

In Memoriam.

WALTER A. REID, LL.D.

DR REID, who was one of the most popular of the older members of the Club, died on January 14, 1944. He joined the Club in 1895, was Vice-President from November 1924 to November 1927, and was on the Committee for a subsequent period of two years. He was also a member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, which he joined in 1908.

While Dr Reid was not what one might call an expert mountaineer, he had an intense love for the hills and mountains, and, when the necessity arose, was a neat rock climber. But he was essentially a hill walker and, even when well up in years, could perform long expeditions without undue fatigue. For example, when he was seventy-five years of age he walked from Invercauld to Inchrory over the summit of Ben Avon, at night, to see the sunrise. And, five years later, on his eightieth birthday, attained a height of 3,250 feet on Cairn Taggart, from Loch Callater (see "Braemar Octotoddlle," pp. 22-24). Reid was a regular attender at the New Year Meets of the Club, and attended many of the others.

He contributed four articles to the *Journal*, and of these the two principal are an excellent account of the Summer Meet of the Club at Dalwhinnie in 1914 (viii. 69), and an amusing and interesting account (xi. 304) of an ascent of the Jungfrau that he made in 1926 with the assistance of one guide and the Jungfrau Railway. The latter took him up to the Jungfrau Joch, where he put up for the night at the large hotel, which he stated had some 200 bedrooms and spacious reception rooms. Leaving the hotel early next morning Reid and his guide took about 3½ hours to climb the 2,350 feet ascent to the summit of the Jungfrau (13,670 feet), apparently without having experienced any special difficulties. Reid also contributed two articles to the *S.M.C. Journal*.

Reid had several seasons abroad. In 1911, with the writer, he visited the Brenta Group in the Dolomites, where our principal ascent was that of the Cima Tosa (10,420 feet). It was my first rock climb with him and I was very much struck by the neat way in which he climbed an exceedingly steep rock face, as second man on the rope. In 1921 we had a short season in the Central Pyrenees, mostly in the Luchon district, and made five ascents, of which the Pic d'Aneto (11,170 feet) and the Pic d'Albe (10,761 feet) were the principal ones. In 1912 and 1913 he was at Zermatt and, in the latter year, with Henry Alexander, climbed the Matterhorn (14,780 feet). He had also visited the Canadian Rockies.

Reid was one of the founders of the Life Preservers' Society, was one of its most enthusiastic members, and rarely missed any of the outings (see pp. 123-128 and 276-279).

Dr Reid was an Accountant by profession and was one of the most prominent citizens of Aberdeen. He will long be remembered as having been a most generous benefactor to many of the Aberdeen hospitals and institutions; particularly to Robert Gordon's College, which was his old school, and of which he was for many years Chairman of the Governors; the Rowett Institute; and Newhills Convalescent Home. His passing was mourned by many.

J. A. PARKER.

JAMES CONNER, J.P.

JAMES CONNER, J.P., and late Sheriff-Clerk of Aberdeenshire, died in a nursing home in Aberdeen on February 26, 1944, after a short illness, and with his passing the Club has lost one of its oldest and most enthusiastic members. Mr Conner became a member in 1890 and, until his retiral from public service in 1930, never lost a chance, if he could avoid it, of attending the excursions into the hills he loved so well. Of light build, he was always in perfect condition for walking or climbing and could outstrip many of the younger members in speed and endurance.

In October 1918, along with another member of the Club,