IN MEMORIAM.

E. L. Ames.—Mr. E. L. Ames, who died, aged 60 years, on January 7, at Cleveland, in Dorsetshire, was one of the few remaining original members of this Club. Like so many of our early members, he was a Cambridge man, and the name of 'Ames, Trinity,' appears as 28th Wrangler in 1854; a few places below 'Stephen, Trinity Hall.' His career as an active member of the Club does not seem to have lasted very long; nor are we aware of any contribution made by him to Alpine literature after his paper on 'The Alleleinhorn,' in the first series of 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers.' He was called to the Bar, but did not practise long, and soon settled down as a country gentleman on inheriting an estate.

John Murray.—By the death, at the age of 84, of Mr. John Murray, of Albemarle Street, the head of the great publishing firm and the author of the world-famous Handbooks, the Alpine Club has lost one of its first and oldest members. Mr. Murray was elected in 1858, but his chief services to our knowledge of the Alps were rendered—and this is their distinction—before there was any Alpine Club in existence to appreciate them. He and his friend Brockedon, the author of those beautiful volumes 'The Passes of the Alps,' did more than any others of their generation to encourage and extend the taste for Alpine travel. For at least twenty-five years Murray's 'Switzerland' was the standard work, the pocket companion of every intelligent traveller; and the volume was to a large extent the work of Mr. Murray himself. Early in the Thirties we find the author walking over the Mont Cenis, and penetrating to the Dolomites; ten years later he is exploring the Pyrenees, and climbing (no small feat in those days) to the Brèche de Roland. A recent editor of this journal—the present editor of the Swiss Handbook—has laid down that an unrecorded ascent does not count! Mr. Murray was a model recorder: wherever he went he made notes by which the world has benefited. Those who wish for further details may find in Mr. Smiles's volumes on the house of Murray some interesting accounts of Mr. Murray's mountain travels. He never lost his interest in the mountains. He studied them as a geologist as well as a topographer, and published anonymously a small volume, entitled 'Scepticism in Geology,' dealing with the problems involved in their formation. He read the proofs of his new 'Switzerland' in the Eighties as closely as in the Forties. The last book he published was Mr. Whymper's 'Travels amongst the Andes.' We all feel the poorer by his departure. The literary world has lost the living link that bound it to Walter Scott, to Byron and to Goethe; the Alpine Club has lost its one Alpine explorer who had travelled before 'Murray.'

D. W. F.

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