August 23.—Descended valley, which soon narrowed to a gorge with room for nothing but the torrent. Were told we should have to cross the torrent twenty-eight times. Seemed to do nothing but jump or ford the streams. Had our mid-day meal in a beautiful little glade. Ferns with fronds 5 feet 8 inches long. Mehemet fell into torrent with one of cameras. Continued descent. Rain (hitherto we had had perfect weather). Rain increased in heaviness. Horses all through the day performed incredible feats. Up and down richly-wooded ridges. Splendid beech trees. Rank, heavy-smelling vegetation. Thunder storm. Everybody wet to the skin. Very hospitably received by *Yusbashi* in his new house at Samaroffka. Height, 4,050 feet.

August 24.—Fine view of Basardjusi high above the end of a valley, like Jungfrau from Interlaken. Rocks of peak covered with new snow. All grateful for our escape. Had we been three or four hours later we should have been prisoners in the forest, as it would have been impossible to cross the torrent. Rode *viâ* Bum to Kutkashin. The inhabitants were Tartars and Armenians. Rich vegetation. Every other tree a fruit tree. Vines streaming from the tops of poplar and other large trees. Village market curious sight. Beautiful wooded hills. Left Kutkashin at 2.30 P.M. in a tree horse-carriage. Reached Chelibi at 6.15. Slept under a sort of large verandah of caravanserai. Mosquitoes.

August 25.—To Noucha. Mountains shrouded in cloud.

August 26.—To Evlak and Tiflis.

The programme of our intended tour to a further group of mountains in Daghestan was curtailed owing to the many delays we had hitherto experienced, and to the bad weather that had set in. We crossed the Dariel, *en route* for Moscow.

Some few photographs were taken, and plants collected.

G. P. Baker.

ALPINE NOTES.

The Hühnerstock.—On September 15, 1886, we made the first ascent of the Hühnerstock (3,348 mètres) in the Bernese Oberland.* A point somewhere close by was ascended on July 10, 1889, by Pfarrer Baumgartner, of Brienz, and some friends, but the details at first given did not state the route followed, mentioning only that a peak of 3,340 mètres had been climbed. Hence, in recording this ascent in these pages,† Mr. Coolidge, as Editor, inserted the following note, 3,110 having been unluckily misprinted for 3,310:—'It is probable that this peak is identical with that marked 3,110 on the Siegfried map, for the 1886 party saw no point near the peak climbed by them which seemed to be as high as a point of 3,340 mètres.'

Pfarrer Baumgartner has now published ‡ an interesting account of

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* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xiii. pp. 121, 309–313. † *Ibid.* xiv. p. 504.
‡ *S. A. C. Jahrbuch*, vol. xxv. pp. 126–141.

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his expedition, while on p. 521 of the same volume the Editor has thought it well to insert a reproving—even discourteous—note. It is quite clear that Pfarrer Baumgartner's party did not climb the point 3,310 mètres, but a higher point on the S.W. ridge of the peak, somewhere between 3,310 and 3,348. The ascent was made by the W. arête (ours by the E. arête and N.E. face), and the appropriate name Hinter Hühnerstock has been given to it.

The point to which we wish to demur is the suggestion that this peak is very nearly, if not quite, as high as ours. Pfarrer Baumgartner himself marks it 'circa 3,340' on his sketch, while in the text he says (p. 127), it is 'about the same height,' and (p. 134) that though our peak (the cairn on which his party clearly saw) seemed to be higher than his, yet that this may have been an optical delusion, and that in any case the difference in height is 'very small' ('minime'). The Editor of the 'Jahrbuch,' in his summary of 'New Expeditions' (p. 520) boldly states that it is 'circa 3,348 mètres.'

