done since that season, and we were handicapped by 3 ft. of fresh snow. Three days later he went up with me again, crossing on this occasion to the Bernina, and choosing his way along the arête so skilfully that we never met with one really hard step, and were back at St. Moritz before dark. The same year Roman made with Mr. Garwood the first ascent of the Täschhorn from the Dom, as well as many difficult ascents in the Dolomites. He subsequently repeated his Dolomite climbs with Mr. B. Wainewright, and invariably led and came down last.

Last autumn, with his father and me, he crossed the Rothhorn twice in one day. He also led us up the Schallihorn by a new route up the central south ridge. On September 25 his father and I made the last ascent either of us ever accomplished with Roman, and strangely enough it was of the Lyskamm. As we stood together on the summit we looked at that fatal ridge from the Lysjoch, of which Roman often said, 'I don't like it, you never know whether you are on the cornice or not,' and then we retraced our steps down the Italian side of the mountain. This is not the place to discuss the catastrophe of September 10. Full details will be found elsewhere. But Roman's friends, and they are many, know well that a better guide never lived, and feel a sharper pang of regret for his loss as having occurred on a place where no skill could have availed.

Roman lies in the little churchyard at St. Nicholas close to the graves of the three Knubels who perished on the same mountain. The value we, who knew him well, attach to his memory, will be borne witness to by the stone which his English friends are placing over his last resting place as a mark of our appreciation of his many noble qualities, and of his ability as a first-class guide.

E. M.

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1896.

[Contributors of 'New Expeditions' are requested to observe the following rules:—(1) To forward their accounts in the form in which they are to appear. (2) To prefix the name of the peak or pass from the best map, and the altitude both in mètres and feet in a parenthesis after the name. (3) To give the date of the ascent, and the names of the party. (4) To give exact references to any previously published descriptions of allied routes to which they may have occasion to refer. (5) To write the description with the best existing map before them, and to quote the figures of any measured point their route may touch. (6) To use always the points of the compass instead of the misleading words 'right' and 'left.' (7) To record their 'times' exclusive of halts. (8) To make their descriptions as brief as possible consistently with the above considerations. (9) To write on one side of the paper only, leaving a large margin, and to begin a new sheet for each expedition.]

Dauphiné District.

Les Bans (3,651 m.=11,979 ft.) by the South Arête. *July* 25.—MM. A. Reynier and C. Verne, with Maximin Gaspard, Joseph Turc, and Casimir Turc, made this new route, which enables a

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party to take this fine peak on the way from Ville Vallouise to La Bérarde. Towards the south end of the great east rocky wall of Les Bans there is a spur of rock, projecting into the Bans Glacier. Rounding this spur on its north side, its crest was attained in 2½ hrs. from the starting point, a bivouac ¼ hr. below the foot of the Bans Glacier. The crest of this spur was followed to the main south wall of the peak, which was climbed, mainly by rocky couloirs, to its crest (2 hrs. 40 min.), the rocks being very steep and rotten. An hour along the ridge, first on its west, finally on its east flank, brought them to the south summit of Les Bans. The party was of opinion (a single observation with a level not having been satisfactory) that the difference between the north and south summits is very slight. This differs from the result obtained in 1895.* The descent to La Bérarde was made by the ordinary route.

Pic d'Arsine (3,240 m.=10,630 ft.). *June* 24.—M. Reynier made the first ascent of this point, in 25 min. from the Col des Agneaux, by a snow slope and easy rocks. Three hours had been taken from the Col d'Arsine to the Col des Agneaux, the fresh snow being very soft and deep.

Pic du Dragon (3,188 m.=10,460 ft.). *April* 27.—M. P. d'Aiguebelle, with Louis Faure, made the first ascent of this summit. Following from Alpe the route up the west side of the Brèche du Dragon, or Brèche Gaspard, they climbed along the ridge separating the glen leading up to that pass from the Agneaux glen to its junction with the main ridge, a few minutes along which led to the peak (5 hr. slow walking from Alpe). The ascent is very easy and the view very fine.

Pic de Neige Cordier (3,615 m.=11,831 ft.) by the North Arête. *July* 6.—The last-named party made this new route. Starting from Alpe, they went up towards the Col d'Arsine, and mounted the left bank of the Arsine Glacier to the foot of the couloir coming down from the gap between the Pic de Neige Cordier and the Pic d'Arsine. The rocks on the left bank of this couloir were climbed to that gap, whence in about 1½ hr. more by the snowy north arête (then in excellent condition) the Pic de Neige was attained. Six hours walking from the inn at Alpe.†

Rocher de l'Encoula (3,538 m.=11,608 ft.) by the North Arête. *July* 23.—Messrs. H. A. Beeching and P. A. L. Pryor, with Roman Imboden, made this new route. Leaving La Bérarde at 3.50 A.M., the party reached at 6 A.M. a huge boulder in the flat part of the Etages valley, a little beyond the Fontaine torrent of M. Duhamel's map. They thence mounted in an eastern direction to the foot of a long snow couloir (estimated length over 2,000 ft.), which led them (at 10.10 A.M.) to the foot of the north arête of the desired

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 573.

† The notes of these four expeditions are taken from the *Revue Alpine*, 1896, pp. 235–6, 291–2. Mountaineers interested in the Maurienne and Tarentaise will find some very useful notes in the same periodical (pp. 236, 264, 292) relating to certain new routes made in those districts by M. Paillon and some friends.

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peak, somewhat higher than the lowest point on the ridge between the peak and the Grande Aiguille. This north arête was then ascended (chiefly on its west side, the three rock towers being thus turned) to the summit of the peak, which was gained in 6¾ hrs. actual walking from La Bérarde. The return was made by the ordinary route down the east face. For the benefit of those who have no local knowledge it is suggested that in the 'Dauphiny Climbers' Guide,' p. 110, line 12, after the word 'circle' some such words as the following might be inserted: 'crossing the head of a deep ravine by a narrow grass ridge, and following the ill-defined sheep tracks.'

Cogne District.

Col de Pila (*c.* 10,050 ft.). *August* 10.—Mr. G. Yeld, with François and Silvain Pession, of Val Tournanche, crossed this pass, which lies just S.W. of the Pointe d'Arpisson (3,252 m.). They reached it from Cogne *viâ* the Arpisson chalets in a snow-storm, but before this the clouds had lifted, so that they saw the exact position of the peak and the pass. Times have unfortunately been lost, but they would hardly have been average ones if they had been preserved, as the party went slowly from the chalets to the col, whereas from the col to Cogne they raced two-thirds of the way. The name was suggested by the Pila huts in the Val de Grauson.

