passable crevasse stopped further progress, and rendered it absolutely impossible to complete the ascent.

'The highest point reached was well over 23,000 ft., and probably as much as 24,000.

'The ascent by this route being thus proved to be beyond the reach of success, Sir Martin Conway tried another way, but upon reaching a great height found the summit equally impossible of access.

'The temperature on these ascents was 2° F., or 30° of frost, and the party suffered considerably, both guides being frost-bitten.

'There being, so far as could be ascertained, no means of reaching the summit, Sir Martin Conway returned to the plain to prosecute a general survey and to carry out exploring work at a lower level.'

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1898.

[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.]

Mont Blanc District.

Aiguille de Trélatête.—On August 1 Messrs. E. J. Mazzuchi and Alfred Holmes, with César Ollier and a porter, found a new and quicker way down from the Trélatête. After descending by the ordinary route as far as the foot of the arête which comes down from the Central Summit to the Allée Blanche Glacier they turned S.W., and by easy snow slopes gained the top of the rocks which cut across the glacier from the Aiguille de l'Allée Blanche to the ice-fall at the base of the S. point of the Trélatête; they descended these rocks to the glacier below, then continuing S.W. they made for a prominent Col in the ridge between the Aiguilles du Glacier and d'Estellette, but, not liking the appearance of the couloir which led down to the Estellette glacier, they traversed the easy S.W. face of the Aiguille d'Estellette to an unnamed Col to the N. of it; here they joined the ordinary route. From the top to the Allée Blanche chalets took 3¼ hr. walking.

Aiguille Sans Nom (3,989 m. = 13,088 ft.). *August* 17.—

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H.R.H. the Duke of the Abruzzi, with the guides J. Petigaz and L. Croux, of Courmayeur, and A. Simond, of Chamonix, left the usual Dru bivouac on the Charpoua Glacier at 3.30 A.M. They climbed by the great couloir which separates the Aiguille Sans Nom and the Aiguille Verte, and where it divides into two they followed the left gully. Then, by difficult rocks and ice, they gained the N. ridge of their peak, and by it attained the summit after much toil and difficulty at 2.30 P.M. They descended by the same way, were overtaken by darkness in the middle of the great couloir, and had to spend the night in a position of considerable danger from stone avalanches, which twice seriously threatened them. They resumed the descent at 4 A.M. on August 18, and reached the Montenvers at 11. This peak had been attacked several times before without success.

GRANDES JORASSES ROCK PEAK (4,066 m. = 13,341 ft.).—This peak is situated between the Pic Whymper and the Col des Grandes Jorasses. *August* 22.—The same party left Courmayeur at 1 A.M. At the Grandes Jorasses hut they were joined by the guide C. Ollier and the porter F. Ollier. They climbed by the rocks of the Reposoir, and after reaching its summit made for the desired peak, the top of which was attained at 1 P.M. They regained Courmayeur at 10 the same evening. The climb was rendered dangerous by falling stones. We take this and the preceding climb from the 'Rivista del C.A.I.,' August 1898.

COL SUPÉRIEUR DU TOUR NOIR (3,695 m.=12,123 ft.). *August* 3.—The Rev. A. C. Downer, with Onésime Crettex and a porter, leaving the Saleinaz Club hut at 3.15 A.M., proceeded up the Saleinaz Glacier, the upper part of which was found much crevassed and the snow soft. A halt for breakfast was made at 5.45 on the upper snows, immediately below the Col de la Neuvaz. At 6.5 they began the ascent to the last-named col by cutting up a somewhat difficult ice wall above the bergschrund, attaining the pass at 7.35. They then descended the S. side to the head of the Glacier de la Neuvaz, where the map was consulted. A steep slope of snow was then encountered, leading up to the Col Supérieur du Tour Noir. Progress was delayed by the softness of the snow, the party sinking to the knees at every step of the ascent. At 8.30 they reached rocks and halted 15 min. in cloud, which prevented a distant view. The Col Supérieur du Tour Noir was gained at 10.10 A.M. and lunch was taken. It was found impossible to thoroughly heat the contents of one of Silver's mess tins at that altitude. Crystals were obtained in the rocks below the col.

This is the first ascent of this col from the E., the first ascent from the W. having been made by Mr. Downer on August 16, 1894, when bad weather prevented the party from descending on the La Neuvaz side.* An attempt by Mr. Downer and Mr. A. E. Field on September 4, 1895, to attain this pass from the E. was defeated by enormous crevasses in the La Neuvaz glacier, the snow bridges having

* See *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 252.

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all disappeared at that period of the season.* On the present occasion these crevasses were avoided, the party descending from the Col de la Neuvaz to the extreme head of the glacier.

Col de Saleinaz. *August* 3.—The same party then (11.0 A.M.) descended to the upper snows of the La Neuvaz glacier, proceeding in the direction of the Grande Luis. Instead, however, of crossing the ridge, in order to reach the Glacier de Saleinaz by the Col de la Grande Luis, they ascended a couloir W. of that pass, and at 12.35 P.M. attained a col, hitherto uncrossed, immediately to the E. of the Grande Luis. The height of this col they estimated at about the same as that of the Col de la Grande Luis (3,379m. = 11,086 ft., Kurz's map). From this point a very steep snow-slope goes down to the Glacier de Saleinaz, and as this was covered with fresh, soft snow, fallen the same morning, the party found it necessary to descend face towards the mountain, making hand-holds in the snow and driving in their axes, at the same time kicking steps down backwards. The bergschrund below was jumped. After this, the party kept along under the ridge eastward, reaching the Cabane de Saleinaz at 3.30 P.M., or 12¼ hours from the start. After rest and refreshment, they started for the descent to Orsières, calling at Praz de Fort upon M. Louis Kurz, who mentioned that the col under the Grande Luis had been regarded as impassable. The hotel at Orsières was reached at 9 P.M.

It is proposed to name this pass the *Col de Saleinaz*—a name approved by M. Kurz.

It should be mentioned that the entire expedition was new to Crettex, whose excellent leading deserves acknowledgment.

Clocher du Lac des Cugnoz (9,100 ft. estimate). *August* 30.—Mr. G. Yeld, with Sylvain Pession, made the first ascent of this fine obelisk of rock—an outlier of the Écandies group. The ascent from the foot of the peak above what apparently used to be the Écandies Glacier took about 70 min., and the descent 40. Near the summit the climbing was most interesting.

Great St. Bernard and Valpelline Districts.

Grand Golliaz, or Pointe des Angroniettes (3,240 m. = 10,630 ft., S. Map; 3,238 m., I. Map); by N. Face and by E. Arête. *July* 6.—Mr. Alfred G. Topham, with Jean Maître and Pierre Maurys, ascended this peak from the Swiss side and descended by the E. arête. Either of these routes should tempt climbers to ascend this fine summit, which, owing to its isolated position, commands a magnificent panorama, more especially of the S. side the Mont Blanc chain. The party slept at a restaurant chalet, ½ hr. below Ferret in the Swiss Val Ferret. After a day's reconnaissance they left at 3.40 A.M., and ascending to the head of the valley gained the Glacier des Angroniettes over much moraine. Ascending this, and for a short distance up a

* See *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 579.