Now we ourselves, and our two guides (young Christian Almer and his brother Rudolf), have a perfectly clear and distinct recollection of the fact that when on our top we saw no point close by which came anywhere near that on which we were seated. As may be seen in Mr. Gardiner's narrative, we were on the top for an hour in very clear weather, and thoroughly examined every ridge and face of the mountain to see if we could not discover a better way down than the very difficult one by which we had ascended. But a neighbouring pinnacle of even 3,340 mètres would have entirely blocked our view, and that most certainly was quite uninterrupted. Christian Almer, as well as Mr. Coolidge, has carefully read Pfarrer Baumgartner's article, and is quite certain on this point.

It would seem as if Pfarrer Baumgartner's point is a pinnacle on the S.W. ridge of the peak, which is somewhat higher than 3,310, and from which no doubt 3,348—some way off—might seem to be only slightly higher. On the other hand, from 3,348 such a pinnacle could not easily be distinguished from the others which abound on all the ridges of the peak, and would be practically invisible. We think that this is the explanation of Pfarrer Baumgartner's and Herr Wäber's misapprehension, which we desire to set right publicly in order to avoid future confusion. We are very pleased to find that the veteran Pfarrer of Brienz, who has so thoroughly explored the Grimsel-Urbachthal group, has visited this corner of the range, and confirms our impression of the great difficulty of reaching the Hühnerstock ridge from every side. It is certainly one of the most difficult ascents that we have, either of us, ever made.

W. A. B. Coolidge.
Frederick Gardiner.

Val de Bagnes.—The new Club hut built by the Geneva section of the S.A.C. on the Chanrion Alp was formally opened on August 24. We understand that it is very well situated and constructed, and that it is able to accommodate thirty or forty persons. We regret to hear of a gross piece of discourtesy which was offered to two well-known members of the Alpine Club, shortly before the opening of the

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hut, by the member entrusted with the superintendence of the workmen. On August 13 Messrs. Coolidge and Gardiner, intending to ascend the Ruinette on the following day, went up to Chanrion. Knowing that the hut was nearly completed, they thought that they might not improbably be allowed to profit by it. Soon after passing the shepherd's hut they fell in with the person in question. The remainder of the story may be given in their own words:—'We naturally explained our wishes to him, but were met by a torrent of abuse, couched in the most violent language. As we had only asked to be allowed to sleep in a corner of the hut, and to have the use of a saucepan and some blankets (we had provisions with us), we could not at first understand the meaning of this outburst. Finally it turned out that no one, except officials and workmen, was permitted to sleep in the hut till its formal inauguration on August 24. This regulation surprised us considerably, as we both had frequently had occasion to sleep in unfinished Club huts before they were formally inaugurated; but we of course admitted the right of the Geneva section to make such a regulation, however absurd it appeared to us, and withdrew to the shepherd's hut after a protest against the violent language and gestures of which the Geneva official had made use towards us.

'An hour later we went up to the hut to see how it was getting on. The framework and roof were quite complete, and the outside seemed to be quite finished, the workmen being occupied in fitting up the interior. We again encountered the above-mentioned official, to whom we made our names known, and to whom we expressed our intention of making public our protest against his unmeasured language, while fully acknowledging that the section could lay down any regulations about its huts that it thought fit. Once more we were treated to an outburst of fury such as we have rarely seen. Soon after our return to the shepherd's hut we were visited by two of the colleagues of this enraged official. They came, not to make any apologies for his conduct, but to offer us some blankets for use in the shepherd's hut. This offer (made most courteously) we declined with thanks, on the ground that their colleague had made it impossible for us to have anything to do with him and his friends. We further made it clear to them that we never had any intention of forcing our way into the Club hut, as their colleague had somehow imagined; and wish to acknowledge the courtesy with which these two gentlemen made the best of a bad case. The result was that our party of five (two amateurs, two guides, and a porter) spent the night in the shepherd's hut, which had that day been vacated and stripped of its contents by its usual occupants. The night of August 13–14 was one succession of violent thunderstorms, accompanied by heavy rain. As we lay on some hay, covered with two thin blankets, and under a roof pierced with many holes, it was impossible not to feel a little envious of the four members of the Geneva section and their workmen, who were snugly quartered in a roomy hut, furnished with a complete *batterie de cuisine*, and possessing a very large number of perfectly new blankets. We desire, therefore, to record our protest, not so much against the alleged regulation of the Geneva section as against the discourteous and violent way in which this regu-

