'S' Pass Peak. First ascent. June 3.—16,200 ft. Lies above a pass known locally as 'S' pass, from its being at head of an 'S'-shaped patch of névé. Base camp at 11,000 ft. With Jaising over Andrea Pass, and over névé, fresh snow, to ridge running E. from peak; up this to summit; little ice on gentle slabs; thence down W. ridge; some nice bits of rock work to 'S' pass. Back by névé and Andrea Pass to camp.

Dharmsala Matterhorn. First ascent. June 6.—About 16,800 ft. Five previous attempts, in two of which I took part. Two are related in Major Bruce's book, p. 76 &c. From base camp with Jaising, Hastbir, and one Gaddi. Across Andrea Pass to bivouac, 13,500 ft., behind peak (12 hours' great exertion in soft snow, heavy work owing to late start and bad weather). Next day with Jaising up peak. Storm delayed start; snow soft; final arête, of snow in bad condition, required care. Ten hours from bivouac to top and back. Third day back to base camp, 8 hours in soft snow.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES.

The Routes up Mt. Cook.—Reverting to the route marked 'Teichelmann' on the illustration opposite p. 228 in the last number, the following letter has now been received from the Rev. H. E. Newton, one of the party. This shows that his party did not follow the Linda route.

To the Editor of 'The Alpine Journal.'

Dear Sir,—With regard to the note on the photograph of Mt. Cook published in the last number of the Journal, our ascent was made in 1905, not 1906 (p. 227), and the route we followed did not touch the Linda Glacier at all. We followed Zurbriggen's route in the main, though, instead of starting at the foot of the rock ridge as he did * and following it throughout, we bore to the left and turned up below the first (small) hot plate, and after a little difficulty at the first schrund went up the snow, bearing slightly to our right, till we got on to the rocks, up the face of which we climbed till we struck the crest about the level of the 'Note on the Photograph,' p. 227, which is the lowest part of that ridge shown in the photograph facing page 228. From there we kept closely to the crest; in our descent, after a night out a little above where we joined the crest, we went straight down the snow, which was in very good condition, better than I ever saw it or recent photos show.

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* Fitzgerald, *The New Zealand Alps*, pp. 323–4. Zurbriggen is mistaken in calling this 'Green's route.' p. 325.

Though Mr. Green and the New Zealand parties up to 1894 had failed by the Linda route only through lack of time, the Linda was never completely followed till Mrs. Lindon, with Peter Graham and D. Thomson, ascended by that route in 1912.*

I have not a spare photo of Mt. Cook showing that side; if it is of any use I will make one and mark in our route.

Yours very truly,
HENRY E. NEWTON.

The Vicarage, Helmsley, R.S.O., Yorks.
June 19, 1914.

ASCENTS IN 1914.—The following Record of Ascents in New Zealand made by Mr. Otto Frind, of Vancouver, B.C., with the guide Konrad Kain, has been kindly furnished by the latter:

1914.

Jan. 7. Mt. Wakefield, 6575 ft. New route.
,, 16. Up Murchison Glacier.
,, 17. Two peaks Mt. Hutton, 9297–9276 ft. First ascent, first traverse.
,, 18. *Via* Tasman Saddle, 8021 ft., to Malte Brun Hut.
Feb. 7. Unnamed peak, 8646 ft., South of Mt. Sefton. First ascent.
,, 9. Mt. Annette, 7351 ft.
,, 11. Mt. Maunga, 8335 ft. First ascent.
,, 15. Unnamed peak, 7657 ft., from Barron Saddle. First ascent, first traverse.
Mt. Montgomery, 7661 ft. New traverse.
,, 16. Mt. Bannie, 8300 ft. (aneroid). First ascent.
,, 17. Mt. Darby, 8287 ft.; Mt. Sealy, 8651 ft. New traverse.
,, 20–3. Mt. Cook, 12,349 ft., connecting Earle's and Green's routes.
March 6. From Malte Brun Hut to lower Murchison *via* Tasman Saddle.
,, 7. Mt. Mannering, 8704 ft. First ascent.
,, 8. Unnamed peak, 8286 ft.; unnamed peak, 8157 ft. First ascent, first traverse.
,, 9. Unnamed peak, 8552 ft. First ascent.
,, 10. Mt. Acland, 8297 ft. First ascent and traverse.
Unnamed peak, 8067 ft. Also first ascent and traverse.
,, 11. Malte Brun Pass, 8302 ft., *via* Cascade Glacier to Malte Brun Hut. First crossing.
,, 13. Mt. Häckel, 9649 ft. Second ascent, first traverse.
,, 22. Mt. Sefton, 10,357 ft. Fifth ascent. New route.
,, 23. Sharksteeth, lower peak, 8200 ft. (aneroid). First ascent.

All these ascents made with Mr. Otto Frind, Alpine Club of Canada.

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* *A Climber in New Zealand*, p. 20, by M. Ross.

March 27. First ascent second peak N. from Copland Pass, 7373 ft., with the chambermaid and packer from the Hermitage.

March 28. Two peaks, Mt. Eric, over 8000 ft., with guide Tom Fish.

Konrad continues as follows :

'The mountains in New Zealand are fine. They have, like every mountain group, their own particular charm. But travelling in the mountains there means hard work in carrying. There are still hundreds of mountains to ascend. I may go out there again in October and shall be pleased to give any information to any member of the Alpine Club. The mountains are more or less dangerous from stones and avalanches, and the weather is very changeable. The best time for expeditions is February and March.'

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Pater Placidus a Spescha sein Leben und seine Schriften. Von Prof. Dr. F. Pretti und Prof. Dr. K. Hager. Benteli, Bern. 1913.

JUSTICE—tardy justice—has at last been done by his fellow-countrymen to one of the most remarkable of the precursors in the exploration and investigation of the High Alps. Pater Placidus a Spescha (A.D. 1752–1833) was a born climber—born, as the family story ran, under the sign of Capricornus ; but he was also an ardent student of Nature. Never did a student make a better use of his relatively few advantages, or struggle more courageously against disasters, arising out of the troublous times in which he lived.

The child of well-to-do peasants at Disentis in the Vorder Rhein Thal, Spescha sought a field for his intellectual activity in the Church, and gained some instruction at Chur and afterwards at Einsiedeln, before he returned to his native place to become a leading spirit among the brethren of the local monastery.

To do anything like justice to his career, to recount its picturesque incidents, the destruction by the French of his library and lithological collection, his banishment by the Austrians to Tyrol, the persecution he underwent in his convent on account of his liberal and tolerant attitude in matters of thought, or to give any account of his climbs, and of his many contributions to local history and natural science, would fill pages. Moreover, we are released from the task by the fact that it was partially carried out years ago in this JOURNAL (Vol. x. No. 74) in an article, partly founded on the late Prof. Theobald's volumes on Graubünden, that appears to have been overlooked by the editors of the book now under review in their list of tracts relating to Spescha. We shall limit ourselves,