, and some passes; Obergabelhorn, Täschhorn from the Mischabeljoch, Felikjoch.

1891. Piz Roseg, Morteratsch, Disgrazia, Monte di Scerscen—Piz Bernina, traverse with descent by the Bernina Scharte, the first traverse in this direction, an expedition of nineteen hours. The local guide was Joh. Gross. I remember Broome telling me that when they got into the Scharte which, through Dr. Güssfeldt's somewhat coloured description of the first ascent, had a great but quite undeserved reputation, Biner, who was last, untied himself and climbed the short pitch to the Pizzo Bianco with the greatest ease.

1892. Cols du Géant and des Hirondelles, Grandes Jorasses, Mont Dolent, Charmoz, Grépon (possibly with other guides), and an attempt on the Aig. Blanche de Peuteret from a gîte on the Fresnay-Brogliarête, 14 hours from Courmayeur. The intention was to repeat Sir Seymour King's ascent of 1885. Emile Rey led Broome as he had done King. Broome told me that soon after they started they saw that, while they could reach the summit, they would be compelled to bivouac a second night, for which they were not prepared, having sent the porters down, so they turned back.

1893. Mont Blanc (traverse from Cabane Sella), Grivola (Val Savaranche to Cogne), Grand Paradis, Aig. Verte, Petit Dru, Aig. d'Argentière, Périades, Aig. Noire de Peuteret, and the first passage of the Col de l'Éboulement ('A.J.' xvi. 514, and xvii. 65). Auguste Cupelin, then possibly the best all-round Chamonix guide, took part in the Chamonix ascents, while Emile Rey was the leader on the Aig. Noire.² It had in those days a great reputation, and was

² I noted the names on the summit:

1879—Del Carretto; 1889—W. Muir; 1890—K. Richardson, F. Gonella; 1893—Foley, Wilson Morse and Wicks, Güssfeldt, Broome, Farrar. The first ascent was made by Lord Wentworth with Rey and J. B. Bich in 1877.

a sort of preserve of Rey's, who had led every expedition but one, even the redoubtable English trio mentioned in the footnote, then at the zenith of their great career, deigning to take him along. There was one place where he used to throw a rope. Biner watched the manoeuvre, and, untying himself, climbed the place in great style. Emile had rather a way of not giving away his pet ascents. I think the tariff was 90 or 100 francs, and, as I note from my book, that Daniel Maquignaz, who had never seen the mountain before, led me, without a check, from the foot of the rocks to the summit in a few minutes under four hours—it was a good milch cow.

1894. Pic Coolidge, Meije (traverse), Ecrins (traverse), Gde. Ruine (traverse), Gde. Aiguille. (Mr. Holder and Alois Pollinger II took part). An attempt was made on the Col du Mont Dolent, but the icefall at that date (August 31) defeated them. Broome also slept out for the Brenva arête, but the weather prevented a start next morning. This was the first of *two* starts for the Brenva, both defeated by weather.

1895. Egginer, Laquinhorn (traverse), Südlenz-Nadel-Ulrichshorn, Weisshorn, Dom (traverse from Fee to Randa), Weisshorn (1st complete ascent from the Schallijoch by the Schalligrat, 'A.J.' xviii. 145).

1896. Col de Rochefort (2nd recorded passage), Aig. du Moine.

1897. Croda da Lago, Cristallo, Kl. and Gr. Zinne, traverses of Popena, Sorapiss, and Croda Rossa; Fünffingersp., Rosengarten, Langkofel, Grohmansp. (traverse), Cimone (traverse), Cima d. Madonna (traverse), Canali (traverse).

1898. Sass Maor, Pala di S. Martino, Col Dolent, Col des Gdes. Jorasses, Grépon (traverse), 2nd attempt on Brenva route, Mont Blanc (from Dôme hut), Aig. du Géant, Aig. Rouges d'Arolla (traverse), Za, Rimpfischhorn, Täschhorn (Teufelsgrat).

1899. Croda da Lago, Drei Schuster, Kl. Zinne (N. face), Popena (S. arête), Tofana (via Inglese, new S.E. descent), Ortler (Marligrat) and, with Miss Sylvia Broome, now Mrs. Corning, and Biner, Croda, Kl. Zinne, Cinque Torri, Ortler (Hinter Grat).