Mont Blanc District.

Pointe du Piolet (3,679 m. = 12,071 ft.) *August* 14.—The same party made the first ascent of this peak, starting from the Triolet Club hut. Progress in the deep snow was excessively laborious, so that the party took nearly 6 hrs. up, the return being made in 3½ hrs. actual walking. The mountain has four points; the lowest is that nearest to the Col du Piolet (from which the name suggested above was taken). Had the snow been less troublesome the party would have ascended the other three points; as it was, they climbed what seemed to them the highest—namely, the third counting W. from the Col du Piolet. On the ascent they went nearly straight up, while on the descent they kept more towards the E.

Aiguille de Tronchey (3,500 m. = 11,483 ft.). *August* 19.—The same party made the first ascent of this beautiful peak, which is the highest on the ridge between the Grandes Jorasses and the Aig. de l'Evêque. Leaving the chalet of La Vachey at 2.40 A.M., they attained the summit at 12.4 P.M.—actual walking, 6¼ hrs. They did not touch the Tronchey Glacier (from which the name of the peak is taken), but kept to its E. On the way down they descended to the grass as fast as possible, 3 hrs. 13 min. walking; after that they went very slowly. The whole party were of opinion that the mountain is considerably higher than the height of 3,500 m. assigned to it on Mieulet's map. (No height given on Kurz's map.)

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Chamonix District.

Aiguille des Petits Charmoz (2,868 m. = 9,410 ft., Kurz's Map).—On July 5 Messrs. J. H. Wicks and C. Wilson, and Miss Mary Pasteur ascended the Petits Charmoz by the S. arête. The col between the Charmoz and the Little Charmoz was reached by a rock scramble from the Mer de Glace side, whence the arête was followed pretty closely to the top, though in two or three places a small détour had to be made on to one or other face. The ascent afforded 3 hrs. of good rock-climbing, and, as far as can be ascertained, it had not been previously made, though the col has been reached from the Nantillons side, and the ascent completed by skirting along the W. face, somewhat below the ridge.

Dent du Requin. *July* 9.—Messrs. J. H. Wicks and C. Wilson, with Alfred Simond, made the second ascent of this peak, by a route part of which is new. They ascended a steep little glacier which runs up into the S. face, and at its head attacked the rocks most to the W., near the foot of the S.W. arête. Profiting by experience gained on previous attempts,* they then kept well to the left (practically on the S.W. arête) till within 200 ft. of the point marked I. on the diagram given in 'Alpine Journal,' xvii. p. 16. They next worked diagonally upwards towards the right, by some difficult climbing joined the 1893 route at the point marked 2, and followed it, with little, if any, variation, to the summit.

Arolla and Valpelline District.

Petite Dent de Veisivi (3,189 m. = 10,463 ft.) by the S.E. Arête. *August* 17.—Messrs. F. Aston-Binns and O. K. Williamson, with Jean Maître and a porter, climbed in 2 hrs. from the Col de Zarmine to the top of this peak, keeping throughout on the crest of the S.E. arête, and traversing all the 'gendarmes' (some five in number), instead of passing below them, as had been done by previous parties. A large red pinnacle, about the middle of the ridge, and conspicuous from Arolla, could only be climbed by squeezing through a curious 'window' behind it, and then stepping across a striking chasm on to this pinnacle from a sharp splinter of rock which runs up to its W. The descent from the peak was made by the usual route by the W. arête.

Point 3,576 mètres (11,733 ft.) of the Mont Brulé; Aigle de l'Ancien (3,411 m. = 11,191 ft.); Aigle de Lenaie (3,146 m. = 10,322 ft.). *July* 15.—M. Julien Gallet, with Antoine Bovier, senior and junior, made the first ascent of these three peaks, all indicated and named on the Italian map. Starting from Arolla, they reached in 5 hrs. 40 min. the summit of the Mont Brulé (3,621 m.). Thence, without meeting any great difficulties, they followed the S. arête to the *point* 3,576 *m.* (25 min.), and, continuing in the same direction, reached the *Aigle de l'Ancien* in 40 min.

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 87.

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more, though the ridge was rather more difficult—there are two depressions in it, and a tower on it must be turned by an ice couloir on the W. A descent of 25 min. more led the party to the *Aigle de Lenaie*. Hence 2 hrs. 5 min. were employed in the descent (towards the end in the bed of a torrent) of the very steep rock wall on the E. to the Prarayé glen, Prarayé itself being gained in 1¼ hr. more.

Becca Vannetta (3,387 m. = 10,949 ft.). *July* 16.—The same party made the first ascent of this peak. Starting from Prarayé, they mounted the Combe d'Oren, but instead of making for the Col de Collon climbed the rocks to the W. of the Col de l'Aurier Noir, in order to gain the ridge. But bad weather and clouds forced them to the N., so that by snow-fields they gained the Col de l'Aurier Noir itself in 4 hrs. 40 min. from Prarayé. After waiting there an hour the mists cleared away, and the party mounted quickly in 10 min. to the *point marked* 3,379 *m.* on the Italian map. Thence they followed the ridge in a S. direction, but found after passing the *point marked* 3,367 *m.* that the arête became more difficult, there being gendarmes and a gully to be crossed. After 50 min. work they attained the summit of the *Becca Vannetta*, whence they saw a great cairn on the Monte Chavante (3,323 m.), more to the S. The weather did not permit of any further explorations. The party therefore returned in 1 hr. 5 min. by the same route to the Col de l'Aurier Noir, and thence reached the Col de Collon (55 min.), and Arolla in 2½ hrs. more.

Mont Blanc de Seilon (3,871 m. = 12,701 ft.) by the N. Arête. *July* 20.—The same party effected this difficult new route. The foot of the peak was gained in 3 hrs. 50 min. from Arolla by way of the Pas de Chèvres. A quarter of an hour took them up a slope of snow to the gap between the main peak and the rocky spur, 3,222 m. (known as the 'Tête à Cust'). The N. arête was then attacked. The first third was fairly easy. Then enormous and very steep slabs of rock (which seen from below form a reddish pyramid) were encountered. It was found difficult to cross these, and the slope of hard ice on the E. had to be mounted for a few steps. Then came a series of towers and gullies, so that it was only after a struggle of 5 hrs. from the gap that the summit of the peak (to which the N. arête leads direct) was gained. The Col de Seilon was reached by the W. arête in 1 hr., and Arolla in 2½ hrs. more by the usual route.