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tributary glacier, they struck the most northerly of three great buttresses which descend from the peak in a N.E. direction, and are well shown on the Swiss map. The buttress is composed of very scaly rock, which crumbles off in large pieces. By this buttress the summit was attained at a point slightly N.W. of the peak, passing over a secondary point. The descent was made by the E. arête to the Col des Bosses. On this arête there are two immense gendarmes, which are turned on the S. face. The rocks are good, but steep. It would be easy, half-way along, to descend straight on to the Glacier des Bosses, but Mr. Topham's party followed the arête to the last point. Here the rocks greatly change. The arête ends, and the E. face of the last point is composed of loose shale, down which it is easy to run, but an ascent of which would be most laborious. From the col the party descended to the Glacier des Bosses, and then by a tedious traverse and the Col St. Rémy to the Hospice of the Grand St. Bernard. Times: Ferret to foot of glacier, 2 hrs. 50 min.; top of buttress, 2 hrs. 40 min.; summit, ½ hr.; end E. arête, 2 hr. 50 m.; shale slope, 10 min.; Hospice, 2½ hrs. Total, 11 hrs. 30 min., exclusive of halts.

M. Faudery (3,355 m. = 11,007 ft.), by E. Face and by W. Face, from the Great St. Bernard to the Val d'Ollomont. *July* 7. This peak is on the long ridge stretching S. from Mont Vélan, and must not be confused with the M. Faudery on the other side of the Val d'Ollomont on the Morion-Clapier range, which was also first climbed by Mr. Topham. The same party left the Hospice at 5 A.M. in a dense fog. With difficulty they traversed the Swiss side of the range below the Col de Barasson and Les Cholaires, a break in the mist at last showing the desired pass. This was the col marked 2,753 m. S. map N.E. of the Tête Rouge, I. map, and is probably called Babilone. It is quite close to the Col de Menouve. Crossing this and traversing several ridges, the party at last gained the Val de Menouve at the point marked 2,379 m. They traversed the range in a south-easterly direction, and ascended the large buttress which leads direct to the point marked M. Faudery. Finding that the next point S.E. of them was higher, they descended to a col and climbed a sharp arête to this summit, a long ridge with points of the same height. Returning to the col they descended the E. face, and traversed the foot of the range to the chalets of Grand Togne, and thence to Ollomont and Valpelline. It would be also easy to reach by turning N.E. after descending the E. face. Times: Hospice to Val de Menouve, 4 hrs.; summit marked M. Faudery, 3 hrs. 40 min.; summit marked 3,355 m., 50 m.; regained col, 45 min.; Ollomont, 4 hrs.; Valpelline, ¾ hr. Total, 14 hrs., exclusive of halts.

Becca Rajette (3,520 m. = 11,549 ft., I. map); Bec d'Epicoun (3,527 m. = 11,572 ft., S. map), from Chanrion to Bionaz.—*August* 11.—Mr. Aston-Binns and Mr. Wherry started from Chanrion at 4.20, and mounting under the Pointe d'Otemma skirted the ridge and descended by a couloir of loose stones on to the

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Glacier d'Otemma. Crossing the glacier they mounted the steep lateral glacier E. of the Jardin des Chamois. They crossed the bergschrund and ascended easy rocks, which lead rather to the E. of the summit, but there was so much fresh snow, and a big couloir which must be crossed was so iced, that they were compelled to leave the rocks and cut up the ice to reach the N. arête. The wind was so violent that they were obliged to bear away again to the W. and strike some rocks below the summit, whence the latter, though rather corniced, was easily gained in 5½ hrs. from Chanrion, including halts. They selected the S.W. arête for the descent, and had a short but pretty rock climb on to a snow ridge which led to a col several hundred yards to the W., whence they got down loose rocks and snow slopes into the Sassa glen, ½ hr. above Bionaz in the Valpelline, arriving there at 4 o'clock.

Denti di Vessona (3,060 m.=10,040 ft.). *August* 12.—Mr. Aston-Binns and Mr. Wherry started from Bionaz at 3.30 P.M., with young Clemenz Zurbriggen and the 'Vicaire' of Bionaz for the Vessona glen.

They descended to the Buthier torrent, and without going down to Oyace, skirted the side of the hill, and mounted through forest to the opening of the Vessona glen, and ascended to La Vielle in 2½ hrs. They slept at La Vielle in a cow chalet, all the herds and herdsmen being at the upper chalets of Plan Barmet.

Starting at 4.45 next morning they reached the last chalets below the pass in 50 mins., and turning to the left climbed by steep slopes of grass, loose stones, and finally by snow to the col between the N. Dent di Vessona and Mont Pisonet, 3 hrs. from La Vielle. Thence it was easy in about 20 mins. to reach the top by a broken ridge. There was a very small stone heap on the top, probably made by a hunter, as there is no recorded ascent. To descend to the central Dent of the three seemed possible but extremely dangerous, owing to the extraordinarily rotten character of the rocks. They therefore descended and skirted the N.W. slopes considerably lower down. The party divided, and Aston-Binns and Clemenz Zurbriggen mounted by dangerously rotten shale and loose rocks to the col between the S. tooth and the middle one, which is evidently higher than the S., and not lower, as was supposed. With considerable difficulty, owing to the friable rocks, they reached the middle tooth, on which they built a cairn.

The descent was easy under the N. tooth by a rock traverse and easy snow, by which route they rejoined the rest of the party after an absence of a couple of hours.

These Denti di Vessona look very fine from below but are hardly worth climbing, owing to the extreme rottenness of the rocks. The S. tooth seemed inaccessible from the middle one, but it is obviously much less steep on the S. side, and might very likely be climbed by following the ridge from the Col di Vessona. It was estimated as quite 20 to 30 ft. lower than the middle tooth, which is possibly 100 to 150 ft. lower than the N., and a gracefully shaped Dent. The whole district, especially towards Mont Pisonet,

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which rises in gentle snow slopes to the E., and the rugged and friable chain to the N., abounds with chamois, while lower down the beautiful Vessona glen was alive with marmots. Strolling gently home they were back at Bionaz with the genial Curé by 5.30 afternoon.

M. Morion (3,520 m. = 11,550 ft.). *August* 16.—The same party, substituting the Curé for the Vicar, with the addition of a porter named Bich, made the first ascent of this point. For information about Mont Morion they were indebted to Mr. Alfred Topham, who had stated that the point was unclimbed, and had given its bearings from adjacent peaks in the 'Rivista Mensile.'* They started at 3 in the morning, the Curé taking them at a great pace in the dark, and leading them up, after nearly 7 hrs., to a summit on the Morion ridge upon which was a cairn and the cards of Mr. Baker-Gabb and Mr. Topham. Oddly enough, their man Clemenz was surprised to find his name also, he having in his youthful days climbed it with the first party from the direction of the Crête Sèche, and forgotten the fact.

Looking to the S.W., another adjacent peak appeared to be a higher point than that on which they stood. They therefore crossed below the arête, merely halting a moment to put on the rope which they had not hitherto used (the Curé, by the way, utterly despising ropes), and arrived on the summit of M. Morion in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr., quick going.

It was evidently a higher point than that which they had first climbed. The rocks were very unstable, and they sent a good many stones down in their progress to the top. There being no sign of any former ascent, they built a cairn and descended by the S. face.

