

easily reached by the E. face and N. arête, fresh snow occasioning the only difficulty encountered. The descent of this peak on its S. side presented no serious difficulty, though it afforded one or two bits of interesting climbing.

From the col between the two peaks the ascent of the S. Wanghorn (2,837 m.) is easy until a gendarme conspicuous from the Giglistock is reached. The only way of turning this appears to be by a traverse on the W. involving the descent of a steep chimney, and an interesting scramble back to the ridge, which may be reached just below the summit. The descent to the second col (S. of the higher peak), though steep, presents no difficulty. The ascent on this side was made by Mr. and Mrs. Baker-Gabb in July 1898,\* but apparently not the traverse.

The return to Stein was made by a not very desirable couloir leading from the Drosi glacier to the ridge N. of the Giglistock, which again allowed of an easy descent to the Thaleggli glacier and so under the Brunnenstock to the Steinlimmi glacier, near its foot.

This traverse is among the more interesting of the shorter expeditions to be made from Stein. The times, which were slow, were as follows (exclusive of halts):—Stein to the N. Wanghorn, 5 hrs.; traverse to foot of S. Wanghorn, 2½ hrs.; return to Stein, 1 hr. 50 min.

#### *Eastern Alps.*

ZUENIG SPITZE (9,805 ft.). *September 19.*—Miss Adeline Edwards, with the guides Josef and Alois Trost (aspirant), made the first ascent by the west ridge of the Zuenig Spitze, a fine mountain at the junction of the Tauern, Virgen, and Isel valleys, in the Tyrol. After traversing a very broken ridge for 2 hrs. they came to a small fenêtre framing an exquisite view of the snowfields of the Gross Venediger, and then almost immediately found themselves on the edge of a 48-ft. perpendicular face-rock, with a drop on to a bridge about 2 ft. wide—a distinctly awkward spot—from which point on the other side the ascent of the Wand at once began, and afforded splendid rock work for 1½ hr.

### 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 8s., can be obtained from all book-sellers, 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

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\* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xix. p. 253.

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.

**THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY.**—In 1907, W. Allison (1886), C. M. Smith (1866). In 1908, R. R. Dees (1863), C. C. Hall (1885), H. N. Hamilton-Hoare (1872), J. Jardine (1873), J. R. King (1862), C. E. Layton (1878), H. Stirling (1874), W. Trotter (1875).

**THE ANNUAL WINTER DINNER OF THE ALPINE CLUB** will take place on Tuesday, December 14, 1909.

**FROM PONTRESINA TO PRIMIERO, 1907.**—In the 'Climbers' Club Journal' for December 1908 will be found an article under this title by Mr. A. W. Andrews, the editor, which gives much information likely to be extremely useful to travellers from Pontresina to Primiero. It is illustrated with twelve plates, two of which, from Mr. Andrews's own photographs, the Piz Roseg and the Königspitze, are particularly attractive.

**MAPS OF THE ALPS OF THE DAUPHINY.**—We understand that M. H. Duhamel is preparing a new and revised edition of his six Dauphiny Maps (the last edition dates from 1892), which will be sold in England by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin. The price will be a little higher than before (4s. 6d.), as the engravers' charges have been raised.

**CORRECTIONS IN 'ALPINE JOURNAL,' No. 182.**—Page 293, line 22, for 'untrodden' read 'untrampled'; page 308, line 4, for 'rank' read 'flat.'

**MR. F. À C. BERGNE.**—An iron cross was erected early in October last to the memory of Mr. à C. Bergne by Messrs. J. A. Simon, A. O. Wheeler and G. L. Stewart, his companions, on the expedition the party was making on January 1, 1908 to the Mischabel hut.\* The cross which is 6 ft. in height and bears Mr. Bergne's name with the date of the accident, has been placed immediately above the low rock face on the ridge from which he fell. It was made by the firm of Ernest Droguet of Lausanne, the necessary arrangements with whom we were much facilitated by the assistance of Monsieur Galland, the English Consul there, who was himself an old friend of Sir Henry Bergne's family.

**THE HIGH-LEVEL ROUTE FROM KANDERSTEG TO MEIRINGEN ON SKI.**—Mr. Arnold Lunn kindly sends us the following note of an expedition he accomplished with Professor Roget and Kandersteg guides:

'The Ried-Grimsel traverse is, in the opinion of Sir Martin Conway, the finest high-level route, both from a scenic and ski-ing standpoint, in the Alps. Our first pass, the Petersgrat, is poor from a ski-ing point of view, but is, with the possible alternative of the Lötschen Pass, a necessary link in the end-to-end traverse of the Oberland. Here is our itinerary:

\* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xxiv. p. 96.