M. Clapier (3,357 m. = 11,014 ft.). *July* 21.—Mr. Alfred Topham, with Jean Maître and Pierre Maurice, made the first ascent of this peak. The shortest way from Bionaz round the S. base of the buttress marked 2,887 m. on the Italian map is to go past the C. Primo, and thence by a nearly level cow-path into the Faudery glen. This glen is then mounted for about ¼ hr. by a path on the crest of an old grass-grown moraine, which leads up the middle of the glen. Then they went W., up very steep grass slopes, and struck a steep 'ghyll' with a stone wedged into it, this being the only means of rounding the buttress, except at a much lower level.

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The stone can be passed outside or by climbing behind it. From the top of the 'ghyll' it was necessary to descend about 50 ft., in order to reach the foot of the Clapier-Morion ridge over grass and débris. The ascent straight up the face of this ridge presented no great difficulty, the crest being gained at a point immediately next to the deep depression S.W. of M. Morion. The ridge was then followed in a S.W. direction, five cairns being built on the points crossed, the last one, although not the highest, being the summit of the M. Clapier as placed on the Italian map. The descent was made direct from the summit across the steep face by many gullies and chimneys, the original route being rejoined at the foot of the rocks. When descending to Bionaz it is not easy to find the top of the 'ghyll.'

Times: Bionaz to foot of peak, 3¼ hrs.; to crest of ridge, 3 hrs.; to the M. Clapier, 1 hr. Descent to débris, 2 hrs.; to Bionaz, 2 hrs.

Becca Bovet (3,404 m. = 11,169 ft.). *July* 23.—The same party made the first ascent of this summit, as well as of the two points marked 3,283 m. and 3,319 m. on the Italian map, all three rising in the centre of a long line of numbered peaks on the fine ridge separating the Val Sassa from the Valpelline. The name Becca Bovet was given to the culminating point in honour of the *curé* of Bionaz, Pantaleone Bovet, who has the shooting over this range. From the Valpelline the party ascended the Val Sassa to the glacier at its head. They then mounted diagonally in a S.W. direction up red rocks to point 3,283, and crossed over point 3,319 to the summit of the Becca Bovet, the arête being very interesting. A big cairn, with a staff in it, could be seen on the Becca Chatelnin, 3,208 m. to the S.W., this peak being accessible from all sides. The view from the Becca Bovet of the Otemma range, about the nomenclature of the peaks and passes on which there has been some discussion, was most instructive. After building a cairn on the summit the party descended by bad rocks in an E. direction, and finally went down by a stone-bombarded couloir to the Lac Mort. Prarayé was gained by way of the Lac Long and the Bas Oren Alp.

Times: Bionaz to C. Boetta, 2 hrs.; to Sassa Glacier, 1 hr.; to 3,283, 1 hr.; to the Becca Bovet, 1¼ hr. Down to the Lac Long, 1½ hr., and 1½ hr. more to Prarayé.

Monte Rosa District.

Variation of the Mischabeljoch. *August* 9, 1895.—Messrs. Alfred Holmes, Eric Greenwood, J. J. Brigg, and W. A. Brigg, when descending from this pass down the Weingarten Glacier, followed the route of the first party,* till forced by the icefall on to the rock ridge which terminates in the point marked 3,234 m. on the Siegfried map. Instead of leaving the rocks for the icefall they reached this ridge by easy rocks, and descended by easy, though

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. i. p. 129.

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somewhat rotten, rocks on to the N. branch of the Weingarten Glacier, which lies between the above-mentioned ridge and the S.W. arête of the Täschhorn. This branch was then followed down to the main Weingarten Glacier. In this way the icefall is avoided, while a near view is gained of the S.W. arête (or 'Teufelsgrat') of the Täschhorn.

Bernese Oberland.

KLEIN BREITHORN (*c.* 3,500 m. = 11,484 ft.) AND FEENKINDLSPITZ (*c.* 3,400 m. = 11,155 ft.). *July* 25.—These names are suggested for two peaks on the ridge running nearly due S. from the Lauterbrunnen Breithorn to the Burstspitzen. They were first climbed by Mr. H. V. Reade, with Theodor and Johann Kalbermatten, of Ried, on the chance that Messrs. Benecke and Cohen might have been attempting to climb them when they lost their lives on July 16, 1895. No traces, however, of any previous ascent were found. The ridge seems to have been known to Mr. Benecke as the Feenkindl; hence the name proposed for the lower peak, which is conspicuous from the Inner Faflerthal, and, indeed, seems to be the top of the Breithorn itself. The second and higher summit is separated from the Breithorn by a big gap, up to which a very steep couloir runs from the W. By this couloir and the S. face (a steep ice-slope) the Breithorn has occasionally been ascended. The Klein Breithorn is well seen from the Petersgrat.

The 1896 party reached the summit of this ridge from the Inner Thalgletscher on the W. by a tolerably direct ascent up easy rock and patches of snow. It was much too broken to follow at first, so that the W. face was traversed for about an hour. Then the crest of the ridge was regained, and both peaks traversed, the lower being attained in an hour, and the higher in an hour more. It was a fine rock climb throughout, especially for the last two hours, when several towers had to be surmounted. The total times (actual walking) from Ried were 7 hrs. 50 min. up and 5 hrs. down.

JÄGIHORN (3,510 m. = 11,516 ft.). *July* 28.—M. Julien Gallet, with Joseph and Gabriel Kalbermatten, made the first ascent of this peak, which had defied several previous attacks. Starting from Ried, they went up the Lötschthal as far as Eisten, then mounted to the right by a fatiguing goats' path, climbed up the rocks between the Inner Standbach and Augstkummen Glaciers, and by a very steep snow slope gained the Breitlauijoch in 5 hrs. 10 min. from Ried. This variant is thus much shorter than the route taken in 1895 by the late Messrs. Benecke and Cohen on the only previous passage of this col.* They thence crossed the glacier in a straight line towards the foot of the peak, traversing several great crevasses by good snow bridges (40 min.). They then climbed up granite slabs and an ice slope to the gap between the two peaks of the mountain. After going along the ridge in a N. direction for a short distance they traversed the W. flank of the peak, and by a

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 584.

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clamber up excellent granite rocks attained its summit in 2 hrs. 5 min. from its foot. The descent took 2 hrs. 20 min., as the party was caught in a great snowstorm, which prevented them for a long time from finding the Baltschiederjoch. Ried was regained after 15 hrs. out, hardly any halts having been made.

