

you will have secured one of the chief elements which go to make a successful tour in the Caucasus.

LIST OF REQUISITES FOR CAUCASIAN TOUR.

I. To be provided before starting:—

Tent.	Telescope.
Sleeping-bags.	Mountain aneroid (to 20,000 ft.).
Saddlebags.	Prismatic compass.
Rucksacs.	Clinometer.
Air-cushions.	Lanterns (Vienna pattern).
Cooking apparatus.	Burning-glass.
Wine-gourds (Silver & Co.).	Leather-punch.
Mackintosh coat.	Small hammer.
Umbrella (with white cover).	Pliers and wire.
Boot nails.	Linen bag, to hold small articles in the tent at night.
Boot laces.	Presents for natives, such as pocket-knives, razors, opera- glasses, &c.
Straps.	Note-books.
String.	
Money-belt.	
Bags for small coin.	

II. To be purchased in Russia:—

Small axe for wood-cutting.	preserved meats and soups,
Hunting-knife.	salt, matches, candles, &c.
Revolver and ammunition.	Several yards of strong linen, for packing provisions, &c.
Insect-powder, camphor, vase- line.	Blankets.
Rice, tea, sugar, biscuits, meal,	Supply of small silver coins.

Greatest requisite of all—Infinite patience.

IN MEMORIAM.—A. W. MOORE.

FEW who knew him can have heard without regret of the untimely death of Mr. A. W. Moore on February 2 last, at Monte Carlo, whither he had gone to recruit his health before entering on the duties of the post, recently conferred upon him, of Political Secretary at the India Office. His distinguished official career, his brilliant mountaineering achievements, his valuable services for a number of years to the Alpine Club, and the esteem—in not a few cases affection—felt for him by many of its members, all seem to demand a fuller recognition in the *Journal* than was possible in the brief paragraph inserted in the last number, just as it was going to press.

A. W. Moore was born in 1841. On leaving Harrow in 1858 he entered the employ of the East India Company, of which his father,

Major J. A. Moore, was a director, and on the abolition of the Company transferred his services to the Crown. In 1875 he was appointed Assistant-Secretary in the Political Department of the India Office, and from 1876 to 1878, during the absence of Sir Owen Burne in India, acted as Secretary. When Cyprus was ceded to this country he was nominated one of three commissioners by whom the government of the island was to be conducted. This scheme was not carried out, but Moore's nomination shows the opinion formed of him by Lord Cranbrook, the then Secretary of State for India. In 1885 a rearrangement of the staff at the India Office took place, of which Moore took advantage to retire on a pension. He immediately returned, however, to the scene of his old labours as private secretary to Lord Randolph Churchill. As a further proof of the estimation in which he was held by the statesmen with whom he had come into contact, I may mention that a similar offer had been made to him by the Prime Minister, Lord Salisbury, who had had occasion to become acquainted with Moore's abilities during the previous Conservative Ministry. This offer, indeed, Moore had accepted, but it was afterwards considered that his services would be more valuable at the India Office. When the Conservative Ministry resigned, Moore was made a C.B., and doubtless further honours were in store for him had he lived. He continued to act as Lord Randolph Churchill's private secretary, and when the Conservatives took office again last year he accompanied Lord Randolph to the Treasury, remaining with him till his retirement at Christmas last. Early in January 1887 Moore was appointed Political and Secret Secretary at the India Office—one of the most honourable and important posts to which a civil servant of the State can attain. Before entering on his new office he obtained two months' leave of absence on the ground of ill health. I had noticed for the previous two years that he was failing both in health and spirits, and had repeatedly urged on him the necessity of a holiday, but with no effect. It was the only subject on which I ever found him unreasonable. When he did take rest it was too late. The proximate cause of his death appears to have been typhoid fever, probably contracted at Hastings, where he spent a week before leaving for the Riviera; but the real cause was no doubt overwork. It is sad to think of his career, cut short by a too scrupulous adherence to supposed duty, just as his merits had been recognised, his services rewarded, and a full opportunity afforded him of displaying his ability and sagacity. Truly his sun is gone down while it was yet day.

