

<b>Société des Touristes du Dauphiné.</b> Annuaire, no. 32, 1906.	1906-7
8vo, pp. 363; plates.	
The contents are ;—	
. M. Gignoux, Au Pelvoux par le couloir Sans-Nom.	
J. Offerdinger, Ascension du Bietschhorn.	
H. Ferrand, Fête alpine au Col du Glandon.	
— Le Glandon, centre d'excursions.	
— Le tour du Viso.	
M. Jacquot, Le Néron.	
<b>Svenska Turistföreningens Arsskrift.</b>	1907
8vo, pp. 446; ill.	
The only articles of climbing interest in this volume are ;—	
N. Flygare, Olika vägar till Kenekaises högsta Topp.	
A. Wahlstedt and S. Norrbín, Mot Sveriges högsta topp.	
<b>Touristen-Club Edelweiss, St Gallen.</b> Statuten. 8vo, pp. 4.	1907
— Excursions-Programm.	
<b>Towarzystwo Tatrzanskié.</b> Pamietnik, vols. 23-28.	1902-1907
8vo, ill.	
--- Taternik, organ sekcyi turystycynej. Rok 1.	1907
8vo, pp. 112.	
<b>Turner-Alpen-Kränzchen, München.</b> Statuten. 8vo, pp. 14.	1892
<b>Yorkshire Speleological Association.</b> Rules. 8vo, pp. 4.	1907
Hon. Sec. E. Simpson, 44 Sefton Ter. Beeston Hill, Leeds.	

## ALPINE NOTES.

'THE ALPINE GUIDE.'—Copies of Vol. I. of the new edition of this work, price 12s. net, and of 'Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps' (being a new edition of the General Introduction), price 3s., 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.

GIFTS TO THE ALPINE CLUB.—Mr. Edward Whympster has presented to the Alpine Club a panorama of the Kumaon Himalaya, painted by T. S. Kennedy; Mr. Chater an enlarged photograph of Mr. A. Adams-Reilly; and Major Moore an interesting print of the Leasowes.

THE SCOTTISH MOUNTAINEERING CLUB.—Mr. H. T. Munro writes, 'Allow me to correct a small mistake in Mr. Pilkington's interesting article on "Fifty Years of the Alpine Club." On p. 24 he says, "In 1891, under the presidency of Professor Ramsay, the Scottish Mountaineering Club was started." Mr. Mackintosh's list of Mountaineering Clubs ("Alpine Journal," vol. xxiii.) shows that the Scottish Mountaineering Club was formed on February 11, 1889. Its first annual meeting and dinner, at which Mr. Pilkington

responded to the toast of the Alpine Club, took place on December 12, 1889, and the first number of its "Journal" appeared in January 1890.'

THE ALPINE CLUB JUBILEE DINNER.—Professor Charles E. Fay, the President of the American Alpine Club, writes to us from Tufts College, Massachusetts, U.S.A., under date April 26, 1908—

'May I venture to request a few corrections to the report in the "Journal" of February 1908 of my only too obviously extempore remarks at the Jubilee dinner, not in the way of emendations in form (however greatly to be desired), but of fact. "Charlestown," on p. 58, should read 'Williamstown';" the annual meeting of the American Alpine Club, to which I was looking forward, was for December 30 and not "October," and in point of fact I did have the great pleasure of reporting to Ambassador Bryce the interesting details of the Jubilee at our dinner on the evening of the day after my arrival home from London, to which he listened with close attention and manifest pleasure. The "Mr. Hooper" of the Swiss Alpine Club (p. 59) was a reference to its once most active member, Emil Huber; while the "Professor Oakley" mentioned (p. 60) as one of the honorary members of our American Alpine Club conceals the identity of your distinguished fellow member Dr. J. Norman Collie, a man held in too high esteem among us to be allowed to pass under an *alias*.

'My memories of the Jubilee are delightful and will ever remain vivid. The occasion was well worth the two winter passages of an unusually tempestuous Atlantic. Yours faithfully,

'CHARLES E. FAY.'

BLÜMLISALPHORN DIRECT FROM THE KANDERFIRN.—On August 3, 1907, Mr. F. W. Bourdillon, with Hans Stoller, guide, and Adolph Müller, porter, both of Kandersteg, made the ascent of the Blümlisalphorn direct from the Kanderfirn. Leaving the Mutthorn hut at 2.15 A.M., they negotiated the rocks below the 'strip of horizontal hanging glacier' with some difficulty, owing to the dark. Then, arriving almost directly below the Horn, they mounted, without any serious difficulty, the last part of the way by a long narrow couloir, excessively steep, but still containing sufficient snow for step-cutting. This couloir led direct to a snow col on the ridge slightly below and N.E. of the Horn, and no doubt the same as that attained by Messrs. Gotch, Savage, and Taylor.\* This saddle was reached by 9.20, the step-cutting having been long and laborious, and the top was attained easily in another three-quarters of an hour.

