## PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held in the Hall on Monday evening, December 18, the Bishop of Bristol, *President*, in the chair.

The following candidates were balloted for and elected members of the Club: H. E. G. Bartlett, J. E. Croasdaile, W. H. Ellis, J. H. Hollingsworth, W. Sedgwick, S. F. Staffurth. J. W. Stein, P. A. Thompson, J. L. Tod-Mercer, E. A. Wilson.

The PRESIDENT declared the following officers duly elected for 1906: Mr. Wm. Cecil Slingsby, Vice-President, in place of Mr. Walter Leaf, whose term of office had expired; Mr. E. H. F. Bradby, Honorary Secretary, in place of Mr. A. L. Mumm, who did not offer himself for re-election; Messrs. Alfred East, R. A. Robertson, and C. H. R. Wollaston as new members of Committee in place of Mr. E. H. F. Bradby, and of Messrs. R. N. Arkle and G. W. Prothero, whose term of office had expired. The President, Vice-President (Mr. J. H. Wicks), and the other members of Committee (Messrs. J. J. Withers, Captain J. P. Farrar, H. V. Reade, and H. Priestman) being eligible were re-elected.

On the motion of Dr. W. A. WILLS, seconded by Sir MARTIN CONWAY, Messrs. J. H. W. Rolland and R. L. Harrison were elected auditors.

Mr. C. T. DENT moved that a hearty vote of thanks be passed to Mr. A. L. Mumm for the work he had done as Honorary Secretary of the Club. Mr. Dent was sure that every member would agree that there was no one to whom the Club owed more than to its Honorary Secretary. The duties of the post were arduous, and Mr. Mumm had performed those duties for more than the usual period. Seldom had the duties of the office—and he knew from experience how hard they were—been carried out with more tact, judgment, and quiet efficiency than by Mr. Mumm.

Mr. CHARLES PILKINGTON had great pleasure in seconding the motion that the heartiest thanks were due by the Club to Mr. Mumm.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT referred to the losses which the Club had sustained by the death of members during the past year. Lieut. Martin, one of the youngest members (who had been a member for so short a time that his name did not even appear on the printed list), had died of fever in Western Africa. The Club had also lost Mr. H. C. Foster, a keen climber, elected in 1896; Dr. Collier, of Manchester, elected in 1893, well known to most North Country members, and an excellent mountaineer; Mr. G. W. Stevens, elected in 1872, and Mr. F. J. Stevens, elected in 1899; Mr. Brocklehurst, an old member devoted to the Alps, who for the last two or three years had suffered from a long, sad illness; and Mr. H. E. Buxton, who had been elected in 1864 on the same night as the speaker. In Mr. Alfred Williams, elected in 1878, the

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Club had lost a very remarkable man. The pictures exhibited on the walls carried him (the speaker) back to the days of his youth in a way that no other pictures of mountain scenery had done. It was a remarkable fact that Mr. Williams was in his seventieth year when he went out to study the Himalayas, and his Himalayan pictures showed what a man of that age could do in surmounting the great difficulties inseparable from such an undertaking. The family had kindly presented one of the pictures to the Club as a souvenir. The President went on to say: 'Last of all I wish to refer to the death of Mr. C. E. Mathews, one of the original members. This is not the place to pronounce an eulogium on him. It had happened that I was to stay with Mr. Mathews on October 28, to deliver a lecture on subterranean ice, and just as I was starting for Birmingham I received a letter to say that Mr. Mathews was very ill. He died before I arrived in Birmingham, and I was the first person to refer to his death at a public meeting. Mr. Mathews was only a few months younger than myself. The minds of many members are so stored with knowledge and love of Mr. Mathews that words are not needed to express their feelings. The Club were represented at the funeral by Mr. Horace Walker and Sir Martin Conway.'

The PRESIDENT also announced the death of Dr. Richter, editor of the 'Erschliessung der Ostalpen,' who was elected an honorary member some years ago. The death of Mr. Sandbach Parker should also be mentioned, though he was not a member of the Club, as he had, with his two brothers, made serious attempts on the east side of the Matterhorn in 1860 and again in 1861.

The PRESIDENT then announced that the Committee had elected Lord Curzon and Sir Francis Younghusband as honorary members.

The PRESIDENT said that he wished to mention a matter which he had that evening discussed with some of the older members of the Club. There were no galleries at the Whitehall Rooms, but at the Hôtel Cecil there was gallery accommodation for a considerable number of ladies. The possibility of admitting ladies to the speeches after dinner had long been considered. He was prepared on his own responsibility to provide coffee and ices for about fifty ladies at the dinner the next night, if there was not a strong opinion against his trying the experiment. If it was tried it would be for the Club to say whether it should be continued. After some discussion the President said that he could not put any resolution on the subject, as no notice had been given; but he would ask those who were not willing to have the experiment tried to hold up their hands. A sufficient amount of unwillingness being indicated, the President said that he would not try the experiment.

The thanks of the Club were offered to Mr. Macdonald for two photographs of New Zealand mountain scenery presented by him.

Mr. HORACE WALKER said that he would like to make a suggestion that the Club should erect a memorial to Mr. C. E. Mathews, who had been one of the founders of the Club. It was not for him to

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say what form the memorial should take, but he suggested to the Committee that they might consider the advisability of erecting something under the shadow of Mont Blanc.

Mr. CHARLES PILKINGTON supported the suggestion. Mr. Mathews was not only connected with the Alpine Club, but was also one of the founders of the Climbers' Club, and had assisted the Rucksack Club, the Yorkshire Ramblers' Club, and the Scottish Mountaineering Club. He would be very glad to help in perpetuating Mr. Mathews's memory.

Mr. SLINGSBY said that one of the great virtues of their beloved friend Mr. Mathews was that of keen sympathy with all climbers. He remembered how many years ago, when he was a young climber, he had received much help and encouragement from Mr. Mathews. On the occasions when Mr. Mathews came to the Yorkshire Ramblers' Club he proved a great source of strength. He would not forget the warmth with which Mr. Mathews was received by that Club at their dinner in February last. He was to have given a lecture to them on the very night on which he died. Mr. Mathews was a many-sided man. He was of a very romantic nature, and in losing him the Club had lost a man whose like they would not see again.

Mr. A. J. BUTLER said that he was with Mr. Mathews in Wales in August. Mr. Mathews was then as fresh as ever in walking and talking. One evening during a walk with six barrels he shot five rabbits, which he carried home himself. It was difficult to believe that shortly afterwards he was dead. Mr. Mathews had loved the Club to the last day of his life.

The Rev. WALTER WESTON read a paper on 'Mountaineering and Mountain Clubs in Japan,' which was illustrated by lantern slides; a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for his paper.

THE WINTER DINNER of the Club took place in the Grand Hall of the Hôtel Cecil on Tuesday evening, December 19, at 7 P.M., the Lord Bishop of Bristol, *President*, in the chair. Three hundred and forty-three members and guests sat down, among the latter being the Lord Bishop of London, the Right Hon. Lord Methuen, Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, Mr. Justice Warrington, Sir James Bourdillon, Major Sir H. W. Barlow, Bart., Professor Walter Raleigh, Dr. J. Kingston Fowler, Rev. H. Russell Wakefield, Mr. Owen Seaman, and Mr. F. Carruthers Gould, &c. &c.

AN EXHIBITION of Alpine paintings by the late Mr. Alfred Williams was held in the Hall of the Club from Tuesday, December 5, to Saturday, December 23, 1905. Refreshments were provided on the afternoon of the day of the Winter Dinner, December 19.

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