climbers, were killed on the Jungfrau on the descent on the Roththal side. Bad weather was the probable cause. We are sorry that we cannot give a full account of this accident.

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1907.

Dauphiné.

Pic Sans Nom (3,915 m. = 12,845 ft.). First Ascent from the Col du Pelvoux.—On June 20 Mr. E. L. Strutt and the guides Alois Pollinger, senior, and Joseph Pollinger, of St. Niklaus, left the Lemercier Club Hut at 3.35 A.M. and reached the Col du Pelvoux at 5.15 A.M., where a halt was made till 5.50. They then climbed up the E. arête of the Pic Sans Nom, keeping on the N. (Glacier Noir) side at first; they then turned on to the S.E. face and climbed a steep ice and snow couloir just to the right of the first buttress, descending towards the Sans Nom glacier. After ascending some 100 ft. they found themselves cut off by cliffs from regaining the arête, and were forced to descend and to traverse to the left on to a second buttress, which was gained by climbing a very difficult chimney, the rocks being iced, rotten, and overhanging in one part. They then continued traversing to the left over easy but very rotten rocks till the E. arête was regained. This again proved quite impracticable, and the traverse of the S.E. face had to be continued, in the course of which three more buttresses were crossed, the arête being then regained at a higher point. Being here of snow instead of rock it was followed for a very short distance. The party then, on reaching a very conspicuous tower, which may be mistaken for the summit, again turned left, and after crossing another buttress and excessively loose rocks were able to reach a conspicuous steep snow couloir, which they followed till it merged into easy rocks, by which they attained the summit in a few minutes (9.5 A.M.) They descended at 9.20, and being ignorant of the usual route, which according to Mr. Coolidge seems only to have been accomplished four times, preferred to go down the aforementioned conspicuous snow couloir till it ended in the rock rampart which cuts off the entire S.E. face from the Sans Nom glacier. They then traversed to the left, turning all the buttresses at their lowest extremities just above the rampart, without difficulty, but in pretty continuous danger from falling stones, till the last buttress—the first one traversed in the ascent—was reached. There they found themselves apparently cut off, though there seems to be somewhere a small couloir and 'rock crevice' by which Messrs. Coolidge and Gardiner effected an ascent on July 13, 1880, and accordingly were obliged to climb straight up the buttress about 300 ft. over difficult rocks, till they regained the chimney which had given trouble in the ascent. This was descended, and the Col du Pelvoux regained at 12.20 on the N.

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side. The 100-ft. rope proved rather short for the descent of the last man, as of course it had to be used doubled. The ascent does not seem in the opinion of the party one to be recommended.

Mont Blanc District.

L'Evêque (11,274 ft.). W. Arête and S. Face.—On August 8, in ignorance of the route followed on the first ascent by the Messrs. Pasteur, Carr, and Wilson,* Messrs. G. Winthrop Young and C. D. Robertson, with Joseph Knubel and Heinrich Pollinger, effected an unconscious variation of their traverse. On reaching the foot of the couloir, ascended by the first party, between La Nonne and L'Evêque, they forced with difficulty a passage on to the foot of the W. arête to the left of the couloir. They then traversed to the left on to the N. face of the ridge, and up an easy chimney out on to a conspicuous 'epaulet' overhanging the Charpoua glacier. Thence a splendid granite chimney led them back on to the crest of the arête and through a window to its S. side. By some interesting traverses, keeping below the crest, they rejoined the couloir some 100 ft. below the col to the S. of the peak. From here, by a depression in the S. face, the S. arête, and finally the W. arête (doubtless the line followed by the first party), the summit was reached. The climb is hardly less pleasing, and certainly sounder, than anything on the Petit Dru in its present condition. It is, however, expedient to call attention to the fact that the easy but rickety couloir used by both parties on their subsequent descent to the Glacier de Talèfre was observed to empty its whole contents on to the glacier some fifteen minutes after the party had passed down it.