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lation was made known to us. The regulation itself appears in the highest degree ridiculous when thus insisted on, and we feel sure that the Geneva section would have been ready to dispense with it under the circumstances of the case. But we wish to make it quite clear that our complaint is directed not so much against this absurd regulation, which it is quite within the competence of the section to make, as against the manner in which it was applied to us by the responsible official of the section.'

We feel sure that this conduct, so contrary to the spirit of *bonne camaraderie* which usually prevails in the Alps, cannot be justified by any instructions which can possibly have been given by the Geneva section, and that it will be entirely disavowed by them.

M. J. Janssen's Ascent of Mont Blanc.—The 'Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Sciences' (Tome cxi., No. 12, September 22, 1890) contains a communication from M. Janssen on his scientific ascent of Mont Blanc. The epithet is in every way suitable, for it was only by means of an ingenious sledge of special design that the ascent, which had a scientific object as its main purpose, was effected. The Academy, as a foot note informs readers, decided to print the communication in full, although the length greatly exceeded the prescribed six pages. From this special mark of distinction two conclusions may be drawn: one, that the paper was considered of special interest and value; the other, that an account of a mountain expedition has received the official stamp of the Académie des Sciences as admissible within the pale of scientific communications. For the—shall we say gymnastic?—portion of the account occupies some ten pages, and the scientific about one-half of that space. The principle of this proportion has long been adopted in the 'Alpine Journal;' at any rate the records of scientific observations seemed hitherto to have been indubitably less copious than those of mountain adventure. Yet the Alpine Club may take heart. It is not so often agreeable to see ourselves as others see us. We have been more scientific than we imagined. Even so was M. Jourdain surprised to learn—but I fancy this comparison has been utilised already.

There was no lack of determination on M. Janssen's part, and everything seems to have been done to make the expedition a success. Twenty-two guides and porters started from Chamonix, and went as far as the Cabane des Bosses. There the weather broke, and the party were forced to remain from the evening of the 18th to the morning of the 22nd of August. Ten of the porters went back to Chamonix during the interval, but the remaining twelve stuck to their work, and conveyed M. Janssen triumphantly to the summit. The descent to Chamonix was also effected without misadventure.

M. Janssen's principal scientific object was to determine, by means of spectroscopic observations, the presence or absence of oxygen in the solar atmosphere. The results of a journey to the Grands Mulets in 1888 (alluded to in terms dimly suggesting a now famous description of an ascent of Mont Blanc as 'à la fin d'octobre j'avais entrepris l'ascension du Mont Blanc jusqu'à la cabane dite des Grands-Mulets') had led him to suspect the probable absence of oxygen, and it was

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necessary to ascend to a known height above the Grands Mulets to extend and repeat the observations. At the higher station the action of the terrestrial atmosphere on the spectrum would be diminished in a known degree when compared with observations taken at the lower station, on the Eiffel Tower and the observatory at Meudon. Briefly, M. Janssen considers it an established fact ('une vérité qui est définitivement acquise'), from his observations, that oxygen is absent from the solar atmosphere. Physicists may or may not agree as to the sufficiency of proof, but no doubt the contribution to the settlement of a most important and difficult question—one affecting the very existence of life on our planet—is very valuable.

The limited space of the cabane, and the absence of special instruments or arrangements for simultaneous observations in other places, prevented any conclusion of value from being drawn as to the probable origin, force, and track of the violent gale of August 19, which kept the party imprisoned. M. Janssen concludes that the force and rate of the gale, when at its height, was far less than that of the destructive cyclone at Hong-Kong in 1874 in which he was overtaken while on a voyage to Japan. Notwithstanding the violence and persistence of the storm, the party seem to have suffered no great inconvenience, owing to the skilful construction of the cabane and the wise forethought shown in providing for all emergencies.