1900. Petit Dru, Charmoz, Triftjoch, Rothhorn (traverse from Zinal).

1901. Kl. Zinne (traverse), Antelao (S. face), Croda Rossa (E. face), Pelmo.

Alois Pollinger II now became leading guide, and rendered to the last brilliant services. In the Dolomites, local guides only were employed.

1902. Trifthorn, Monte Rosa (from Lysjoch), Col de Moming and Rothhorn, Lyskamm (Lys- to Felikjoch), Mischabeljoch, Rothhorn to Mountet, Gabelhorn to Zermatt, Riffelhorn (1. up Glacier down Matterhorn couloir; 2. reverse).

1903. Charmoz (N. to S.), Requin, Blaitière (S. and Central peaks), Riffelhorn (up Krachenloch down Glacier), Trifthorn-Pic de Mountet-Rothhorn, Schallihorn (from Schallijoch) and Momingsp., Wellenkuppe-Gabelhorn ('A.J.' xxii. 255) 'The Rothhorn Ridge.'

1904. Col des Nantillons, Mont Blanc (Midi route), Aig. de Rochefort (asc. from S. side)—Mont Mallet, Matterhorn (Zmutt arête), Gabelhorn (S. face—W. arête), Nordend (N.W. arête)—Dufourspitze (N. face—S. face).

1905. Charmoz (S. to N.), Moine (N. to S.), Grépon, Triftjoch and Trifthorn.

1906. Traverse Delago-Stabeler-Winklerthürme, Tscheinersp. (W. face—1st ascent), Rosengarten (S.E. face), Fünffingersp. (1. Schmittkamin and 2. Daumen Scharte), Teufelswandspitze (1st ascent 'extremely difficult'), Marmolata (S. Wand), Diamantidithurm, Cristallo (S. Grat).

1907. Tour Ronde, Cols de Rochefort et du Géant, Dent Blanche (Ferpècle arête—Wandfluh), Monte Rosa (5 peaks).

1908. Laurinswand, Vajoletthürme (N. group), Rothwand, Marmolata (S. face) and others.

1909. Breithorn (N. face), Unter to Ober-Gabelhorn, Rimpfischhorn (from Adler), Trifthorn, Riffelhorn (up Krachen down Glacier).

1910. Becco di Mezzodi (N.W. face), Sorapiss (Müller—Grohmann Wege), Gr. Zinne (Ostwand), Nuvolau, Col Rosa, etc.

1911. Leiterspitze, Cols de Valpelline, des Bouquetins and d'Hérens, Nordend (from Macugnaga), Täschhorn.

1912. Rosetta (S.W. face), Cimone, C. della Madonna (Phillimore-Winkler routes), Pala di San Martino, Camp. and Cima di Val de Roda, Marmolata (S. face—his 3rd ascent), Rothwand, Winkler-Stabeler-Delagothürme.

1913. Allalinhorn, Aig. de la Brenva, Aig. Noire de Peuteret (his 2nd ascent).

1915. Alphubel (Rothengrat), Monte Rosa.

1919. Buet, Tour Noir, Charmoz (traverse 14 hrs.).

Such a consistent list of great expeditions would be hard to beat. The expeditions which appealed to him most were his ascent of the Weisshorn by the Schalligrat in 1895 and of the Obergabelhorn by the long arête from the Unter Gabelhorn in 1909. Of all his Dolomite climbs the Marmolata Südwand held his heart. He had done it three times.

The critical mountaineer will note with interest other great ascents, such as the traverse of the Dom from Fee to Randa in 1895, the Col Dolent in 1898, and the feat, unrivalled in the history of mountaineering, of traversing in his 67th year, roped to a single young guide, the Nordend from Macugnaga, 'the great white throne of the Revelation,' as he loved to call the East face! He had been warned a few days previously that he ought to consider his climbing days over. Yet in 1912 he broke out again, and as late as 1919, when in his 75th year, traversed the Charmoz.

Surely such a climbing career stands out by itself beyond compare.

His contributions to the Journal were numerous, commencing with Vol. xvi. and ending with a paper on 'Zermatt in War Time' in Vol. xxx. Many of the papers were read before the Club. They were full of delight in the climbs which a good voice and delivery

graphically conveyed to his listeners. He was also a frequent speaker at the meetings. One never quite knew what he would say when he got well launched, and this, of course, ensured him an attentive audience. One was anyway certain of a more or less appropriate Biblical quotation and generally of a racy tale.

He was elected to the Club in 1889, to the Committee in 1900, and became Vice-President in 1912. In the spring of last year a dinner was given to him by some thirty of his friends in the Club, and the speeches were some indication of the warm affection in which he was held.

