

During the last three weeks the bad weather had been practically uninterrupted. We had evidently entered the worst period of the monsoon. Our return was decided on by common consent. On July 22, the expedition reached Rdokass and on the 27th, Askoley, having crossed the Punmah on the rope-bridge. From Askoley we reached Skardo in four days by the short cut over the Skoro-La. The summer road over the Deosai plains was now followed to Cashmere, and we reached Srinagar on August 11.

The photogrammetrical survey carried out by the Marchese Negrotto made it possible to construct a map giving the complete basin of the Godwin Austen glacier and a large number of altimetical figures, among which I will merely mention that of the highest point of Broad Peak, 27,132.

The expedition was able to ascertain that the vast formation comprising the Broad Peak, the Gasherbrums, and the Golden Throne, is composed of limestone and conglomerates, which it is interesting to connect with the observations of Dr. Longstaff who noticed the same formation in the north buttress of the upper Siachen Valley. I cannot conclude my lecture better than by quoting the words with which the Duke of the Abruzzi ended his paper read before the Italian Geographical Society:—

‘On my former expeditions to Mount St. Elias and to Ruwenzori, the labours of my forerunners enabled me to achieve success; this time I hope that after-comers may reap the fruit of my work and my endeavours, and climb to the summit of the splendid Bride Peak, along the route which I have traced.’

IN MEMORIAM.

SIR MAURICE HOLZMANN, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., I.S.O.

MAURICE HOLZMANN was born in the year 1835 at Cöthen in the Duchy of Anhalt, where his father was an official in the Courts of Justice. He studied chemistry and medicine first at Leipzig, and afterwards at Heidelberg under Professor Bunsen. In 1859 he came to London, and, through a recommendation from Bunsen, obtained a post in Hofmann's laboratory. Whilst there he made the acquaintance of Monsieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, the Belgian Minister at the Court of St. James's, who induced him to become his private secretary. Holzmann only accepted this position temporarily, as he wished to be free to devote himself to scientific

chemical research, which was the object he had in view in coming to England.

The Van de Weyers at New Lodge were intimately acquainted with the younger members of the Royal Family at Windsor, and probably it was through this connexion that Holzmann was offered and accepted the post of German Secretary and Librarian in the young Prince of Wales's household. He subsequently acted temporarily for nearly a year as German Secretary to Queen Victoria during the illness and absence of the then German Secretary, on whose resignation it is believed that he was offered by the Queen the substantive post. Holzmann, however, preferred to retain his position in the Prince of Wales's household, and of that household or of the household of the King (after the Prince succeeded to the throne), in one capacity or another, active or honorary, he remained a member until the day of his death.

In addition to being German Secretary and Librarian to the Prince he was subsequently appointed Private Secretary to the Princess of Wales, and held the latter post for many years until he was appointed by the Prince to the important and responsible office of Clerk of the Council to the Duchy of Cornwall, which he held until a short time before his death. As Clerk of the Council the entire administration of the various properties belonging to the Duchy was virtually placed in his hands, and his natural good judgment and fairness coupled with great application enabled him to carry out the administration with equal benefit to the interests of the Duchy and of the tenants connected with the property. The work was quite new to him and required amongst other things an intimate knowledge of the intricacies of English copyhold law, but he took it in hand with characteristic energy and determination and before long had obtained a complete mastery over its difficulties. None of the details was allowed to escape his personal supervision, and his friends often wished that he would spare himself some of the laborious routine work which might apparently well have been left to subordinates. He certainly showed signs of strain and over-work towards the end.

It is believed that King Edward had a very high opinion of Holzmann's judgment and abilities, while Holzmann's single-minded devotion to the late King was a remarkable feature in his character. King Edward, immediately after coming to the throne, showed his appreciation of Holzmann's services and personal qualities by conferring on him the K.C.V.O., and coupling the bestowal of the decoration with most kind and flattering words.

In this connexion the touching inscription in Queen Alexandra's handwriting on the wreath sent by her to his funeral may be referred to:—'In sorrowing remembrance of our dear true faithful old friend of 45 years' standing from Alexandra and Edward VII.'

