of my entries in Almer's 'Führerbuch.' I am also requested by Almer to make public the following facts, which he has communicated to me for that purpose, and the chief of which he has also embodied in a sworn affidavit. He desires it to be known to his friends and the English public that his 'Führerbuch' was originally borrowed from him *indirectly*; that the book was sent to England without his knowledge or consent, and that he has in vain applied for its return, and has up to the present moment been unable to recover it. He states in the most emphatic manner that he has not in any way authorised the reproduction of his book, and he alleges that its unauthorised publication has robbed him of a valuable property.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
W. A. B. COOLIDGE.

[A copy of the affidavit mentioned in Mr. Coolidge's letter as made by Christian Almer has been forwarded to the Editors of the 'Führerbuch,' so as to allow of any statement on the subject they might have wished to make appearing in the present number of the 'Alpine Journal.'—EDITOR 'A. J.']

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1895 (*continued*).

[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.]

Bernese Oberland.

EBNEFLUH (3,964 m. = 13,006 ft.) FROM THE ROTHTHAL. *August* 2.—Mr. Claude Macdonald, with Christian Jossi, and Peter Bernet as porter, traversed this peak. A late start was made, owing to the valley being full of fleecy clouds. The party only got away from the Rothtal hut at 4.30 A.M., and made straight up towards the N.E. corner of the bergschrund at the foot of the Ebnefluh. They then bore S.W. and crossed the schrund at 7 A.M. directly under two patches of rock, vertically one above the other, and about 50 yards apart. The snow was in good condition, though the mountain here is very steep, and the top rocks were cleared at 9. The slope then got much steeper and the ice hard and blue, and it was 1 P.M. before a patch of rock high up on the left was reached. These rocks were found rotten and very dangerous with fresh snow, and extreme care had to be exercised. At 5 P.M. it was decided to leave the rocks and get under a hanging glacier lying E.N.E., where it

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was easier going, there being little choice in the way of danger. The party worked under this diagonally to the right for an hour, when a formidable bergschrund barred the passage, but was crossed at 6.15 P.M. Here clouds began to come up, and it became doubtful if the weather was going to hold out, but, the angle of the mountain lessening considerably, the party cut their way up a slope bearing away to the N.E. again, and reached the summit at 7.15 P.M. What between the rottenness of the rocks, the tremendous angle of the ice, and weather beginning to break in the afternoon, the party had had but little time for halts, and it was 8.30 P.M. before they had their first meal. The descent, but for the lateness of the hour and the fact of the glacier between the Lötschenlücke and the Concordia hut being much crevassed, was easy, and the Concordia hut was reached at 1 A.M., the traverse having occupied 20½ hrs. Just before getting in a very heavy thunderstorm came on, the lightning being fearfully vivid and the effects on hair and ice axes most uncanny, and reminding the party of their experience on the Lyskamm and of Mr. Slingsby's party on the Dent Blanche.* The expedition proved highly interesting, but more difficult and dangerous than had been anticipated, bearing out the opinions of the Lauterbrunnen guides, who pronounced that it would not go, and of old Christian Almer, who had crossed the Ebnefluh Joch with Revs. J. J. Hornby and Philpott and Mr. Morshead in 1866.†

ANENGRAT. *September* 2.—This ridge, composed partly of rocks and partly of snow, which runs S.E. from the S. peak of the Mittaghorn (3,895 m.) to the Lötschenlücke, has five well-marked peaks. The northernmost and highest, which has no number on the Siegfried map, but must be over 3,700 m., was ascended by T. W. Danby and H. V. Reade, with Theodor and Johann Kalbermatten, of Ried, the expedition being undertaken in the hope of finding some traces of the accident of July 16. From the head of the Anenfirn a steep glacier, split into enormous crevasses, was ascended in a N.E. direction to the highest peak in about 2½ hrs. From this the ridge falls sharply to the Anenjoch,‡ which was reached in 25 min., then rises steeply again to a snow peak, attained in 20 min. more. It is not certain whether this, or a little rock-peak reached in another 50 min., is the point marked as 3,681 m. As time did not allow the party to follow the ridge over the two remaining peaks, 3,575 m. (the Anenknubel), and a nameless double-headed rock peak, to the Lötschenlücke, a descent was made S. to the Anenfirn in about 1¾ hr.