He was heart and soul in the Club. We were all his friends. Just as one remembers and misses the firm handshake of C. E. Mathews—the genial greeting of Charles Pilkington—the innate candour of a Woolley, the presence of many another good man, so will the place of Edward Broome not be filled at our meetings and in our hearts.

I forget when I met him—I always seem to have known him, but comparison of diaries show that it was at Courmayeur, August 14 or 15, 1898. I was a rabid ex-centrist and so our orbits had not previously touched. I remember looking with some interest at the lean, active Englishman, of whom I had read and heard much. From that day onward our friendship had that supreme quality that, however long we were apart, we started afresh exactly where we had left off. Besides the great tie of the Club I felt his innate loyalty.

No stancher friend lived, there could be no more harmonious or joyous gatherings than those at which he loved, so often, to preside. He was not without his prejudices and was quick to take offence, but even quicker to meet any attempt at a rapprochement. I remember one notable instance of a generosity of spirit of which not many men would be capable.

At the houseparties at Areley where Mrs. Broome, a great raconteuse, saw that our spirits never flagged, at Pen-y-Gwryd where each Easter we made up a joyous crowd, the words he himself once wrote could well apply: 'Men are boys writ large. What overgrown school-boys most of us are,' and he was the gayest and most boyish of us all.

He started on his last journey to his beloved Zermatt at the end of July, full of the old spirit. Twenty-one days before the end there is one last, almost pathetic, entry: 'To the ridge of the Riffelhorn—alone.' We can picture the veteran, young as ever in spirit, looking round that mighty panorama, surely unrivalled in all the world, at the ridges and faces and summits he knew so well. And so he returned to the Zermatt of his first climbing days of thirty-five years ago, to his almost home, the Monte Rosa, to die.

His own physician, Dr. O. K. Williamson, and Professor Corning, aided by the able local doctor, saw to everything, while Madame Imfeld, who now reigns at the Monte Rosa as she did in the old days at the Zermatterhof, was kindness itself. We see him in Canon Kidd's picture a week before his death, gay of spirit as ever, chatting to Mrs. Pasteur. An exquisitely characteristic tale is told of him.

Almost on the last day he was found emptying his physic-bottle into the slop-pail: 'Confound all their concoctions—I am sick of this everlasting cackle of drugs and bed. Still, O. K. is such a good chap—mustn't hurt his feelings.' He died a true mountain death, without ever growing old in heart and mind, wrapped up in his beloved mountains to the last, soothed as ever by the presence and the never-failing care of his loved ones.

As the day waned he was once again making a great traverse. 'To within an hour of the end he thought we were climbing and was urging us all to "come on—come on." May heaven give at least some others of us as beautiful and peaceful an ending in a place we love as well, and may we be all as sincerely mourned!'

He was buried beside the English Church, where he had always wished to be, at which in the early days he had acted for several seasons as organist and choirmaster, Canon Kidd of St. Albans taking the service at Miss Broome's request.

We are glad he is there. We will not fail each time to stand a moment by the grave. We know he knows we'll not forget.

And so passes a man, warm in heart, generous in spirit—a right valiant mountaineer.

J. P. F.

F. W. BOURDILLON.

1852-1921.

FRANCIS W. BOURDILLON had been a member of the Club since 1900, but he first began to climb seriously in 1893, when he was already forty-one years old. From that time onwards he spent nearly every summer in Switzerland from early in July to September. There have been few more earnest and devoted lovers of the Alps than he, for to a man of his receptive, sympathetic, and poetic temperament the majesty and solitude of the mountains had an irresistible attraction.

But he liked to enjoy the mountains in his own way, and that way led to much solitary climbing and climbing without guides. In his paper 'Another Way of (Mountain) Love,' read before the Club in May 1906, he tells in his charming and cultivated prose how it was that he came to shun the conventional summer mountain holiday spent at centres and in big hotels. This led him to try the experiment of hiring a chalet for the summer and staying there for two or three months with his family and some friends. He first did this at Champéry in 1897 after three previous seasons in the Alps, during two of which he climbed with E. J. Garwood, who afterwards proposed him for the Club. After two summers at Champéry he experimented on chalets at Engelberg and Grindelwald. The first he found relaxing and full of Germans of such ample proportions that he—though a thin man—found difficulty in passing them on the mountain paths. The second was too full

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held in the Hall, 23 Savile Row, W. 1, on Monday, December 6, 1920, at 8.30 P.M., Professor J. Norman Collie, LL.D., F.R.S., *President*, in the Chair.

