

can and a member of the Alpine Club, was then American Secretary of Legation and Consul-General of the United States in Central America. Heilprin's ascent was the third, his aneroid figure being 16,960 ft.

Nevado de Toluca. The Aztec name is "Zinantecatl." Despite local belief that Humboldt ascended higher Mexican peaks, his ascent of Nevado de Toluca in 1803 was the loftiest point attained by him in that country. It is the earliest recorded ascent. Heilprin, in 1890, obtained an elevation of 14,954 ft.

J. M. T.

GREAT BRITAIN

Mr. Henry M. Stimson, U. S. Secretary of War, has been elected an Honorary Member of the Alpine Club (London), similar honor having previously been conferred upon him by the Amercian Alpine Club. Mr. Stimson and Col. Strutt crossed the Zinal Rothhorn together in 1896.

We extend congratulations to our Honorary Member, Mr. Sydney Spencer, on the occasion of his 80th birthday, September 8th, 1942.

ALPS

Mont Aiguille. The 450th anniversary of the ascent of this striking peak of Dauphiny, near Grenoble, known in the Middle Ages as "Mons Inascensibilis," occurred in 1942. In 1492, Charles VIII, King of France, ordered his chamberlin, Antoine de Ville, to ascend the mountains, which he did, taking as much pains as if he were storming a fortress, using ladders and other "sobtilz engins." He conducted a goodly company to the top, and built three crosses on the summit meadow to prove to the spectators below that it had really been attained. He heard mass, stayed on the summit for the better part of a week and came safely home again. An available account will be found in Francis Gribble's *The Early Mountaineers*.

The Alps 90 Years Ago. In the President's Address (*A. A. J.* iv, 474, line 12), one should read "Zermatt" for "the Alps." Needless to say, before this time, other major peaks such as Mont Blanc (1786), Gross Glockner (1800), Ortler (1804), Jungfrau (1811) had been ascended. Those interested in this phase of Alpine history will find full details in Coolidge's *The Alps in Nature and History*.

Dr. Heinrich Dübi, best known to us for his historical writings dealing with the Alps, and in particular for researches concerned with the Paccard-Balmat ascent of Mont Blanc, is dead at the age of 94. Dübi was editor of the *S. A. C. Jahrbuch* from 1896 to 1923.