KLEIN BIETSCHHORN (3,348 m. = 10,985 ft.). *August* 9, 1884.—Mr. G. Yeld, with Alphonse Payot and Seraphin Henry, ascended this point in 4 hrs. from Ried. They went, roughly speaking, straight up the face.

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* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xv. p. 415.
† *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 410; vol. iii. pp. 86–8.
‡ *Ibid.* vol. xvi. p. 519.

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SCHIENHORN (3,807 m. = 12,491 ft.) DIRECT FROM THE LANGGLETSCHER. *July* or *August.*—We are informed that three Ried guides, while searching for the bodies of Mr. Benecke and Mr. Cohen, discovered a new route up this peak, direct from the Langgletscher at its N.W. foot. No particulars of the climb are given, save that the party gained by this direct route the S.W. arête, 100–150 m. (probably about the point marked 3,670 m. on the Siegfried map) below the summit. As there was no object in going further, they returned, so that the complete route has not been made. The men were Josef Rubin and Johann and Gabriel Kalbermatten.

EIGER (3,975 m. = 13,042 ft.) BY THE KLEIN EIGER. *January* 7, 1896.—The Rev. J. Outram and Mr. F. W. Oliver, with Ulrich and Hans Almer, and young Ulrich Almer (eldest son of Ulrich Almer), ascended the Eiger by a route which is, to a considerable extent, new. Starting from the Little Scheidegg Hôtel at 2 A.M. the Eiger Glacier was reached at 5 only, owing to the deep powdery snow. After the lower séracs had been threaded the party took to the rocks of the S. face of the Klein Eiger, which were also deeply covered with deep powdery snow. From the top of the Klein Eiger the S.W. ridge of the Eiger was followed to the summit of that peak, gained at 2.15 P.M. Whilst the snowy portion of this ridge (connecting the Klein Eiger and the Eiger) was in excellent condition, an awkward traverse round a boss of rock at its junction with the Klein Eiger was unavoidable, and much delay was caused by the ice-covered state of the rocks below the summit. On the descent the upper level of the Eiger Glacier was gained by a glissade from the same snowy ridge, and that glacier followed to its end, this route from the snowy ridge onwards having been previously traversed by Miss Brevoort and Mr. Coolidge July 14, 1871.* The Little Scheidegg was regained at 6.30 P.M., and Grindelwald soon after 9 P.M. For the purposes of winter climbing the route here described offers certain advantages. It is full of variety and interest, while it is on the whole less unsafe than the ordinary W. ridge, when the latter has a deep covering of snow.

Mont Blanc District.

COL DES FOURCHES (3,434 m. = 11,267 ft.. Kurz). *July* 14.—MM. Louis Kurz and P. Bovet, with Justin Bessart, made the first passage of this col in modern times. Starting from the Saleinaz Club hut at 3.40 A.M. (for the pass leads to the Saleinaz Glacier, *not* to the Trient plateau, as shown on the Siegfried map) they gained in 2 hrs. the foot of the great snow couloir which forms the E. side of the pass. After a halt of 20 min. they mounted direct to the rocks which divide the upper part of the couloir into two arms. That to the N., leading straight to the col, seemed too steep, so that they kept at first up the S. arm, then bore slightly to the right, and by a very steep little gully and a chimney gained

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. v. p. 277.

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the pass at 10 A.M., which was traversed rather S. of the lowest depression in the ridge. The descent on the other side is perfectly easy. This pass is said to have been crossed in 1838 by Principal Forbes' guide, Michel Charlet; but Principal Forbes himself, July 20, 1850, having gained it from the Tour Glacier, considered the descent to the Saleinaz Glacier impracticable, so went round by the Col Blanc to the Trient plateau (see M. Kurz's 'Guide to the Chain of Mont Blanc,' p. 12, note).

Grand Combin District.