M. Faudery (3,330 m. = 10,924 ft.). The First Ascent by the E. Face.—Mr. Aston-Binns and Mr. Wherry, with Zurbriggen and Bich as before, left Bionaz at 4.30 A.M., crossed Faudery glen towards the Col Faudery, climbed the E. face by a snow couloir and rock ribs, and, reaching the summit at 11.10, found Mr. Topham's card. They went down by rocks (choosing the dark lichen-covered ribs as much as possible) to the snow couloir. They descended the snow only so far as was necessary to get off the mountain, climbed to the Col Faudery, and thence walked to Mauvoisin in the Val de Bagnes, where they arrived a little before 10 P.M.

Grand Combin (4,317 m. = 14,163 ft.). *August* 3.—Messrs. F. G. Leatham and G. Lipscomb, with Jean Maître and Pierre Maurys, of Evolena, left the Bailey refuge at 2.45, and reached the Col des Maisons Blanches at 5, intending to climb the Grand Combin by the rocks of the W. arête, but seeing that these were covered with snow and ice they decided to climb the mountain by making for a gap which was visible in the séracs which lie between the two little rock ribs on the N. face. Starting up some very steep snow

* *Rivista Mensile*, 1898, p. 21.

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slopes which were icy in places, they just touched the lower patch of rocks on the N. arête, rounded one or two fallen séracs (cutting steps on the slopes immediately below them, which were hard), and gained the plateau above at 7.45. They then made an almost direct course for the arête below the summit, reaching the latter in a thick fog at 9.10. Half an hour was spent on the summit, and they then began to descend, intending to follow the ordinary route; but the fog was so dense, snow falling fast as well, that they lost their bearings, and after wandering for ¾ hr. on the slopes below the summit, they came across their old tracks, which they followed, descending the steep slopes with their faces to the snow and finding most of their steps filled with fresh snow. The foot of the mountain, where the ordinary route joins the glacier, was reached at 11.45.

They have made inquiries, and believe this to be the first ascent by the route indicated.

Zermatt District.

The Dent Blanche by the E. Face.—The following brief note was recently communicated to me by a reliable authority:—'The guides Louis Theytaz, Benoît Theytaz, and Abbet Felix, of Zinal, encouraged by the hôtel-keepers of the locality, attempted the ascent of the Dent Blanche from the Mountet hut on Wednesday, September 28, 1898. They left the hut at 4 A.M. and reached the summit at 2 A.M. on September 29, the reason for the long time occupied by the ascent being that the guides were obliged to hunt for the best route and to place two ropes to facilitate later ascents of the worst places. They climbed by the N. face on to the E. ridge, which was followed to the summit. Their movements were followed by telescope from Mountet and from Zinal.' O. G. Jones.

[The Dent Blanche was ascended from the Mountet hut in 1882 by Messrs. J. Stafford Anderson and G. P. Baker by the N.E. arête and its N.W. face. 'Alpine Journal,' vol. xi. p. 119, and 158–172. See also the new edition of 'Studer,' vol. ii. p. 198, *note*. —Editor.]

Simplon District.

Laquinhorn (4,005 m. = 13,140 ft.) by the W. Face.—On July 12 Mr. Herbert Speyer, with Ambrose Supersaxo and the late Xaver Imseng, both of Saas Fee, made this new route. Leaving the Weissmies Hôtel at 4 A.M., the party went straight up the W. face of the mountain, reaching the S. arête (at 8.30) immediately beneath a very large gendarme which is easily noticed from Saas Fee. The ascent is steep, and required a considerable amount of step-cutting, but is nowhere difficult. The traversing of the S. arête from the gendarme to the summit occupied 1 hr.

Bernese Oberland.

Lötschthaler Breithorn (12,451 ft.) *August* 14.—Mr. G. Yeld, with François and Sylvain Pession, of Val Tournanche, traversed this peak from the Innerer Baltschieder Firn to the

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Bel Alp. They left a bivouac about 6 hrs. above Visp (in the Baltschiederthal) at 3.45 A.M., and in about 5½ hrs. very slow walking, reached the lowest point in the ridge (snow) at the head of the Innerer Baltschieder Firn. Up to this point there was no difficulty, but the actual ridge was an excellent and stiff climb. The precipices on the Lötschenthal side were most impressive, and the cornices on the upper part of the arête on the Baltschiederthal side very fine. The party climbed all the towers in the ridge. After the towers a comparatively long snow-ridge in first-rate condition, from which there was a wonderful view into the Lötschenthal, was succeeded by a delicately beautiful knife-edge of snow, which the party passed on the right (south) side of. The cornice gave no trouble, as it had been carefully studied from below. The party took about 3 hrs. to climb the ridge. After spending nearly an hour and a half on the top they descended to the Bel Alp. The Breithorn was first traversed from the Baltschiederthal to the Oberaletsch Glacier, in 1895, by MM. Perret and Gallet, but the route followed by them in the ascent was quite distinct—lying more to the S., and leading them first to the lower point of the Breithorn.

Fusshörner. *August* 17.—The same party, with the addition of Mr. G. Yeld, jun., ascended a hitherto unclimbed peak of the Fusshörner. It is the last conspicuous point in the ridge of the Fusshörner, nearest to the Bel Alp. The party climbed to a notch in the main ridge of the chain to the left (in ascending) of their peak, and then followed the ridge. They met with two main difficulties in steep towers, the latter of which looked almost hopeless, but was conquered by means of a second rope. The ascent cost about 7 hrs. of actual walking. The view was striking, the gendarmes on the Great Aletsch side (between the Oberaletsch and Triest Glaciers) being grim in the extreme. The Triest Glacier side of the ridge being cut clean from top to base forms a marvellous precipice. The party descended the ridge by the same route, but afterwards, by trying a new way which turned out impracticable, lost about two hours, and did not regain the Bel Alp Hôtel till rather late. It is hoped to publish shortly an account of the Fusshörner, with an illustration to show the peaks in it which have already been climbed by different parties.

Graf (3,343 m. = 10,968 ft.), Witwe (3,298 m. = 10,821 ft.), Bonne Poupée (3,257 m. = 10,686 ft.), Mauvaise Poupée (3,225 m. = 10,581 ft.).—On Monday, July 25, the Rev. Harry Wilson, accompanied by the guides Clemenz Ruppen and Alois Eier, made the first ascent of three unnamed peaks on the ridge between the Unterbächhorn and the Hohstock. The ascent was made from the Bel Alp Hôtel by the unnamed glacier to the E. of the Unterbächhorn glacier; this was skirted on the east and north sides. The first peak ascended (3,343 m. on map), which it has been agreed to call the 'Graf,' was easily reached by ascending the glacier on the S. of the peak, and then climbing the rocks on the south-west face, which were not difficult. (The snow on the

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glacier was steep and a schrund had to be passed, but an easier route might be found by making a wide détour, and attaining the point where the snow reaches the western arête of the mountain.) The ascent was made in four hours from the hôtel, the snow being in first-rate order.

From the Graf to the next point (3,298 m. on map), which it has been agreed to call the 'Witwe,' the descent of the east arête of the Graf was in some places difficult owing to want of holds; the ascent of the west arête of the Witwe was easy. Time, 1 hr. 25 min.

From the Witwe to the next point (3,257 m. on map), which it has been agreed to call the 'Bonne Poupée' (the name commonly used for it by the local guides), the descent of the arête was made without difficulty; the lower part, however, was entirely covered with snow on the north side, and as this was very steep some care was required. The ascent of the Bonne Poupée was made partly on the snow and partly on the rocks, which did not present serious difficulties. Time, 40 min. from Witwe to Bonne Poupée.