Of particular interest are M. Janssen's remarks on the physiological effects noted at the cabane and on the summit, for, as he observes, no previous traveller, in all probability, had ever ascended Mont Blanc without any physical exertion on his own part. He fully confirms the opinions that are generally entertained by travellers. At the cabane a disinclination for much sleep and increased activity of mind were noticed. Such conditions were entirely explicable by the circumstances of the expedition, and not due necessarily in any way to the elevation. On the summit M. Janssen found himself in full possession of his intellectual powers, and was able to carry through his scientific task without the smallest difficulty or fatigue. From this fact he concludes that the trouble De Saussure and others experienced in working at the summit was due to physical exhaustion. Mere climbers had found this out before. Precisely the same conclusion has been stated over and over again in the pages of the 'Alpine Journal,' and in discussions at the Club meetings on the same point speakers have practically always agreed that the question is merely one of 'condition.' M. Janssen is, however, altogether in error in the supposition 'que je suis le seul qui ait joui, dans cette circonstance, de l'intégrité de mes forces intellectuelles.' Can he have forgotten M. Loppé's remarkable studies of a sunset from the same point? I have many times seen the late W. F. Donkin set to work with his camera the moment he had arrived at a summit, looking after every detail as minutely and perfectly as if he were in a studio, or take boiling-point observations. Indeed, I have seen him do this in the Caucasus at a higher elevation than the summit of Mont Blanc. Elbruz, again, is more than half a mile higher than Mont Blanc, and the conditions of access are enormously more exacting. It is as trying

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to set up, focus, and attend to all details in taking a panoramic series of photographs as to take spectroscopic observations. Signor V. Sella, however, succeeded to perfection in so doing on Elbruz. The fact is that mountain sickness is a malady now almost out of date.

M. Janssen expresses the hope that an observatory may, before long, be built on or near the summit of Mont Blanc. Such things may come, no doubt. A cemetery seems for the moment to be more called for on most of the mountains. It will be easier to raise subscriptions to construct a restaurant on the top of the Jungfrau than a place for scientific observations on the highest point of French soil.

C. T. DENT.

M. VALLOT'S CABIN ON MONT BLANC.—M. Vallot, whose long sojourn and observations on the top of Mont Blanc two years ago attracted much interest,* has conferred a boon on all who desire to pursue scientific inquiries on the highest point in Central Europe, and has also done much to protect the ordinary tourist from the only real danger—that of sudden bad weather—of the Chamonix route, by causing to be erected on the rocks on the ridge, under the Bosses, and at about the level of the top of the Dôme du Gouter, a substantial shelter. The transport of the new hut was provided by the Bureau des Guides. It consists of two rooms, one for ordinary travellers, the second reserved for the storage of instruments and the use of observers. The traveller's room is warmed by an oil-stove, and well furnished with rugs. The building is a wooden framework with loose stone walls piled round it, and the roof is well furnished with lightning conductors. It is a short hour and a half from the top of Mont Blanc. One of the first to use the new hut was M. Janssen, of the Institute, and President of the French Alpine Club, who, being lame, was dragged to the summit of Mont Blanc on a sledge.

M. Janssen proposes early next year to erect a cabin at the Grands Mulets, more suited for scientific workers than the present crowded and disordered hut. The materials are already at Chamonix.

