even Pession contributed a little from his stalwart arm. Eventually, as we kept still to the left, Pession scented out a badly marked little track, and we got down to the last cliffs above the Grauson torrent. Edelweiss was fairly plentiful in this part. The upper slopes had been clothed with the grass from which wild hay is made, and were very unpleasant to walk upon. For my own part I prefer ice. After crossing several little streams the track became rather more distinct, and we at last reached the Grauson path just after it crosses the main torrent by a bridge. All the slopes on this side of the Arpisson are unwooded—only in one or two little hollows close to the main torrent did we find a few small pines.

When we had reached the proper path we hurried on, and about 20 min. above the bridge, near Moline, found Anderson and Sylvain, who had made a traverse from the Arpisson chalets by way of Gimilian, and spoke enthusiastically of the views which they had enjoyed.

It will be plain, I think, from what has been said that if the route to the Col de Pila from the Arpisson chalets is followed and the ascent of the Tour d'Arpisson completed from that pass, and Mr. Compton's route followed for the return to Cogne, the Tour d'Arpisson is destined to become the peak most resorted to by visitors to Cogne who wish to study in the most enjoyable way Cogne, its mountains, especially its Grivola, its valleys, and its mighty and not very far distant neighbours, from the Combin to the Trelatête. The Tour d'Arpisson has also another advantage over the Pointe du Pousset, in that you may go up by one valley and return by another. Such is the almost latest left of all Cogne's peaks.

Aconcagua and Mount St. Elias.

WE are very sorry to announce that in consequence of the illness of Mr. A. E. FitzGerald and of Mr. S. Vines, who are both still in Chili, the account of the Expedition to the Chilian Andes, which resulted in the splendid conquest of Aconcagua and Tupungata, is necessarily deferred to a later number. With regard to Mount St. Elias we learn from the 'Geographical Journal' for October that after thirty-eight days of hard travelling H.R.H. the Duke of the Abruzzi and his party began the ascent on July 30. On that day a height of 12,000 feet was reached. The summit was attained on July 31 without serious difficulty, though the less trained members of the party felt the rarity of the air. The height of the mountain

was found (by mercurial barometer) to be 18,060 feet. Signor V. Sella photographed the panorama from the summit. We offer our hearty congratulations to the Italian climbers on their brilliant success, and regret that our hopes of publishing a summary of the results of their expedition in this number have been disappointed.

HOTEL BILLS, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

By CHARLES MARETT.

The following table has been compiled from old hotel bills. The prices now are, of course, much higher than they were forty years ago; but then we get much more for our money. There were at that time no carpets, except that there was at the side of the bed a piece of about two square feet. Carpets did not become common until about 1875. There were no reading-rooms or drawing-rooms, though they came into use rather earlier than carpets, and everything was rougher and less comfortable. To illustrate the difference, take Pallanza, where the prices of 1882 were nearly double those of 1857. But the hotel of 1882 was magnificent and luxurious, whilst that of 1857 was, though not exactly uncomfortable, positively ludicrous in its rough simplicity. The bill at Coblenz in 1890 is very much higher than that of 1847; but the hotel of 1890 was much more luxuriously appointed, and the dinner was private and of extraordinary merit—such as could not have been produced in 1847.

The Italian hotels, until about 1870, were very inferior to the Swiss hotels, and the prices were higher.

Forty years ago, travelling at an average of sixty miles a day from England to England and going to the best hotels, but not wasting money, would cost from 17*s.* to 21*s.* a day. It would now cost from 21*s.* to 25*s.*

The price of breakfast remains unaltered at 1f. 50c. The hotel-keepers are probably aware that a similar meal is supplied in London at from 4*d.* to 6*d.*, and are therefore afraid to raise the price, which must give a good margin of profit as it is.

—	Class of Hotel	Hotel	Bed	Breakfast, Coffee, &c.	Dinner	Service and Bougies
1847						
Hague . .	4	Turenne . .	2	1.40	3	—
Coblenz . .	2	Bellevue . .	2	1.25	3	—
1854						
Chamonix . .	3	Royal . . .	2	1.50	4	0.75
Bellagio . .	4	Genazzini . .	2.50	1.50	3	1.50
Grindelwald .	5	Ours . . .	2	1.25	—	0.75
1857						
Luzern . .	2	Englischer Hof .	2.50	1.50	—	1.50
Pallanza . .	4	Univers . .	2	1	3.50	—