The ridge between the Bonne Poupée and the next point (3,225 m. on map), generally known as the 'Mauvaise Poupée,' required a good deal of care on account of the rotten rocks. Traverses on the south side had frequently to be made. At one point where the ridge was very narrow a difficult passage occurred. Time from Bonne Poupée to Mauvaise Poupée, 1 hr.

The Mauvaise Poupée had been ascended previously; the Graf, the Witwe, and the Bonne Poupée were climbed for the first time.

The descent of the Mauvaise Poupée by the south-east arête and the small glacier to the Bel Alp Hôtel was made in 2 hrs. Some places on the rocks required care; a good glissade of some 400 ft. was obtained on the glacier.

On a subsequent occasion the Rev. Harry Wilson, with Mr. A. A. Pearson (A. C.), made the ascent of the Witwe from the glacier. The rocks were reached in 3¼ hrs. from the hôtel; a couloir was ascended in 15 min., and the west arête of the Witwe reached about 10 min. from the summit.

On this occasion, the Mauvaise Poupée having been reached as before, the ridge between the Mauvaise Poupée and the Hohstock was crossed for the first time. The descent of the east arête from the Mauvaise Poupée was very steep, and in many places had to be made by the snow on the northern face of the ridge; this was frozen hard, and great care had to be exercised. The ascent of the arête to the shoulder of the Hohstock is without serious difficulty. Time from Mauvaise Poupée, about 2 hrs. The head of the Hohstock is about 70 ft. high, and is almost perpendicular. About three-quarters of the way up there is a small couloir, where the leading guide can get a good hold while the rest of the party ascend one by one. The holds are good on the face of the rock. On the other side of the head of the Hohstock there is a descending knife-edge, some 40 ft. long, of solid rock, ending in a wide step over a fissure in the rock. The passage requires great care. The rocks

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on the ridge from the Hohstock to the Sparrenhorn are in many places interesting.

The Hohstock was ascended for the first time, five years ago, by the Rev. Harry Wilson, with Clemenz Ruppen as guide.*

MITTEL-ALETSCH-JOCH. *July* 8.—Messrs. T. L. Kesteven, E. H. F. Bradby, and C. Wilson crossed, for the first time, the ridge separating the Mittel-Aletsch and the Ober-Aletsch Glaciers, at the point where the S.E. arête of the Aletschhorn begins to rise steeply. This is not quite the lowest point between the Aletschhorn and the Sattelhorn, but it is the best point at which to cross the ridge, and may be appropriately called the Mittel-Aletsch-Joch. The height of the pass is about 12,000 feet. Starting by moonlight from the Eggishorn at 12.10, the upper plateau of the Mittel-Aletsch Glacier was reached at 4.30 A.M. and the Col at 9 ($7\frac{1}{2}$ hours actual going). Leaving again at 9.30, the Bel Alp footpath was reached at 2 P.M., and the Rieder Alp Hôtel at 5 o'clock.

ALETSCHHORN. *July* 10.—The same party, with Mr. J. H. Wicks, ascended the Aletschhorn from the Mittel-Aletsch-Joch (see above). The S.E. arête of the Aletschhorn, between this point and the col just N. of the point 3,966 m., where the usual route from the Bel Alp joins the arête, has not previously been climbed; and consequently the expedition here recorded is the first complete ascent of the S.E. ridge of the mountain, as also the first occasion on which the S.E. arête has been ascended from the Mittel-Aletsch Glacier, or the Eggishorn.

Starting from the Hôtel Jungfrau at 11.45 P.M. (July 9), the Mittel-Aletsch-Joch was reached at 9 A.M., and the point 3,966 m. at 12.30, whence the usual route was followed to the summit.

The descent was made by the N.E. ridge, the Aletschjoch, and the Mittel-Aletsch Glacier, the Eggishorn Hôtel being reached at 10.25 P.M.

The expedition is an interesting one, affording in a single day an unusual variety of mountaineering work on ice, névé, and rock. It is, however, an arduous undertaking; and under less favourable conditions of weather (including brilliant moonlight from midnight to daybreak) and of snow, could hardly be completed in a single day. On the other hand the Mittel-Aletsch-Joch can easily be reached from the hut on the Ober-Aletsch Glacier, by ascending the eastern, instead of the western, portion of the Ober-Aletsch-Firn; and this expedition would be a finer climb than the ascent as ordinarily made from the Bel Alp side.

SIMELISTOCK (2,487 m.=8,160 ft.), THE N.E. PEAK OF THE ENGELHÖRNER.—This peak was ascended for the first time by Mr. Claude Macdonald with Rudolf and Peter Almer. They left Rosenlaui at 4.35 A.M. on August 20, and proceeding up the gorge to the S.W. of the peak reached the foot at 7.30 A.M. by steep grass slopes. They then ascended a rock couloir, bearing to the left and keeping their peak on their left. Here, though very steep, the rocks were

* *A. J.*, xvii. p. 596.

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good, with good hand and foot holds. At 9.50 they reached a saddle on the arête, whence the final tooth stood up bold and uncompromising, of limestone and apparently quite smooth. Here coats and all impedimenta were left. The party, after much reconnoitring, forced their way up a long crack, up which there was just room to wriggle by shoulders and knees. About half-way up, a fault in the crack obliged the leader to jam, whilst the others went over his body ladderwise, and then, having themselves got 'fest,' pulled him over—and two similar ladders had to be made higher up. Outside of the crack the rocks were of the smoothest description, and the crack and final tooth itself very nearly approached the perpendicular. The summit was reached at 11.5, and found to be about a yard square. Having built a small cairn, they descended exactly the same way, and at the big fault lowered the leader, and he having jammed himself the others came over his body. The descent to the saddle occupied 5 min. more than the ascent, and Rosenlaui was regained at 4 P.M.

KLEIN SCHRECKHORN BY THE N.W. ARÊTE.—The same party made this first ascent on August 17 from the Bäregg, leaving there at 3.45 A.M. Having followed the Schwarzegg Hut route for an hour, they ascended the Glattwang by stones, grass slopes, and finally a small snow couloir to the N.W. base of the peak. This was reached at 8, and breakfast was taken. From this point the N.W. arête was followed direct to the summit, and was found to consist of very large boulders, very loosely piled up and lying at a great angle. Great care had to be exercised owing to the looseness of the rocks, which but for this gave, with a few exceptions, good climbing. At 9 A.M. a cut-off occurred in the arête in the shape of a perpendicular red cliff, up which a passage was made by the aid of a friendly crack. Forty minutes later a similar and worse cut-off occurred; but another crack was found, of very narrow compass, up which with the loss of some epidermis the party forced their way, a human ladder having twice to be made. Finally, at 10.40 a third big red and almost overhanging cliff pulled the party up, and this had to be turned to the N. by very bad and loose rocks. The arête was regained at 11.20, and an easy 20 min. led to the top. Having left at 1 P.M., and glissaded down the Nässi Firn, the party reached Grindelwald at 5.45 P.M.

Titlis and Rhone Glacier District.