D. W. F.

GROSS GRÜNHORN (13,278 FEET) FROM CONCORDIA HÜTTE.—On August 8 Mr. R. A. Eskrigge and I, with Heinrich and Johann Zurflüh, made the ascent of the Gross Grünhorn from the Concordia. Leaving the hut at 2.30, we made straight for the rocks of the Grüneck, and turning round them sharply to the right, took to the maze of crevasses at the bottom of the Ewig Schnee Feld. Once clear of these, we went on nearly parallel to the ridge of the Grüneckhorn—at first on a sort of causeway, well marked on the Siegfried map, from which the glacier dips at each side; afterwards up steep snow-slopes—and at about 4.50 we were under the peak of the Grüneckhorn. From this point we worked gradually to the right, crossing some fine schrunds with little difficulty, till we had the Grünhorn in front of us. The ascent was completed by going up the snow to a notch in the south-west arête,† and climbing along rocks to the top,

* See *Ann. du C. Alp. Français*, vol. xv. p. 22,259.

† [From this point the route seems to be identical with that taken in the two previously recorded ascents. See *Alpine Journal*, vol. xiii. p. 121.]

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which was reached at 7.15. The descent to the hut took two hours and ten minutes, and it would have been materially shorter if the crevasses at the bottom had not by this time got into a state which demanded very great care. Higher up the glissading was splendid. The expedition occupied seven hours and twenty-five minutes, including one halt on the ascent, and half an hour spent at the top. It was hurried somewhat on account of the difficulty of passing the crevasses after the sun had been long on them. The view from the top is magnificent, as the mountain seems to stand in a ring-fence.

C. E. FREEMAN.

ON July 23 last Miss Pasteur, Miss Mary Pasteur, Messrs. Charles Pasteur, and Claude Wilson, with Auguste Cupelin, ascended and crossed the southernmost of the three main points on the ridge connecting the aiguilles 'Verte' and 'du Moine.' To distinguish this peak from its neighbours it is proposed, on account of its proximity to the Moine, to call it 'La Nonne.'

Leaving the Montanvers at 3.45, the summit was reached at 1.30, the route taken being by the couloir to the N. of the Moine and the rocks on its left, the last few hundred feet proving decidedly difficult. Descending towards the 'Jardin,' but little difficulty was experienced till within three or four hundred feet of the snow, when the broken rocks gave place to a smooth glacier-worn wall, the descent of which was effected by a very steep and narrow chimney, situated almost vertically below the summit, and terminating in a platform some thirty or forty feet above the snow, which was reached at 5 o'clock by means of a traverse to the S. The party regained the Montanvers at 8 P.M.

THURWIESER SPITZE (3,648 mètres=11,965 feet).—On September 16 Herr Bäckmann, of St. Petersburg, with Alois Pinggera and Alois Kuntner, of Sulden, succeeded in traversing the narrow edge which joins this peak to the Trafoier Eiswand. The passage from one summit to the other occupied four hours, and seems to have presented serious difficulties at two points only—viz. the descent from the Eiswand to the ridge, and the final climb from this to the peak of the Thurwieser.

ROCKY MOUNTAINS.—We learn that Herren Huber and Sulzer, of the S. A. C., have succeeded in reaching the summit of Mount Sir Donald.

A CIRCULAR RAINBOW.—Mrs. Main writes: 'On September 30, Theophil Boss and I, with Ulrich Kaufmann and Jossi, went up the Finsteraarhorn. When within twenty minutes or so of the top, one of the guides suddenly called our attention to a rainbow, which formed a complete circle. It lay like a ring on the clouds which hung over the Grimsel side of the Finsteraarjoch, and seemed about 3,000 feet below us. The time was 10.30 A.M.' She adds that the phenomenon remained in view for about an hour. Both the primary and the secondary bows were visible, the colours in the former being very vivid. It is described as subtending about the same angle as a penny piece, held a yard from the eye. No rain fell either before or after, though the weather at one time had seemed threatening. A similar phenomenon is said to have been more than once observed on the Faulhorn.