VAL TRAVENANZES, IN THE TOFANA GROUP.—We are indebted to the kindness of the Deutscher und Osterreichischer Touristen-Klub for an account of the opening of this hut in the well-known Tofana Group, near Cortina d'Ampezzo.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE ABBÉ AMÉ GORRET.—Dr. C. K. Austin, M.D., writes from 20 Rue Chalgrin, Paris, to say that it

\* See *Alpine Journal*, vol. x. p. 360.

is proposed to erect a marble tablet to the late Abbé A. Gorret, the famous Italian mountaineer, in Valtournanche next September. The sum required for the medallion proposed is between six and eight hundred francs. The members of the Committee are the officers of the Aosta Section of the C.A.I., the president of the Turin Section, M. Henri Ferrand, of Grenoble, and M. Henri Deschanel; and the treasurer is S. Chiuminatto, Aosta, to whom subscriptions may be sent.

SIG. GUIDO REY'S BOOK ON THE MATTERHORN.—We welcome an English translation of this splendid book. The translation is by J. E. C. Eaton, and the publisher is Mr. Fisher Unwin.

SCIENCE FROM AN EASY CHAIR.—It is not, as a rule, desirable, and it would, indeed, be impossible, to notice in these pages the strange stories relating to the Alps that appear from time to time in our newspapers. But one that appears in a 'Scientific Column,' and above the signature of one of the recognised leaders of British Science, occupies an exceptional position, inasmuch as it is likely to be repeated elsewhere as an established fact, and to obtain a credit, which in this instance would be, I believe, undeserved.

In a column under the heading given above, signed by Sir E. Ray Lankester, K.C.B., F.R.S., there appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* on March 7 last the following remarkable anecdote:—

'Before leaving the glaciers, let me briefly relate an incident arising from their slow but regular downward flow to the region where they melt away and deposit, as a terminal moraine, the burden of rocks they have received years before in regions far above. A young man of five-and-twenty, on his honeymoon, visited the Alps, and ventured alone on to the higher part of a glacier. He fell into a deep "crevasse," or ice-fissure, and his body was not recovered. The exact spot where he fell into the ice-chasm was recognised, and the mountain-folk, who knew the glacier and its rate of movement well, told the broken-hearted young widow that it would take thirty years before that region of the glacier would have moved so far downwards as to reach the lowest limit, and in due course melt away. She haunted the glacier in which her young husband was entombed year after year, and at last, when she was now grey-headed and withered by time, that special tract of ice had descended so far, and was so near the thawing, thinned-out margin of the glacier that they were able to break into it with axe and pole. Then she, an old woman, had a wonderful experience. They led her to the glacier's edge. Her young husband, preserved these thirty years in the ice, which had melted around him and re-frozen, lay there unchanged. His features were not marred by the lapse of years, nor was his clothing rent or injured. He seemed as one asleep, resting after a long day's climb, and she, poor soul, had, during a blissful interval, the conviction that all those weary years of waiting were but a long, bad dream, that she, too, still was young, and was waking, as she had loved to do long years ago, in time to see him lift his lids and smile.'

I ventured to address the eminent author, pointing out that, as far as I knew, in all the previously recorded instances where human remains had been recovered from glaciers after many years of travel in the ice nothing but mutilated fragments had been found, that it would be interesting, therefore, from a scientific point of view, to know under what conditions this particular victim had escaped the common fate, and that I should be glad to be furnished with the names of the locality where the incident was stated to have occurred, and of the journal or book in which it was recorded. Sir E. Ray Lankester was good enough to reply to my letter, but he did not supply me with the information I had asked. I am therefore reluctantly driven to the conclusion that the story he tells is a romance (possibly founded, to some extent, on the recovery of Captain Arkwright's remains in the lower portion of the Glacier des Bossons in 1897, thirty-one years after his death on Mont Blanc). I am confirmed in this belief, since, could the tale be established, we should have to reconsider theories founded on a very large number of observations as to the conditions of the interior of a moving glacier.

D. W. F.

SÜDLENZSPITZE (4,800 m.) BY W. FACE AND N.W. ARÊTE.—On July 25, 1907, Dr. O. K. Williamson, with the guides Joseph and Heinrich Pollinger, leaving the Festi hut at 8.16 A.M., reached (after halting 12½ min. at the Festi Joch) the bergschrund at the foot of the W. face of the Südlenspitze at 6.8 A.M. Proceeding at 6.16 A.M. they crossed this at a point N. of the rib which descends directly from the summit of the peak, and started the ascent of the face. They soon reached rock, which was followed by snow and ascended this, bearing to the left. Again climbing rocks on which, owing to their looseness, care was necessary, the N.W. arête was reached and followed in about 10 min. to the summit (7.58 A.M.). The return journey was made over the Nadelhorn and Ulrichshorn, St. Niklaus being reached at 5.40 P.M. It may be noted that in Pollinger's opinion the route taken during the ascent would not be possible except under unusually favourable conditions.

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## REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

*The Complete Mountaineer.* By G. D. Abraham. Methuen and Co., London, 1907.

THE author of this stout volume of nearly five hundred pages is at pains to apologise in his preface for the title his publishers have imposed on him. The apology is not unneeded, though we doubt whether the responsibility in this case rests wholly on the publishers. The title at any rate is very far from indicating the character of the work Mr. Abraham has produced.

For the *Complete Mountaineer* is of a triple nature. In his youth he is a climber of crags, natural or artificial, Cumberland cliffs or college roofs; he proceeds to learn icecraft in the Alps