VORDER THIERBERG (3,091 m.=10,141 ft.). *July* 23.—Mr. and Mrs. F. Baker-Gabb, starting from Stein, followed the Steinlimmi route to within a short distance below the col, and then bearing S.W., up snow, reached the rock ridge running S. from the Steinlimmi, which was followed to the summit of the peak in 4 hrs. 50 min. from the hotel. The actual highest point was a snow cornice overhanging on the east side. The descent was made by a snow slope on the south-east side to the snow plateau above the Thierbergli, and down the Thierbergli to Stein, in 2 hrs. 15 min. from the summit.

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WANGHORN (2,823 m. and 2,837 m.=9,262 ft. and 9,308 ft.).

DROSISTOCK (2,831 m.=9,288 ft.). *July* 25.—The same party crossed the Steinlimmi, and going up the Drosi Glacier to the col between it and the Gigli Glacier (2,776 m.), ascended the above-named three points. Point 2,823 is best ascended from the S.E.; point 2,837, from the S.; and point 2,831, from the N. Times: Stein to the Steinlimmi, 2 hrs. 20 min.; Col between the Drosi and Gigli Glaciers, 1 hr. 5 min.; Wanghorn (2,823 m.), 35 min. The higher point of the Wanghorn or the Drosistock (being nearer) would take rather less time. Descent: Drosistock to top of Steinlimmi, 1 hr.; Stein, 1 hr. 10 m.

SUSTENLOCHSPITZ (2,918 m.=9,574 ft.). *July* 26.—The same party went up the Susten Pass (1 hr. 10 m.) and descended on the Wasen side for two or three minutes. They then followed an ill-defined path branching off to the N. into the Sustenloch, and reached the Sustenlochfirn in 1 hr. 20 min. This they traversed to the N.E., and ascending N. the small snowfield running up into the peak, reached the foot of a low rock wall in about 1 hr. 15 min. Climbing this wall at its lowest point, where water falls, they reached the snow above it under, but slightly to the E. of, the summit and ascended snow and boulders to the top, 35 min. Descending by the same route until below the small snowfield, they returned to Stein by the col immediately to the N. of the Ober Heuberg (1 hr. 15 min.), and down the Oberthal Glacier in 45 min. to the hotel. The above name is suggested for the point.

Bernina District.

MONTE SCERSCEN.—On July 22 Mr. Hugh C. Foster, accompanied by Martin Schocher and Ben Cadonan, made a new route up the Monte di Scerscen. They left the Roseg Restaurant at 1 A.M. Ascending the Tschierva Glacier and leaving Piz Humor to their right, they reached the bergschrund at 5.45. At the point of crossing they were under the centre of the ridge which connects the Scerscen and the Bernina. From here they turned to their right, cutting their way across a steepish ice-slope beneath some formidable séracs. A ridge of rock, however, soon sheltered them, and at 7 they reached the plateau; from here they joined the ordinary route and were on the top at 8.20, on the summit of the Bernina at 2.30, and at the Morteratsch Restaurant at 7 o'clock.

Dolomite District.

EINSERKOFEL (9,396 ft.). FIRST ASCENT OF THE N. WALL.—This expedition was made on August 6 by Mr. J. S. Phillimore and the Rev. A. G. S. Raynor, with the guides Antonio Dimai of Cortina and Michel Innerkofler of Sexten. The party started from Sexten at five, with the intention of trying the Dreischusterspitze by a new route from the Schusterplatte side; but after an hour's walk up the Fischleinthal, they were tempted aside by the N. face of the Einser, on which an attempt had been made only a week or two

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before. The fatal accident on the Dreischuster took place this same day.

After spending an hour in vainly searching for a peasant to carry their boots and axes round to the S. side, where the ordinary route (cf. the 'Hochtourist') starts, they began the rocks at 7.35. The preceding party had tried to force a way up the middle of the face, but, on reaching a ledge about halfway up, had found further progress impossible, as, indeed, it appeared from below. The present party decided to try the right (W.) branch of a large, deep-cut, Y-shaped chimney, which cuts the left (E.) part of the face. It was entered in 10 min. by climbing over a rock buttress from the right, and never left (except to round blockstones) for the next six hours.

The whole chimney was extraordinarily hard to climb, owing partly to the smoothness of its sides and the consequent difficulty of turning the blockstones, partly to the unusual depth, which made it impossible to keep to the middle. There is not an easy bit in all the length of it, but the most difficult points were the blockstones (passed at 9, 10.30, 12.30, and 1.20, respectively); more especially the third, a big double obstacle, where it was necessary to climb right into the cave under the block, to a sort of loop of rock which afforded halting-place for two, then out on to the face, and round the left edge of the block, hand and foot holds being practically non-existent. This passage alone took over ¾ hr. The caves are in places quite 30 ft. deep, and their roofs (the floor of the next pitch) not above suspicion of unsoundness. The last is a black hole forming the actual chimney-head. From here 10 min. easy *Platten* brought the party out on a small arête about 300 ft. above the ledge where their predecessors turned back. From this point 3 hrs. more stiff climbing—mostly face work, very straight—and the top was won at 4.48. Leaving at 5.28, they descended the rocks by the usual way in 1 hr. 22 min., and then, to their sorrow, had to tramp down over screes, steep grass, and stony paths in sadly damaged klettershoes (it would have taken too long to go round and recover the boots) to Bad Moos, where they arrived at 9.15.

Each member of the party was distinctly of opinion that it was by far the most difficult climb he had ever done, or ever wished to do; Dimai said nothing would ever induce him to try it again.

Piz Popena by the S. Arête (3,143 m. = 10,205 ft.).—It appears the guides of Cortina had agreed among themselves that it was time a new way was made up the Popena by the S. ridge. The old way from the E. is one more example of the predilection for screes which guided the pioneers of the Dolomites; while from the W. the traverse from the Cristallo Pass is condemned by a risk from stonefalls beyond all proportion to the difficulties of the climbing. The new S. route has the advantage of being sound rock, free from snow early in the summer (the cold of August 9 and 10 this year left the W. way in a condition visibly not to be attempted), and a respectable climb.

The same party left Tre Croci a few minutes before 6 on

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August 11, and after following the path to the Cristallo rather more than half-way up, crossed E., and struck up a rough large gully of broken rock and snow. Here, at a point 2 hrs. from Tre Croci, they breakfasted and put on klettershoes. Leaving at 8.25 they followed up under the W. side of the arête, and got into open sunshine on the crest in half an hour. The greatest difficulty was encountered 20 min. later in a bit of overhanging rock, which took some climbing, pick in hand; a stiff little passage some ¼ hr. lower down, consisting of two short chimneys connected by a sitting traverse, can be avoided by going a few yards to the right. They gained the first of the conspicuous depressions in the ridge at 10.20, and the fore-peak at 11. The climbing calls for no particular description; you have interesting work, continuously magnificent views E., S., and W., and good work. The short descent from the fore-peak to the saddle where the old ways from the Cristallo Pass and the E. come in, was so heavily glazed that they were nearly 25 min. reaching the junction (11.20), and as the remaining climb to the top was in the same condition they preferred to go no further, since their immediate purpose was achieved. Watching over the perpendicular parapet of the saddle thirty-four people were to be seen ascending and descending the Cristallo, within hail. Descent by the old E. way took 2 hrs. 20 min. to Tre Croci.

The ascent by the new way may be estimated at 5 to 6 hrs. from Tre Croci to the top.

