In Memory of
William Livingston Alden

The First Commodore of the American Canoe Association
Organized in 1880 at Crobsyside, Lake George
Honorary Member of the Royal Canoe Club of England
Dedication of Tablet to the Founders

In 1876 Mr. Alden was the leading spirit in founding the New York Canoe Club, first of its kind in America. Mr. Alden was a writer of more than ordinary genius, a wit and literature who wielded pen and paddle with equal facility. At that time he was a member of the editorial staff of the New York Times and well known to the reading public through a series of witty editorials which were one of the noted features of that newspaper.

At the same time he was writing under the nom-de plume of Matador, the dramatic criticisms of Punchinello, a humorous weekly which preceded "Puck."

On October 22, 1880, the American Canoe Association was organized at Crobsyside, Lake George, N.Y. There were 23 charter members and the name of William Alden heads the list.

By unanimous vote he was elected Commodore, holding the first meet of the Association, which was held on Bona Island, Lake George.

In 1882 he was elected an Honorary Member of the Royal Canoe Club of England.

A few years later Mr. Alden was appointed American Counsel to Rome. Several of his articles on travel and canoeing appeared in Harper's Magazine in the eighteen eighties.

A. F. Saunders
ACA Commodore 1876-78

The Shadow Canoe
Designed by Mr. Alden
Built by Mr. Isidore Everson in 1878. Was owned by Mr. Vaux.

The Shadow, first model owned by Mr. Alden.

The "Pot" was the third of the model.