The following candidates were balloted for and elected Members of the Club, namely, Mr. A. L. Bill, Mr. H. J. H. Irish, Mr. W. C. Milroy, M.D., and Mr. H. F. Wright.

The *PRESIDENT*, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 29, there being no other candidates, declared the following members nominated by the Committee to be duly elected as Officers of the Club and Members of Committee for 1921.

As President: Professor J. Norman Collie, LL.D., F.R.S.

As Vice-Presidents: Mr. A. L. Mumm, and, in place of Mr. C. H. R. Wollaston, whose term of office expires, Mr. Godfrey A. Solly.

As Honorary Secretary: Mr. J. E. C. Eaton.

As Members of Committee: Professor E. J. Garwood, F.R.S., Mr. R. L. G. Irving, the Rev. Walter Weston, Mr. R. P. Bicknell, Major M. G. Bradley, Captain E. V. Slater, Colonel the Hon. C. G. Bruce, C.B., M.V.O., Mr. G. E. Howard, and Mr. L. G. Shadbolt—the last three named in the places of Captain S. L. Courtauld, Lieut.-Colonel W. G. Johns, D.S.O., and Mr. H. F. Montagnier, who retire by effluxion of time.

It was proposed and seconded that Messrs. R. S. Morrish and Reginald Graham be elected Auditors to audit the Club accounts for the current year. This was carried unanimously.

The *PRESIDENT* said:—We have all heard with considerable regret of the death of Mr. E. A. Broome. He was a very old Member of the Club, and was elected in 1889. He served on the Committee in 1900 and was elected Vice-President of the Club in 1912. Mr. Broome was one of those people who have a most extraordinary love of the mountains, a man full of energy and spirit, and a great climber. His death has meant a great loss to the Club. I have only occasionally met him in the Alps, and for that reason I will call upon other members who were far more intimately acquainted with him to say a few words to us. First of all, I should like to read to you a letter I have received from one of his oldest friends, Mr. John J. Withers, who writes:

'MY DEAR PRESIDENT,—

'I had hoped to be present to-night at the General Meeting to say a few words, as you kindly suggested I might, in memory of our valiant old friend Broome. I find, however, unexpectedly, that I must be in Cambridge, so, if you will allow me, I will write a few words instead.

'About Broome's fine climbing feats, others, more expert than

I, will speak. Of the man himself, one of my closest friends for many years, my appreciation, I am sure, is warranted.

'Broome had to an extraordinary degree two attributes—love of the mountains and affection for his friends. His love for the Alps was the ruling passion of his life. Not only did he delight in climbing them, but everything and everybody connected with them were a joy to him—the guides, the inns, the innkeepers, the village characters. During the winter nothing pleased him more than to gather round his hospitable board a few Alpine friends, to climb his peaks again, praise the daring or skill of some favourite guide, and denounce with Biblical eloquence but with chivalrous anonymity the ancestry and descendants of any clumsy mortal who had been unfortunate enough to send a stone down on him. Memories led to anticipations, and he would plan over and over again the campaign of the coming year, and often in more recent years a lightning trip to the Pyrenees or the Italian valleys in the spring.

'Every mountain inn he had visited was recalled as his home, and everyone who had associated with him there—waiters, waitresses, and porters—were remembered as faithful members of his own household. As he loved, so he hated, and it was a sorry day for any innkeeper or guide who played a trick on him. He never forgot it, and took good care none of his friends did either. Such treachery ate into his soul.

'His friends were mostly from the hunting-field or mountain, and were innumerable. He did not make them rashly or easily, but "their adoption tried," he grappled them to his heart with hoops of steel. He loved to be with them to hear of their doings and tell them of his. Their welfare was a continual care to him, and any misfortune to them was a blow to him. This loyalty was unbounded, and woe to anyone who in his hearing spoke a disparaging remark about anyone of them. So, too, he expected from them an unvarying loyalty, and an apparent lapse from his high ideal was a terrible blow.

'The fine old warrior has passed away and lies among the great peaks, "felix opportunitate mortis." It was sad indeed during the last weeks of his life to see that indomitable spirit clothed in its feeble body. It is contrary to the nature of things that such force and energy has come to an end. Where two or three are gathered together in praise of the mountains, there will his spirit be also.