Antelao by the Cadore Face (10,608 ft.=3,264 m., Italian Survey).—On August 16, the same party, reinforced by Zaccaria Pompanin and Francesco Verzi (both of Ampezzo), made the first ascent by the Cadore face of the Antelao. They intended to bivouac at the foot, anticipating a climb of almost Swiss proportions; but the evening turned out showery, and the fear of an overnight wetting kept them at S. Vito. Starting at 2.18 on a sultry morning, Pompanin piloted them a weary 3½ hrs.' walk over screes and scrub, to the place where one ought to sleep out, and conveniently could, for there is shelter in a cave, water and firewood. In front rose the great white wall of the lower face, some 2,000 to 2,500 ft. of rock. Pompanin had been with Signor Sinigaglia more than half-way up this, and 'thought it must be easier above'; but above one could see nothing. In the wall to the right, S.E., there is a great conspicuous cave, the 'Buso del Diavolo.' The start headed for this up a couloir in white *Platten*. At 7 (25 min. from the breakfast halt), klettershoes, and Verzi departed with the boots and axes to get round by the Forcella Piccola to the top.

From here as they climbed they traversed generally towards the left, following a chamois path for some way, passing under a black place like a schoolboy's slate, then up a spigolo which avoided a bad bit of chimney, into the chimney higher up, and at 8 o'clock to a point about 100 yards horizontally distant from the said slate. Then to the right again, 20 min. of hard chimney, and, they were,

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apparently, about level with the head of the big spur (M. Castello) which is visible under the shoulder of the Antelao from Cortina. Slightly zigzagging right then left (fair climbing) they reached in another ½ hr. a deep round cave. Ten min. halt. In another ½ hr. they were at a parting of the ways; the centre of the face is an impracticable wall of some 200 yds. wide. Signor Sinigaglia tried to the left of this; they now turned definitely to the right and roped on all five together. Stiff work up rotten chimney and then on the face with a further traverse right brought them to a ledge (10.25), where the last two on the rope with difficulty kept awake during the long wait while the leaders were getting up. A frequent artillery of stones came down just before one's feet, but the ledge is just screened. The next bit of work was very rotten and exposed, up to a broad ledge where they halted from 11.20 to 11.55. Cloud was collecting rapidly before they left. From here up cracks (pretty but rather tight, and threatening at several points if a piece of the very friable rock should come away, to become unclimbable) out on the crest at 12.40.

They were on the edge of a good-sized basin, which is known as the Pian del Lenzuolo; everything above in cloud. Moving on briskly over rock at first easy, then in places quite hard enough (especially a certain alternative between a chimney head and a stretch of face) they gained at 2 P.M. a top—a wrong top, in thick cloud. The echo of their shouts came back off a wall evidently much higher in front; the mist only lifted enough to reveal huge pillars of black precipice across chasms right and left. This top (apparently the point 2,887 on the Italian ordnance map) was connected by a narrow saddle with a projecting part of the opposing mass: to this saddle they made an extremely laborious descent, an hour and a quarter's work to get down less than 200 feet. Every stone was rotten, the descent (like the Scharte itself) shattered with recent lightning. Most of the party were now resigned to a night on the rocks, when continued shouting at intervals drew an answer from Verzi, just arrived in incredibly quick time on the peak; and the clouds lifting left all the upper ridge clear for some little time, and enabled them to distinguish the post on the summit. From the saddle (left at 3.15) bearing first slightly left (W. about), over rock of no particular difficulty, two stretches of steep but good snow, and finally more rock, they reached the point 3,134; and from there, following the crest, were all on the top at 4.55. On both the fore-peaks passed were erected cairns. Leaving at 5.45, they were off the rocks by 6.47, and at S. Vito at 8.12. Total time out just under 18 hrs.; total halts from beginning the rock 1 hr. 35 min. There appears to be no other way up the lower face, and apparently no way of avoiding 2,887. A smaller party might reduce the time, but they went fast all day, never climbing in sunshine. The climb presents no extraordinary individual difficulties, but a great variety of work: the nasty descent from 2,887 to the Scharte might be very different after a few parties had been over it. The internal scenery of the Antelao is stupendous, almost incredible to one who has only seen

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it from Cortina; and the route by the Forcella Piccola goes much better down than up. Danger from spontaneous stonefalls there appears to be none, as the route never touches a couloir after the beginning. Taking the difficulties in with the length of the expedition, it may without fear of exaggeration be estimated as a first-rate climb; and the first ascent was not of the *tour-de-force* kind, for the guides are quite willing to repeat it.

NORWAY.

Lyngenfjord District.

E. Peak of Kjostinder. *July* 17.—Mrs. Main, with Joseph Imboden, of St. Nicholas, and his son Emil, made the first ascent of the easternmost of the peaks of the Kjostinder. Ascending through woods behind Lyngseidet, and passing over a plateau where reindeer abound, the party took to the Gjæver Glacier at its (true) right side, crossed it towards a little saddle on the rocky ridge between this glacier and the Rottenvik Glacier, and without going actually to the dip, ascended the face of their peak in a slanting direction over easy rocks till they emerged on the top. Here they unexpectedly found themselves cut off, by a gap and a precipitous wall beyond, from a higher summit, the central peak of the Kjostinder.

Central Peak of Kjostinder. First Recorded Ascent.—*July* 20.—The same party ascended this peak on the above date, having been assured at Lyngseidet that no one had previously been up it. They took at first the same direction as on the 17th, then passing the snout of the Gjæver Glacier, and bearing over turf and patches of snow, they gained the (true) right bank of the Rottenvik Glacier some way above its termination in a greenish-white lake. They followed up this glacier to a snowy col at its head, situated between the two highest peaks of the Kjostinder. From the saddle they first ascended, in ¾ of an hour, the peak to their left. This is the peak seen from Lyngseidet. The way lay up loose stones, and the summit was a plateau resembling the top of the Romsdalshorn. A very small, and obviously ancient, stone man was found there. The party propose to call this the Gjævertind, to distinguish it from the highest of the three peaks of the Kjostinder.

Kjostinder. Highest Peak. Second Ascent. First Ascent from Lyngseidet.—On the same day the above party, after ascending to the saddle, went up this peak by a new route. Crossing the glacier to the base of a rocky spur running north, they gained the crest of it by steep but easy rocks, and then turned towards their peak, and reached the summit along the arête.

The Kjostind and Gjævertind could be easily and quickly ascended from the Kjos Glacier, near the head of Kjosenfjord.

Isskartind. Second Ascent. First Ascent from Lyngseidet, and First by the E. Arête.—The same party, on July 25, after rowing for 1½ hr. on Kjosenfjord to the entrance

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of the Tyttebærdal, went up that valley, and striking off to their left near its head, ascended snow-slopes above a half-frozen lake to the Isskar Glacier. This they crossed to the foot of the E. arête, which was followed to the summit, and towards the top it afforded some good climbing.

The peak commands an exceptionally fine view.

Sofietind. First Ascent.—The same party made the first ascent of this peak on July 29. Starting from Lyngseidet, they took a boat on Kjosenfjord to the Tyttebærdal, and thence skirted round the mountain to the foot of the N.E. arête which rises from the Isskar Glacier. They followed this arête till precipitous cliffs drove them on to the E. face, by which they ascended for an hour, gaining the arête again about 20 min. below the summit. Some pleasant climbing in chimneys was met with on the E. face.