*January 2.*—Left Kandersteg 6 A.M. Arrived Mutthorn hut 8 P.M. One guide was ill, and twelve hours should prove sufficient under ordinary circumstances. The hut, which is frequently used in winter, proved very comfortable. We recorded the following temperatures outside the hut: 8 P.M., *January 2*,  $-9^{\circ}$  Centigrade; 7 A.M. *January 3*,  $-10^{\circ}$  Centigrade.

*January 3.*—Mutthorn hut—Petersgrat—Kippel, 7 A.M. to 5 P.M. Took things very leisurely. Ski-ing poor. The ordinary summer route proved dangerous from avalanches, and we had to escape by a short and unsafe couloir, the only part of our expedition that caused us any anxiety.

*January 4.*—Kippel—Egon von Steiger hut on Lötschenlücke, 5 A.M. to 5 P.M. Temperature on arrival,  $-8^{\circ}$  Centigrade.

*January 5.*—E. v. S. hut—Grunhornlücke—Finsteraarhorn hut, 6.10 A.M. to 4 P.M. We had hoped to climb Jungfrau, but this has been a very dry winter and from Rothalsattel upwards it is all hard ice.

*January 6.*—Left hut 7.15, breakfasted *en route* and reached Finsteraarhorn summit 1.30, left 2.30 and reached hut 5.45. Delightfully warm on summit.

*January 7.*—Finsteraarhorn hut—Oberaarjoch—Grimsel—Guttannen, 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. Splendid ski-ing.

*January 8.*—Guttannen—Meiringen (12 miles).

We took three Kandersteg guides as provisions had to be carried for four days and three nights. None of these were good ski-runners. One was extremely bad and delayed us throughout. We took things leisurely and our times could easily be improved. The weather throughout was delightful and no one suffered from cold. The expedition is within the range of any one with moderate endurance and two seasons' ski-ing experience, and is possibly easier and less trying on ski than in summer. The Finsteraarhorn was no harder than in summer, though owing to ice we were forced on the very edge of the last arête and consequently had a more amusing climb than *via* the summer route which keeps some distance below the ridge. Future ski-runners could considerably reduce the cost by taking only one guide over the Petersgrat and taking two Kippel porters as far as the Lötschenlücke hut.

LO BESSO (8,675 m.). *August 8, 1906.*—A party consisting of Messrs. R. L. G. Irving, G. H. Bullock, H. E. G. Tyndale, Miss Irving, Miss O. S. Tyndale ascended by the small glacier on the W. face to its head, leaving the usual chimney on the left. Reached the S.W. arête by steep slabs of good rock a little N.E. of point 8,212 m. Thence followed S.W. arête, which gave excellent climbing, that became easier higher up just before joining the ordinary route from the Mountet hut. Times: from camp, near the Chalet du Petit Mountet, to head of small glacier, 6.45 A.M. to 12.30 P.M.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hr.'s halt;  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. thence to summit at 5.30 P.M. These times might easily be shortened.

JÄGIHORN (8,250 m.).—*August 8, 1908.*—From the Bietsch Glacier R. L. G. Irving and G. H. Bullock ascended by a diagonal

traverse up steep rocks of the E. face,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hr. from Bietschjoch. The ascent can be conveniently combined with the traverse of the Wilerhorn ridge from the Bietschhorn hut *via* the Jägihorn, Ijulli Glacier, Kastlerjoch, and Hohgleifen ridge, returning by Kastlerhorn, Wilerhorn, and Schwarzhorn to the hut; 9 hrs. in all, including halts.

COL BETWEEN THE PIGNE DE L'ALLÉE AND POINT 3,348 M. *August 7, 1906.*—R. L. G. Irving, G. H. Bullock, H. E. G. Tyndale descended to Zinal Glacier from the col between the Pigne de l'Allée and the point 3,348 m. without difficulty. This might be useful to parties descending the N. ridge of the Grand Cornier and to the Mountet hut.

