

sunshine—and there was one in particular, called ‘Early Morning in the Engadine,’ which was a very good example of its kind. She also showed a large series of photographs taken within the Arctic circle.

There were two views of considerable topographical interest, which attracted much attention—Mr. Whymper’s ‘Tête du Lion,’ recalling the history of the Matterhorn, and Mr. Speyer’s very cleverly executed panorama from the Viescherhorn.

Mr. O. K. Williamson and Mr. J. J. Withers sent interesting work, and Messrs. Landecker and Brown showed a very fine collection of reproductions of Signor V. Sella’s well-known photographs.

One word as to the frames. They really were in some cases magnificent, and so charming in themselves that, lost in their contemplation, one forgot to look at the photographs they enclosed.

In fine, this was an exhibition on which the Club may well congratulate itself.

Following out a suggestion in the notice of last year’s photographic exhibition the exhibition sub-committee have asked Mr. Eccles, Mr. Spencer, and Mr. Donkin to present to the Club for their permanent photographic collection a copy of one of their photographs in the present exhibition.

Mr. Eccles has given ‘On the Glacier D’Orny,’ Mr. Spencer ‘Mont Dolent,’ and Mr. Donkin ‘Dawn on the Ferpècle Glacier.’

ALPINE NOTES.

DEATH OF M. CHARLES DURIER.—At the moment of going to press we hear with deep regret of the death of M. Charles Durier, President of the French Alpine Club, and an honorary member of our own Club.

BALL’S ‘ALPINE GUIDE.’—The ‘General Introduction’ to the ‘Alpine Guide’ will be published in May, under the title ‘Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps.’ The new edition has been thoroughly revised by Mr. Coolidge, and many sections have been almost entirely re-written. Among the contributors, in addition to the Editor, are Professor Bonney, Messrs. Percy Groom, P. L. Selater, W. Warde Fowler, and Sydney Spencer. This little book cannot fail to interest all lovers of the Alps. Copies will be forwarded to the subscribers to the Republication Fund as soon as it is published.

THE ALPINE CLUB ORITUARY IN 1899.—Maurice Black (1893), C. J. Arkle (1886).

CORRIGENDUM IN No. 143.—The Fusshörner from the S.W., facing p. 316. *For* Rothhorn, 3,701 mètres, *read* Aletschhorn.

AN EXHIBITION OF ICELANDIC SKETCHES, by Mr. W. G. Collingwood, was held at the Club from March 4 to March 25. Refreshments were provided on the afternoon of the 4th. About 500 persons visited the exhibition. (See pp. 475–76, *ante*.)

GIFTS TO THE ALPINE CLUB.—The late Colonel Barrow, long a member of the Alpine Club, has bequeathed to the Club three paintings by Monsieur Loppé—‘The Séracs of the Col du Géant,’ ‘Märjelen See,’ and ‘The Mer de Glace from Montanvert’—and a painting by Edward Batty, ‘An Ascent of Mont Blanc by a Member of the Alpine Club (Colonel Barrow),’ together with a number of valuable books.

BUCKINGHAM’S ALPINE ROPE.—All climbers will hear with regret of the death of Mr. John Buckingham, the maker of the famous Alpine rope. The rope will, we are glad to learn, be made exactly as heretofore by Mr. Buckingham’s successors, Messrs. Beale & Cloves, 194 Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.

THE CABANE ON THE AIGUILLE DU MIDI.—We are indebted to Mr. S. B. Peech for the following information:—On August 22, 1898, in company with Mr. Pank and our two guides, I spent the night there, and during our short stay we were visited by storms of hail, snow, and rain, the latter heavy. The door is somewhat unsteady, but, once adjusted, we found the shelter quite waterproof. The stove, blankets, and mattresses are *excellent*. The floor, on the occasion I mention (and, if I am not mistaken, always) was of ice, which of course became decidedly damp in the course of the evening. There was also a solid coating of ice some three or four inches thick on one corner of the planks of the lower sleeping-shelf, but not large enough to reach the foot of the mattress.

