It is not at all clear why M. Montandon should set down as avoidable such accidents as happened to solitary climbers. Many of the accidents recorded are not mountaineering accidents in the strict sense, *and one thing is quite clear from all these records, and that is that an accident to a party of properly equipped and practised mountaineers is rare.* Mountaineering, properly practised, is not a mere risky sport, but is a pursuit that makes great demands on and builds up a man's endurance, strength, watchfulness, determination to overcome and skill in overcoming difficulties, and what, by careless or unskilled handling, do often become most serious dangers.

Relative Frequency of Accidents.—Some very interesting tables have been drawn up for the Munich Alpine Museum which throw an interesting light on the relative frequency of accidents in the Eastern Alps. It has been calculated that the number of visitors to the huts of the D.u.Ö.A.V. between 1901 and 1910 has increased by 80 %, whereas the number of fatal accidents, even including flower pickers, has only increased 40 %. The members of the Section Bayerland of the D.u.Ö.A.V., which contains a large proportion of active mountaineers, have in fifteen years made 79,440 expeditions, of which 77,327 were without guides. These expeditions, many of which were difficult, involved only thirteen fatal accidents. Probably our own Club can show even a smaller proportion of fatal accidents.

Naturally the nearness of the Kaisergebirge to Munich makes it much frequented, and 47 fatal accidents are recorded against that district alone. (Cf. 'Mitth. D.u.Oe.A.-V.,' 1912, No. 3.)

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

The Climbers' Club Journal, 1912. *New Series. No.* 1. (*To be continued annually.*) Edited by A. H. M. Lunn. 3/- net. Horace Marshall & Sons.

We welcome this New Series of the 'Climbers' Club Journal,' and wish it every success. The type is clear, the illustrations are good, and the Editor has succeeded in enlisting the help of many well-qualified contributors. The first article is on the 'Ascent of the Grépon by the Mer de Glace Face' by R. Todhunter. It is illustrated by a photogravure of the Grépon from a beautiful painting by E. C. Compton. This paper is followed by a characteristic article from the pen of G. Winthrop Young on 'Climbing Down.' J. M. Archer Thomson tells the story of the 'Exploration of Llechog

Digitized by Google

and Clogwen yr Ddysgl.' These mountains of sonorous sound supply climbs the very names of which 'enshrine the poetry' which they have awakened in the hearts of their conquerors—'The Cloister Climb,' 'The Mermaid Climb,' 'The Torpedo Route.' This paper has four attractive illustrations. There is a 'Note' on the Gletscherjoch by O. K. Williamson, with two illustrations.

Amongst other contributions are 'Ostertage in North Wales' by Dr. Karl Blodig, an ascent of Ætna by the Editor, on 'Claws and Ice-craft' by O. Eckenstein, and an interesting and instructive paper on the 'Pyrenees' by C. A. Elliott, who strongly recommends them as a practice ground for guideless climbers, and to our mind thoroughly justifies his recommendation. Art is not neglected, for M. T. H. Sadler discusses fully the merits of C. J. Holmes as 'An Artist of Mountains.' Two illustrations accompany this paper.

We regret that want of space prevents us from writing at greater length on this excellent number: the standard which it sets is high, and we wish the Editor every success in maintaining it.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held in the Hall on Tuesday evening, February 6, at 8.30, Sir Edward Davidson, *President*, in the chair.

The following gentlemen were balloted for and elected members of the Club:—Messrs. Ralph Todhunter, Walter Nelson, Joseph Murison Davidson, James Robert Dennistoun, and Henry Arthur Hinton.

The PRESIDENT said: I regret to have to announce the deaths of two of the oldest members of the Club, each of over fifty years' standing. Graf Hans v. Hallwyl, who became a member in 1859, and Mr. Hubert Smith-Stanier, who was elected in 1860, and who attained the age of eighty-nine years and a few days. Mr. Smith-Stanier wrote a very interesting book, published in 1874, entitled 'Tent Life with English Gipsies in Norway,' which was reviewed at the time in the 'Alpine Journal,' Vol. VII.

I also have to announce that Mr. Percy H. Thorp has presented to the Club an oil-painting of the Val d'Anniviers, and I am sure the Club would wish me to convey to Mr. Thorp our hearty thanks for his handsome present.

This is the first time we have met since the close of our Picture Exhibition in December, and I feel confident that we shall be unanimous in according a most hearty vote of thanks to Mr. G. P. Baker for the great trouble, care and skill displayed by him in his

Digitized by Google