At first Holzmann climbed alone in the Eastern Alps with the guides Santo Siorpaes and Alessandro Lacedelli, and explored

very thoroughly the rock passes in the neighbourhood of Cortina and Auronzo. He communicated notes of his explorations to Ball, who proposed him for the Alpine Club, to which he was elected in 1874. The results of his Cortina and Auronzo work he described in the two articles for the *ALPINE JOURNAL* on the 'Ampezzo, Sexten, Auronzo Passes.'

He had also made ascents in the Gross Glockner and Tödi districts. In 1877 he commenced climbing with his friend Gaskell, and made out a very elaborate plan of campaign, which was most carefully and systematically worked out so as to enable him during his holiday to attend from time to time to his secretarial duties.

Gaskell and Holzmann covered a good deal of ground during the season of 1877, starting with Seewies and ending with Cortina. The experiment was so successful that they repeated it for the next four years, though in 1881 Gaskell was only able to be with him for part of the season. During these five years they ascended sixty peaks and crossed twenty passes of over 10,000 feet in height.

In later years we were generally his travelling companions, and he climbed extensively in the Zermatt district and in the Bernese Oberland and about Chamonix. It is unnecessary to enumerate the many explorations he accomplished in these districts, but we may refer to his ascent with one or both of us of the Breithorn from the N. side, when in exceptionally difficult conditions, the traverse of the Lyskamm from the Colle d'Ollen to the Riffelalp, crossing the Felik Joch the same day, the traverse of the Charmoz and ascent of the Aiguille du Dru, the ascent of the Jumeaux of Val Tournanche, the traverse of the Rothhorn combined with the passage of the Moming Pass, and the traverses of the Täschhorn and Matterhorn as indicating the character of his Alpine work in later life. On reaching the summit of the Matterhorn from the Italian side he was very anxious to descend by Zermatt arête, and was only prevented from doing so owing to the fear of dislodging stones upon two parties who were attempting and later in the day succeeded in accomplishing the ascent from that side.

As a mountaineer, Holzmann showed a wonderful power of endurance. His official correspondence was sometimes very voluminous and took up a great deal of time. Often after he came in from an expedition, when his companions were making up for arrears of sleep, he would sit down and work away for hours. He seemed to be able to do with very little sleep and never get tired. Two instances of his continuous climbing are recollected by Gaskell; the one at Sulden, when in eight days they climbed the Vertainspitze, Hohe Angelusspitze, Ortler, Königsspitze, Monte Cevedale, Cima dei Tre Signori, Monte Tresero, and crossed the Passo del Cevedale, while Holzmann also put in the Monte Sobretta from Santa Caterina. The other was in 1879 at Grindelwald, when they ascended—also in eight days—the Wetterhorn, Schreckhorn, Mönch, Jungfrau and Eiger, and crossed the Jungfrau Joch.

As a climber he was wonderfully sure-footed and particularly good on rocks: his very especial excellence was his foot work in traversing smooth rocks, an art he had learnt and perfected with Santo in the Dolomites: in this particular he excelled most amateurs and came near to a first-class guide. He was absolutely safe, moreover, on ice and snow, where, however, he was perhaps not quite so thoroughly at home as on rock—he used to say himself that he had come a little too late to this branch of mountaineering. It was only, however, in comparison with his superior excellence as a cragsman that this can be said of his icemanship. The latter was also of a high standard and possessed, as has already been mentioned, the crowning merit of all, that it was absolutely safe. His calm courage and iron nerve rendered him an eminently desirable companion in a tight place.

At one time he attended the Club meetings regularly and sometimes spoke at them—but for some years he had ceased to do this, and his personality is probably unknown to the present generation of members. He served on the committee of the Club from 1884 to 1886 and was elected Vice-President of the Club in 1887.

Holzmann was devoted to music, especially to classical music, and he had also a keen appreciation and knowledge of painting and sculpture—more particularly of the latter. These qualities made him a most interesting and delightful companion.

Coin-collecting was a special hobby of his, and his collection was a valuable and extensive one.

He also possessed a valuable Alpine library.