COL DE CRÉTON (8,924 m.). BREUIL TO PRARAYÉ.—August 30, 1898. Messrs. A. W. Andrews and Oliver K. Williamson, with the guides Jean and Antoine Maitre, left Hôtel Mont Cervin 4.40 A.M. Proceeding in a south-westerly direction, they crossed three secondary ridges descending from the Valpelline-Valtournanche ridge. The fourth of these secondary ridges they followed until immediately below the rocks of the Bec de Créton (8,637 m.). After an attempt to ascend the Bec de Créton by the E. face, which they discreetly gave up owing to the unsettled weather, they traversed the hillside in a southerly direction by steep rocks, crossing a great couloir of loose stones. They then reached the couloir descending eastward from the Col de Créton, probably well above its middle. The rocks above them to the N. of the couloir being absolutely vertical and distinctly smooth, they took to the couloir itself, ascending the hard snow as quickly as possible, the slope being very steep. After $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. they decided to leave the couloir to the S., taking to an easy ledge of rock, being still several hundred feet below the top of the couloir. The rocks above them on the S. side of the couloir were here vertical or overhanging. The easy ledge of rock was followed to a secondary ridge of rock descending from the col in a south-easterly direction. This was followed by easy rocks to a point a few minutes below the col, overlooking the great couloir. The col was reached at 12.25 P.M., and the easy snow-slopes on the W. side descended, Prarayé being reached at 4.25 P.M. The ascent to the col, excluding halts,

occupied $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., of which $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. was spent in the abortive attempt on the Bec de Créton; 2 hrs. 20 min., excluding halts, were spent in descent. The scenery of the couloir is grand in the extreme; none of the party had ever seen anything of its kind to equal it. The expedition was an enjoyable one, and is a very direct route from Breuil to Prarayé, but should be taken in the direction in which the party took it, and early in the day, as there is some risk from falling stones in the couloir. The first recorded passage of the Col de Créton was made by Messrs. Conway, Carr, and Davies from Prarayé to Breuil.*

THE RIDGE BETWEEN LES BANS AND THE MONT GIOBERNEY (DAUPHINÉ).—Recent explorations have cleared up the exact topography of this ridge and its Alpine history, so that it seems well to put on record a note of the true state of the case.

1. *Brèche and Pointe de Conte Faviel*.—Immediately W.N.W. of the N. summit of Les Bans there is a high snowy shoulder, W. of which is a slight eminence that overhangs the col numbered No. 2 in this list. The suggested name is taken from that applied on the old map of Bourcet to the upper portion of the Pilatte glen. The height of the pass may be c. 3,180 m. This shoulder was reached on July 6, 1878, by Mr. Coolidge, with Christian Almer, senr. They took $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to the Brèche from their old camp of 1873, at the foot of the N.E. ridge of the Mont Gioberney,† the last bit being up a steep snow wall, after crossing a bergschrund at its foot. The descent towards the Valgaudemar seemed very sheer, and perhaps impossible. But the party had only come hither to examine Les Bans, then still unclimbed. Hence they mounted in a few minutes to the eminence (Pointe de Conte Faviel) W. of the Brèche. As the result of the examination was not promising they returned from the Brèche in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. to the 1873 camp.

This is the expedition alluded to in 'A. J.' vol. ix. p. 93, and the 'Annuaire de la Société des Touristes du Dauphiné,' 1878, p. 50 (where S. is misprinted for N.). By a misapprehension on the part of Mr. Coolidge it is stated (erroneously), in 'A. J.' vol. xviii. p. 524, that in 1878 he reached the pass next to be noticed.

2. *Col du Clot* (c. 3,165 m.).—This pass, N.W. of No. 1, was first traversed on July 12, 1897, by Mr. Littledale,‡ who in 1898 again reached from La Bérarde the arête, a little to the S. of the col, in order to join (on the 'upper glacier') M. Reynier's 1895 route up Les Bans.§ As this pass is the lowest in the ridge between Les Bans and the Mont Gioberney, Mr. Littledale has agreed to alter the name at first selected to that of 'Col du Clot.'