AMIANTHE (3,600 m. = 11,811 ft., S. map).—This peak was climbed from the E. on August 26, 1895, by Messrs. H. V. Reade and T. H. Dickson, without guides. Starting from the Chanrion Club hut, they left the Col de Fenêtre path a few minutes after crossing the Drance, and ascended the grass slopes of Mt. Avril, close to the right moraine of the Glacier du Mont Durand, for about an hour, up to a point where the grass was cut off from the moraine by cliffs. They then followed the moraine for half an hour, and, taking to the glacier just above the icefall, kept on the right bank at first, then crossed, to avoid crevasses, at about the line 2,680 m. to the small medial moraine just below the Tour de Boussine, from the end of which they made almost straight for the steep snow-slopes of the peak. The number and variety of the crevasses made the ascent decidedly interesting, but the presence of a large stone-man, enclosing a pole, on the summit showed that it had been done before. The time was 6¾ hrs. from the hut, but, as the pace was slow throughout, the ascent should not take more than 5 hrs.

BEC D'AGET (2,983 m. = 9,787 ft.) *August* 24.—The same party, seeing from Mr. Benecke's note in the 'Alpine Journal' (vol. xvii. p. 253) that this little rock peak had not been ascended, climbed it by the rock arête running about W.N.W. This gave a stiff little scramble of half an hour from the glacier. The descent was made by rock and grass on the S. face without any difficulty. The route from Fionnay is that for the Col de Louvie and Col du Mont Fort, but it may be noted that the time quoted in the directions for the latter on p. 50 of the 'Central Pennine Guide,' 2¼ hrs. to the foot of the little glacier E. of the Bec d'Aget, seems impossible. From Fionnay to the chalets on the Louvie Alp is a good hour and a half (*v. sub* Col de Louvie), and thence to the glacier at least as much, though there is a path most of the way.

Arolla District.

DENTS DES BOUQUETINS (3,848 m. = 12,625 ft.) BY THE E. ARÊTE. *September* 4.—Mr. E. C. Oppenheim and Mr. Gerald Arbuthnot, with Jean Maître and Joseph Pollinger, made this new route. Leaving the Arolla hôtel at 2.35 A.M. and following the route of the Col des Bouquetins, they crossed the bergschrund on the eastern side of the Central peak of the Dents des Bouquetins to

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the south of the broad couloir of snow and ice (6 hrs.). From here an easy scramble southwards over broken rocks took the party on to the E. arête (10 min.). This was followed until a little gap with a cornice of snow was reached (1 hr. 5 min.). Here they turned on to the northern face of the arête and climbed over plâques and ice, regaining the arête a little below the big gendarme (1 hr. 15 min.). This was turned on the northern side (25 min.), and following the arête over somewhat difficult and loose rocks they reached the point where it joins the main ridge (1 hr.). Turning northwards, the summit (3,848 m.) was gained without difficulty in 5 min. The time from Arolla to the top of the peak (including halts) was 10½ hrs.

MITRE DE L'EVÊQUE (3,672 m. = 12,048 ft.) BY THE E. ARÊTE. *September* 6.—Mr. L. C. F. Oppenheim and Mr. Gerald Arbuthnot, with Jean Maître and Georges Joseph, made this new route. Starting from the Arolla hôtel at 4 A.M., the party followed the Col de Collon route until they arrived at the foot of the little glacier which descends between L'Echo and Mont Collon from the E. face of the Mitre. They ascended this and bore southwards to the little gap between L'Echo and the eastern arête of the Mitre. Scrambling up over broken rocks and snow, the arête was gained (15 min.) and followed to the summit (5 hrs. 10 min.). The two big gendarmes were both turned on the northern side, the second one presenting considerable difficulty. The time from Arolla to the summit (including halts) was 10 hrs. 50 min.

AIGUILLE DE LA ZA. *August* 24.—Messrs. C. Cookson and P. Fletcher, with Pierre Maître and F. Truffer, made a variation in the route by the W. face. On coming round the foot of the rocks into the snow couloir S. of the peak, up which it is usual to go some distance before taking to the rocks, they were driven back by a heavy rock-fall from a high ridge S. of the Za, followed soon after by a second fall.

They then took to the rocks at the top of a small snow-patch, which from Arolla seems exactly under the peak, and climbed nearly straight up until turned after nearly an hour by smooth slabs into a gully S. of the central rib, from which they worked back to the rib, and followed it pretty closely to a rock platform just below the W. point of the shoulder under the big gendarme. Thence by a traverse to the S. of the gendarme the usual route was joined and followed to the summit. The climb was not easy, and required care on account of loose stones, but was safe from rock-falls such as turned the party in the morning and were repeatedly seen during the succeeding three weeks.