Sultind. First Ascent.—The same party, on the same day, went up this peak from the snowy basin between it and the Sofietind. It was perfectly easy. The ridge from the Sofietind to the Sultind could doubtless be followed without much difficulty, but a thick fog rendered it unwise to attempt this on the occasion in question.

Urtind. First Ascent.—On August 1 the same party went up this peak from Lyngseidet in 5½ hrs., including halts. The ascent was made by the face overlooking Kjosenfjord, and was easy. From the Urtind the party passed along the long rock arête to the

Tyttebærtind (First Ascent), and descended by the ridge which runs to the commencement of the Tyttebærdal. This was steep and narrow at first, and, by reason of its great length, the many peaks with which it is crested, and the excessive looseness of the rock, was a long expedition. A magnificent circular rainbow, often double and with a large outer fog-bow, was seen at intervals for several hours on the ridge.

Stortind. Second Ascent.—On August 5, the same party ascended this peak from their camp at Stortind Saeter by the Jaegervand. They went over steep but easy rocks, straight up the south-west face, striking the arête, by which Messrs. Slingsby, Hastings, and Haskett-Smith went up, about 5 min. below the 'mauvais pas.' This could be quickly and easily turned by a slight descent and traverse on the north face, but the rock is so firm and good that it presents no special difficulty. Continuing straight on by the ridge, over the first peak, the highest point was reached in 6½ hrs. from camp, including 1 hr. lost in an attempt to ascend direct to the highest point. The descent was made by the same route.

Skræktind, or North Peak of Jaegervandtinder. First Ascent.—The same party, on August 7, made the first ascent of this peak. From the Trold Glacier they made for a gap in the ridge connecting the highest with the north peak of the Jaegervandtinder. This was reached by a couloir mostly filled with snow. From the gap, the arête was followed as much as

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possible to the top. One rather bad bit was met with, consisting of a crag perched on the ridge and split up so as to be somewhat insecure. It also gave indifferent hold. The summit is a firm, pointed bit of rock, overhanging on two sides. The descent was made by an entirely different route, straight down a couloir which begins close to the top of the peak, and seams the south face to the Trold Glacier. About half-way down this couloir forks. The branch to the left of a person descending is the proper one to take. But owing to a hailstorm and thick fog, the wrong one was selected, as it seemed safer from falling stones. Some trouble was met with in descending the glacier-worn rocks at the bottom. The other couloir leads in a broad, unbroken slope to the snow below. The descent from the top to the camp took only about 3½ hrs. This grand peak is very like the Schreckhorn in appearance.

Firedalertind. First Ascent.—The same party, on August 10, went up this easy peak, which they have thus named, as it commands views down four valleys. They ascended it in order to get a view of the north faces of the peaks rising around the head of the magnificent Stortinddals Glacier, immediately in front of which is the Firedalertind, which, though a stony walk, is worth doing on account of the grand view from it.

Forholttind. First Ascent.—The same party went up this mountain on August 13, ascending by the arête from the Forholtskar (or pass). It is very easy. The peak is at the head of the Forholt Glacier, and between the Stortind and the Trold. It is visible from Jaegervand, and has a long, rather level summit ridge. It commands a splendid glacier view.

Forholtskar. First Passage.—This pass, which is of the greatest practical use to anyone climbing from Jaegervand, is situated at the head of the Forholt Glacier, and gives access to the head of the great Stortinddals Glacier. It is between the Stortind and an outlying ridge of the Trold. It is reached from the glacier by a snow couloir and a slope of stones. All the peaks at the head of the Stortinddals Glacier can be approached by this pass, which is a quick and pleasant walk from Jaegervand, in contrast to the long and stony Stortinddal, which is the alternative route.

Kjoempes Tind. First Ascent.—From August 13 to 25, there was not one day when it was possible even to start for a mountain. On August 25, the same party went up this grotesque-looking little peak, which is one of the rocky points at the head of the Stortinddals Glacier. Going to the Forholtskar in 3 hrs. from camp, the party crossed the upper plateau of the Stortinddals Glacier, and ascended their peak by a couloir and a steep and narrow chimney on the east side in 20 min. from the rock ridge at its base. Descending to this they crossed the head of the Kopangs Glacier, and went up a mountain shaped like a table, with a rather flat glacier on the top. This they propose to call the

Taffeltind. First Ascent.—It was easily reached over stones and snow-slopes, and presents a fine appearance when seen from

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the Stortinddals Glacier. Camp, which was quitted at 7 A.M., was regained at 5 P.M. Except for the first 3 hrs. it snowed and rained all day.

ELIZABETHTIND. FIRST ASCENT.—This is a pointed, rocky, isolated little peak overlooking the cirque formed by the N. faces of the Jaegervandtinder and the S.W. side of the high nameless peak ascended in July by Messrs. Slingsby, Hastings, and Haskett Smith. Mrs. Main and her guides went up on August 27. There was a good deal of fresh snow. They ascended by a couloir on the S.W. face. This is the easiest and, perhaps, the only possible route, and took about 5½ hrs. from camp. The Skraektind, or N. peak of the Jaegervandtinder, looked magnificent from the top of the Elizabethtind. Camp was regained at 4 P.M. The weather was fine.

KLYVEKLIPPE. FIRST ASCENT.—On August 28, the same party went up this peak, which is immediately N.W. of the Forholtskar. It afforded an excellent climb of about an hour over firm rock. The arête was followed wherever possible. The weather was cloudy, with a terrific wind.

TRE GYGRE. FIRST ASCENT.—On August 29, the same party ascended this grotesque-looking, steep little peak, which overlooks the head of the Isskar Glacier. They went straight up the couloir which seams the W. face, and the outer wall of which casts such a deep shadow aross it in the afternoon. The couloir is very steep, and two or three steps near the top of it were rendered difficult by water from the melting of fresh snow above. The peak could also be ascended by the S. arête, but this would be a much harder climb than by the couloir. The weather was perfect.

GYLDENTIND. FIRST ASCENT.—The same day the same party went up this peak, which is a yellowish rock overlooking the head of the Isskar Glacier, and was the only remaining peak of the cirque unascended. The rock was steep but broken, and on the lower part of the mountain very loose.

The last ten peaks enumerated were ascended from the camp by the Jaegervand. The party were extremely lucky, in spite of the exceptionally bad weather in August, in never once being turned back on an attempt on a mountain during their two months' climbing.

FAESTNING. FIRST ASCENT.—The same party on September 1 went up this fine, square-topped rock peak, overlooking Kjosen Glacier, in 5½ hrs. including halts, from Lyngseidet. The climb, though steep, was not difficult. The ascent was made by the Kjos Glacier, the S.E. face and the E. arête. The weather was perfect.

NOTE.—The peaks round the Lyngen and Ulfsfjords are composed of such rotten rock that a party of more than three would find them most unsafe.

The snow has been in good condition during all the ascents we have made this year, at any hour of the day or night. I believe it is almost invariably excellent in the north of Norway in summer.

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Sudden storms of great violence blowing from the south occur occasionally in the northern mountain districts of Norway, and the wind one day was so terrific that two new tent poles (Whymper tents) were snapped asunder in the centre of each. All camping kit should therefore be very strong. We were told that late in the season the shrinking of the snow away from the rocks makes these difficult to reach. Though this undoubtedly is the case in the Romsdal district, we never experienced anything of the kind this summer in the north.