Lauterbrunnen Breithorn (3,779 m.= 12,398 ft.) by the N.E. Arête. *August* 2.—The same party, reinforced by Joseph Rubin, made this new route. Ried was left soon after midnight, the Fafler and Guggen Alps were traversed, and the Jägi Glacier ascended. The usual route to the Schmadrijoch was here left, the party bearing to the left in order to reach the great rock wall leading up to point 3,387 m. on the N.E. arête of the peak. Owing to the enormous quantity of fresh snow on this wall (which would probably be not very difficult under ordinary circumstances), and the crossing of two dangerous couloirs, the ascent required a very long time. Above the rock wall a very steep snow and ice slope finally led to the arête at 10 A.M. This arête was then followed throughout its entire length. For the first 1½ hr. it was not very difficult, though laborious, and in this way the tower which stopped Messrs. Benecke and Reade in 1893 was gained. During the next 2½ hrs., however, serious difficulties were encountered; it was necessary to traverse seven towers, separated from each other by very delicate 'corniches,' to move very carefully, and to use two ropes. At 2 P.M. the summit of the Breithorn was at length attained.

The descent was made by the W. arête to the Wetterlücke, the snow being very soft, and Ried regained at 8 P.M. after 18 hrs. actual walking. On the way up the Jägi Glacier, the party studied the chain between the Breithorn and the Burstspitzen. Its highest summit rises very boldly, and is very distinctly marked off from the Breithorn as well as from the Burstspitzen, though the Siegfried map does not indicate it. The guides called this peak 'Feenkindl.' It is that named 'Klein Breithorn' by Mr. Reade, who made its first ascent on July 25, 1896 (see above).

Unterbächjoch (*c.* 3,596 m.= 11,798 ft.). *September* 16.—Mr. F. A. Satow, with Joseph Gentinetta and Alois Eyer, effected this new pass over the ridge connecting the Nesthorn with the Unterbächhorn. Starting from the Oberaletsch Club hut, the party crossed the Oberaletsch Glacier, and kept at first well to the S. of the buttress which runs down to the rocks marked 2,804 m. on the Siegfried map. They then worked up through the crevasses of the glacier flowing from the Unterbächhorn, until they were able to take to that buttress near its junction with the main ridge. The face of the main ridge was gained by means of a steep snow slope, and then the party, striking straight up the rocks, reached the crest of that ridge, just below and to the S. of the point marked 3,617 m. (4 hrs. from the Club hut). They then descended the steep S.W. face of the ridge, keeping straight down the rocks until about two-thirds of the way down the wall. Then they bore to the S., crossed a rock couloir, and descended to Auf den Gändern,

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reaching the waterfall in 2½ hrs. from the new pass. Thence Mund was gained in 1½ hr. more through the Gredetsch valley.

Albula District.

PIZ VADRET (3,226 m. = 10,585 ft.) BY THE N.W. ARÊTE. *September* 16.—Mr. W. Wilson Greg, with Johann Engi (of Davos), effected this new route. Starting from Davos at 4.50 A.M., the party reached, at 7.30, Dürrboden, at the head of the Dischma valley. After an hour's rest for breakfast the ascent was commenced, the W. side of the Gross Grialetsch Glacier being followed till (at 11.40) the snow saddle between the Vadret and the Piz Grialetsch was attained. After a halt for lunch the N.W. ridge of the Vadret was attacked at 12.30. It was followed conscientiously over all the towers and a great deal of rotten rock, large flakes detaching themselves on the slightest provocation, so that the greatest care was required. The snow was in fairly good condition, and the rocks warm. The summit was reached in 2½ hrs. from the snow saddle. The return was made by the N. couloir to the Gross Grialetsch Glacier, Dürrboden being gained in 2½ hrs. from the top, and Davos at 10 P.M. the same evening.

Dolomites.

FIRST TRAVERSE OF THE PALA DI SAN MARTINO (2,996 m. = 9,730 ft.). *August* 24.—This was effected by the Rev. A. G. S. Raynor and Mr. J. S. Phillimore, with Antonio Dimai (of Cortina) and Luigi Rizzi (of Campitello). Leaving San Martino at 3.45 A.M., the Passo di Ball was reached at 6.30. At 8 the party entered the great couloir which divides the Pala from the Cima Immink on the S. After following the snow for some time they took to the rock edge of the Pala and coasted up slabby and rotten rocks covered with grit. This edge grew more and more difficult and precipitous, the couloir narrowing rapidly. Several exposed traverses of great difficulty round a projecting shoulder led to the first great block-stone. From this point the couloir may fairly be called a great chimney. This chimney breast, similar to that in the Schmitt Kamin, and not less difficult, was passed at 11.15. Hence the snow was again followed, and the second block stone (about 100 ft. higher) attained. It proved impossible to turn this by climbing out and round, so that it was necessary to force (with difficulty) a passage through a small hole in the upper corner of the cave below the stone—the whole of this cave being deeply glazed. A short scramble over iced rocks and screes led to the head of the couloir, a point named Forcella Dimai. The ascent of the couloir had taken 4½ hrs., while the danger from stones was extreme and continuous, partly from the great amount of ice and water on the upper walls of the Pala, partly from a high wind. But the couloir must apparently be raked by stones in all weathers, and the conditions of climbing make escape difficult.

From the Forcella Dimai a corresponding couloir falls away W.

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towards the Passo della Scaletta, and seemed far more inaccessible than the E. couloir. But an easy route leads up a chimney directly to the summit of the Cima Immink, suggesting a more attractive future traverse, which would include that peak as well as the Pala.

From the Forcella Dimai, left at 1.35 P.M., the party struck slightly W. of the line of it. The rocks at first were very wet and of considerable difficulty, but later were good and easier. The general trend was still very slightly W. of N., and the route lay up chimneys of great length. The summit of the Pala was reached at 4.5 P.M. It was left at 4.50, and the rocks on the ordinary route cleared at 6.30. Many steps had to be cut in the ice couloir, and the rest of the way was made by the light of a lantern, San Martino being regained at 10.45 P.M.

This expedition, which is difficult, very dangerous for the first part, and continuously interesting, will be fully described in the 'Mittheilungen des D. und Oe. A. V.'