MONT BLANC BY THE AIGUILLE DE BIONASSAY. *August 30 and 31, 1907.*—Given the right conditions (in our case two days after a fall of snow), this expedition can be done in two comfortable days from Chamonix, the night being spent in the hut on the Col de Miage, 7 hrs. from St. Gervais. Starting at 3.15 A.M., our party took  $2\frac{3}{4}$  hrs. from the hut to the top of the Aiguille, 70 min. from the top to point 3,940 m., where the ordinary Dôme route is joined. The summit of Mont Blanc was reached at midday, and Chamonix at 5.30. Faint traces of old tracks were found in places under the snow, which was well frozen. Judging by the entries in the book at the Refuge Durier, English climbers appear to have neglected this route, which certain conditions render free from danger or serious difficulty. Rain on the previous afternoon had greatly improved the snow part of our route, while rendering the rocks in the upper part of the Rochers du Mont-Blanc practically impossible. Our party consisted of R. L. G. Irving, G. H. Bullock, H. E. G. Tyndale.

R. L. G. IRVING.

COL DES BOUQUETINS.—In Ball (p. 464) and Conway (p. 74) the route from Ferpècle is laid up the W. side of the Mont Miné Glacier, so as to turn the two icefalls; but the local guides say there is a risk of falling stones on this route and prefer to traverse the *eastern* slopes of Mount Miné, close to the Ferpècle Glacier, and climb to the point marked 3,220 m., whence the névé of the Mount Miné Glacier can be easily reached above the icefalls. The route is quite easy and affords a superb view of the W. side of the Dent Blanche.

There is a small hotel, just finished, at the Abricolla chalets; a new Club hut (the Rifugio d' Aosta) at the foot of the Lower Za de Zan Glacier, very convenient for the Dent d'Hérens, either from Prarayé or Arolla (key at Prarayé); a good hotel at Prarayé, and another at Oyace, lower down the Valpelline.

The topography of the Italian side of the Col de Valpelline is not accurately given either in the Dufour or Siegfried map. The points 3,291 m., 3,409 m., and 3,091 m. (Siegfried) form on the E. an almost continuous rock-wall, and the small glacier shown as enclosed between the points 3,409 m., 3,593 m., and 3,091 m., does not, we think, exist. The Tiefenmattenjoch is not correctly shown on the Siegfried map. It is really at the head of the small couloir immediately to the E.

E. G., W. A. B.

GROHMANNSPITZE BY THE S. FACE.—On August 10, 1908, a new route was made up the S. face of the Grohmannspitze by Antonio Dimai and Johann Summermatter, of Randa, with the Fräulein Rolanda and Ilona Eötvös. On September 2 the climb was repeated by Johann and Ferdinand Summermatter, with Messrs. E. B. Harris and A. E. Russell; and, as no account of the first ascent has, so far as is known, been published, the following short notes of the second ascent may prove interesting. Starting from the Sellajoch Haus, the party made their way to the ridge which runs from the Col de Rodella to the S.E. corner of the Grohmannspitze, and along the ridge to the end, where the 'Kletterschuhe' were put on. Bearing to the left over easy rocks, they came on to the S. face, and crossed a broad black band down which water flows. Then followed two difficult traverses to the left (about 50 and 70 ft. respectively), and then for perhaps 1,000 ft. the way led up the wall bearing a little to the right in the direction of the black band. This part of the ascent was very steep and difficult, the holds being small but good. At the top of the wall is a sort of terrace, on the left of which is a couloir, down which water comes. The party crossed the couloir and ascended up or by the side of it to an overhanging place called by the guides the Traversierstelle. Dimai had attempted this route some eighteen years ago, but was unable to get beyond this place, and, after sleeping the night on the mountain, he and his companion finished the ascent by the Johanniskamin, which is some distance to the right. The first successful party traversed to the right about 40 ft., and then back to the left over a sloping ledge with few holds to a point higher up the couloir. On the second ascent Johann made the traverse; but, as the rocks were slippery with sleet which had just commenced to fall, he insisted on the rest of the party coming straight up the couloir, which proved less difficult than it looked. From here the way led straight up the couloir over two overhanging blocks, and then to the left on to the face. The party then zigzagged up to a small hollow, from which, bearing to the right, the top was reached.

## REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

*From Ruwenzori to the Congo: a Naturalist's Journey across Africa.*

By A. F. R. Wollaston. (London: Murray. 1908.)

THE author of this attractive volume found himself attached at the last moment to a party organised by Mr. Ogilvie Grant of the British Museum, at the costs of private subscribers, in order (as Mr. Grant tells us in a prefatory note) 'to thoroughly explore all parts of the range of Ruwenzori.' The main object in view was, of course, to add to the collections of the Museum. But it might surely have occurred to the promoters of the expedition that such an opportunity for topographic work ought not to be lost, and that the summits of Ruwenzori as well as its slopes would repay