cornice; and this admission, coming from a skilled mountaineer like Mr. Conway, shows how great the difference is between a spot where the air is still and one where it can circulate freely. Again, if the nature of the ground traversed be such that too great a strain is thrown on a heart already somewhat enfeebled, the resulting dilatation would, by tending to produce cerebro-spinal anæmia, tend to produce mountain sickness.

I have previously stated in this paper that the cause or causes which produce mountain sickness have to act on a very complicated mechanism; and this must be constantly borne in mind. For the functions of the various organs which make up the human body are so interlocked that it is scarcely possible to affect the function of one organ without at the same time affecting the functions of all the other organs. It is, therefore, all the more difficult to ascertain which particular organ is most at fault in a particular malady. I have endeavoured in this paper to abstain as far as possible from dogmatic statements, for I do not think we are yet in possession of sufficient facts on which to base a really sound theory. If I have shown that the cause of mountain sickness is far more complicated than has been frequently supposed, my object will have been attained. I cannot close without placing on record my warmest thanks to Mr. Dent for much valuable information on the subject of mountain sickness.

IN MEMORIAM.

KASPAR BLATTER.

On May 18 Kaspar Blatter died suddenly at his house near Meiringen. Though suffering much from rheumatism, and feeling his sixty-four years of hard life, his health was good, and he had on that same morning been about his usual work at home and walked into Meiringen. On his return he refused dinner, and, after lying for an hour on his sofa, he died without consciousness that it was death.

To the older members of the Club and to all readers of Dr. Roth's book on the Blümlisalp range Blatter's name will be familiar. It was in 1862 that he was one of the guides with whom were made the first ascents of the Weisze Frau and Doldenhorn. I knew him first in 1861, between which year and 1877 we made thirteen long mountaineering journeys together, from the Napf to the mountains of Cogne, from the Ortler to Chamonix and Sixt.

He was in all respects worthy of his worthy profession—brave, cautious, judicious, unsparing of himself; honourable, true-hearted,

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over-modest, and, though a poor man, absolutely without eagerness for money; one who never, on any single occasion, suggested that the day's pay should be raised or the Trinkgeld increased. I am glad to think that, after climbing was long over both for him and me, he came in September 1890 to pass some few days with me at Kandersteg. It was our last meeting. THOMAS BROOKSBANK.

GLACIER OBSERVATION.

THE Committee of the Alpine Club having before them Captain Marshall Hall's letter published in the February number of this journal (p. 321), have addressed the following letter and enclosure to the Governments of the British dependencies and colonies which comprise glaciated ranges, with the object of obtaining such information as is available from officials of the Government and other travellers with regard to the contemporary movements of glaciers. The Committee hope to receive the co-operation of any members of the Club visiting mountains other than the Alps, where glaciers exist, and the Hon. Secretary will, on application, furnish instructions and forms to be filled up.

Members who take a camera to the Alps are reminded that photographs of the snout of a glacier form an interesting record when its relative position to any easily recognisable rock is shown. Such photographs should have the date on which they were taken and the distance and compass bearing of the camera in relation to the rock referred to written on the back.

The Hon. Secretary will be happy to receive copies, which will be kept together in the Club rooms for reference.

The following is the letter:—

'Alpine Club, 8 St. Martin's Place, London, W.C.

'SIR,—At the desire of the Committee of the Alpine Club I beg to send you the following memorandum with regard to the observation of glacier movements, and to request that it may be brought under the consideration of your Government.

'A fairly complete record of the movements of glaciers in the European Alps is now kept and published through the efforts of the Continental Alpine Clubs and the individual energy of M. Forel of Morges. It is very desirable that a similar record should be kept in other glacial ranges, with a view to ascertain how far the movements of advance or retreat correspond or differ in date and period, and for other purposes. In Europe much assistance has been given in the ascertainment of local facts by the surveyors engaged on government work in their respective countries. In more distant or less populated regions surveyors and Government agents must obviously be in many cases the principal sources of information.

'The Committee of the Alpine Club believe that the circulation amongst your officers (together with the general publication in any

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