

a great bend of the hillside, and scrambled down rocks into a chestnut-shaded pasture where two or three cows were lazily cropping the herbage, watched by a child who might truly be described as 'Summer's tanling, diamond-eyed.' If I had here suddenly come upon '*Ægle Naiadum pulcherrima*' I should merely have raised my hat without surprise, for the spell of Virgil was upon the scene. The vines, grape-laden, spread their treasures before us where Anderson and I had in previous years bought three huge clusters for a penny. But now a hopeless fancy feigned them ripe for other lips—the season was so late. Then we dipped down into rich meadows and fields where all things were luxuriant. The languid air was full of wandering fragrance, and if one had offered me the Lotos I fear I should have tasted. But dreams soon vanished, and we reached Villeneuve, where we lunched at the Stag. Courmayeur is always warmly welcome, and always welcomes us warmly, but the excellent dinner at the Royal lacked a nameless something. At last I had it. No laughing voice inquired, 'Where do you turn off for the chalet of Monei?' or even, 'How many bridges are there over the torrent in the Valnontey?'

IN MEMORIAM.

F. CRAUFURD GROVE.

THE withdrawal from Alpine circles during the past few years of our late President, Florence Craufurd Grove—a withdrawal caused, as all learnt with regret, by serious illness—produced at once a blank which was felt not only by those of Grove's early intimates who still attend our meetings, but also by the numerous acquaintances to whom, for many years, as an office-bearer and active sharer in all the interests and debates of the Club, and as a brilliant after-dinner speaker, his presence had become familiar.

The news of his death must renew our sense of what the Club has lost. Grove was one of the most vigorous personalities among those who, when the Club was founded, were its younger members. Gifted with abilities and energy which never seemed to find full scope in any of the more serious business of life, he threw all his vigour into what he did do. As a climber he was bold and enterprising. In 1863 he conquered the Dent d'Hérens. Among his subsequent climbs were the first passage of the Studerjoch (recorded by him in the first volume of this 'Journal'), the first ascents of the Zinal Rothhorn and of the Jungfrau from Lauterbrunnen by the Roththal Sattel, in 1864, with Macdonald, Leslie Stephen, and Melchior, and Jakob Anderegg—a fine combination of mountaineer-

ing talent. His adventures on the Aiguille de Bionnassay and Glacier du Dôme in 1865 formed the subject of two lively papers by himself and Mr. E. N. Buxton in our fourth volume.

In 1867 and 1868 Grove made two ascents of the Matterhorn from the S. and N. sides. At that time the route now made practicable by cords up the last knob from the Breuil arête was not in use, and the party had to traverse a ledge round the N.W. corner of the final peak, which has been avoided by their successors, and bears a very evil reputation even with the present generation of rock-climbers. Grove always spoke of it as the worst place he had ever been on.

In 1874 Grove went with A. W. Moore, Horace Walker, and F. Gardiner on the second expedition to the Caucasus, and wrote an account of the journey which is a most vivid picture not only of the adventures of an exploring party, but of a strange country and its inhabitants. The manners and customs of the Caucasians gave new and ample material for humorous treatment, and Grove was fully equal to the occasion. His modest volume is perhaps the most to be recommended to the general reader of any of our Alpine 'works of travel.' Amongst other papers where the subject is brightened by the writer's literary talent we must mention those on 'The Comparative Skill of Travellers and Guides' (vol. v.), in which Grove held out for the superiority of guides; 'On Alpine Training Diet' (vol. xii.); and his witty 'Address to the Alpine Club' (vol. xiii.) delivered in 1887, which he concluded with a sentence which was prophetic of the Club's future: 'The time has now come when it is absolutely necessary to break fresh ground, and unless we do so we shall cease to be the leading body of mountaineers.'

No record, however brief, of Grove's connection with the Alpine Club would be complete without some reference to his skill as an orator. His after-dinner speeches during the years of his Presidency were looked forward to with pleasure and remembered with delight. His humour was trenchant, and its expression carefully finished; if it can hardly be said, that it was always harmless, he was ready to take what he gave, and, perfectly fearless himself, enjoyed nothing more in public—and also in private—than a warm debate.

The following note has been communicated by Mr. Alex. Rivington:—

'The irreparable loss the Alpine Club has sustained by the decease of Florence Craufurd Grove will be felt deeply, more especially by those members who had known him for many years.

'I first met Grove when the Club was in its infancy, and before he had joined it. The day was a memorable one, not only for us but for some of the pioneers of our mountaineering fraternity. Grove and his friend Wedgwood joined myself and two friends in making our first ascent of Monte Rosa on August 19, 1861. As we rested on its summit we were able to watch through our glasses the success, after a hard morning's work, of the first attempt on

the Lyskamm by the party led by the Rev. J. F. Hardy, and we took the news down to the old Riffel hotel. We also scanned with much interest the virgin peak of the Weisshorn, which we knew Professor Tyndall was to attack on that day.

'It was not until 1863 that Grove, yielding to the persuasion of his friends, consented to join the Club. In August of that year he was with us at our old recruiting ground at Zermatt, where, among others, were Macdonald, Hardy, and Hall; also Birkbeck, who had ascended the Weisshorn on the 17th. On the 19th Grove and his party made an attempt on the Dom, but returned on account of bad weather.

'In those early days some of us made it a custom to dine together—a custom still kept up by our successors—before the Club Meetings. The dinners were at that time held at a small restaurant near St. Martin's Place, kept by a Frenchman. Among those who frequently attended were A. W. Moore, Robert Craudock Nichols, F. Elliott Blackstone, W. E. Hall, Reginald Somerled Macdonald, and Craufurd Grove—the two last generally the life and soul of the party—all now passed away.

'On December 15, 1880, Grove and Horace Walker were elected Vice-Presidents of the Club, and on February 5, 1884, Grove, having been elected President, made his first speech in the Chair, when I remember the well-known guide Emile Rey was present as a visitor. At the meeting on April 1 our President alluded in feeling terms to the death of Signor Sella, the President of the Italian Alpine Club and an honorary member of the English Club. Perhaps the most entertaining paper Grove ever wrote was the one he read to the Club on December 16 of the same year on "Alpine Training Diet."

'There are members of the Club with far abler pens than mine, and with better claims to be heard, still happily with us, who will doubtless do ample justice to Grove's brilliant mountaineering, literary, and other achievements. It has, however, seemed to me almost impossible to refrain from asking permission to express deep sorrow at the thought that no more shall we be permitted to meet that bright eye, nor listen to that cheery voice, known so well to some of us for over forty years; and it is difficult to realise that one of the truest and most courteous of men who ever drew breath has indeed passed away from our midst in the person of Florence Craufurd Grove.'

THE ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY.

The following additions have been made since June:—

New Books. Presented by the Authors or Publishers.

Azan, Paul. Annibal dans les Alpes. 8vo, pp. 234; maps, ill.

Oran, Heintz. Paris, Picard, 1902. 6 Fr.

A good criticism of the views of others; and some fresh suggestions towards a solution. The original texts are given, and a very considerable bibliography.