3. *Pointe Richardson* (c. 3,300 m.).—This peak is the highest summit in the ridge between Les Bans and the Mont Gioberney, and has been named in honour of the well known lady climber, the first lady to conquer the Meije. It was attained from the Col

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xv. p. 306.

† *Ibid.* vol. vi. p. 292, and vol. vii. p. 143.

‡ *Ibid.* vol. xviii. p. 524.

§ *Ibid.* vol. xvii. p. 572, and *Revue Alpine*, 1898, p. 168.

de Gioberney on August 12, 1898, by M. Maurice Paillon (with Pierre and Eugène Estienne), who then christened it.

4. *Col de Gioberney* (c. 3,325 m.).—On the same day M. Maurice Paillon made the first passage of the snowy depression of the Col de Gioberney, between the Pointe Richardson and the Mont Gioberney; it was reached by very easy rocks on the W. side, and the descent seemed perfectly easy by moderate snow-slopes to the Glacier de la Pilatte (that day the E. side of the Col du Says was rendered difficult by numerous crevasses). M. Paillon the same day made two new routes up the Mont Gioberney; he ascended it by its S.E. arête from the Col de Gioberney, and descended by its N.W. arête to the Col du Says.*

W. A. B. COOLIDGE.

F. L. LITLEDALE.

M. PAILLON.

WINTER ASCENTS.—1. *Piz Morteratsch*, 3,754 m.—December 10, 1898.—Mr. E. L. Strutt, with Martin Schocher, left Pontresina at 12.30 P.M., and reached the Boval Hut at 4 P.M. They proceeded *via* the Medial Moraine of the glacier, wearing snow-shoes. Starting at 7 A.M. next day, they reached the summit at 11.55 A.M. There was a great deal of snow on the rocks, and there seemed to be some risk of avalanches; in descending they avoided the rocks, and kept down a couloir more to the S.W. of the mountain, the hut being reached in 1 hr. and 15 min. from the summit. The weather was doubtful, and very cold.

2. *Piz Bernina*, 4,052 m.—February 11, 1899.—Mr. William Williams, with Martin Schocher and Sebastian Platz, reached the Boval Hut, with the aid of snow-shoes, in 4 hrs. from Pontresina, the snow being very soft. They left the hut at 4 A.M., and reached the 'Labyrinth' at 6.30., where they left their snow-shoes. The séracs gave no difficulty, but the snow above the usual breakfasting-place was in bad condition, and they did not reach the arête till 9.30; from there to the top they consumed till 12, finding much snow on the rocks, and the upper part of the ridge was of ice. The weather was magnificent, and the minimum temperature recorded was -5° (Réaumur). The hut was reached in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., where they spent a second night. February 14.—Mr. Herbert Pennington accomplished the same peak, also with Schocher and Platz. Finding the previous tracks of much use, they reached the summit in $7\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Boval, getting down again to Pontresina the same night. February 16.—Messrs. A. C. Roberts and L. Rawlence, with the same guides, also accomplished the mountain in 6 hrs. from the hut, being back again at Pontresina by 4.30 P.M.

3. *Bellavista* (3,860 m.) and *Piz Zupo* (3,999 m.).—February 18.—Messrs. W. Williams and E. L. Strutt, with the guides Schocher

* The expedition made by M. Allotte de la Fuye, and mentioned in the *Annuaire de la Société des Touristes du Dauphiné*, 1878, p. 50, was simply an exploration in the direction of the Col du Says; an explanation to this effect has been received by M. Paillon in a letter from M. Allotte de la Fuye, dated February 10, 1899.

and Platz, left Boval at 8.30 A.M., and, proceeding *vid* the 'Festung,' reached the lowest (eastern) peak of the Bellavista at 8 A.M.; from there they attained the three other summits in 2 hrs., and, following the arête, gained the summit of Piz Zupo in $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. more—i.e. at 11 A.M. They descended through the 'Labyrinth,' and had regained the hut by 1.45 P.M. The snow was perfect throughout, and the weather magnificent.

4. *Crast Agüzza*, 8,872 m.—*February 21*.—Messrs. H. Pennington and L. Rawlence, with Schocher and Platz, left Boval at 4 A.M., and reached the summit at 10. They found the steep slope below the rocks of ice, but the rocks themselves quite dry; they traversed the mountain, finding it everywhere like in summer, and they were down at the hut by 2.20. The weather was fine, but rather cold.

