

teresting particulars as to the excursions made by Mr. White in 1902 and by members of the Mission in 1903 in Lhonak and round about Khambajong. Heights of 21,000 to over 22,000 ft. were reached, and on one occasion 20,000 ft. is reported to have been attained on horseback. Mr. White emphatically states that there was no increase of inconvenience from the air above 15,000 ft., either among the Europeans or native followers. He found, as we did, the first ascent from the valleys the most trying. He considers that Chomiomo and Kangchenjhou can be climbed with greater ease than any peaks of similar elevation. It is a pity there was no Alpine party in Sikkim last summer.*

IN MEMORIAM.

HENRY SIMMS.

THE Club lost through death last year, in addition to the three members mentioned in the November number of the 'Journal,' a popular member in the late Henry Simms, Joint General Manager of the National Provincial Bank of England, who died at Newcastle-on-Tyne in August last.

During the last ten or twelve years the writer has enjoyed very many happy days in Mr. Simms's company when scrambling with him over hills in North Wales, Cumberland, and Skye, and when climbing with him in Switzerland. In the Alps the Zermatt district was his favourite hunting ground; but he had also done a good deal of climbing in the Bernese Oberland and the Chamonix district.

His last climbing expedition took place in August 1902, when he paid his first and only visit to the Bernina district, and seemed to be in even better health and condition than usual. On one occasion while there he (accompanied by a friend, and guided by Joseph Marie Biner, of St. Niklaus, and another Zermatt guide whom he had taken to Pontresina) was caught in a terrible snow storm, with lightning, when attempting to ascend the Piz Bernina over the Bernina Scharte. The party were driven back when within a short distance of the summit of the peak; and even Biner subsequently admitted to the writer that their experience during the descent was 'exciting' in the extreme. In fact, the descent was only attempted at the time because it was impossible for the party, without the probability of a catastrophe, either to proceed

* I take this opportunity to ask possessors of my recent volume to correct the following misprints:—

P. 25, line 4 from top, read '1902' for '1891.'

P. 178, in middle, for 'Thangchen Glacier' read 'Ramthang Glacier.'

P. 354, in heading read '1903' for '1893,' and in footnote for XVI. read XII.

P. 358, in foot note, for 'W.' read 'M.'

P. 360, read '1888' for '1868' as date of Sikkim expedition.

with the ascent or to remain where they were. The difficulties upon that occasion were, however, mainly due to the state of the weather, as, about a week later, Mr. Simms, accompanied by the same guides, ascended the peak by the same route, in good weather, without difficulty.

Mr. Simms did not become a member of the Club till 1901; but previously to that time his good fellowship and geniality had made for him numerous friends in the Alps, who will greatly miss him.

C. R. L.

B. ST. J. ATTWOOD-MATHEWS.

ANOTHER of the founders of the Alpine Club has recently passed away. Mr. Benjamin St. John Attwood-Mathews, of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Pontrilas Court, Herefordshire, died on October 4, 1908, in the seventy-fourth year of his age.

Of course he was altogether unknown to the present generation of Alpine men, as he retired from the Club more than thirty years ago; but he was an ardent climber in the old days.

He was present at that historic dinner party which took place at The Leasowes, in Worcestershire, on November 6, 1857, on which occasion the Club was really founded, and he was a friend and contemporary of the late J. F. Hardy and the late Edward Shirley Kennedy. In the company of those two gentlemen and of Mr. Ellis he crossed the Strahleck from Grindelwald to the Grimsel in the month of August 1857, the party a few days later making their memorable ascent of the Finsteraarhorn, recorded in the first volume of 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers.' In the same month he ascended Mont Blanc by the St. Gervais route (as then known) under circumstances of exceptional difficulty, reaching the Pavillon de Bellevue on the Col de Voza at ten at night.

He did little or no climbing after the year 1860, his greatest delight being trout and salmon fishing, in which art he attained an extraordinary proficiency; and for many years he passed all the winters in Egypt.

He was first cousin to the late Mr. William Mathews and to Mr. C. E. Mathews, both former Presidents of the Club. His mother was the sister of the well-known Thomas Attwood, the founder of the Birmingham Political Union and the first Member for Birmingham after the Reform Act of 1832.

He was J.P. for the county of Stafford and J.P. and D.L. for the county of Hereford, and was a courteous, high-minded, and honourable gentleman. Although he was known, even by name, but to few of the present members of the Alpine Club, yet he did excellent work in his day, and it must never be forgotten that he was one of the pioneers.

C. E. M.