NORWAY.

Gjegnalund District.

RISE TO GRÖNDAL. *July* 24.—Messrs. Hubert Congreve and A. L. Bill, with Peder and Tidemand Rise as guide and porter, left Rise at 4.30 A.M., reached the lovely Rise lake at 4.40, rowed

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over to the head at 5.20, gained top of steep wooded cliff at 6.30. Then they turned south-east and climbed Kjeipen from the Rise botn over a much-crevassed glacier and up some steep rocks. The summit was reached in 5 hrs. and 20 min. from Rise, excluding halts. From the summit they followed the route taken by Messrs. Hopkinson and Slingsby in 1885* as far as the Marie Tind † in thick mist. Leaving the Marie Tind and the Tre Mænds Tind (Sagen) on their left hand, they proceeded due east over steep crevassed névé, and reached rocks in 6 hrs. 50 min. from Rise. Here they unroped. They then descended to the Store Botn Vand, crossed the streams near the N.E. end of this tarn, and gained a depression in the ridge which faced the party. From here, going south, they descended very rough conglomerate rocks to the top of the waterfall above Gröndal Sæter. They reached this sæter in 11¼ hrs. from Rise, and the farm of Gröndal 1 hr. 10 min. later. This very varied and interesting expedition would be improved by omitting the ascent of Kjeipen and substituting that of the Marie Tind.

The Justedals Bræ.

The Mundal Skar (about 7,500 ft.). *July* 2.—Herr K. Bing, with Johannes Mundal as guide, made the first recorded passage of the so-called Jöstefond, between Fjærland and Gröndal.‡ The descent on the western glacier was very steep. From Gröndal they walked over the low col to Söknesand, which they reached in 12 hrs. from the hotel. This pass, which has frequently been recommended by the present writer to young climbers anxious for new work, is Nature's sole western outlet for the Mundal. The only reason why it has been so long neglected probably arises from the fact that the upper part of the Gröndal, which is, in fact, anything rather than what its name betokens—a green valley—is uninhabitated.

Ascent of Brixdals Bræ.§ *July* 5. -Herr K. Bing, in company with Rasmus Aabrække, attacked this most formidable glacier, and, strange though it must appear to each one of the many hundreds of tourists who gaze upon this chaos of ice annually, the plucky native wielders of the ice axe were successful in hewing a way for themselves up this huge icefall of hard compressed blue ice. True, they were hacking their way without rest from 7.35 A.M. until 4.30 P.M.; still, they got through, and, provided that the game was worth the candle, they are most heartily to be congratulated. At 6 P.M. a snow storm assailed them. At 8.30 they reached the highest part of the Justedals Bræ, and at 11 P.M. they were benighted near the head of the Kvandals Bræ. A view of the Brixdals Bræ certainly does not suggest a highway. As for that, neither does the still more savage Kjendals Bræ,‖ and has not that

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xiv. p. 380.
† *Aarbog for Bergen's Turist Forening for* 1894-95, p. 70.
‡ *Nor. Tur. For. Aarbog for* 1881.
§ *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 353. ‖ *Ibid.* vol. xi. p. 152.

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too been descended ? It is a very pleasing duty to record brilliant mountaineering successes gained by Norskmen in Norway.

W. C. S.

NY SÆTER TO TUNSBERGSDAL. *August* 9.—Messrs. E. V. Mather, C. W. Patchell, and Dr. Simpson, with Johannes Vigdal as guide, crossed the great south-eastern arm of the Justedals Bræ and the peak Kvitekol from Ny Sæter in the Langedal to Tværdal Sæter. They descended by the rock buttress which separates Tværdal and the huge glacier, the Tunsbergsdals Bræ.* Time occupied, 12½ hrs. A Norsk party in 1894 crossed the same snow-field by a rather different route.

Horung-Tinder.

DYRHOUGSTIND FROM THE SKAGASTÖLSTIND'S HUT. *August* 14.—The last-named party, without Mather, climbed the Dyrhougstind direct from the hut by a very steep rock rib, which afforded 4 hrs. of excellent climbing. The descent to Turtegrö was made by the narrow northern arête. The whole expedition occupied 14 hrs. actual going. The scenery is superb.