5. *Piz Rosegg*, 8,927 m.—*February 26*.—Mr. E. L. Strutt, with Schocher and Platz, reached the Mortel Hut in $4\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. from Pontresina, wearing snow-shoes for the whole time. Starting by moonlight, at 1.50 A.M., they reached the summit at 7.20 A.M., the snow being perfect, and the mountain in excellent condition throughout. The party suffered much from cold, all their provisions (even spirits) being frozen, so that they were unable to eat anything till they had regained the hut, which they did at 10.15 A.M. Pontresina was regained at 3.30 P.M.

6. *Piz Julier*, 8,385 m.—*February 28*.—Messrs. L. Rawlence and J. Bell, with Schocher. Leaving St. Moritz at 7 A.M., and the Julier Pass at 8.45, they gained the summit at 11.30. They descended *via* the Scharte, finding some snow on the rocks, and were back again at St. Moritz by 4 P.M.

7. *Piz Palü*, 8,912 m.—*March 4*.—Messrs. L. Rawlence and E. L. Strutt, with Schocher and Platz, left St. Moritz at 3.30 A.M., and the Bernina Houses at 5.30. They reached the summit at 11.15 A.M., the bergschrund below the eastern peak giving much trouble, and delaying them fully three-quarters of an hour. They descended by the Bellavista Sattel and the Loch, reaching Pontresina at 4.45 P.M. The heat was as great as in summer, and the snow of the most admirable quality.

8. *Piz Bernina*, previous to this year, has been three times ascended in winter, i.e.:—*February 4*, 1880. By the Rev. Cecil Watson. *January*, 1894.—By Prince Scipio Borghese. *February 18*, 1897.—By Mr. E. L. Strutt. Schocher was leading guide on each occasion.

9. *Piz Rosegg* has once been climbed, i.e.:—*December 28*, 1893.—By Herr Swaine, of Strassburg, accompanied by Christian Klucker.

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 Frith (Hy.). Ascents and Adventures. 8vo. Illustrated. London, &c., 1884.
 Heizmann (J. G.). Avis aux Voyageurs en Suisse. 8vo. Map. Berne, &c., 1796.
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 Roby (John). Seven Weeks in Belgium. 2 vols. 12mo. Illustrated. London, 1838.
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 ——— Handbook to Entertainment. 4th edition. [1853.]
 Smith (Wm.). Adventures with my Alpenstock. 8vo. London, &c., 1864.
 Switzerland: L'Etat et les Délices de la Suisse. 4 vols. 12mo. Amsterdam, 1730.
 ——— Basle, 1764.
 ——— Cook's Tourists' Handbook. 8vo. Maps. London, 1874.
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 Tschudi (Iwan). Schweizerführer. 4te Auflage. 8vo. St. Gallen, 1862.
 Wilkinson (Thos.). Tours to the British Mountains. 8vo. London, 1824.
 Weidenbaum (E. G.). Der Grosse Ararat und die Versuche zu seiner Besteigung. Uebersetzt von H. Hofmann. 8vo. Leipzig. 1885. (Presented by Herr Hofmann.)
 Younghusband (Capt.). The Heart of a Continent. 2nd edition. 8vo. Maps. Illustrated. London, 1896.

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- Dändliker (Dr. K.). *A Short History of Switzerland*. 8vo. Maps. London. Sonnenschein, 1899. (Presented by the Publishers.)
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- Geikie (James). *Earth Sculpture; or, The Origin of Land Forms*. 8vo. Illustrated. London, 1898.
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- Baedeker (K.). *Northern Italy*. 11th edition. Leipsic, &c., 1899. (Presented by the Publisher.)
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THE DOM AND TÄSCHHORN IN ONE DAY.—In the number for May,* 1898, Mr. O. G. Jones mentions that 'in August 1895' he made the combined ascents of the Dom and Täschhorn in one day. A slight inaccuracy in this statement must be my excuse for the following note on a subject which is perhaps of interest to mountaineers in general.