Aiguille du Midi (12,609 ft.) to Aiguille du Plan (12,051 ft.).—No record appears to exist of a traverse of this ridge, although it has been crossed at various points and its two ends form parts of the usual ascents of the two Aiguilles. It deserves more notice. The ascent of the Aiguille du Midi by itself is too short for a day, that of the Aiguille du Plan, by the rational route, too long for its interest. The combination of the two forms a very fine expedition of varied but not exacting character. From the Cabane du Midi, or better the Col du Géant Refuge, it would make an excellent 'return' day to the Montanvert. In the reverse direction the long snow ridge of the Midi, ascending from the so-called Col du Plan, might be found laborious.

On August 10 Joseph Knubel and myself left the Montanvert at 3 A.M., and reached the top of the Col du Géant séracs at 5.30. A happy route up the icefall of La Vallée Blanche, and a novel but rather disreputable scramble straight up the rocks of the S.E. face of the peak, brought us to the top of the Aiguille du Midi at 8.30 (5½ hrs.). Descending by the firm rocks of the E. ridge, we hurried cheerfully down its snow continuation until the appearance of ice, an all too prevalent phenomenon this season, introduced an hour or so's hard

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xvi. p. 265.

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step-cutting down to the Col du Plan. This should rightly have been called the Col des Pèlerins, the name Col du Plan belonging properly to the little pass between the Glaciers du Plan and des Pèlerins, immediately below the Aiguille du Plan. The mistake may have arisen from a belief that the indeterminate mass of rock, an aiguille spoilt in the making, marked on the Kurz map east of the Col but given no height, forms part of the Aiguille du Plan. Under this impression, I believe, its inadequate summit was first ascended by Mr. W. E. Davidson. For distinction I should suggest for the mass the name of *Pointe des Pèlerins*. To previous examination—on an ascent of the Plan and Requin three days before—its 'rise' at either end from the arête had looked formidable; but an easy loosely-built couloir on the Chamonix face, into which we turned whenever the arête proved too stiff, gave quick access to the senile stone man on the summit. From here by a delightful granite ridge, sharp edges, short steps, and interesting cracks we reached the second col (*de jure* Col du Plan) at 12.5, and the top of the Aiguille du Plan at 12.45 (9¾ hrs.). The unpropitious weather throughout the day, fine driving snow with occasional mild thunder, here broke in a veritable snowstorm, and prevented the prolonged halt which public opinion now demands of climbers anxious to avoid the charge of 'hurrying back to hotels.' The chilly step-cutting, necessary this year down the final wall of the pass, gave time, however, for the day to recover itself. A burst of sunshine promised drying rocks, and the ascent of the Dent du Requin (11,218 ft.), an afterthought, offered occasion for getting warm. The ascent from the glacier to the summit took 52 minutes, and the descent 38 minutes. [The trustworthiness of 'times' is illustrated by the fact that last year our party spent some 16 strenuous hrs. on the same peak.] After a dutiful bask in the sunshine we reached the Montanvert at 5.45 P.M. (14¾ hrs.). The whole expedition, though shorter in time and less gymnastic, is of a finer mountaineering character than that undertaken on August 6, 1906, to which it formed a complement, and of which a note appeared in the 'Alpine Journal,' vol. xxiii. p. 342. G. W. Young.

The Rocher du Mont Blanc. South Summit.—On the map of the chain of Mont Blanc the Rocher du Mont Blanc is marked as a single peak of 3,873 mètres: it really consists of a ridge with four peaks of almost equal height, the highest being the third from the south, which is about 5 mètres higher than the first. On June 27, 1907, Messrs. O. Eckenstein, A. E. Bellars, and H. O. Jones started from the Quintino Sella hut and traversed the steep snow slope horizontally in an easterly direction to the rocks, which were ascended, at first straight up and then to the left, until the upper snow slope was reached in 1 hr. The steep slope, partly ice and partly snow, was ascended in a northerly direction until the ridge overlooking the Mont Blanc glacier was reached; this was then followed until the couloir on the (orographical) left of the peak was reached in 45 min. A rudimentary chimney on the right was ascended for about 20 ft.; the couloir was then traversed