CATENACCIO FROM THE E. (9,744 ft.). *August* 28.—The same party made this expedition in the Rosengarten group. Leaving the Sojal hut (above Perra di Fassa) at 5.30 A.M., they took to the rocks at 6.50, choosing the most prominent of the projections at the foot. The route was at first up wet and very steeply-pitched slabs, then up an easier shallow chimney and ridges, but the whole slope was so very sheer that after several hours' climbing it was still easy to throw a stone clear on to the screes below. The general direction was slightly N.; the face of the mountain as seen from Sojal is divided perpendicularly from the foot to the upper basin by a black line of watermark, and the route taken lay always S. of this. After a halt from 8.35 to 9 the above-mentioned line was touched at 10. The party then turned southwards under a great projecting plate of yellow rock. Some 120 ft. below this, a short chimney and a stretch of much exposed face-work brought them to the chief difficulty of the entire climb—a chimney 400 ft. long and only really broken at one point 30 ft. up. But for this point it was almost perpendicular and extraordinarily uniform, the breadth being 2–3 ft., and the depth often no greater. The clamber up this chimney took from 10.45 A.M. to 1.15 P.M. Then the difficulties ended and the upper basin was reached, whence ½ hr.'s easy climb led to the summit.

The top was left at 2.40, Gartl reached at 3.25, and Sojal at 4.28. Starting again at 5.20, Perra was gained at 6.12.

This climb is free from the danger of stone-falls, the rocks being sound and remarkable for the profusion of flowers, even within a few hundred feet of the summit. Dimai declared that the chimney was without equal in his experience for length and difficulty combined.

CRODA DA LAGO (8,805 ft.) FROM THE W. *August* 8.—The same party, with the substitution of Giovanni Siorpaes for Luigi Rizzi, made this ascent, following a line which probably differs from that taken by Signor Sinigaglia on occasion of the first *ascent*

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in 1895.* The climb is interesting, and includes one chimney and traverse of conspicuous difficulty, while it gives double as much rock as the other side. It joins the 1895 route (the second route up from the E.) at the 'Scharte' on the ridge. The rocks were attacked at 10.30, the 'Scharte' gained at 12.30, left at 1, and the summit reached at 1.35. Top left at 1.45, foot gained at 2.35. Total time out from Cortina, 10 hrs. 52 min.

FIGLIO DELLA ROSETTA (2,468 m. = 8,081 ft.). *August* 23.—The party of August 24 and 28 found a new route up this point by striking up the right-hand of the two divisions in the big chimney on the W. side. This gives 1½ hr.'s interesting rock work, and makes a pretty little afternoon's expedition. Total time out from San Martino, 5 hrs.

TOFANA DI MEZZO (3,241 m. = 10,634 ft.) FROM THE S.E. *August* 24.—Messrs. J. Stewart Mackintosh and N. Arthur Heywood, with Angelo Zangiacomi and Giuseppe Menardi, made this new route. Having gained the summit by the usual way, they started down at 11.25 A.M., and followed the S.E. arête for about 100 yards. Here they came upon a deep notch 12 ft. high, the near side of which overhung, so that they had to retrace their steps by a lower level towards the N.E., and back to the apex of the notch. From here they followed the general trend of the S.E. arête, descending easily over broad shelves thickly sprinkled with shale and boulders. About 20 min. after leaving the summit they reached a point where the arête became too steep. They then took a N.E. direction along a broad ledge for about 50 yds., descending at this point by an easy chimney curving in a S.E. direction, and so regained the S.E. arête. Descending once more over broad ledges they came to the first difficulty in the shape of a perpendicular descent, about 15 ft. deep, on which any little handhold or foothold there might be was rotten. At its base they followed another ledge, running in a N.E. direction across the face, and found, about 100 yards further on, a perpendicular groove full of ice, leading to some rough footholds 12 ft. below. Another 30 ft. below this was a ledge, the cliff overhanging it in such a way as to compel the last member of the party to rely entirely on the assistance afforded by an extra rope hitched round a staple fixed in the rock at the top of the groove. Immediately below this ledge the party descended a chimney some 100 ft. in depth, and running in a S.E. direction. This presented considerable difficulties, and was rendered somewhat unpleasant by an intermittent fall of icicles from the cliff above. (At the top of this chimney there is a convenient, jutting rock round which the last guide could hitch the rope.) Still following a S.E. direction, they descended in about ½ hr. through fairly steep gullies to a snowfield on the S.E. side of the mountain, and thence to the moraine, reached at 3.35 P.M.

To sum up, the general trend of this route follows the S.E.

* See *Mittheilungen*, 1895, pp. 265, 276; 1896, pp. 124, 137, and *Rivista Mensile*, 1895, p. 355.

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arête and its E. face. The majority of the party were of the opinion that it would be impossible to force an *ascent* by this route. The times taken were very slow, owing to the grave indisposition of one of the guides, by reason of bad meat supplied by a local hôtel on a previous expedition.

Central Rock of the Cinque Torri. *August* 28.—This ascent was made by Mr. N. Arthur Heywood, with Tobias Menardi. The local guides declare that this point had not been climbed before, but this statement may very possibly be inaccurate, as the rock stands in a tempting position for any climber who finds himself in the neighbourhood of the Cinque Torri.

Starting at 11 A.M. from the base of the S.W. corner of the rock opposite the Nuvolau (alto), and after about 10 min. fairly difficult climbing on the face of the rock (bearing all the time in a N. direction), they made a short traverse towards the N. This was followed by a chimney some 15 ft. in height, which has a stone wedged on the top of it. Another traverse of 8 to 10 yds. to the N., another chimney, and some perpendicular rocks about 14 ft. in height brought them to the N. end of the summit at 11.37. The descent was made on the E. side over very easy shelves and rocks in about 9 min.

The climbing on the S.W. face is more interesting than the route up the main rock, and the climb (although not so long) is very similar to that on the route usually taken up the Croda da Lago.

NORWAY.

Jotunheim District.

The Skagastölstind Ridge.—On August 8, C. W. Patchell and H. C. Bowen, with John Vigdal, made the first traverse of this ridge from the N. [Herr Carl Hall and another member of his large party in 1894 were lowered by the rest down the unclimbable vertical face of the curtain of rock which crosses the arête between Vesle and Mellemste Skagastölstind. They then completed the traverse from the S., the remainder of their party returning viâ the Slingsbybræ.*] The Mellemste Skagastölstind was ascended by Hall's route from Turtegrö. The impossible rock face below Vesle Skagastölstind was turned by a very difficult chimney which starts about 6 ft. above a small platform on the E. side of the ridge, and narrows into a crack a little higher up. At the top is a large jammed stone. After this the climbing became easier, though the rocks leading to the summit of Vesle Skagastölstind are steep. From this top the descent was made by Hall's route† to Mohn's skar, and Slingsby's way followed to the top of Store Skagastölstind, which was thus crossed, the party descending by Heftye's chimney to the Skagastölshytte and Turtegrö. Time, exclusive of halts, 16 hrs.; weather wet and foggy. There is one very difficult

* *Den Norske Turistforenings Aarbog*, 1895, p. 51 *seqq.*
† *Ibid.* 1886, p. 64.