The ascent of the Dom from the Domjoch was first made by

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xix. p. 113.

Sir Martin Conway on August 19, 1878, and is described in a paper headed by the appropriate quotation, 'Infandum regina jubes renovare dolorem.'* That of the Täschhorn by its northern arête was first effected by the Hon. Gerald FitzGerald and Sir Frederick Cullinan on September 2 of the same year.†

The history of the other routes on the two mountains, which are referred to below, is too well known to require detailed reference now; but the first persons to ascend the two mountains in one day were Messrs. Corry and Garwood, on July 26, 1894.‡ Since then six parties at least have repeated the expedition, some beginning with the Täschhorn and some with the Dom, and ascending or descending the former mountain by almost every known route. These expeditions were made by the following parties.

(1) The Hon. Gerald FitzGerald, August 16, 1895, with Ulrich Almer and Fritz Boss. Mr. FitzGerald ascended from the Täschalp, which he left at 1 A.M., struck the S.W. arête of the Täschhorn high up, and followed it to the summit of that mountain, which he reached about 10 A.M. Thence to the Domjoch the party was exposed to a cold north wind, which twice forced them to shelter behind a cornice on the south side of the mountain. Progress was consequently slow, and 8½ to 4 hrs. were spent in the descent to the pass. For some distance thence they found the southern arête of the Dom comparatively easy; but it soon becomes broken, steep, and rotten. One flat boulder in particular, perched on the actual crest, was so loose that Almer was convinced that it would topple over on one side or the other if any of the party deviated even a few inches from its actual centre as they wriggled over it. A little higher up they were forced for some time on to the Saas face of the mountain. The face was steep and covered with powdery snow; it was almost impossible to see which rocks were firm and which were not, and Almer had to work altogether without snow spectacles. The top of the Dom was reached about 7.30, and the remaining forty minutes of daylight were used in running down to the Festijoch. Before the glacier was reached lanterns had to be lighted, and Almer, who was complaining of considerable pain in his eyes, could not see well enough to find the way in the broken part of the glacier. The party had to bivouac on the rocks on the right bank, and found in the morning that Almer, who had suffered greatly during the night, could not open his eyes. He had to be led down to the hut, and, after his eyes had been bathed in tea, was able to walk down to Randa. Sixteen days of magnificent weather intervened before the ascent was repeated.

(2) On September 2, 1895, Mr. W. Wickham King and the present writer, with Alois Supersax and Alois Biner, left the Festi hut at 3 A.M. The morning was muggy and dark, so much so that Mr. Davidson, who was camping out with his guides above the Langenfluh, with the intention of attacking the Täschhorn from

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. x. p. 104.

† *Ibid.* vol. ix. p. 109.

‡ *Ibid.* vol. xvii. p. 257.

that side and then proceeding to the Dom, did not start. In fact, the weather threatened all day and caused us some anxiety later on, while when we were on the summit of the Täschhorn there was a thunder storm over the Val Anzasca. We spent about twenty minutes in step-cutting and a little time waiting for daylight, and reached the top of the Dom at 9. We found the ridge to the Domjoch fully as unpleasant as its reputation. Luckily we had none of the disadvantages which hampered Mr. FitzGerald; the rocks were clear of snow, but as rotten as any I have ever seen, and I have a distinct and painful recollection of the boulder described by Mr. FitzGerald. We reached the Domjoch at 1, and spent under two hours in ascending the steep but beautifully firm rocks to the Täschhorn. Our troubles were not yet over, however, as the hot day had spoilt the bridges in the Kien Glacier; we had to make a long *détour*, and only got on to the moraine at 6 P.M. and to Randa at 9.15.

(3) On the next day Mr. O. G. Jones reached the Täschhorn from the Täschalp by the arête followed by Mr. FitzGerald, and thence descended to the Joch in 1 hr. 20 min., and ascended the Dom thence in 2½ hrs., descending to Randa by the usual way. His total time from the Täschalp to Randa was 17 hrs. 25 min., of which about 1 hr. 5 min. were occupied in halts. He was quite ignorant of the fact that we had been on the mountain the previous day and of Mr. Davidson's intentions.