Moore paid his first visit to the Alps in 1860, but it was not till 1862 that he began, in company with the Rev. H. B. George, those expeditions which have made his name so illustrious in the annals of our Club. To the list of the more important new expeditions given in the last number of the *Journal* might be added many others interesting and useful, and many others not new but carried out in brilliant fashion. The ascent of Mont Blanc from the Col de Voza, with Almer alone, was a very fine expedition, while that with Mr. Foster from Courmayeur to Chamonix over the top of Mont Blanc in a day, though it has been repeated, can hardly be surpassed. I may also mention as a

remarkable ascent that of the Mönch from the Little Scheideck, with descent to Grindelwald in a day—an expedition which had until then occupied two or three days. This ascent he made with his left arm strapped to his body, on account of having dislocated his shoulder a fortnight before by a slip on the Bies Glacier.

When Mr. D. Freshfield and Mr. Tucker made their expedition to the Caucasus with François Dévouassoud in 1868, Moore joined them at Tiflis, and shared in their glacier explorations and first ascents of Kazbek and Elbruz. In 1874 he got up another party, of which I was one, to visit the same country. Owing to persistent bad weather we did not effect so much in the way of climbing as we had hoped, but such success as we had—and we made a most interesting journey, seeing much that was new on both sides of the chain—was in no small degree owing to Moore's admirable leadership. His self-denial in insisting on the rest of the party ascending Elbruz, while he stayed below in order to be ready to accompany some Russian officers the next day, is but one of many similar acts of unselfishness which rise to my mind.

There can, I think, be no doubt that to Moore is due the credit of the invention of climbing by amateurs in winter. It is true that before 1866 Professor Tyndall had visited Chamonix, and Mr. T. S. Kennedy Zermatt, but both those gentlemen encountered such bad weather that they had little chance of discovering how favourable the winter season might be for the prosecution of our favourite amusement among the high Alps. This was distinctly established by Moore by his passage of the Finsteraarjoch and Strahleck in 1866, and of the Brèche de la Meije in the following winter, and by his ascent to the Grands Mulets in 1869. I was with him on two of these winter expeditions, but I can lay no claim to the credit of the discovery, for then, as on all other occasions when we were together, my part was that of *fidus Achates* to his *Æneas*. Indeed, I was well content to follow such a leader, for his knowledge of the Western and Central Alps was for long unsurpassed, and his ingenuity in planning new and interesting routes inexhaustible. He had an extraordinary gift too for topography, and his description of localities in his charming book 'The Alps in 1864' and in his papers in the 'Alpine Journal' are singularly accurate and clear. He was one of the few men I have met, and Mr. John Ball confirms this remark from his experience in compiling the 'Alpine Guide,' capable of giving complicated topographical directions which could be followed without fear of mistake.

In 1872, when Moore was appointed secretary of the Club and Freshfield editor of the 'Journal,' if there was no lull in the enthusiasm for climbing, the Club, at all events, was in a very languishing condition, and its present prosperity is in no small degree owing to the exertions of the new secretary at that critical time. Many readers will remember what a model secretary Moore was, how energetic and judicious in his duties and correspondence, how animated and amusing in his after-dinner speeches. It is satisfactory to know that his colleagues proved their appreciation of his services by twice offering him the presidency of the Club, an offer which he fully appreciated, though he considered that his official duties compelled him to decline it.

Of Moore's personal character I will say but little. Attractive at first by his liveliness and wit, few men gained so much on nearer acquaintance, and his best friends were those who knew him best. He had a rare independence of thought and character. He loved discussion as much as he hated quarrelling. He stimulated every company he came into, and won the liking even of those from whom he most differed by the frankness and good temper with which he set forth his thorough views. Underneath his good-natured cynicism and affectation of egotism were concealed as warm a heart and as affectionate and unselfish a nature as ever existed; and his loss will be a source of deep and lasting regret to all who ever enjoyed opportunities of appreciating his high and sterling qualities.

HORACE WALKER.

MICHEL ALPHONSE COUTTET.