'I am, my dear President,

'Yours truly,

(sgd.) JOHN J. WITHERS.'

Sir EDWARD DAVIDSON said:—Mr. President, I am very much obliged to you for giving me an opportunity of paying a small tribute to my old friend Mr. Edward Broome. I wish to associate myself with all you have so well said and with all that Mr. Withers

and 128 in No. 208, are available and can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, Alpine Club, 23 Savile Row, W. Price for the set (the Map mounted on cloth), 3s.

GUIDE DES ALPES VALAISANNES.—Vol. III., du Col du Théodule au Simplon, has just been published. The price of the volume (to members of the S.A.C.) is 5fr. 15c. Post free from the Quæstor of the respective section. The book is so well furnished with route-marked illustrations that a very scanty knowledge of French suffices for its use.

The volume from the Col Ferret to the Théodule is in the press.

Volume IV., du Simplon à la Furka, par Marcel Kurz, has just appeared.

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY.—

	Date of Election.
Hermann Woolley	1888
C. S. Bayley	1889
E. A. Broome	1889
M. J. Dixon	1893
A. McAndrew	1907

SIR THOMAS CLIFFORD ALBUTT, K.C.B., &c., &c.—The King has been graciously pleased to approve that Sir Thomas Clifford Allbutt, K.C.B., M.A., M.D., D.Sc., &c., be sworn a Member of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

MILITARY HONOURS FOR WAZIRISTAN CAMPAIGN.—Simla, June 11.—The following details of acts for which immediate awards have been given for gallantry and distinguished service in the field in connection with the operations of the Waziristan Force are published :

MILITARY CROSS.

'Captain Henry Darrell Minchinton, 1-1st (K.G.O.) Gurkha Rifles, attached 2-9th Gurkha Rifles.—For conspicuous gallantry in action and fine leadership. During the withdrawal down the Badder Toi, on April 8, when his company had been ordered to retire through the rearguard party, the enemy followed up closely, and suddenly opened a hot fire at close range. Captain Minchinton remained behind with a few men who had not already withdrawn and assisted in the withdrawal of a picquet of another unit. When forced to retire to a less exposed position in the rear he went forward again with a non-commissioned officer to recover a casualty, and covered the bringing in of the wounded man by giving covering fire himself. By his sense of duty, and disregard of danger, he

materially assisted the bringing in of a picquet under difficult circumstances, besides checking the enemy and helping to bring in a wounded man, who would otherwise have fallen into the enemy's hands.'

A MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITION TO NORWAY IN 1855.—Mr. A. F. R. Wollaston sends the interesting note given below.

Mr. Eardley J. Blackwell was climbing in the Alps as early as 1850 (*cf.* Mr. Coolidge's *The Alps in Nature*, 231-3, and 'A.J.' xxxii. 53), and made in 1854 the virtually first ascent of the Wetterhorn from Grindelwald. It is to be regretted that no further information is available of the mountaineering career of a very strong and determined climber.

In looking through letters and journals connected with a Life of the late Professor Alfred Newton, F.R.S., of Magdalen College, Cambridge, I have come across allusions to a mountaineering expedition in Norway of a very early date. As there is, so far as I am aware, no note about this in the ALPINE JOURNAL, the following details may be worth recording.

In the spring of 1855 two young Cambridge graduates and naturalists, Alfred Newton (afterwards Professor of Zoology at Cambridge and F.R.S.) and W. H. Simpson (afterwards called Wilfred Hudleston, F.R.S.) made a voyage to Lapland, where they joined their friend John Wolley, a well-known ornithologist of that time. Mr. Simpson kept a very complete journal, and in it occur the following entries, which may be of interest to students of mountain exploration.

'May 18, 1855. Left Shelford early. Meet Newton at Ely and compare notes with him to Peterborough, where we first encountered Eardley J. Blackwell on his way to Norway with Gideon Balmat the Chamouny guide. Of Blackwell I had heard much during my visit to Switzerland last year, as a great mountaineer, he having ascended the Wetterhorn, whilst I was staying at Interlaken. He knew Norway well, having travelled there before in company with Biddulph, and was now taking every necessary apparatus for a prolonged residence in the Jotun Fjeld. He had 600 lbs. of luggage, comprizing tent, bedding, camp-equipage, preserved meats and all sorts of things. We dined together at Hull, but the accommodation was indifferent.

'May 19. Off at 7 A.M. Amongst our passengers were Mr. Lund and his wife (who never appeared until we got across), Blackwell and Balmat, Scott and Torr, and some Norwegians; all fraternized well.