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horizontally, and after a short time it was again traversed in an upward direction over loose débris to the rocks on the right, which were followed to the crest in one hour. The crest of this ridge was followed over several minor summits and the tops of small couloirs to the foot of the south peak. The first pitch, which was vertical, was ascended by the aid of some handholds conveniently placed, after which an easy scramble led to the top, on which a cairn was erected, in about 50 min. from the top of the large couloir. The same route was followed in the descent, which occupied 3 hrs. and 30 min., as the snow on the slope next the rocks required care. Crampons were worn and saved much time which would have been spent in step-cutting. The expedition is interesting and is free from danger of stone-falls.

Zermatt District.

Dent d'Hérens.—On August 27 Mr. J. W. Wyatt and the Rev. W. C. Compton, with Joseph Lochmatter and Léon Truffer, of St. Niklaus, with whom, on a separate rope, was also Mr. W. H. Gover with J. Peter Perren and Joseph Marie Julen, ascended the Dent d'Hérens by the west face, descending also by the same route. In 1906 Joseph Lochmatter took Mr. Ryan down the face through the séracs by the same route as that followed by the above party this year; but he asserts that it would then have been impossible to ascend, owing to the 'Abhang' of the glacier. The conditions proved this year very favourable for the ascent. The party had hopes to avoid the stones of the Tiefenmatten Joch by cutting up the ice wall of the col to the left (E.) of the couloir. On approaching, however, it was evident that the ice would be in an unfavourable condition, and Lochmatter declared for the ascent through the séracs of the west face of the mountain, *i.e.* between the W. and N.W. arêtes. Sixty-five minutes from the foot of the Tiefenmatten Joch, first under overhanging séracs and finally up a very steep snow slope (in good order), brought the party to the ridge over which the ordinary ascent is made just below the last group of gendarmes. From here to the summit required 1¾ hr. After a very enjoyable 1¼ hr. on the top in magnificent weather the descent was made to the base of the face in 2½ hrs. The party reached the Staffel Alp at about 5 P.M., the whole expedition having taken 15 hrs.

It may be noted that the ice-fall above the Stockje has since last year receded so far as to necessitate a very unpleasant passage of the rock-wall on the west side of the glacier. The rock is here exceedingly steep, smooth, and in places very loose, so that one party must wait for another to avoid risk from falling stones. If this ice-fall could be forced without having recourse to the rocks, as seemed not impossible, the only disagreeable portion of this expedition would be avoided; and the route can be recommended as a comparatively short means of reaching the summit from the Zermatt side.

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RIMPFISCHHORN (13,790 ft.) BY THE EAST FACE.—On August 14 Mr. C. D. Robertson and myself, with Joseph Knubel and a porter, left the Riffel Alp at 2.15 A.M. and reached the Adler Joch at 7.40. Thence the usual Adler Joch route slants up the southern end of the E. face to the summit. Descending from the pass we circled round the foot of the E. face to a point somewhat N. of a direct line to the top from the E. In a hot sun the rotten rock of the face was already demonstrating the routes which it uses for its refuse. Very careful examination revealed a blunt, precipitous rib, starting from a broad band of snow which traverses across this face from the Adler Joch some 200 ft. above the base of the cliff. The rib forms the northern wall of a fairly defined couloir, identifiable by a huge icicle-draped cavern at half its height. Subsequent observation confirmed our impression that this buttress is the only line by which the exceedingly steep cliffs can be attacked, for a very considerable distance, with any hope of success or with immunity from falling stones. In order to secure early lodgment upon it we took the lower, broken rocks rapidly, getting pleasing shelter from some overhanging crags. A dawdling, rather indolent block that passed within hail caused some professional agitation at this point. It was our only visitant during the day. After crossing the snow-band the first step of the rib was climbed—at the second attempt—almost in the couloir itself. Above, a projecting shoulder made a good basis for more serious climbing. The first 150 ft. proved decidedly stiff, very steep, with poor holds and rocks that required careful treatment. The next 200 ft. eased gradually off, and renewed our failing hopes of success. Some 150 to 200 ft. higher the rib ended in a comfortable 'breakfast' shoulder, at the foot of a splayed-out couloir. Here an outcrop of yellow rock gave occasion for a conspicuous cairn. The left-hand side of this depression or couloir, with occasional ice and gradually improving rock, offered no special features. Finally an excellent, firm rock chimney brought us out on the N. arête, just under the snow-capped summit of the second large gendarme to the N. of the peak (at 12.45). The summit was reached in 22 min. from this point (in all 12 hrs.), and the descent made by the ordinary route.