MICHEL ALPHONSE COUTTET, who died at his house in Chamonix on March 19 last, in his eighty-fifth year, was the oldest man in the valley who had served with distinction in the Company of Guides. A few years ago he was chosen on account of his seniority to take a leading part in the ceremonial at the erection of a monument to Jacques Balmat in front of the village church; and it is possible that some of the readers of these lines may remember noticing on that occasion the erect slender veteran with the bearing of an old nobleman rather than of a hard-working farmer. Otherwise 'le vieux Couttet,' as the village called him, can be known personally to but few of the members of the Alpine Club: intimately, perhaps, to none except the present writer.

No man could have been better chosen as a type of the veterans of the early days of mountaineering, the true pioneers, who, through the decades in which the summer snows were popularly looked on as forbidden or at least dangerous ground, to be trespassed on only—as an early *Murray* put it—by persons with a tendency to unsound mind, kept alive and handed on the craft that enables men to explore glaciers and climb great peaks. It was Couttet's contemporary and greatest friend, Auguste Balmat, who served Mr. Justice Wills for several years as leading guide in the expeditions which set the fashion of modern mountaineering. It was through Balmat also that I (or rather my parents, for I was a boy of eleven) made Couttet's acquaintance in 1856. Between that year and 1863 he travelled frequently with us. We went to many parts of the Swiss and Italian Alps where accommodation and means of transport were—to put it mildly—deficient thirty years ago. *Cogne*, *Zinal*, the Italian valleys of *Monte Rosa*, *Davos*, the back of the *Bernina*, the *Bregaglia*, *Livigno*, are a few among the 'Byways' that occur to me. Much of the enjoyment of these wanderings depended on Couttet, who was an admirable organiser and could always be depended on to get the best mules on fair terms, or to procure, and even sometimes to cook, whatever food the place provided. In Chapter I. of '*Alpine Byways*' (1861) my mother wrote:—'The comfort and indeed safety of such journeys as we have

enjoyed, depend so greatly upon the care and conduct of your guide, that I must gratefully acknowledge the services of our good and tried friend, Michel Alphonse Couttet, one of the best men on the Chamouni roll. He has almost invariably accompanied us, and has justified our implicit confidence in his judgment, quiet decision, and high tone of character.' In 'A Summer Tour in the Grisons' (1862), p. 7, our guide is again mentioned :—' We were as usual accompanied by our good friend Couttet. We knew that he was unacquainted with the mountain region which we intended to explore; but we were sure that his general knowledge of Alpine travelling would be useful, and we were not disposed to dispense with the comfort derived from his attendance. Couttet has now the advantage of being the only guide either at Chamounix or in the Oberland who is practically acquainted with the byways of the Bernina.'

As a mountaineer Couttet was not severely tested in these journeys. The Titlis and the Cima di Jazzi, the St. Theodul and the Segnes, the Pousset of Cogne, or the first ascent (by travellers) of the Davos Schwarzhorn; these were the sort of trifles to which my ambition was restrained. It was only in 1863, when Couttet was over sixty, that we attempted the Grand Paradis, crossed the Col du Géant, and ascended Mont Blanc together. In the last expedition I was introduced by Couttet to François Dévouassoud, whom he had to some extent trained. I do not think Couttet ever did much high climbing elsewhere than at Chamonix. His experience was gained in frequent ascents of Mont Blanc, on Monte Rosa, and on a few of the glacier passes. The difference between him and the next generation of guides was, I should say, that he was far more punctilious and less adventurous above the snow level. Even in the valleys he was by nature sagacious, deliberate, and full of well-weighed maxims. On the heights he assumed a tone of command; he acted as if he were a general in a hostile country where the rules of war must never for a moment be relaxed. There must be a guide for each traveller. The rope must be always used and kept taut, the steps must be deeply cut, the tracks of stones and avalanches given the widest possible berth. He was impressed himself and impressed others with the strangeness and romance of the situation in any high expedition. He continued to act as a guide outside his own valley, where he was disqualified on the ground of age by the rules of the Company, until 1870. But he did not, as far as I know, attempt any climbing after 1863.

Couttet was of a patient, manly, and singularly high-minded and upright nature. He had many troubles in one part of his life, which he bore with simplicity and courage. His old age was active, and cheered by the care of his remaining children and the sympathy of several English friends, amongst whom I may mention the family of the late Rev. Stephen Hawtrey, of Eton College, to whom Couttet was much attached.

DOUGLAS W. FRESHFIELD.