Söndmöre District.

BLAATIND OR KJÆRRINGA. *September* 5.—Mr. C. W. Patchell and Dr. J. Simpson ascended this pretty double-peaked mountain direct from the farm Kjölaas by a steep and rather awkward gully and narrow rock ridge, and returned by the same route. The time occupied up and down was 9 hrs.

VASDALSTIND. *September* 10.—Dr. Simpson, with Sivert Nupen, climbed this pretty aiguille from Örstenvik by way of the Nupedal, and descended into Vasdal, a most interesting and short expedition of 7½ hrs., exclusive of halts. Climbers in Cumberland will doubtless recognise the name Wasdale or Wastdale in the Norsk Vasdal, which signifies in Old Norsk a valley in which there is a tarn or lake.

CAUCASUS.

KARTSH-CHAL (GROUP NEAR FRONTIER OF SOUTHERN CAUCASIA).—Starting-point Batum: follow Artwin road from Batum to Bortshka, a Cossack outpost; 7–8 hrs. drive, the road following right bank of rapid river Tshorok. Road leads in S.E. direction about as far as Maradit village, thence due S. to Bortshka. Here a river called Bagini Tskhali, coming from the Kartsh-Chal mountains, joins the Tshorok. The Kartsh-Chal hills lie E. by N. of Bortshka. Follow river joining the Tshorok through various valleys to Otingo, which consists of a few huts surrounding a hot spring. Otingo lies in the upper part of a valley leading in a S.W. by N.E.

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xi. p. 148.

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direction to the Kartsh-Chal Peaks. Position of Otingo: latitude, 41° 18′ 24″; longitude, 42° 3′.

The entire group of mountains forms a curve, but the main ridge runs from N. to S. The north-western summit is called Batum Peak, and southernmost elevation Artwin Peak. There is a small glacier with Bergschrund on the N. side of a small pass between Batum Peak and main central ridge. From the latter a number of couloirs descend, some filled with snow and ice; lower down on the W. side small snow-fields and old moraine.

August 8.—Harry Runge and W. Rickmer-Rickmers ascended Batum Peak, about 11,800 ft. Left Otingo 7.30 A.M., reached summit by S.W. arête at 4.15 P.M.; returned to camp at Otingo 10 P.M. The Batum Peak is the highest point of the entire group.

August 11.—Same party started 7.30 A.M; ascended N. pillar of main central ridge, making use of a series of couloirs and traversing W. face of rocks; finally gaining summit by S.E. rock arête, 5.25 P.M. Height about 11,650 ft.

August 15.—Same party, with addition of F. Hacker, of Vienna, left camp on high-lying pastures above Otingo at 4 A.M.; ascended, amongst others, the highest point in the centre of main ridge; called it Central Peak. Height about 11,700 ft. Returned to starting-point 9 P.M.

Excellent views of the entire range of Central Caucasus were obtained from these peaks. Their heights are given subject to correction.

ALPINE NOTES.

NEW EDITION OF STUDER'S 'UEBER EIS UND SCHNEE.'—We are very pleased to be able to announce that a new edition of this invaluable history of the Swiss Alps has been undertaken. The first bit of vol. i. (the Oberland vol.) was issued last November, and the second bit (Jungfrau, &c.) appeared early in 1896. Part 1 contains a life of Studer (with portrait), a general introduction, and the history of the Finsteraarhorn and the Aletschhorn. The old text has been preserved as far as possible, but the editors have brought it completely up to date, and have not scrupled to make many changes and additions—wisely, we think. The excellence of the revision may be easily judged from the names of the editors—Dr. H. Dübi and Herr Wäber-Lindt, the present and former editors of the 'S. A. C. Jahrbuch.' It is hoped to complete vol. i. in about four parts, the price of the volume to be 6 francs at the most. It is sincerely to be hoped that the editors may receive sufficient encouragement to take the two other volumes in hand, for it would be a pity to have only a portion of the work in its new and thoroughly satisfactory form. The publishers are Schmid, Francke, & Co., the well-known booksellers of Bern.

NEW MAPS OF THE ALPS.—We have great pleasure in announc-

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