



WILLIAM PORTER.

# The Cairngorm Club Journal.

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## In Memoriam.

WILLIAM PORTER.

MOUNTAINEERS may be roughly divided into two classes, those who climb for pleasure and those whose motives include an element of uncertainty akin to danger. To the former the main object is to reach the summit by the most direct, most varied and picturesque, and, it may be, the easiest route. The others, by preference, leave the beaten track. Enterprise is their motto. Their pleasure is enhanced by the discovery of a new route, the conquest of difficulties and the spice—or more—of risk attaching to the venture. The two phases find apt illustration in the history of the Club. It was founded by men who had already, for the most part, passed the meridian of life. Its operations have been developed and extended by the younger generation into what more truly deserves the title "mountaineering."

It need hardly be said that our late member, Mr. William Porter, belonged to the older generation, the walkers rather than the climbers. The love of the hills is deeply implanted in the heart of the Scot. In this instance, it was probably evoked by the example of Mr. Porter's old business chief, the late Mr. Alexander Copland, one of the founders of the Club. It quickly grew into enthusiastic devotion. Though not an original member, Mr. Porter early enrolled himself and became one of the most regular in attending the meets.

He became a member of Committee and was no less assiduous in his attendance at meetings, attaining in 1900-01 the honour of the Chairmanship. The earlier meets were all in the nature of one or two days' excursions, suited to the powers of those who had been "long in city pent," to whom the exertion and the nervous strain of difficult rock climbing would have been out of the question. Mr. Porter will be best remembered in the Club by the part he took in its activities in this direction at the Spring Holiday, the more extended Summer Meet, and the Autumn Holiday—the stated occasions in those days. He was a good walker, persevering if not rapid in his movements, and eventually always getting there. He was a most agreeable comrade, full of kindness and consideration, always ready to cheer the way with a "yarn." He may have been like the rest of us in preferring narrating to listening. But he was a repository of information on many topics which one did not wish to miss. His death will be felt as a loss to many good causes; to business and to social service he had given a full half century of active and loyal co-operation. He had attained the ripe age of four-score, in itself an evidence of the benefits of the life of the open. He leaves a fragrant memory not only as a mountaineer but as a man of high Christian principle and endeavour.

J. C. (1).

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CHARLES T. CHRISTIE.

The death of Charles Taylor Christie on October 30 last removes from the list another name of an old and in his day active member of the Cairngorm Club. Mr. Christie joined the Club in 1890 and, although in recent years his genial company was missed at many of the Club outings, his interest in the affairs of the Club never flagged, as those who had the privilege of meeting with him knew. His intimate knowledge of the hills and glens of our own and the neighbouring counties, and reminiscent talk of many a visit to them, made a chat with Charlie exceedingly instructive and interesting, and furnished valuable assistance to a friend