

that for next year he must get into better training. Want of breath in climbing is, without doubt, a symptom of deficient heart power. I must assume that the first fall had already given Professor Nasse a tremendous shock; then, though usually a most alert and active man, he was utterly unable to help himself at all; his ice axe, the only thing about him which I saw for a moment, hung powerless, like a weak reed in the wind. Next day it was seen that his axe had left hardly any marks on the ice wall. Schnitzler's second fall evidently hastened the end. In addition to the physical shock there was the restriction of his breathing, which was doubtless occasioned by the severe pull, both from above and below, without any tightening of the loop of the rope. From medical experience we know that obstruction to the expansion of the chest walls may lead to paralysis of the heart. Added to all this, Professor Nasse had previously suffered from a severe attack of pleurisy and inflammation of the kidneys, diseases which frequently weaken the muscles of the heart. But it is also possible that he received serious internal injuries; indeed, this is quite as likely a view as the idea of paralysis of the heart. Nasse had the rope fastened round the lower part of his chest, so that the loop lay over the liver and spleen. It can easily be understood that the fall for the second time of so heavy a man as Schnitzler, with his weight of perhaps 90 kilos., may have caused a rupture of these organs in the first instance. Our two guides, Schnitzler and Klimmer, deserve the highest praise. They did the utmost in their power, and we have to thank chiefly their skill that we did not all four perish.'

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held in the Hall on Tuesday evening, February 7, at 8.30 P.M., the Right Hon. James Bryce, *President*, in the chair.

The following candidates were balloted for and elected members of the Club:—Messrs. L. C. M. S. Amery, A. W. Andrews, J. H. Doncaster, Alfred East, A. E. Field, R. P. Hope, C. E. Martineau, J. R. Pank, H. Speyer, F. J. Stevens.

Professor NORMAN COLLIE read a paper entitled 'Climbing in the Rocky Mountains of Canada during 1897 and 1898,' which was illustrated with lantern slides.

Mr. WOOLLEY thought that no one had more carefully studied the district than Mr. Collie; and the paper had therefore been a most interesting one. The great drawback in travelling were the forests, which rendered progress very slow. Their presence had, however, preserved the district from exploration by the tourist. As it was, one day one was a tourist on the railway, and the next an explorer in a new district where one could discover and name mountains. The custom had hitherto been to name mountains

after persons. Making all allowance for mosquitoes and the smoke of forest fires, the climate was very healthy.

Mr. BAKER said that the Canadian Rockies as seen from the prairies had not impressed him, for no peak appeared to assert itself above another; but when in the midst of them they presented a more imposing spectacle, and he felt he had never seen before anything to resemble them. They were more like the mountains in Norway, steep rocky sides and narrow valleys, the beds of which are clothed with rank growth of pine and spruce forests. To the climber the condition of the rocks proved very rotten, owing to the great extremes of temperature to which they were exposed. As there were no maps of the country the party sought the assistance of T. E. Wilson, of Banff, who was originally employed by the surveyors of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1881-1882. He was able to make a rough plan of the valleys to be traversed, indicating the number of lakes to be passed and the glacier streams and 'washouts' to be met with.

Wilson gave an account of one of his journeys up the Bow Valley, over the Howse Pass, and down the Blaeberry Valley to the Columbia River, which he undertook on foot and alone in 1882, on behalf of his chief, Major Rogers. It was a distinctly hazardous exploit, and took him eleven days to accomplish. In describing the dangers of the journey he said 'he had made many trips into the mountains, but never since had he carried so great a load of doubt, and so little grub and blankets, as on that occasion.'

Mr. STUTFIELD said that sport had been very disappointing: he had not seen a single deer, and only once a small bear.

The PRESIDENT agreed with Mr. Baker as to the Canadian Rockies being quite unlike any European mountains. The Glärnisch or the Cirque de Gavarnie were perhaps most like them. They differed, too, from other parts of the Rocky Mountains. Mr. Collie deserved the thanks of the Club for putting an end to the myth about the two peaks 17,000 ft. high, and for having traced its origin. He had shown there was a fine field awaiting future climbers, to which, however, there was the objection that it took at least twelve days from Liverpool to get there.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Collie, and the proceedings terminated.

A GENERAL MEETING was held in the Hall of the Club, 23 Savile Row, on Tuesday evening, March 7, at 8.30 P.M., the Right Hon. James Bryce, *President*, in the chair.

The following candidates were balloted for and elected members of the Club:—Messrs. W. G. Collingwood, S. B. Donkin, Joseph Gibson, and R. T. Glazebrook.

The PRESIDENT said he was sure that members would hear with regret that since the last meeting one of their members, Dr. Arkle, had died. He had to inform the Club that the Committee had elected as honorary members Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A., who had done so much to interpret mountain beauty by his paintings, and

Dr. Sven Hedin, whose remarkable work of exploration and mountaineering in Central Asia all members were acquainted with. He had also to announce that the former Presidents had presented to the Club a handsome carved chair for the use of the President at the Club meetings.