(4) Meanwhile Mr. Davidson, who had retreated from the Langenfluh on the afternoon of September 2, returned on September 3, and on that night slept at a gîte under some rocks about ½ hr. across the Fee Gletscher from the top of the Langenfluh and just beneath the point 2,991 on the Siegfried Atlas, about 2½ hrs.' walking from Saas Fee. With Chr. Klucker and Daniel Maquignaz he started at 4 A.M. on the morning of the 4th, and having lost considerable time waiting for daylight, reached the Mischabeljoch at 6.50 A.M., and arrived (with two halts of 50 min. in all) at the summit of the Täschhorn at 11.15 A.M. Leaving at noon, the party reached the Domjoch at 2.10, and, after halting 35 min., the summit of the Dom at 5.15 P.M., whence they took about 4 hrs.' actual walking to Randa. Mr. Davidson knew nothing of the intentions or of the accomplishments of the two last mentioned parties, and, as he followed the Mischabeljoch arête throughout its entire length, and reached it at a different point from a different side from Mr. Jones, he can hardly be said to have followed in that gentleman's steps.

(5) and (6) I have not been able to discover that any ascent of the two mountains in one day took place in 1896 or 1897. But on September 10 of this year (1898) Mr. O. G. Jones repeated his expedition of 1895 in the reverse direction and with a variation. Accompanied by Hermann Perren he left the Festi hut at 4 A.M., reached the summit of the Dom at 8, and after ½ hr.'s rest proceeded to the Täschhorn. The passage from peak to peak occupied only 2½ hrs. He left the Täschhorn at 12 and made the first

descent of the Teufelsgrat in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., reaching Randa at 7.5. Mr. Jones led throughout and did all necessary step-cutting, which was not much, as the conditions were good. On the same day another party followed in Mr. Jones's route as far as the top of the Täschhorn, whence they descended to Randa by the ordinary way.

In conclusion I should like to most strongly recommend the expedition, whichever way it be taken, to any mountaineers at Zermatt who are on the look-out for something a little out of the way. There can be very few 'Gratwanderungen' in the whole range of the Alps which lie for so many consecutive hours at so great a height and present such varieties of snow and rock. The ridge from the Täschhorn to the Domjoch is as firm and delightful as that from the Domjoch to the Dom is rotten, but both command magnificent views and call for care and skill. Possibly the best way to take it would be to start from Saas Fee at midnight, with a full moon, and to descend to Randa, as this avoids both a night in a hut and the interminable descent of the Kien glen, which is at its worst in the gloaming. A strong and quick party should have no difficulty in accomplishing the ascent in this way, and, if time fails, the luxury of the Festi hut is far preferable to the unpleasant bivouac below the Kien Glacier, which is the refuge of the benighted on the Täschhorn.

C. S.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps. By the late John Ball. A New Edition, prepared, on behalf of the Alpine Club, by W. A. B. Coolidge. Pp. 164. (London: Longmans. 1899.)

THIS is the second instalment of the 'New Ball,' for (as I pointed out in the November 'A. J.') the 'General Introduction' is an integral part of Mr. Ball's great work, though (with the solitary exception of the first edition, 1863, of the 'Western Alps') it has always appeared as a separate pamphlet or booklet. It is thus in no sense (and was never meant by Mr. Ball himself to be) an 'Introduction to the Alps,' for it has never contained any account of what the Alps are, or where they are, of their various divisions, of Alpine rivers, lakes, &c., such as may be found in Umlauf and other similar works. The book under notice is thus the 'preliminary chapter' to a special and more detailed work. Rightly or wrongly this was the character given by Mr. Ball to the book, and I have, of course, felt myself bound in preparing a 'memorial edition' to keep this fact always before my eyes and in my thoughts. It need hardly be added that the book is thus concerned with the *Alps* exclusively, and not with mountains in general. The new edition of the 'General Introduction' is but thirty-four pages longer than the previous edition. It has been thoroughly revised by myself, with the assistance of many helpers, to whom my heartiest thanks are due. It has been thought best to slightly alter the title, so as to re-