

EARLY ASCENTS OF MOUNT RAINIER.

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General A. V. Kautz, then a young lieutenant, was probably the first person to attempt the ascent of Mt. Rainier. That was in July, 1857, and the route chosen was a rocky spur that extends from Longmire's Springs to Peak Success. Lieut. Kautz, with a soldier named Dogue for a companion, climbed to the ridge connecting Peak Success with Crater Peak, and probably could have gained the summit, but the lateness of the hour and prudence, lead them to beat a hasty retreat to the lower altitudes. Had they known of the existence of the steam caves in the crater, which have since afforded protection and shelter to belated climbers, they would doubtless have continued the ascent and thus had the honor of first standing upon the top of The Mountain.

For thirteen years thereafter the snows of Rainier were unstained by human footprints. In 1870, P. B. Van Trump, who had lived within view of the mountain for three years, and Hazard Stevens, son of the first governor of Washington Territory, joined forces to attack the mountain. They were successful, first reaching the summit of Peak Success, and then crossing over and climbing Crater Peak. They learned of the existence of the steam caves, and spent the night in one of them. There is no doubt that to Van Trump and Stevens belongs the honor of first standing upon the apex of Mt. Rainier. They gave the names Peak Success, Crater Peak and Liberty Cap to the trident shaped summit. That was in August. In October of the same year S. F. Emmons and A. D. Wilson, geolo-

gists in the employ of the U. S. Government, also climbed to the summit.

In 1883, Van Trump, James Longmire and Geo. Bayley composed the third party of successful climbers. So far all successful ascents had been made by what is now known as the Gibraltar Trail. In 1885, three men living in Snohomish, whose names I do not know, made the ascent from the northeast side, taking the same general course followed by the Mountaineers in their ascent the present year. In 1886 and 1887, the writer made unsuccessful attacks on the northeast side, but upon reaching an altitude of 13,800 feet having been working in clouds all day, prudence demanded a return to the timber line. In 1888, I organized a party to make the ascent from the south side. I was glad to receive into my party after its organization and equipment, John Muir, Wm. Keith and Van Trump. The summit was reached without great difficulty and two hours were spent exploring the crater. In 1890, the first woman, Miss Fay Fuller of Tacoma, reached the summit, but it was with a Seattle party.

Origin of Names.

Van Trump and Stevens named the three peaks. Peak Success was so called to commemorate their successful climb. The name Crater Peak is obvious. The name Liberty Cap was suggested by its fanciful resemblance to the head and cap of the Goodness of Liberty. Columbia's Crest received its name from Mr. Hawkins, a member of my party of 1894. The names of the glaciers have been given by various map-makers. Many of them commemorate the names of early climbers. The map made by Prof. I. C. Russell and published by the Department of Geology of the United States, outlines and names all the existing glaciers. Those names are of government record and will stand unless regularly changed by the proper authority as

was recently the case in changing the name Narada Falls, to Cushman Falls. Winthrop Glacier was named in honor of Theodore Winthrop, who first saw the mountain in 1853 and published an article extolling its wonderful beauties. Edmonds Glacier was named after Senator Edmonds of Vermont, who visited Spray Park in 1884. The names Kautz, Stevens, Van Trump, Ingraham and Willis honor early explorers of the mountain. Paradise Park was named by the Longmires. Sluiskin Falls by Van Trump after his Indian guide.

The writer in his dozen or more trips to the mountain, has pinned many names to points of interest as follows; the reason for selecting most of the names is so obvious that no explanation is needed. Camp Muir, in 1888, Mr. Muir was of my party. Upon reaching that point in the ascent, Mr. Muir suggested it as a good place to spend the night, saying that the presence of pumice in large quantities indicated the absence of wind. Beehive in the cleaver higher up was so called by its fanciful resemblance to the old style beehive. In 1889 I gave the name Gibraltar to that frowning battlement which must be conquered in the ascent from the south side. Elysian Fields and the Summerland are names given by me to two beautiful parks on the northeast and east slopes respectively, on account of their delightful location and surroundings. Inter-glacier received its name, in 1886, from the fact that it does not head in the upper slopes, neither is it a tributary to any other glacier. St. Elmo's pass received its name from a fine exhibition of St. Elmo's fire that occurred while we were spending a night there. In the midst of a thunder storm that was booming in the valleys below we noticed balls of St. Elmo's fire gathering on the ends of our alpenstocks, that were standing upon each side of our rocky beds. Raising our extended fingers upward they became illuminated with

electric fire; our tinware was easily located by the light it emitted.

There are several names of minor interest that have not found their way on the maps. It seems to me that it would be a commendable work for the Mountaineers to make a lexicon of all the recognized names, giving their origin while it is possible to do so. It also seems right that the club should give names to many points of interest not so designated.
