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# ALPINE ACCIDENTS IN 1914.

## FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE COL CHAMONIN.

Early on August 6 two parties—Signora Alice Omodeo and Signor Moriondo Santino, with the Cogne guide Pietro Clemente Gérard; and two priests of the Val d'Aoste, MM. Alessio Bovard and Cesare Perron, with the ex-garde-chasse Battista Peano of Val Savaranche—left the V.E. hut to cross the Col du Grand Paradis and the Col Chamonin to Cogne. The whole of the previous night was a violent snowstorm. The parties gained the first col in 2 hr. and then roped all together before attacking the steep approach to the second col. The rocks were covered in fresh snow.

Gérard, leading, proceeded to cut steps when the lady slipped, fell on Santino and dragged first Gérard and then Bovard out of their steps. In a vain attempt to stay the fall the latter sought to secure the rope round a rock, but it broke above him involving him in the catastrophe. The four rolled and bounded down the couloir, striking the rocks, and when the survivors were able to get to them on the Noaschetta Glacier 1500 ft. below they found only Gérard still breathing. They managed to carry him up to the Col du Grand Paradis where he died.

The bodies were recovered by a party of men from Val Savaranche where Gerard and Bovard were buried in the little cemetery beside the four Englishmen who lost their lives on the N. face of the Petit Paradise

The order of roping was obviously wrong and undoubtedly contributed to the fatal issue of the accident.

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# NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1914.

## *Alps of the Grisons.*

JUPPERHORN (3151 m. = 10,335 ft.) BY W. ARÊTE.—On July 22, 1914, Messrs. Rodk. Williams, A. N. Solly, and G. A. Solly, starting from Cresta-Avers reached the summit by the hitherto unclimbed W. arête in about six hours. It took about two hours to get to the more easterly of the two little lakes on 'Auf dem Bande.' Near the lake the ridge dips a little before rising to the final point that overlooks the valley.

'From the lake we went over scree and some snow to the ridge, reaching it just past the first tower above the lowest point. From there we kept as nearly as possible to the ridge, traversing occasionally for a short distance, generally on the S. side. The mountain has a reputation for being rotten, but the rocks did not seem to be more loose than is usual on ridges seldom or never climbed, and in most places they were not very difficult. At one point you have to go through an archway, and coming through the arch there appears to be a very steep drop, but there is no real difficulty; at another point there is a grand view through a needle hole of perpendicular cliffs on the southern face of the mountain. Not far from the top comes the only real difficulty—a very steep tower of reddish rock and about 60 ft. in height. There is a crack in the rock at the steepest point where an arm can be jammed in, and then a foot, otherwise it would hardly be practicable. When we got to the top sleet was falling, and we only got glimpses of the other ridges, so we returned by the ridge that we had come by. We descended the tower by a looped rope. A little lower down, and before coming to the archway, we left the ridge, and descended some steep snow on its N. side, keeping on the snow until we were only about 20 min. from the lakes. In a less snowy year, or later in the season, there would be much less snow, and it might be quicker to adhere to the ridge.'

G. A. S.