G. W. YOUNG.

ROTHHORN (ZINAL) (13,855 ft.) BY THE EAST FACE.—On August 21 the same party, with Heinrich Pollinger instead of the porter, left the Trift Refuge at 3.15, and breakfasted at 6.50 A.M. on point 3,672 m. (S.), above the Rothhorngletscher. Thence we ran down to the foot of the great couloir that bisects the E. face of the Rothhorn rather N. of the summit. The rib on the right of this we had chosen as, to all appearances, the only reasonable line of attack upon this face. Climbing on the right (N.) wall, with occasional steps in the ice of the couloir itself, we reached the foot of the conspicuous 'pitch' of grey rock which bars direct advance. [Here a broad snow traverse comes in from the left, by which it might be possible to reach the great shoulder high up on the S.E. arête.] Following our predetermined line we started out

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and up, on a more faintly marked traverse, on to the edge of the ridge to our right; and here our pleasure was greater than our surprise—for we had marked it from below as the only flaw in the formidable slabs—to find ourselves in a crack deeply cut up the very nose of the rib. By this, and subsequently on the edge of the arête, we mounted comfortably, until progress was interrupted by an uncompromising 'step.' An attempt to scale this ended in defeat and a return by the help of the reserve rope. We then traversed out to the right into an open, slabby couloir, and mounting the snow and slabs, first to the right and then back to the left, we came up on to the slight rib which forms the lower, retaining lip of a small glacier impending from the cornice of le Blanc, and which would, were it properly developed, constitute the true arête between the Rothhorn and the Mominghorn. Following this back to the left we struck up the face of the peak again, and, scrambling up some fine granite slabs, came out on to the N. arête, just under the right ear of the second big gendarme (at 11.50). The summit was reached in exactly 20 min. (12.10 P.M.; 9 hrs.). Descent to Zermatt by the ordinary route. The only stones observed to fall during the day fell to the left of or in the couloir. The first 2 hrs. up the rib give delightful climbing on excellent rock. The rest of the climb is less interesting. Close examination leads us to the opinion that it would be hardly possible to find a more direct route to the summit on the left of the great couloir. In parts it might be feasible, but the higher portions of the face to our left, as of the rib we abandoned, would appear to be traversed by intervals of sheer and even overhanging rock. Since the discovery of the route by the Rothhorn-joch, Zinal has been in possession of its own traverse of the peak, with return to the Mountet. The present climb, which includes the traverse of the most interesting portion of the N. arête, offers the same advantages to Zermatt and the Trift. G. W. YOUNG.

Saas District.

DOM (4,554 m. = 14,942 ft.) BY E. FACE AND S. ARÊTE.—On August 8, Dr. O. K. Williamson, with Joseph Pollinger and Heinrich Fux, left the sleeping-place on the rocks of the E. face of the Dom at 2.40 A.M.

They ascended straight up snow until they reached, in about an hour's time, the foot of a rock rib which here arises from the face, and which ultimately becomes a well-defined ridge before joining the S. arête of the mountain. This rib was followed throughout its length. Consisting at first of easy rock, higher up it became a snow ridge, which was at first extremely steep. A comparatively gentle portion led once more to rock, and after a short traverse to the left the S. arête of the mountain was reached at a point probably about half-way between the Dom Joch and the summit (6.8 A.M.). Total halts up to this point, 15 min. The summit was reached at 7.25 A.M., after a further halt of 20 min. Randa was reached by the ordinary route, after many and prolonged halts for photography, at about

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2.30 P.M. From the time of leaving the sleeping-place until the S. arête was reached there was no sign of falling stones, which may be attributed firstly to the fact that the mountain was unusually snowy, and secondly that the party reached the arête at an early hour. It would seem that the rib by which the S. arête was reached had not before been climbed.