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place on Mellemste Skagastölstind. The inclusion of Nordre Skagastölstind in this traverse would probably add little to the time. It would improve the symmetry but diminish the interest of the expedition.

Romsdal District.

MJÖLNIR* BY THE S. ARÊTE.—C. W. Patchell and H. C. Bowen, on August 31, ascended this peak by the above route, which is believed to be new. Leaving Dale at 6, the skar at the head of the Kvandalsbræ was reached in 4 hrs. From this the arête was followed closely until the foot of the great tower, so conspicuous an object from Dale, was reached. This tower was turned by a traverse on to the W. side of the mountain, and the arête was regained at the foot of the final peaks. The actual climbing from the skar to the summit of the mountain took 2 hrs. 10 min., and the descent about the same time. This is, perhaps, the finest rock climb in Norway; the arête throughout is most interesting, and the rocks extremely steep and good.

THE AAGOTTIND (5,215 ft.).—On September 5, the same party made the first ascent of this Eikisdal peak. They went from Vike sæter directly up the shoulder; leaving the shore of the lake at 8.15, the first top, on which there is a cairn, was reached at 12.30. Here the real climbing begins, and there is most interesting work for 1½ hr. along the arête to the highest point. Part of the ridge had already been climbed—by Messrs. B. Goodfellow and E. J. Woolley in 1890,† and they had built a cairn on one of the lower summits, having ascended to it from the *botn*, or *cirque*, on the E. side of the mountain. The highest point, however, appeared to be untrodden, and it is certain that the complete traverse of the ridge is new. The descent was made by the same way to the N. cairn in 1¼ hr., and Vike sæter was reached in 2 hrs. 40 min. more. This is fast time and exclusive of halts.

CENTRAL CAUCASUS.

Messrs. J. G. Cockin, H. W. Holder, and H. Woolley having travelled to Urusbieh by way of Piatigorsk and the Baksan valley, pitched their camp on August 17 near the shepherd's kosh about a mile below the end of the Adyr-su Glacier.

In order to gain acquaintance with the surrounding mountains they ascended (August 19) a snowy summit of about 12,500 ft. on the W. side of the valley, commanding a good view of the near peaks from Sullukol in the N.E. to Dongusorun in the S.W. The point reached is the last eminence to the S.E. of the Kurmuichi ridge. Time from the camp, 4½ hrs., exclusive of halts.

ADYR-SU BASHI‡ (14,273 ft.). *August* 22.—Leaving the camp at 9.30 A.M. on August 21, the party crossed the grass slopes above

* Vide *Alpine Journal*, vol. xiv. p. 390 *seqq.*, vol. xvii. p. 196.

† *Den Norske Turistforenings Aarbog*, 1891, p. 23.

‡ This is the peak so named on Freshfield's map in *The Exploration of the Caucasus.*

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the right bank of the Adyr-su Glacier, and gaining the right lateral moraine of its eastern arm, followed it as far as the junction of the side glacier, which descends from the W. face of Adyr-su Bashi.

Ascending first by the right moraine of this side glacier and later by the rocks on its N. side, they gained at 6 P.M. the depression (about 12,500 ft.) at the foot of the N.W. ridge of the mountain and bivouacked there. Next morning, at 5 A.M., they began the ascent of the N.W. ridge. Granite rocks, steep, but not seriously difficult, were succeeded by a short, but steep, ridge of snow in good condition. More rocks followed, and then the final snow ridge. The lower part of this ridge was very steep, covered with ice, and corniced on the N. side; but it gradually became less precipitous, and the ice gave place to snow. The summit—a short ridge crowned with rocks—was gained at 9.10, and afforded an extensive view, of which Latsga, Svetgar, and Ushba were the most striking features.

Doubtful as to the condition of the snow-slopes, and wishing to avoid falling stones encountered during the ascent, the party began at 11 A.M. to descend by the S. ridge, but soon met with a check. Returning to the summit they eventually descended by a rock gully running down the W. face of the mountain.

At first good progress was made, but lower, as other gullies converged, tedious detours were necessary to avoid falling stones, so that it was not till 5 P.M. that the glacier was reached and the line of ascent regained.

The party arrived at the camp at 8.15 P.M.

ATTEMPT TO ASCEND JAILIK BASHI. *August* 25.—Having passed the night at a height of about 11,500 ft. on a rock ridge to the N. of Freshfield's 'nameless' glacier, the same party started at 5 A.M., traversed slopes of névé to the N.W. towards Jailik, and reached Donkin's pass at 6.45.* Descending—with some difficulty—about 200 ft. on the E. side, they turned N.E., and by means of a snow couloir gained the eastern ridge of Jailik at noon.

After ascending the ridge for half an hour further progress was stopped by steep smooth rocks coated with ice.

In returning to the bivouac Donkin's pass was avoided, and time was saved by crossing a gap in the ridge higher and nearer to Jailik.

GUMACHI (13,482 ft.). *August* 28.—The same party set out at 4 A.M., crossed the grassy shoulder S.W. of the camp, and descended slightly on its S. side to the left lateral moraine of the western arm of the Adyr-su Glacier. (This glacier might be distinguished as the Gumachi Glacier.) Having ascended the moraine as far as possible, they crossed the glacier and steered southward up the névé towards the depression at the W. end of the Gumachi arête. Long detours were necessitated by several crevasses extending almost quite across the slopes. The last schrund was crossed at

* Freshfield's map and *Exploration of the Caucasus*, Appendix B, p. 20.

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10.30. An hour was then spent in cutting steps up a very steep slope of hard snow, and ¾ hr. more in cutting a gap through the cornice, and at 12.30 the foot of the W. ridge of the mountain was reached. This point appeared to be easily accessible from the Leksur Glacier on the S. side of the watershed. The western arête of Gumachi is a somewhat serrated snow ridge, generally corniced on the N. side, but fringed on the S. side with rocks.

The ascent of the ridge was begun at 1 P.M., and after several projecting points had been surmounted, the summit—a roomy shelf of snow—was gained at 3 P.M. Time from the camp, 7½ hrs., exclusive of halts. The descent was begun at 3.30, and the camp regained at 9 P.M.