The last year in which Holzmann retained guides and engaged in serious mountaineering was in 1894. He always said that he should retire from active mountaineering when he was sixty years old (1895), and he kept his word, although he was often sorely tempted to return to the war-path.

After 1894 he went nearly every year to the Riffelalp, becoming more and more attached to this beautiful spot as time went on, and no one knew the numerous and comparatively unfrequented side-walks of the neighbourhood as he did.

He preserved his vigour as a walker to the end, and in 1908, the last year we spent together at the Riffelalp, he was in wonderfully good form.

His last illness in 1909 was short and unexpected, and when it seized him he was actually preparing for an expedition to Madrid to study the gallery of paintings there.

The keynote of Holzmann's character was thoroughness and earnestness. His standard of life and work was very high, and consequently he may have seemed to be somewhat severe at times in his judgment of others and may have appeared to make scarcely sufficient allowance for human frailty; but this was after all to a great extent on the surface only, and beneath a somewhat cold and severe exterior lay hidden a great wealth of tenderness and warmth of heart which showed itself in numberless acts of kindness to those

in illness or distress. He was the most unselfish man we have ever met, and all who knew him well will feel that by his death they have lost one of the truest and most steadfast of friends.

We wish to express our thanks to Gaskell for much of the materials for this notice.

G. F. G.

W. E. D.

C. A. O. BAUMGARTNER.

WE have to record the loss of a very early mountaineer. The number of men, whether within or outside this club, who were climbing at the time of its foundation, is now lamentably small; but here we have the case of a man who attacked a first-class peak no less than fifty-nine years ago, and long before the club was even thought of. It may therefore well be doubted whether among amateurs, or even among guides, there is left another who began his Alpine career so long ago.

Charles Astry Octavius Baumgartner was of Swiss extraction, and born in the year 1825. He was sent to Töppfer's celebrated school at Geneva, and the English side of his education was cared for at Rugby and at Oriel College, Oxford, where he won a scholarship. In the year 1845 he went out to Meran and made a long stay in Tyrol, then in 1849, after taking his degree, he spent many months near Windermere, and the next year, being at Wastdale Head, he was told of an almost unscaleable rock called the Pillar Stone. He was led to the foot of it by Will Ritson, whose story of how he watched the successful ascent is racy retold in one of Edwin Waugh's books. The name is, if I remember right, there given as Baumgarten and 'Auld Will' himself usually disguised it still further as Bomgarten. The local paper described him as the only tourist to accomplish the exploit, and went on to describe his subsequent ascent of Scafell from Micklethorpe. This was in the late summer of 1850. Next year he found his way to Grindelwald, and made his gallant attack on the Jungfrau; but, as eighteen years ago I persuaded him to publish in this Journal a very interesting letter which he wrote about his expedition at the time, it is unnecessary to say more about it here; but it is worth recalling that he then had the distinction of being probably the very first employer of that great guide Christian Almer. Had the pair continued together for a few seasons who knows how many of the triumphs of our early members they might have forestalled? but the employer's adventurous spirit was fired to enthusiasm by the discoveries of gold in Australia, and in company with one of his many brothers he crossed the Ocean to seek his fortune at the diggings.

He reached Melbourne early in 1853, and returned to England towards the close of 1861, not materially richer than he went. His letters show the indomitable courage and good temper with which he met every kind of discomfort and disappointment. They are excellent reading and very striking to anyone who knows Melbourne

and Victoria under the marvellously changed conditions of the present day.

During the twenty years following his return to Europe he became rather a recluse, reading and writing far into (and sometimes right through) the night, with the result that he gradually dropped nearly all outdoor exercise. He was, however, a keen and powerful skater, and for many years he was a regular feature of the University boat-race—a sturdy greybeard, with ruddy cheek and happy smile, paddling his canoe up to the finish at Mortlake; but except on that one day of the year the canoe hardly ever issued from its shed.