Bernese Oberland.

BIETSCHHORN. TRAVERSE, WITH DESCENT TO THE BALTSCHIEDER GLACIER.—On August 2 Messrs. E. G. Oliver, S. L. Courtauld, and Willoughby Jardine, with Heinrich Fuhrer and Kaspar Maurer, having spent the night at the Bietschhorn hut, ascended the mountain by the W. arête. Leaving the summit at 11 A.M., they proceeded to the snowy S. summit and descended thence by the arête which runs in a S.E. direction down to the Baltschieder glacier. The crest of the arête was followed for about 1 hr., the rocks being rotten and steep. Further progress then became so difficult, owing to an obstructing tower, that the party was forced to traverse to the left into the couloir which descends from between the middle and S. summits to the Baltschieder glacier. The couloir is always the path of falling stones, and on this occasion was composed of mixed rock and ice. This downward traverse into the couloir and back to the S.E. ridge took about ¾ hr., and was the main difficulty of the descent.

The party followed the arête for another hour by steep but fairly firm rocks, then finally abandoned it, and turning to the right went straight down rotten rocks into a small couloir which led them down to the bay of glacier between the S. and S.E. arêtes. They crossed the bergschrund without difficulty at 3.10 P.M., and after a long tramp down the glacier and the Baltschiederthal reached Visp at 8.15 P.M. This route appears to be a variation of those taken by Messrs. C. T. Dent and J. O. Maund in 1878 and Herr M. Kuffner in 1892. See 'Climbers' Guide to the Oberland,' vol. i. pp. 69–70.

BREITLAUIHORN (12,018 ft.) AND LÖTSCHTHALER BREITHORN (12,412 ft.) TRAVERSED. *August* 10.—Messrs. G. H. Bullock, H. E. G. Tyndall, and R. L. G. Irving left Ried at 3.20 A.M., reached the Baltschiederjoch at 8, traversed the Aeusser Baltschiederfirn, and ascended by S. face and W. arête of the Breitlauihorn to its summit (9.40). Thence they followed the N.E. arête, turning the first great gendarme by a difficult traverse on the N. face, and the second by a short ice arête which curved round on the N. face. Between the two gendarmes was a splendid sharp edge of rock much like the W. arête of the Bietschhorn above the 'Rothe Thurm,' but longer. They halted twenty minutes (at 1 P.M.) shortly before reaching the lowest point of the arête. They had to make several short and rather difficult traverses on the N. face while passing the level portion of the arête near the lowest point. At 2 they found a bottle at a point obviously accessible from

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the Innerer Baltschiederfirn. They followed the arête of loose rocks and a snow-ridge to the top of the Lötschthaler Breithorn (3); thence they passed over the S.E. summit and the Beich glacier to the foot of the Beich Pass (5.40).

Roththalhorn (12,947 ft.) by S.E. Arête. *August* 17 *and* 18.—The same party with Mr. G. S. Leach left Ried at 6 P.M. on August 17, reaching the Lötschenlücke at 3.15 A.M. on August 18 (fresh snow). They ascended the Kranzbergfirn between the Kranzberg and the Gletscherhorn, reaching the foot of the Roththalhorn at 10 A.M. They went on by a short steep snow-slope and the left-hand bit of rocks flanking a narrow ice couloir and forming the actual S.E. arête. The rocks were good but uniformly difficult and the 600 or 700 ft. of ascent to the summit required three hours (1 P.M.). Their route is clearly seen in the illustration opposite p. 568 of vol. xxii. of the 'Alpine Journal,' where it forms the sky line of the peak. The descent to the Roththal Sattel took twenty minutes. There was fresh snow, and the bergschrund in the descent from the Sattel was difficult. Grindelwald was reached *via* the Ober and Unter Mönchjoch at 10 P.M. (28 hours).