The accounts for 1898 were then submitted by Dr. WILLS, honorary secretary and treasurer. He said: The most salient point about the accounts for the past year is the extinction of the debt incurred on our removal to 23 Savile Row. Mr. Wicks prophesied that it would take three years from January 1, 1896, to pay off this sum of 558*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, and his prophecy has been very accurately justified, as on January 1, 1899, the balance in favour of the Club, after paying off the remaining 123*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, was 1*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* We therefore start our present year with no past liabilities, but we must bear in mind that we have before us a possible temporary locking up of some 300*l.* or 400*l.* during the publication of vol. ii. of 'Ball's Alpine Guide,' of which some part may not be repaid. The income for 1898 was 74*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* more than 1897, this increase being made up of 35*l.* in subscriptions and 38*l.* in entrance fees. There was an increase of 44*l.* in 2-guinea subscriptions, and a decrease of 9*l.* in 1-guinea. Of course, as all new members come on at 2 guineas, there is a gradual tendency for these subscriptions to increase. The sale of equipment reports &c. was an even smaller item in 1898 than in 1897, and the profit on teas has sunk to zero. With regard to the use of the hall, it will be seen that in 1898, as in 1897, the hall was only lent on nominal terms on a few occasions, but the Committee having received a request for the letting of the hall (apart from the rest of the rooms) for a longer period in January 1900, have decided to consider that proposal, and any other proposals that may be made to them, provided that the letting of the hall in this way does not interfere with its use by the Club. We shall thus recoup ourselves for our increased expenditure on exhibitions. Our expenditure has increased by 111*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, which at first sight appears rather alarming, particularly as the excess of income over expenditure has decreased by 38*l.* 5*s.* But after all we never expected to do more than pay off our debt in the course of three years, and that we have done. Actually, however, a considerable portion of this increase is due to extraordinary causes, which need not recur, and which have been held over until the extinction of the debt was fairly in view. The principal items are 21*l.* 17*s.*, for a ventilating shaft to the hall, an increase of 32*l.* in furnishing, due to re-covering the settees in the hall, which sorely needed it, and 21*l.* for preparation of the new library catalogue, making in all 74*l.* 17*s.* We have, further, certain extra expenditure which cannot be called extraordinary, but, at the same time, was unavoidable. I refer to the increase of the 'Repairs and Cleaning' item, owing to the inclusion in this of the cost of our triennial outside painting, 43*l.* 14*s.*; also an extra expenditure of 25*l.* on our exhibitions, owing to our having three private view teas instead of one. Judging from the number of members and their friends

attending these feasts for the soul and body, they are fairly popular, and the expenditure is, I think, amply justified. Lastly, the Committee felt it right, at the beginning of 1898, to raise the salary of our assistant secretary at the same time that his hours of attendance were increased and readjusted. It was very pleasant to me personally to be able to recommend this increase to the Committee, as Mr. Mackintosh is naturally of the utmost assistance to me, and now that he has a thorough grasp of the Club work his services have undoubtedly increased in value. I know the hon. librarian will second me in saying that Mr. Mackintosh's interest in the library has had a great deal to do with its recent development. I may as well add that the sum of 21*l.* for the preparation of the new library catalogue is only preliminary to a further expenditure this year for the printing of this catalogue, as the hon. librarian feels that a new catalogue is now absolutely necessary for the working of the library. The item of 'Stationery, Printing, Postages, and Petties' has been subdivided this year into 'Printing' and 'Stationery, Postages, and Petties,' as it was thought that when this item amounted to 65*l.* it was getting rather unwieldy. No other items call for mention except the 'Alpine Journal.' It will be seen that the cost to the Club was 59*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, as against 82*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* in 1897, a decrease of about 22*l.*, due to a decrease in cost of production of 10*l.*, and an increase in the amount of sales of 12*l.* It is a time-honoured remark for the treasurer to make that the cost of the 'Alpine Journal' is extraordinarily variable, so I will not repeat it, but if we may judge from the February number, just issued, the pendulum will swing the other way this year.

The fall in receipts for advertisements is unsatisfactory. It has steadily decreased from 49*l.* in 1896 to 31*l.* in 1898. The contractor says he cannot get more advertisements. Perhaps, if we have an Equipment Exhibition next December, it may stir up the exhibiting firms to fresh expenditure. The only comfort comes to me, not as treasurer, but as a member. It is obvious that, as a body, the members of the Alpine Club are too wise to buy the things they want or do not want simply because they are thrust before them in an advertisement; hence, advertising in their journal does not pay.

With respect to the Alpine Guide Republication Fund, the items of this account were mentioned at the December meeting.

Mr. WALLROTH considered that the Club might congratulate itself on having paid off its debt and having the prospect of an increasing income. He had pleasure in moving the adoption of the accounts.

Mr. C. E. MATHEWS, in seconding the adoption of the report, asked why the Alpine Guide Republication Fund showed no receipts from sales.

Dr. WILLS explained that Messrs. Longmans' account for sales of the 'Alpine Guide' would only be received in May of the present year.

Mr. MUNRO asked whether the 'Alpine Journal' could not be brought out in the beginning of the month, like the Royal Geographical Society's and the Scottish Mountaineering Club's journals.

