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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

ACCIDENT ON SGURR NAN GILLEAN.—On the 25th July, Mr. Allen and Mr. Mark Leicester, while on a cycling expedition through Scotland, arrived at Sligachan Hotel. The following day they visited Lochs Scavaig and Coruisk, and climbed along the ridge that separates the latter Loch from Hart-a-Corrie, and some way up the face of Bidein-Druimnan-Ramh, but on meeting difficulties descended into Hart-a-Corrie. The following day they set out up Sgurr-nan-Gillean and found themselves on the pinnacle route.

On arriving at the top of the third pinnacle at what is known as the "Bad Step," having no rope, no nails in their boots, and no knowledge of what difficulties lay beyond, they wisely decided not to go any further, and descended the pinnacle on the Glen Sligachan side. When some little way down, Mr. Leicester suggested they should make a detour and go for the summit. Mr. Allen, however, did not think it was worth the trouble, more especially in view of the fact that they were contemplating a long cycle ride in the evening. It was then arranged that Mr. Leicester should go on alone, and rejoin his friend at the Hotel later in the afternoon. Their parting was of the most casual description, and as the day was perfectly clear it never entered Mr. Leicester's mind that there was the slightest risk in separation. He skirted the fourth pinnacle and climbed to the summit, and then descended by the pinnacle route, climbing the point on the third pinnacle which they had hesitated to descend together. On arriving at the Hotel at five o'clock, found his friend had not returned. After having tea, being alarmed at Mr. Allen's non-appearance, Mr. Leicester set out to look for him at six o'clock. He searched the pinnacle route as far as the foot of the third

pinnacle, and when darkness came on descended the mountain in the direction of the Hotel, and soon came upon a search party which had been organised from the Hotel. They spent the night on the mountain, and resumed the search with dawn. All the next day the search was continued in vain, and it was not until about 11:30 on the following day that John Mackenzie, one of the guides, discovered the body of the unfortunate tourist hidden amongst the rocks at the foot of the crags which rise up from the moorland to the first pinnacle.

Miss Tait of Dartford, who, in company with John Mackenzie, has since thoroughly examined the spot, states that the fall could not have been more than about 20 feet, as they discovered Mr. Allen's footmarks in the scree above. In falling he had struck his head against the rocks, and death must have been instantaneous. The accident appears to have been occasioned by such a slip as might happen to anyone at any time. Mr. Allen was a good athlete, being both a cricketer and a football player. Mr. Leicester had never climbed with him before, but on the previous day had noticed that he climbed with ease and pleasure. He was, moreover, of a very cautious disposition. The Cuchullins were new ground to both.

Mr. Leicester, from whom we have obtained this information, says he can hardly find words to express adequately all his gratitude to those who so kindly shared in the fatigue and strain of that long search. Among the visitors at the Hotel, Dr. Ellis Milne, M.A., of Aberdeen, and Miss M. S. Tait of Dartford, shewed exceptional energy in organising the search parties, and Mr. Campbell of Sligachan Hotel gave every assistance in his power.