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THE PELVO D'ELVA.—The few English travellers who have visited the ranges around Monte Viso cannot fail to have been struck by a rocky point which rises just south of Castel Delfino, and seems a natural belvedere. But no doubt the greater point has overshadowed the lower, and hence the Pelvo d'Elva is unknown to the travelling public. Mr. Ball's allusion * to the Pelvo d'Elva leaves it uncertain whether he went up it. Even in Signori Martelli and Vaccarone's great 'Guida delle Alpi Occidentali' (i. 115) two lines of small type are thought sufficient for a mountain which ought to be well known to Italian climbers at least. Signor Vaccarone in his 'Statistica delle Prime Ascensioni' (3rd edition, No. 111) tells us that Captain Cossato, of the Sardinian Etat Major, made the first ascent in 1836 from the Bellino side, and he doubtless built the great cairn which now crowns it. The new Italian map fixes its height at 3,064 mètres (= 10,053 feet). That was all the information which I could collect as regards a mountain which had interested me for some years. Excessive heat prevented me from going up it in September 1879, when I crossed the Colle della Bicocca, and it was not till the summer of 1890 that I was able to carry out my project.

As in 1879, the weather was very fine, and appallingly hot. On June 24 young Christian Almer and I arrived at Castel Delfino, over the mountains, and next day took a rest, as the amazing amount of snow had made our previous day's walk very laborious. The morning of June 26 was cloudless, though the natives were panting with heat and praying for rain, and so we started off for the Colle della Bicocca. And here I must confess that this col thoroughly beats me. I can neither understand the printed descriptions of it nor can I describe how I reached it. But I am sure that our way was not the right way, as it consisted mainly of hauling oneself up by the roots of trees, an amusing pursuit no doubt, but one not recommended on a blazing hot day. I fancy the right path—mules traverse the col—starts from the village of Bellino. However, in rather under 3 hrs. we overcame the 3,000 feet odd which separate Castel Delfino and the col, and lay panting on the grassy ridge, watching a whole crowd of people who had come up from the other side to collect wood to which they have no legal right. The Viso towered opposite, perfectly clear, but loaded with snow to an extent which was simply amazing, while all around rose familiar peaks and passes disfigured by the same belated snow. Our peak rose grandly to the S.W. An easy ridge seemed to lead straight towards it, and we reckoned that an hour and a half would suffice to climb the 2,625 feet remaining. No doubt it ought to have sufficed; but it did not. The ridge was far longer than it seemed, and the heat seemed to increase instead of diminishing. We passed several entrenchments and one watchman's hut, all relics of the days preceding the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, by which Castel Delfino ceased to be part of Dauphiné, and became Piedmontese. It took us, indeed, an hour and a half to reach the base of the peak, which from the col had seemed quite near! Then out of sheer perversity we resolved to climb up by

* *Guide to the Western Alps*, p. 14.

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the steep and rocky N.E. arête, though finally at the end we were forced on to the easy E. face. The heat was maddening, and no water was to be had, except what came from some melting snow. In this way we took 2 hrs. from the base of the peak, or 3½ hrs. from the col, so that our ascent will certainly rank as the most leisurely on record.

But our toil and trouble were amply rewarded, though the plains were shrouded in mist, and light clouds floated around. All the Maritime and Cottian Alps lay unrolled before us, while Castel Delfino lay at our feet. It was rather hard to identify old friends in their thick mantle of snow, but we soon managed to pick them out. In fact, the Pelvo d'Elva is an ideal view point whence to study these little-known ranges, while on a clear day the plains must be very well seen. The scene is thoroughly Italian, and yet Alpine at the same time; and, if only one could have been impervious to heat, this excursion, which I heartily recommend to all travellers who find themselves at Castel Delfino, would have left none but the pleasantest recollections. We went back to the col in 1 hr. 35 min. by the proper way down the E. face, and in 1 hr. 35 min. more—by forest paths, but once more not the usual route—regained the quaint and very Italian Albergo di Francia, where hospitable M. and Madame Richard did all they could to make us comfortable during our three days' stay. I hope that some of my readers may enjoy as fine a view from the Pelvo as we did, and that they will not suffer so much from the heat. W. A. B. Coolidge.

