from the Mont Blanc glacier, by the same route as our descent of 1899, by Dr. Blodig in 1906, then by Mr. Jones in 1907 when exploring the possibility of attaining the Picco Luigi Amedeo direct from the said pass, thus completing the exploration of this still untraversed portion of the ridge. It was on this occasion that Dr. Blodig made the first ascent of the point 4053 m. from the Col Emile Rey; our party in 1899 had not attempted it, thinking that Baretti had climbed it in 1880.

'The second ascent of the Picco Luigi Amedeo and of Mont Blanc by this buttress was only accomplished ten years after ours, on August 9, 1911, by Messrs. Blodig, Young and Jones, with the guide Josef Knubel. This party, from the Col Emile Rey, with one digression on to the Brouillard slope, attained the crest of the ridge at about the same spot as we did, i.e. about 15 minutes from the summit of the Picco Luigi Amedeo.

'After due consideration of this route from the Col Emile Rey and appreciation of it as accomplished for the first time by Dr. Blodig's party (subsequently repeated by Herr H. Pfann and Count Ugo di Vallepiana,† also by the Pühn-Adolphe Rey party)—after, we say, duly recognising its importance, as we have done—it is nevertheless necessary to give natural precedence (already duly recorded by us in our publications) to the fact that the first ascent of Mont Blanc by the Brouillard ridge is, and as such must remain, that of the Italian party of 1901; the route followed by the 1911 party over the said ridge is only the first ascent of the Picco Luigi Amedeo from the Col Emile Rey, constituting altogether but a "variation" of our route.

'This fact has been duly acknowledged by Herr Pfann in his article on Mont Blanc in the "Zeitschrift des D. u. Ö.A.V.," 1912, and privately by the letters of Mr. H. O. Jones which we have in our possession.'

ACCOUNT OF THE CONGRESS AND BANQUET HELD ON THE OCCASION OF THE JUBILEE OF THE ITALIAN ALPINE CLUB.

In August 1913 Mr. Withers and I were requested by the President of the Alpine Club to represent the A.C. at the Jubilee Congress and Banquet of the Italian Alpine Club, to be held at Turin on September 7. Mr. Withers was unable to go, so I agreed to assume the responsibility alone, though I realised with horror that the undertaking would involve my making a speech before some of the

* See the reminiscence published by Dr. Blodig in *Ö.A.Z.*, January 1907.

† This party, after following from the Col Emile Rey the same route in its lower portion as Blodig's expedition, turned to the left and attained the crest about 100 metres above the pass, then by the crest, traversing of course the point reached by the two previous parties, attained the Picco Luigi Amedeo.

most eloquent members of one of the most eloquent nations in Europe.

On September 6, I accordingly tore myself away from the Monte Rosa Hotel, and after much missing of trains, arrived at Turin some three hours later than I had intended—too late, in fact, to report myself that evening. On the following morning, I strolled to the headquarters of the Italian Alpine Club, and presented myself to a clerk there, who was polite, but evidently shocked at my lack of written credentials. He informed me, much to my dismay, that the Congress was to begin at 10.30, and the banquet at noon, instead of the evening. I therefore hastened back to my hotel, donned my evening clothes, and drove as quickly as possible to the Castello del Valentino, where the Congress was taking place.

I sent in my name to Count Cibrario, the Hon. Secretary of the Club, and was received with the courtesy and cordiality which Italian mountaineers invariably extend to their English colleagues. If it be not invidious to single out one where all were so kind, I should like to express my gratitude to my friend Guido Rey for the trouble he took to make me feel at home.

When I entered, the Congress had begun. Speeches were made by several Italians, amongst whom were the President, the Hon. Secretary, and the Mayor of Turin, and many telegrams of congratulation were read from members of the Royal family and others. The speeches at the Congress were necessarily somewhat long, dealing as they did with the origin, history and progress of the Club, and no foreign representatives spoke.

At noon the Congress broke up, and the members adjourned to the adjoining Ristorante del Valentino, where the banquet was to be held. I fancy some 350 persons were present including a few ladies. As the representative of the mother of all Alpine Clubs, I was given a place of much honour. About halfway through the banquet, seeing that nothing had been said to me about a speech, I began to feel happier, and to enjoy my food. But alas! my rejoicings were premature, for presently a courteous gentleman went round the room, sentencing a victim here and there, and not omitting me.

Speeches were made by the President of the Club, by the Colonel of an Alpine regiment, and by Senatore Blaserna, the venerable Vice-President of the Italian Senate. The latter spoke in eloquent terms of his friendship with Quintino Sella, Minister of Finance and founder of the Italian Alpine Club in 1863. Other speeches by Italians followed, and then came the turn of the foreign representatives. First of all the President of the French Alpine Club made an excellent speech in French, and I was called upon next. Notwithstanding my repugnance to public speaking, the kindness of the audience made my task comparatively easy. I was followed by the Swiss representatives, by the President of the Lyons Section of the French Club, and by many others, conspicuous amongst

whom were delegates from the Trentino. At about four o'clock the proceedings came to an end, and we dispersed.

I am sure that all the foreign representatives, including myself, departed full of good wishes for the continued prosperity of the Italian Alpine Club, and of gratitude to its members for their kindness and courtesy.

J. E. C. EATON.

LE PAIN DE SUCRE (AIGUILLES DU SOREILLER).

WHEN describing one of his ascents, cf. 'A.J.' xxviii. 80 (New Expeditions), Dr. Guido Mayer remarked:

'Dr. Coolidge and M.M. H. Duhamel and F. Perrin give the name "Pain de Sucre" to a point on the ridge of the Aiguilles du Soreiller which was ascended in 1877, cf. "The Central Alps of the Dauphiny," 2nd edit., 1905, page 55.

'According to unanimous local statements the name, however, belongs to the gigantic rock tooth, forming on three sides unapproachable precipices 400 m. high, and which the above-mentioned authorities call the "fine rock needle which forms the S. end of the S. arête of the Pain de Sucre."'

In a postcard addressed to the Editor of the ALPINE JOURNAL Dr. Coolidge remarks, *inter alia*:—

'The name P. de S. belongs to the peak so named in my book, not to his (Mayer's) obelisk. See "Ann. C.A.F." 1877, p. 257, where the two are carefully distinguished on the authority of old Gaspard.'

The following extracts from the paper alluded to (by M. Edouard Rochat) bear on the point:

'L'ascension du Pain de Sucre, montagne qui domine le Glacier de la Selle.' . . .

'Bientôt on aperçoit devant soi le Pain de Sucre, qui est une des pointes de l'Aiguille du Soreiller, puis un peu sur la droite une tranche de rocher qui ressemble à une immense lame de couteau, et que je crois absolument inabordable.' . . .

'La carte du Pelvoux 1.40000 porte 4 altitudes différentes . . . ce sont en allant de l'Ouest à l'Est les côtes 3320, 3317, 3358, 3387 m. . . . Je pense que la pointe de l'Aiguille du Soreiller désignée dans le pays sous le nom de Pain de Sucre a 3358 m. de hauteur, mais je ne l'affirme point.'

It is obvious, therefore, that when this article was written, nearly forty years ago, Père Gaspard, who led the party, was understood to indicate the name Pain de Sucre as belonging to one of the points of the main arête of the Aiguilles du Soreiller. Four years later, however, we find no less an authority than M. H. Duhamel