ATTEMPTS TO ASCEND BSHEDUKH AND ULLUKARA.—Somewhat broken weather ensued, during which the camp was moved to the Shikildi glen, two or three hundred yards below the snout of the glacier.

On September 3 the same party ascended the Shikildi glacier for an hour; then turned eastward and went up the glacier which descends from the northern slopes of Bshedukh. After considerable delay in passing the upper ice-fall, they reached and bivouacked at a ridge of rocks which separates the head of the glacier from a long, straight ice-stream flowing northward to the Adyl-su valley.

During the night bad weather set in. Next morning an unsuccessful attempt was made to climb to the N. slopes of Bshedukh by a continuation of the rock ridge, and further operations were stopped by a series of snowstorms.

On September 7, Mr. Holder having left, Messrs. Cockin and Woolley went to the head of the Shikildi Glacier, and passed the night on rocks on its right bank. Starting next morning at 5 A.M., they ascended northward, first by rocks and then by glacier and snow slopes.

The head of the Shikildi Glacier is represented in Freshfield's map as extending northward to the foot of the W. ridge of Bshedukh; but at 8 the party reached the crest of a much lower snow-ridge branching westward from the main watershed, and separated from the Bshedukh range by a glacier which falls westward, from a depression in the watershed, towards the Shikildi Glacier. By following the snow-ridge eastward for half an hour the highest point on the main watershed between Freshfield's Chatuin-tau (Shikildi-tau) and Bshedukh was gained.

Although probably not more than 13,000 ft. in height, this summit was found to command a magnificent view of Chatuin-tau, both peaks of Ushba, and the rock towers of Little Ushba, as well as of the Leksur and Chalaat basins.

On Freshfield's map a pass is marked as connecting the Shikildi and Chalaat Glaciers; but this year there is no practicable pass directly across the intervening ridge. Probably the pass used occasionally by the natives is the above-mentioned depression in the main chain, lying between Bshedukh and the point gained by

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Messrs. Cockin and Woolley. It had every appearance of being a practicable pass to the Chalaat Glacier.

September 19.—After ten days of bad weather, during which the Dongusorun pass was crossed, Messrs. Cockin and Woolley left their camp (about an hour below the end of the Leksur Glacier) and making their way up the western arm of the Leksur Glacier found a good bivouac (about 8,500 ft.) on the right bank, and just opposite to Gadil.

Next day they started at 4 A.M., crossed the glacier to the N. side, and attacked the ice-fall which descends from the main watershed along the western flank of Gadil.*

The ice-fall presenting great difficulty, and the slopes above it being greatly crevassed and covered with 12 in. or so of fresh snow, it was not till 1.30 P.M. that the main ridge was gained at a point to the E. of Ullukara. The weather then became hopelessly bad, and further progress was impracticable.

The bivouac was regained at 8 P.M., and the camp at 9 A.M. on the 21st.

These expeditions were made without guides. On the longer expeditions native porters were taken about half-way to the sleeping places, but never on s iow or ice.

SIGNOR V. SELLA'S EXPEDITIONS.—Signor Vittorio Sella, accompanied by a friend, Signor Emilio Gallo, and some of his Biellese farm servants as porters, again visited the Caucasus last summer, and made an extensive journey on the N. side of the range. Starting from Vladikavkaz he crossed the Kolota Pass and climbed the second summit of Tepli. The highest peak appeared very formidable. He explored the Songuta Glacier in the Adai Khokh group, and reached a lofty peak on one of the spurs that enclose it. He then crossed from the Urukh to Balkar by the passes W. of the Bogkhobashi group, climbing on the way Sugan (14,780 ft.), its highest peak. This proved a long and difficult ascent. He crossed from Cheghem to the great Leksur Glacier by the Bashil Pass. The existence of this pass was long ago ascertained by inquiry from the Cheghem people by A. W. Moore. Mr. Mummery got into great difficulties on its N. side.† The proper native route Signor Sella found quite easy. As usual, Signor Sella has brought home a large stock of photographs. Two of his cases of photographic material were stolen at St. Nikolai, but happily returned undamaged after forty-eight hours, the thieves being apparently disappointed by the nature of their contents.

SPITSBERGEN IN 1896.

MOUNT STARASHCHIN (*c.* 3,500 ft.). This peak forms the south door-post to the entrance to Ice Fjord.—On June 18 Mr. E. J. Garwood landed alone about 1 P.M., and walked due S. across the

* This ice-fall is partly seen on the extreme left of the illustration facing p. 148, vol. ii. Freshfield's *Exploration of the Caucasus*.

† *Alpine Journal*, vol. xiv. p. 89.

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flat, swampy shore over deep patches of snow and soft bog for about 4 miles past the north end of the narrow mountain mass of vertically-bedded Hecla Hook schistose rocks. Turned E. up steep screes, followed by steep loose rocks, and then up rottenest paper shales to the arête. Cut through small cornice. The arête was at first of hard red conglomerate and overhung to the W. He followed the narrow arête (alternate rock and snow), and then a very narrow and steep snow arête to the first peak. A corniced snow arête led to the second and highest peak. Splendid and clear view. Descended, returning over the lower peak to a knob, then W. down a rib of steep rotten rock, the couloirs being impracticable (frequent avalanches). Bore right, crossing couloirs and dodging avalanches. Lost time in returning a considerable distance over the worst part of the mountain to retrieve an object dropped. Returned over the flat to the ship. Total time, 6 hrs. No halts except for photographing.

Fox Peak (*c.* 3,300 ft.). This peak lies S. of Advent Bay, on the watershed between Ice Fjord and Van Mijen's Bay.—On June 25, 6.30 P.M., Sir Martin Conway and Mr. E. J. Garwood left Cairn Camp, in Advent Vale, went S. up a side valley (Fox Valley), over two big gullies, then turned W. and climbed an easy ridge of steep débris. This narrowed to the rottenest kind of rock arête, with holes right through it, and led to the top of Bunting Bluff (*c.* 2,600 ft.), which was reached at 11 P.M. Hence a wide, undulating snow-field led S. Tramped across it (snow being in good condition), and thus reached a snow arête which narrowed to the top of the peak, where they arrived about 1 A.M. (26th), preceded by a fox. Brilliantly clear view, except into valleys, which were filled with cloud. Bright sunshine. Descended to Bunting Bluff, and groped another way down through dense fog.