Consequently when he and I first met (now more than a quarter of a century ago) his feet were the worst part of him. We had several climbs together in Cumberland, and though the approaches often proved trying to him, when once the rocks were reached his grip and the lifting power of his arms were wonderful, and left me in no doubt that in his prime he must have been an exceptional climber. He was a charming companion, highly intelligent, even tempered and considerate, and though his last few years were clouded by eye troubles (peculiarly depressing to a diligent reader and writer) he was always cheerful, and to the last never lost two of the best things in life—keen sense of humour and love of the great mountains.

W. P. H.-S.

PERCY RICHARD PARKINSON.

By the death of Percy Parkinson early in the year the Club lost a young member of great promise.

Educated at the Burnley Grammar School, the Leys School and Caius College, Cambridge, he took up medical studies, and after having gained his hospital experience at St. Bartholomew's and the West London hospitals, he accepted a post in the Research Laboratories of Messrs. Burroughs and Wellcome, where he had already at the time of his death—he was only thirty—done excellent work.

Whatever he took in hand he did with characteristic energy and thoroughness, and there is little doubt that his breakdown was due to overwork. Acting on the advice of a London physician, he went in February last to Cannes, and though at first his health seemed to improve, he became suddenly worse after a chill and steadily lost ground. A rally gave some hopes of a recovery, but a relapse followed and his condition became practically hopeless. He passed away on May 23.

From his earliest days he had been fond of sport and had played both cricket and football with success. His special pleasure, however, was mountaineering. He was a frequent visitor at Wastdale Head, and had climbed extensively in Cumberland, the Snowdon district and Scotland.

His Swiss climbing began in the Zermatt district in 1901, and from that time he paid regular visits to the Alps, during which he ascended

many of the great peaks. On one occasion in 1905 he, in company with Mr. F. Whelan, A.C., crossed the Matterhorn from the Schwarzsee Hotel, and regained Zermatt by the Furgg Joch on the same night.

In the year 1907 he visited the Canadian Rockies, and a paper describing his expeditions appeared in the 'Alpine Journal' for August 1908.

His last season was spent in the Mont Blanc district, and the holiday ended with the traverse of Mont Blanc from Courmayeur to Chamonix without guides. He and his companion, Mr. Neville Done, spent the night at the Quintino Sella hut, and in spite of a long delay caused by a dropped rucksack, they reached the summit at 3.35 P.M., and Chamonix, in rain and darkness, shortly before 9 P.M. His companion writes, 'It was a splendid expedition, a worthy tribute to his skill and friendship which gave it success.'

He was of a quiet and somewhat reserved disposition, and while he greatly endeared himself to those with whom he climbed, it was difficult for those who only met him casually to know the kindly and genuine comradeship of his character. He had a real love for the mountains and a considerable knowledge of them, so that his companions in his numerous guideless climbs instinctively looked to his judgment in regard to such matters as the choice of route or the condition of the snow.

But all too soon his eager, strenuous life has been cut off, and, as his great friend writes, 'There is a melancholy satisfaction in the thought that his mountaineering career should have received its consummation on the highest summit of the Alps, but alas! that it should have ended there.'

H. L. J.

THE ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY.

THE following new books have been added since July:—

- Abraham, George D.** Mountain adventures at home and abroad.
8vo, pp. x, 308 : plates. London, Methuen [1910]. 7/6 nett
- Arber, E. A. Newall.** Plant life in Switzerland. Being an account in simple language of the natural history of alpine plants.
8vo, pp. xxiv, 355 : plates. London, Murray, 1910. 7/6 nett
- A description in popular language of the life of various plants in the Alps above 5000 feet, describing their various adaptations to their peculiar surroundings as to amount of moisture, soil, etc. The book is a most interesting one for the general reader who takes some interest in alpine plants that he has seen while travelling, as there is an entire absence of the dry detail necessary in a purely scientific botanical work. For this very reason it is not of use—and not intended to be of use—for merely 'spotting' flowers.
- Bierbaum, Paul W.** Im Aeroplan über die Alpen. Geo. Chavez' Simplonflug.
8vo, pp. 123 : plates. Zürich, Orell Füssli, 1910. M. 2
- A fully illustrated account of the recent flight across the Simplon, which unfortunately ended in the death of the aviator.