The difficulties ahead appeared almost insurmountable, and to proceed would have meant a night near the top. Two courses were left—to force a descent down the face to the Arolla glacier or return the way they had come.

They decided on the former, unwisely as it turned out, the whole face being raked with falling stones, but by keeping as much as possible to the rock ribs the glacier was gained without mishap at 4 P.M.

THE POINTE DE CERESOLE.—The time given in the new 'Ball' for the ascent of this peak from the Victor Emmanuel Hut seems to be rather long, as its ascent is said to take 2½ hrs. from the Noaschetta glacier, which is equivalent to 4½ hrs. from the hut, allowing 1½ hr. to the Col du Grand Paradis and ½ hr. for the passage of the glacier to the foot of the rocks. On September 7, 1905, the Pointe de Ceresole was ascended by this route in exactly 3 hrs. from the hut by Miss M. T. Meyer and A. E. Field, with Clément Gérard, of Cogne, and a porter.

THE ASCENT OF THE AIGUILLE DU GOÛTER.—In the ascent of Mont Blanc by the Aiguille du Goûter one is led to suppose, on reading the description in the 'Climbers' Guide' and in Ball, that it is necessary to cross stone-swept couloirs. In making this ascent last August my party followed the arête which overlooks the Griaz glacier from its foot to the summit of the aiguille without any serious difficulty, and it is certain that this route must have been frequently followed on other occasions. My object in mentioning this is to show that it is quite unnecessary and most undesirable to cross the couloirs which are on either side of this ridge, both of which are (as we observed on the occasion above referred to) frequently swept by falling stones. OLIVER K. WILLIAMSON.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Zeitschrift des Deutschen und Oesterreichischen Alpenvereins. Vol. xxxvi. 1905.

IN accordance with the custom observed in recent years the 'Zeitschrift' for 1905 begins with a series of papers, chiefly of scientific interest, and the first hundred pages furnish reading of a rather substantial character. In the first paper Dr. O. Ampferer discusses the original formation of the Achensee by a dam of moraine matter, and the subsequent geological history of the district. The addition of a sketch map would have been useful. Herr Max Eckert also contributes a geological treatise, reviewing the various changes in mountain forms brought about by erosion and taking his examples mainly from the limestone formations of the Eastern Alps.

Herr E. Oberhummer brings his series of articles on the development of Alpine cartography to a close with an instructive chapter on French and Italian maps; the author deals chiefly with the

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'Carte de France' (1 : 80000)—begun in 1818 and completed in 1880—and with comparisons between it and the several French maps which have appeared since 1875. The vegetation of the Adamello group forms the subject of a paper by Herr H. Reishauer, while Herr M. v. Prielmayer, under the title 'Deutsche Sprachinseln,' describes some of the isolated German communities in the neighbourhood of Trent.

The section devoted to mountaineering in foreign lands contains three contributions relating respectively to the Himalaya, Western Canada, and Bolivia. In the autumn of 1903 Herren A. C. Ferber and E. Honigmann made an expedition, without European guides, to the Mustagh Pass, and we are indebted to Herr Ferber for a very interesting narrative of this journey. The party arrived at the junction of the Mustagh Glacier (Conway's Piale Gl.) with the Baltoro Glacier twenty days after leaving Srinagar; but on gaining the foot of the Mustagh Pass they found the ascent to it, on the S. side, to be impracticable for laden coolies, and only one native accompanied the two travellers to the top; in spite, however, of its present unfavourable condition the interesting discovery of the ruins of twenty-two huts about 2 miles up the Mustagh Glacier seems to point to a considerable use of the pass in former years.

Owing to trouble amongst the coolies the original intention of crossing the pass was, unfortunately, frustrated till the period of fine weather had ended. The paper is illustrated by a number of excellent photographs, some of which show the strikingly steep and broken character of the precipices which tower above the Mustagh Glacier.

Not less interesting is Herr E. Tewes's account of his excursions in the Canadian Rockies and in the Selkirk Range in 1903, the most important being the first ascents of Mt. Huber, in the Temple group, of Mt. Daly, in the Balfour or Waputehk group, and of the extremely difficult N. ridge of Mt. Sir Donald, in the Selkirks; the author abstains from encouraging others to repeat this last severe climb.

Herr H. Hoek describes his journey, made during January 1904 with Dr. G. Steinmann and Baron v. Bistram, through the previously unmapped mountains lying S. and S.E. of Illimani. The region traversed includes the ranges of Santa Vera Cruz, Quimza Cruz, and Araca, with numerous summits estimated to reach 20,000 ft. Herr Hoek pictures in enthusiastic terms the majestic appearance of Illimani as seen from the S.E. at a distance of nearly 30 miles, and Mr. Compton's drawing, based on a photograph, lends effective support to the author's description.

In the third section of the volume, dealing with Alpine expeditions, Dr. K. Blodig, in addition to concluding his series of attractive papers on the Saasgrat, narrates his numerous ascents in the Klosterthal mountains. This picturesque district is easily accessible by means of the Arlberg railway, and, as most of the expeditions are of moderate length, it may be visited with advan-

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tage in late autumn, when the days are short, or in early spring, when the snow still lies deep on the higher Alps.