Fox Pass (*c.* 2,800 ft.), E. of Fox Peak.—About 4 P.M., June 27, Sir Martin Conway and Mr. Garwood left Cairn Camp and advanced up Fox Valley to the foot of the glacier at its head. They bore to their right up the glacier, in which were many hidden crevasses, then over a bergschrund and up a snow slope to the col (7.45 P.M.). On the other side they descended Plough Glacier (whose direction is about S.W.) with great difficulty, owing to the depth and softness of the winter snow, which gave almost no support. Thus they gained the head of Dreary Valley, which leads ultimately to Van Mijen's Bay.

Bolter Pass (*c.* 2,300 ft.), W. of Fox Peak.—The same party being at the head of Dreary Valley about noon (June 28), instead of turning E. to return by Fox Pass, advanced straight N. up another branch valley, and so reached the col at 1.45 P.M. Descent N. down a glacier and round a great lake and snow swamp on the ice, and then over a long ice-foot below the glacier, the whole deeply enveloped in soft and utterly rotten snow. Reached Cairn Camp about 8 P.M.

Sticky Keep (*c.* 3,500 ft.), on the west side of the Sassendal, between the second and third side valleys, counting from Sassen Bay.

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July 4.—The ascent is very easy, and was made by the same party.

Grit Ridge (*c.* 3,000 ft.), part of the mountain mass N. of Sticky Keep.—On July 6, 7 P.M., the same party, leaving Waterfall Camp, walked down the Sassendal past Sticky Keep, then turned up next side valley (Delta Valley), and with difficulty crossed two flooded torrents flowing between overhanging ice banks. In the second Mr. Garwood had a very narrow escape. Reached a glacier at the head of the north side valley, and crossed a col in Grit Ridge beyond it, thus gaining access to the head of a large glacier which, draining N., empties down the Sassendal's first side valley. Tried to cross the great basin at the head of this, but became involved in a maze of hidden crevasses, from which, being without a rope, they with difficulty disentangled themselves. Making a wide circuit in the soft snow, they returned and climbed a summit on Grit Ridge commanding a splendid view. Returned to Waterfall Camp by way of Delta Valley.

The Trident (*c.* 3,400 ft.), the mountain mass next to and S.E. of Sticky Keep. It pushes forward three prongs or bluffs towards the Sassendal.—On July 10 Mr. Garwood climbed the west prong from the S.W., descending by the N.W. On July 11 Sir Martin Conway and Mr. Garwood climbed the central prong from the col between it and the west prong. No difficulty.

Prospect Ridge (*c.* 3,300 ft.), forming the right side of gorge of the Ivory Glacier before it opens out above Agardh's Bay.—When, at 2 A.M., July 16, the caravan with great difficulty, and chiefly owing to Mr. Garwood's exertions, had reached the foot of the Ivory Glacier, at the head of the long valley, from the west coast, Sir Martin Conway went at once to find the way eastward. Crossing with difficulty the wide, many-channelled ice-foot below the glacier, he climbed the end of a ridge overlooking its right bank, and then followed for about three miles along the crest of this ridge, in the teeth of a furious gale, to its highest point, whence there was a clear view over a vast field of inland ice, and over Agardh's Bay and Stor Fjord, to the distant Edge's Land. Reached camp about 6 A.M.

Ivory Gate.—The same day Sir Martin Conway, Dr. Gregory, and Mr. Garwood left camp about 11 P.M. and crossed the wide domed foot of the Ivory Glacier to Agardh's Bay. The only difficulty was in finding a way down the great ice-cliff at the east side.

Flower Pass (*c.* 2,500 ft.) and Peak (*c.* 3,000 ft.), apparently the next point S. of Mount Lusitania.* The pass is W. of the peak.—July 22 Sir Martin Conway and Dr. Gregory left De Geer Camp, on the shore of Ice Fjord, at 11 A.M., and mounted the Flower Valley S. behind camp to the glacier at its head, and up this to the col, thence up a débris ridge to the peak (4 P.M.). Fine view, but freezing wind. Descended straight down face of peak to the glacier, again becoming entangled without a rope amongst concealed

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 310.

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crevasses, into which they broke through more than once. Went down glacier and valley to camp.

Booming Peak (*c.* 3,500 ft.), overlooking Booming Glacier, near Brent Pass, the col between Advent Vale and the Sassendal.—This was ascended on July 23 by Mr. Garwood. The route lay up a long snow arête, running S. between Booming and Baldhead glaciers.

Horn Sunds Tind (4,560 ft.), overlooking Horn Sound, the highest measured peak in Spitsbergen.—This was climbed by Mr. Garwood, Mr. Trevor-Battye, and Ice-master Bottolfsen on August 18. The ascent was somewhat misleadingly described in the 'Times' by Mr. Trevor-Battye. Mr. Garwood led over several miles of crevassed glacier, and found the peak, which he had never seen, through a dense fog. They camped for some days at the foot, and finally made the ascent in bad weather. Mr. Garwood led the whole way and cut all the steps. He reached the long summit ridge, but could not climb the final rock-tooth, being inadequately supported by his companions. A full account of this, the most important climb of the expedition, will be published in the 'Alpine Journal.'

W. M. C.

ALPINE ACCIDENTS IN 1896.

The past summer, though not rivalling the phenomenal season which preceded it, has, nevertheless, been far too prolific in the matter of Alpine accidents. It might have been expected that the very bad weather which prevailed in the Alps this year would have reduced the number of fatal accidents, as it certainly reduced the number of expeditions made. It is true, no doubt, that while there were in the High Alps during the fine summer of 1895 fifteen accidents, costing twenty lives (including, in addition to those tabulated by us at the time, the death of Herr Franellich, noted at the end of this article), in the bad season of 1896 we record but eight accidents (eleven lives lost). Yet even this number is far too large, and is due in part to the increasing custom of attacking peaks even when they are in bad condition. In 1896, as in 1895, there were also many fatal accidents on minor summits (Dent du Jaman, Croix de Javernaz, and many in the Eastern Alps), while among the narrow escapes none is, perhaps, more remarkable than that of a young Oxford man, who, while climbing (with guides) the Aiguilles Rouges d'Arolla, was so frightfully injured by a falling stone in a gully that at one moment the doctors gave him but twenty-four hours to live—a prophecy fortunately falsified.

Dismissing at once the Oedkarspitze accident (which happened very early in the season, and at a spot where there is usually no snow), and that on the Upper Grindelwald Glacier (which took place on what may almost be called a beaten track), the six others were due, as will be seen from the table subjoined, to one or other of two

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