The Chartreuse du Reposoir.—I do not know that any traveller has described a visit to this large Carthusian house, 2 hrs. distant from Cluses, since De Saussure told the world how his party frightened the brothers, who believed them to be brigands descending from the mountains. Yet it is worth a visit in itself, and the scenery of the glen in which it lies is very pleasing. The ascent of the peak of the Pointe Percée from this side is more troublesome than from Sallanches, for it is protected by a great limestone 'desert' it is hard to evade. The best general direction that can be given is to strike the ridge that divides the glen of the Reposoir and the valley of Le Grand Bornand as high as possible and then make for the gully in the cliffs which lies W. of it. When this becomes precipitous it is not difficult to climb the rocks under the N.W. ridge of the peak, on which a few yards beyond the point at which the route from Sallanches I have described in these pages * crosses that ridge, the two routes join. Inexperienced travellers should not attempt the mountain without local knowledge, as the rocks are steep, and a slight deviation from the narrow track might lead them into danger. There is a homely inn at the hamlet near the Reposoir. As an alternative to the direct descent to Sallanches I can recommend the walk round the slopes through Cordon and Comblaux to St. Gervais. D. W. F.

Couttet *dit* Baguette.—As we go to press the news arrives of the death of this well-known member of the Chamonix community, under whose roof many generations of mountaineers have lodged. A fuller notice of him will appear in the February number.

* Vol. xii. p. 148.

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JEAN-ANTOINE CARREL AND THE GORRETS, IN 1865 AND 1890.—It is noticeable not only that Carrel should have died on the Matterhorn, but also that Signor Sinigaglia's other guide on that mountain this last summer should bear the name of Gorret. After Carrel and Maquignaz had failed, along with Signor Giordano and Signor Sella, on July 15, 1865, in their attempt to reach the summit, the Abbé Amé Gorret, who was at Breuil when the party returned, was the only man at once prepared to second the (well-remembered) determination immediately arrived at by Carrel—to try again; and it was an act of no small self-sacrifice on the part of the Abbé—the strongest of the party of four—three days later, when he remained behind with Meynet on the top of 'a gullet with perpendicular sides,' only a short distance below the long-coveted goal. From this point Carrel and Bich were let down, and on their return from the summit were hauled up again by Gorret and Meynet. Such are some of the incidents connected with the first ascent of the great peak from Val Tournanche. And it fell to the lot of Charles Gorret to minister, twenty-five years later, to the famous Italian guide in his last moments before dying on the mountain which he loved so well. It was not until after he had received the best care his companions could give him that Carrel succumbed to cold. The Gorrets are a chivalrous race. F. T. WETHERED.

P.S.—I shall never forget the great instinct for rockwork of which Carrel gave evidence when he led me to the summit of the Dent Blanche in 1876—a mountain on which neither he himself nor any of our party of three had ever been previously.—F. T. W.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND WINTER DINNER.—The Annual General Meeting of the Alpine Club will be held at the Club Rooms on the evening of Monday, December 15. The Picture Exhibition and Winter Dinner will take place at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, December 16. Loans of pictures, photographs, and mountaineering appliances will be gladly welcomed, and it is requested that all communications relating to such loans may be sent as early as possible to the Honorary Secretary of the Club, F. O. Schuster, Esq., 50 Belsize Square, South Hampstead, N.W.

Errata in August Number.

Page 197, line 8 from bottom, *for* 'Besioch Pass' *read* 'Bies Joch'; and in the following line *for* 'de Diablons' *read* 'des D.'
Page 229, line 25, *for* 'Forster' *read* 'Foster.'
„ 229, „ 37, *for* 'The First Passage' *read* Mr. Moore's 'Passage.'
„ 230, „ 13, *for* 'Trudière' *read* 'Frudière'; and *for* 'ft.' *read* 'mètres.'

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