Bernina District.

Piz Argient by the S.W. Arête.—On July 30 Mr. C. F. Meade, with the guides Christian Zippert, of Pontresina, and Pierre Blanc, of Bonneval-sur-Arc, left the Marinelli hut at 2.30 A.M. to climb this ridge. It is very well seen from the Crast'agüzza, but it should be observed that the sheer drop, which appears to occur near the bottom, is really part of another ridge beyond it further E., and has nothing to do with the main ridge itself, which runs up to the top of the Piz Argient from the point marked 3,237 m. in the Swiss map.

At this point began the real climb at 4.30 A.M., the rocks on the crest being firm and easy. Yet at 5.15 A.M. the weather looked so threatening that it was decided to wait in shelter from the strong S.W. wind in hopes of an improvement. After 2 hrs.' delay these hopes proved vain, but a start was made, and ¾ hr. further up the ridge a difficult rock-step was dealt with by Zippert taking off from Blanc's shoulders. Some red rocks were reached at 7.40 A.M., and a traverse was made to the left without difficulty. The steep pitch which threatened to be the worst part of the climb was now above on the right. It was turned by climbing to the left and up a steep faintly marked chimney. The rock was rotten and covered with ice, as well as snow, which was now falling fast. This was the only bad part of the climb, and was formidable only on account of the weather. By 9.45 A.M. the final and more horizontal part of the ridge had been reached, and thence an easy scramble over rickety gendarmes led to the top of the Argient by 10.20 A.M. From the top, down to the Boval hut by the ordinary way, was a glacier tramp of 2½ hrs. in increasing storm.

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The traverse of the Piz Argient by the S.W. arête can be strongly recommended as a fine expedition offering no special difficulties in favourable weather.

KASHMIR.

Mt. Haramukh (16,900 ft.).—On September 4 Major the Hon. C. G. Bruce and Mr. A. L. Mumm, with Moritz Inderbinnen, of Zermatt, and three Gurkhas belonging to the 5th Gurkha Rifles, ascended this peak by the glacier which descends from it to the Gungabul lake. The route by which the few previous ascents have been made was joined at the head of the glacier.

Shikara, Kaghan (about 16,600 ft.).—On September 22 the same party [as on Haramukh], with the exception of one of the Gurkhas, made the first ascent of this peak, by the N.W. arête, from the head of the Batti Kundi valley.

ALPINE NOTES.

'The Alpine Guide.'—Copies of Vol. I. of the new edition of this work, price 12*s.* net, and of 'Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps' (being a new edition of the General Introduction), price 3*s.*, can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, 12 Long Acre, W.C.

'The Alpine Guide,' The Central Alps. Part I.—A new edition of this portion of the 'Alpine Guide,' by the late John Ball, F.R.S., President of the Alpine Club, reconstructed and revised on behalf of the Alpine Club under the general editorship of A. V. Valentine-Richards, Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, is now ready, and can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, 12 Long Acre, W.C. It includes those portions of Switzerland to the north of the Rhône and Rhine valleys.

Gift to the Alpine Club.—Mr. T. Howse has presented to the Alpine Club a very valuable collection of dried specimens of alpine flowers and mosses, carefully classified and arranged by him.

Memorial to Charles Edward Mathews.—This Fund now stands as below :—

	£	s.	d.
First list of Contributors as announced in the 'Alpine Journal' of August 1906	136	3	6
C. T. Dent	1	1	0
Whitworth Wallace	1	1	0
Bank interest to September 1907	4	13	3
Unaccounted for	1	14	0
	£144	12	9

Of these subscriptions 16*l.* 16*s.* have been specially marked for a memorial at Chamonix, and 14*l.* 14*s.* for one in the Snowdon district.

Forty-eight pounds have been paid in respect of the memorial

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