Mr. FRESHFIELD thought from his former experience the chief difficulty lay in getting members—officers of the Club and others—to send in their contributions in proper time.

Mr. SCHUSTER thought the Club should express its gratitude to the honorary secretary for the manner in which he had carried on the finances of the Club. He thought the accounts were very satisfactory. There had been no stinginess and thorough efficiency, and yet the debt had been paid off.

The PRESIDENT considered the Club was in a better financial condition than the British Empire, as it had a balance on the credit side.

The accounts were then adopted.

Mr. W. CECIL SLINGSBY read a paper entitled 'Mountaineering in Arctic Norway—Lyngen Fjord,' which was illustrated by lantern slides.

Mr. HASKETT-SMITH said that Mr. Slingsby had been a most admirable leader. He had made a profound impression upon the Swedish gentleman who accompanied them, who had said that Mr. Slingsby was perfect except on one occasion, when he led them to a vertical wall of rock constructed as if of sheets of iron, and told them that was the way they had to go. Then their Swedish friend objected. 'Never have I seen a man so aged go so far; but when he would go up at the night, where we should go down at the morning—oh, no, he is not pleasing.' A great feature of Norwegian climbing—and very often a great drawback—was that one always had to row to and from the mountain that was climbed.

Dr. WILSON and Mr. MUNRO also spoke.

Mr. BRYCE considered the Norwegian peaks to be very grand as far as Lyngen Fjord, after which the grandeur of the mainland scenery disappeared. He noticed that Mr. Slingsby had not dwelt so much on the climbing difficulties, as climbers in the Lofoten Isles, where the mountains are not quite so high, are wont to do; nor did he refer to mosquitoes, which within the Arctic Circle are a great pest, as a rule, in all the valleys. The trouble of getting to the mountain seemed, as in Iceland, to be great, and took up much of the time that would otherwise be available for the climb itself. Lyngen Fjord was interesting as being one of the best places for studying the customs and manners of the Lapps, both sea Lapps and reindeer Lapps. Some members might have read a German romance about the Lapps, in which a Lapp chief conceives the idea of conquering Norway and driving out the Norwegians; to have even thought of such a notion showed great imagination in the writer. He was sure he was expressing the sentiments of all when he said they were much obliged to Mr. Slingsby for his paper.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Slingsby, and the proceedings terminated.

A GENERAL MEETING was held in the Hall of the Club on Tuesday evening, April 11, at 8.30 P.M., the Right Hon. James Bryce, *President*, in the chair.

Mr. W. Rickmer-Rickmers was balloted for and elected a member of the Club.

Mr. J. S. PHILLIMORE read a paper entitled 'The Wrong Side of some Dolomites.'

Mr. RAYNOR wanted to know what the definition of the wrong side of a dolomite was, although he felt that, as Mr. Phillimore's companion, he ought not to criticise the title of his paper.

Mr. CLAUDE SCHUSTER considered that Antonio Dimai was a very fine guide. As to wrong sides, there was such emulation among the German-speaking Dolomite climbers that a wrong side might soon be converted into a right one. As a Viennese climber said to him, pointing to the smooth wall of an hotel, 'If I climbed this wall, next year every member of the Club in Vienna would be trying it with their hands tied behind their backs in order to outdo me.'

Mr. WOOD said that the ascent of the Popena by the South side was worth mentioning from the moral point of view. It was necessary to try wrong sides in the Dolomites in order to find the best routes up them, as the ordinary routes were often dull and sometimes dangerous. Also, as most men climbed rocks for the actual pleasure of climbing, it was necessary to find out where the best climbing was.

Mr. STUTFIELD thought the right side of a mountain was the side one wanted to get up, but considered the question a good subject for the dialectical faculties of the Club.

The PRESIDENT regretted the shortness of Mr. Phillimore's paper. He was surprised at the unusual unwillingness of the meeting to discuss the ethical question put forward in the discussion. Dolomites undoubtedly possessed an extraordinary fascination for those who knew them. While mountains in Norway often proved more difficult than they looked, Dolomites usually looked worse than they really were. Still there was, doubtless, danger from rotten rocks, locally termed 'croda morta.' He remembered, many years ago, when he wanted to ascend the Pelmo with a friend, they could only get a shoemaker from the Val di Zoldo to lead them, no regular guide being available. But he was a good climber, though he quite declined to use the rope. When they came to within 100 ft. of the top, they found a slightly curving ridge of very rotten rock leading to the summit, up which the shoemaker declined to lead them. The President and his friend, however, traversed this ridge without difficulty, and the guide ultimately followed. They also ascended the Langkofel two days after the first ascent by Dr. Grohman. The President concluded by moving a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Phillimore.

Mr. PHILLIMORE, in reply, said he considered the best side to climb a mountain was the hardest side—not necessarily the most dangerous side, but the side most nearly impossible. Early climbers wanted to capture virgin peaks, and so chose the ways up them with most screes and easy ledges. A monument was recently erected at St. Ulrich to Dr. Grohman as the discoverer of the Dolomites.

The proceedings then terminated.