Dr. E. Niepmann also furnishes two articles, the first of which graphically describes the difficulties encountered on the N. ridge of the Weissmies; this route appears to have been very rarely taken since the first ascent, made in 1884 and briefly recorded in vol. xii. of the 'Alpine Journal.' Dr. Niepmann's second contribution is the commencement of a monograph on the Ortler district, in which he treats of the north-eastern portion of the group, *i.e.* of the mountains surrounding the heads of the Laaserthal and Martellthal. Most of the numerous ascents recorded can be conveniently made from the Düsseldorf, Troppau, or Zufall huts; but so great are the attractions of the Ortler and Königsspitze, and possibly of the fleshpots of Sulden, that comparatively few climbers turn their attention to these north-eastern mountains.

Herr H. Leberle in concluding his description of the Wettersteingebirge writes about the southern chain, in which are the Hochwanner, Teufelsgrat, &c. This range offers rock-climbing of the highest order; but, owing chiefly to the absence of Club huts and inns, it is, as the author almost plaintively remarks, neglected alike by the harmless 'Jochbummler' and the extreme 'Hochtourist.'

A paper specially interesting to devotees of Dolomite-climbing is that on the Marmolata group, the authors being Herr H. Seyffert, who took part in the first ascent of the Marmolata W. ridge in 1898, and Herr A. v. Radio-Radiis. The latter tells the story of the first descent to the Marmolatascharte, which he accomplished in company with Herr H. Barth a few days after Herr Seyffert's ascent. This extremely difficult W. ridge of the Marmolata has now been effectually 'domesticated' by the Nuremberg Section of the D. u. Oe. A.-V. The height of the rocky portion of the ridge is about 800 ft., and up this, alas! has been carried an interminable series of iron steps, pegs, ladders, and wire cables—all securely fastened into the rock—such as exists, surely, on no other mountain. Old-fashioned climbers may, however, derive consolation from Herr Seyffert's assurance that there is little danger of similar tampering with the Marmolata S. face, which is at least equally difficult and considerably more than twice the height of the W. ridge. An account is given of the second ascent of this face by the brothers G. and K. Leuchs, without guides, the conditions being so unfavourable that 28½ hrs. were spent on the rocks of the Südwand before the summit was gained.

The chapter in which Herr A. Gstirner continues his monograph on the Julian Alps might be appropriately placed in the first section of the volume, as it is devoted entirely to topography and to the difficult task of correcting the confusion of Italian, Slavonic, and German mountain nomenclature.

In the final paper Dr. G. Freiherr v. Saar takes us by way of Longarone to the head of the Val Montanaia, in the Carnic Alps, and gives a lively description of several new ascents made in 1902

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in company with the late Dr. V. W. v. Glanvell, who so lamentably lost his life in May 1905. The most notable of these ascents was that of the remarkable Campanile di Montanaia, a huge isolated obelisk of rock rising perpendicularly between 600 and 700 ft. above the floor of the valley and presenting difficulties which severely tested the skill and ingenuity of the climbers.

The attractiveness of this volume is greatly enhanced by the number of Mr. E. C. Compton's picturesque sketches; and Herr L. Aergerter's map of the Marmolata group (1 : 25000, or about 2½ in. to 1 mile) is in every respect an admirable piece of work.

Wall and Roof Climbing. By the Author of 'The Roof-Climber's Guide to Trinity.' Eton College: Spottiswoode & Co., Limited. 1905.

This handbook to 'the most economical branch of the climber's art' deserves a longer notice than the space at our disposal will allow. It treats fully of the art of climbing as practised by the roof-climber and wall-climber, and perhaps somewhat unfairly emphasises the superiority of the former by dignifying him with the title of 'stegophilist,' while the latter remains without his due polysyllabic label of teichophilist. Much history may be incidentally picked up as we follow the writer on his enthusiastic course. We are reminded how 'the sight of the somewhat forward Helen openly practising upon a tower (Ἑλένην ἐπὶ πύργον ἰοῦσαν) causes considerable scandal among the Trojans;' * of how the Roman paterfamilias and his brood enjoyed even chimney-climbing (on the authority of Shakespeare)—

> Many a time and oft
> Have you climbed up to walls and battlements,
> To towers and windows, yea, to chimney-tops,
> Your infants in your arms.—*Julius Cæsar*, I. 1. 42—

of how La Mole, an early anticipator of the *intrépides* of to-day, led Henry of Navarre on a famous ridge-climb when, as is sometimes the case in the Alps, haste was imperative if the climbers were to get home intact. Appendices B and C deal with haystack-climbing and tree-climbing. By the way we feel sure that in this department Shakespeare himself was fully qualified as a member of the craft, as he evidently looks with contempt on the man who fell from a plum tree, the whilome notorious 'Saunder Simpcox, the lyingest knave in Christendom.'

We have noticed but one slip of any consequence, the attribution of a famous passage (on p. 93) to Tennyson's 'Dream of Fair Women,' instead of to 'The Daisy.' The type and paper of the book are delightful.

* *Iliad*, iii. 154.

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