

glad to welcome valuable additions to the Club collection in two of Mr. McCormick's black and white drawings. The artist has given of his best. Mr. McCormick's excellent drawings and sketches, which were separately exhibited in the earlier part of the year, have already been noticed in this journal.

We have reserved to the last a notice of a work to our minds the finest mountain painting of the year. This is a large picture by Mr. G. F. Watts, exhibited in Mr. Dunthorne's gallery. It is a study—suggested, we believe, by an effect seen from the shore of the Lake of Geneva—of a great mass of cumulus cloud glowing with the transient fire of sunset, sweeping up over a snow-covered peak, and resting lightly on the summit. Here is the spirit of the mountains indeed transferred to canvas, as if by the hand of Turner. Imaginary the painting of the mountain may be; imaginative it certainly is. The distant peaks are touched in with the unconscious skill of a master. This is a great work, and one that we are glad to think is likely to be included in the next Winter Exhibition. In the same room was an interesting though less important moonlight study of a rocky peak entitled 'Ararat.' Close by the 'Swiss mountain' was hung the superb portrait of Mr. Walter Crane. While we number among English artists a man with a range of power capable of producing two such works we need not be ashamed of English art.

C. T. D.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held at the Club Rooms on Tuesday, May 1, at 8.30 P.M., Mr. W. M. Conway, *Vice-President*, in the chair.

Mr. WALTER LEAF read a paper entitled 'The Home of the Bears,' which was illustrated by lantern slides. A short discussion followed, in which Messrs. Conway, Solly, and Butler took part, the proceedings terminating with a vote of thanks to Mr. Leaf for his interesting paper.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held at the Club Rooms on Tuesday, June 5, at 8.30 P.M., Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield, *President*, in the chair.

The following candidates were balloted for and elected members of the Club: Professor Harold Baily Dixon, Messrs. Victor Herbert Gatty and Alfred Holmes.

The PRESIDENT announced that the Committee had decided to hold the Winter Picture Exhibition in the Nineteenth Century Art Gallery, Conduit Street, and that it would remain open for about a fortnight, the actual dates being probably from the 11th to the 22nd of December. Further particulars would be announced by circular.

He also intimated that Lieutenant-Colonel Barrow had kindly presented the Club with a photograph from an old picture of Jean Michel Cachat (*dit le Géant*), one of De Saussure's guides on his ascent of

Mont Blanc, and also on his ascent and sojourn on the summit of the Col du Géant.

He stated that the map to accompany Mr. Conway's 'Climbing and Exploration in the Karakoram Himalayas' could be obtained at the Royal Geographical Society, price 5s.

He then referred to the question whether the general meetings of the Club during the next session should be held in the Club Rooms or in some larger hall; the attendance at the meetings had become much larger, and it was, he said, a question for the Club to decide whether they would not prefer to meet in more commodious and better ventilated rooms, although they might not be so comfortable and homely as their own. He said that in all probability the next December meeting would be held in the Nineteenth Century Art Gallery, and that probably St. Martin's Town Hall would be as convenient as any other place for the remaining general meetings, and from its vicinity would enable members who were desirous of doing so to adjourn to the Club Rooms afterwards.

Mr. HORACE WALKER put the question in the form of a resolution, and moved that the Club considers it desirable that a larger room than the present be used for the general meetings of the Club, the selection of a suitable room being left to the Committee. This was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. A. F. MUMMERY read a paper entitled 'The First Ascent of Dychtau' (formerly known as Koshtan-tau), which was illustrated by lantern slides.

Mr. H. WOOLLEY said that when his party arrived in the Caucasus in 1888 they heard that a certain Englishman had been up the glaciers and done something that surprised the natives. What it was they had been unable to find out, but on reaching the summit of Dych-tau from the north they found Mr. Mummery's cairn on the top. They had previously made an attempt on the south face, but fortunately it had been unsuccessful, as it led to their finding an entirely new route. It was strange, he said, that Mr. Mummery should have tried the north arête first, and then have ascended by the south face, whereas his party did just the opposite. They had all recognised that Mr. Mummery had accomplished a magnificent climb, and they now knew for the first time the great difficulty of it.

Mr. F. O. SCHUSTER expressed his admiration of the very excellent paper which had been read. He thought that Mr. Mummery had performed a greater feat even than his ascent in reading one of the most delightful and interesting papers the Club had ever listened to.

The PRESIDENT entirely agreed with what Mr. Schuster had said. Many papers had been read in the Club by men of exceptional powers of description, but they had listened to no paper which could have better brought home to every one the delightful sensations of a fine climb and the peculiarities of Caucasian travel. He hoped that everybody had enjoyed it as much as the few who had been in the Caucasus and knew how true and vivid the sketch was. As regards the change in the names of the Dych-tau and Koshtan-tau of the old five-verst map, the Russian surveyors had finally decided to call the peak known

formerly as Dych-tau by the name of Koshtan-tau, and to call the Koshtan-tau of their original survey Dych-tau. They had done this in spite of representations from England of the inconvenience of the change.

Mr. HORACE WALKER asked whether they were now to say that Messrs. Donkin and Fox lost their lives on Koshtan-tau.

The PRESIDENT replied in the affirmative, as the names definitely adopted in the Russian official map must be accepted. He was sure that the Club would pass the warmest possible vote of thanks to Mr. Mummery for his paper. This was unanimously agreed to and the proceedings terminated.

The SUMMER DINNER was held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Thursday, June 7, Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield (President) in the chair. Fifty-five members and guests were present.