'May 22. Christianssand. Missed the Bergen steamer, for which I was very glad, as I wished to see something more of Blackwell, Scott and Torr—all three very good fellows.

'May 23. Christiania. Blackwell of immense service in choosing carriages,

out from his bungalow at the clearness of the atmosphere, which was as clear as any ordinary daylight here in London. He quite realised the difficulties that presented themselves to General Bruce in climbing those peaks, but he was glad that the attention of Members had been drawn to that country, which was easily accessible from Simla, and he was quite sure that any Members who could find their way out there would be well repaid.

Sir MARTIN CONWAY said that the photographs that had been shown were distinctly attractive from the mountaineering point of view, for Himalayan photographs, as a rule, give most people a feeling that it is no good going to those parts if one wants to do any climbing. The photographs shown were those of peaks that could be climbed.

The late Commissioner of Lahoul (Mr. Hughes) gave some interesting anecdotes concerning the natives of the district and their customs and some extraordinary natural phenomena that he had witnessed there. He joined with General Bruce in urging people to go to Kulu for climbing. It has the most glorious scenery that any man ever saw.

The PRESIDENT, proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Brig.-Gen. Bruce for his excellent paper, said it was a country that had been known for a long time, but he thought it was the first time it had been the subject of a lecture at the Alpine Club. As had been pointed out, it was a most interesting country and well worth going to, as the mountains are not too difficult to climb. As to the climbing that had been done in this expedition, he thought it was as fine as any that had been done elsewhere, and it was only those people who had been above 20,000 feet who knew the difficulties of climbing at that altitude, and he thought that Major Todd had done some of the finest rock climbing that had ever been done. He congratulated General Bruce.

The vote of thanks was thereupon carried with acclamation, and the proceedings terminated.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held in the Hall, 23 Savile Row, W. 1, on Tuesday, May 4, 1920, at 8.30 P.M., Professor J. Norman Collie, F.R.S., *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. G. MALLORY read a paper entitled 'A Fortnight in the Mont Blanc District, 1919,' which was illustrated by lantern slides. A discussion took place, and the President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Mallory for his excellent paper. This was carried with acclamation.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held in the Hall, 23 Savile Row, W. 1, on Tuesday, June 1, 1920, at 9 P.M., Professor J. Norman Collie, F.R.S., *President*, in the Chair.

The following candidates were balloted for and elected Members of the Club, namely, Mr. F. N. Schiller, Mr. F. P. M. Schiller, K.C., and Mr. E. E. Tatham (Member 1897-1914).

The PRESIDENT announced with great regret the death of Mr. C. Scot Bayley, which took place suddenly on May 11, 1920. He was an Irish Member and was elected in 1889.

Professor C. E. FAX, an Honorary Member of the Club and President of the American Alpine Club, was present, and received a cordial welcome from the President and Members. He expressed his gratification at the warmth of his reception by the delegates of the various Alpine Clubs represented at the Alpine Congress in Monaco.

The following Resolution, proposed by the President and seconded by Capt. J. P. Farrar, D.S.O., was carried with acclamation:—

'Resolved that a formal request by the Alpine Club of Canada to be affiliated to the Alpine Club, be cordially acceded to.'

The Regulations with regard to the Winter Dinner, which will take place on Tuesday, December 7, 1920, in the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant, were submitted and approved.

The PRESIDENT announced that the Alpine Club of Canada had extended to himself and twenty other members of the Club an invitation to be the Club's guests at its Welcome Home Camp to be held at Mt. Assiniboine from the 20th to the 31st July 1920, while the Camp is in session.

Mr. R. W. LLOYD then read a paper entitled 'Episodes of Two Seasons, 1914-1919,' which was illustrated by lantern slides.

Sir EDWARD DAVIDSON congratulated Mr. Lloyd on the success of his expeditions, and

The PRESIDENT proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Lloyd for his interesting paper and the beautiful slides he had shown. This was carried with acclamation.

We learn with much regret that

Mr. EDWARD A. BROOME,
Sometime V.P. of the A.C.,

died at Zermatt early in September. A notice of his Alpine career will appear later.

It is proposed to continue the RECORD OF EXPEDITIONS, and members are requested to send in their lists for the 1920 season—**preferably typed**—to Capt. Farrar, 23 Savile Row, W. 1, not later than the end of January. Forms can be obtained from the Asst. Sec.

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