Camping out is absolutely necessary for the mountains near the Ulfsfjord. E. MAIN.

WESTERN AND EASTERN CAUCASUS.

M. Maurice de Déchy travelled this year again in the Caucasus. The party consisted, under the leadership of M. de Déchy, of Professor Hollos as botanist, Dr. Papp as geologist (both from Budapest), and a Tyrolese guide from Kals. In the Western Caucasus the Karatchai district and the Klukhor group were visited. M. de Déchy, with the guide, ascended a peak, about 11,200 ft., in the Chirukol Valley (a side valley of the Ullukam), mounting the Talichkang Glacier, and by a gap which affords a pass between the Chirukol Valley and the Nenskra Valley. A new pass was made by the same party from the Gaudarei Valley (a side valley of the Ushkulan Valley) to the Gvandra Valley, a confluent of the southern Kluch Valley (height about 10,800 ft.). The other members of the party separated and crossed the Nakhar Pass to the Kluch. The Klukhor group, entered by the Amanaus valley, proved to have only small glaciers and no great conspicuous peaks. Here the Tyrolese guide broke down from fatigue, and had to be sent back to his home from Batalpachinsk. In the Eastern Caucasus the glacier group of the Bogos was visited. Extensive botanical and geological collections were made, and M. de Déchy brought home a large collection of photographs of the high regions, which will complete those we already possess from the Central Caucasus. Travelling was this year comparatively easy in the Caucasus, but to reach either the mountains in the Western Caucasus, or still more the Bogos group in Daghestan, a great deal of time must be spent in the lower ground. The Bogos group is a fine glacier system on a small scale, a good playground, perhaps, for guideless mountaineers. But riding over the horse-paths in the Highlands of Daghestan is decidedly more dangerous than climbing the peaks.

CANADIAN ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

Mr. H. E. M. Stutfield, Mr. Hermann Woolley, and Professor J. Norman Collie spent six weeks this summer mountaineering and exploring in the Canadian Rocky Mountains that lie N.W. of Laggan Station, on the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Starting from Laggan on July 31 with four men and a dozen

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ponies, they travelled by way of the Pipestone Pass to the Kootenay Plain, on the Saskatchewan River, thence up the Saskatchewan (which was in full flood owing to the melting snow-ice in the mountains) to the foot of the Little Fork or Bear Creek; this was reached on August 8. The north fork of the Saskatchewan was then followed, but, owing to the immense quantity of water in the stream, progress was very slow. During the five days from August 12 to August 16 the party were only able to proceed about twelve miles up the stream, the reason being that the only trail that existed was on the opposite bank. A new trail had therefore to be cut.

On August 17 the Athabasca Pass was reached, and on its summit (6,900 ft. to 7,000 ft.) a permanent camp was made. From this camp on August 18 H. Woolley and N. Collie made the ascent of a fine snow and rock peak, Athabasca Peak (11,900 ft.). On the same day H. E. M. Stutfield shot three mountain sheep, saving the party from semi-starvation. A glacier, the source of the headwaters of the Athabasca, was next explored, and the party (H. S., H. W., and N. C.) slept by the side of the ice on the night of August 20. On the following day, ascending this glacier, a vast snowfield was reached, surrounded by probably the highest mountains in the Canadian Rocky Mountain system. The highest measures about 14,000 ft.* Unfortunately this peak lay too far off on the western side of the snow to allow of its being climbed on that day. The party therefore ascended a dome-shaped peak covered entirely with snow and ice. This they named 'The Dome' (11,600 ft. to 11,700 ft.). The Dome is a peak of considerable interest hydrographically. The snow on its rounded summit may descend when melted either into the Columbia River on the W., and thence into the Pacific Ocean, or on the N. and E. into the Athabasca River, which flows to the Slave Lakes down the Mackenzie River to the Arctic Ocean, or on the S.E. it drains into the Saskatchewan, which flows into Lake Winnipeg and Hudson Bay and the Atlantic; it may therefore be considered as the centre and apex of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. Both the Athabasca and Saskatchewan Rivers may be said to rise at its base, and it was, as far as could be ascertained, the only mountain whose glaciers fed rivers that fell into three different oceans. On August 24 the party made another expedition from their base camp down the Athabasca River in order to find, if possible, the Committee's Punch Bowl. In this, however, they were not successful. Next day (25th), ascending a valley to the W., they bivouacked at the end of a glacier, and on the 26th ascended the glacier, finally climbing a snow and rock peak called 'Diadem Peak' (11,500 ft. to 11,600 ft.). To the N. and N.W. the mountains were smaller, but about 4 to 5 miles to the W. a superb rock peak, with precipitous sides and a flat top, rose to a height of certainly 13,000 ft.

* This peak is the one mentioned in *A. J.*, vol. xviii. p. 549, as having been seen from the slopes of Mount Freshfield.

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The weather up till this had been excellent, but on this day it broke, and continued more or less bad until a heavy snowstorm on September 4 cleared the air, after which the weather remained fine.

The camp on the Athabasca Pass was reached on the 27th, and the party started back for Laggan on the 28th. Bear Creek was reached on the 31st.

On September 2 an attempt was made to climb Mt. Murchison from this camp, but it was abandoned at about 8,800 ft. on account of the large quantity of new snow on the mountain and the weather being bad. Next day the party started up Bear Creek, crossed the Bow Pass on the 5th, and camped on the shores of the Upper Bow Lake.

On September 6, the weather having become brilliantly fine again, a peak lying just on the N. of the summit of the big icefall of the Bow Glacier was ascended (11,100 ft. to 11,200 ft.). From its summit a magnificent view was obtained, Mts. Assiniboine, Sir Donald Forbes, Freshfield, Lyell, and those over the Athabasca Pass being clearly visible. The peak was covered with fresh snow.

On September 7 the party started down the Bow Valley, and on the following day arrived at Laggan railway station.

During the expedition the plane table survey started last year by Mr. Parker, and carried on by Mr. G. P. Baker, was continued. Several minor peaks were climbed for this purpose, the first being a rock peak lying between the middle and the north fork of the Saskatchewan (8,600 ft. to 8,700 ft.); two others near the Athabasca Pass were ascended; also Mr. Woolley climbed a rock peak at the head of the Athabasca River, Mt. Wilcox (10,000 ft.). The various heights were taken both with an aneroid and a mercurial barometer, and checked by the height of the mercurial barometer at Banff. J. N. C.

ALPINE ACCIDENTS IN 1898.

Once again the list of Alpine accidents is appalling. This year the names of two members and one ex-member of our Club appear in the black list. Last year—a season of bad weather—no English Alpine Clubman was lost. This year—a very favourable one—our loss is heavy. Is there any connection between the good season and the sad result? Is it that the fine weather caused the relaxation of some of the precautions usually observed by prudent climbers?

Even if we stretch the meaning of the word accident it will cover only a few of the catastrophes which are of yearly occurrence in the Alps. We have, it will readily be conceived, every desire to spare the feelings of those who suffer most from these sad disasters; but it is our positive duty to point out that a due number of good guides or thoroughly seasoned amateurs, whether in the case of very difficult ascents or when ladies are of the party, is absolutely

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