

An Impromptu Ascent of Mont Blanc. By W. A. Le Mesurier.
(Elliot Stock. 4s.)

This thin volume is a very pleasantly written account of an ascent of Mont Blanc by two young Englishmen, who seem to have had no experience of Alpine work before. It is agreeably distinguished from many works of a similar kind by the absence of exaggeration and by a faithful account of the impressions left by the expedition. The publication of a narrative of so well known a walk seems to carry us back to the early part of the century; but this little work may reach a class of readers who are not specialists in Alpine matters, and it may be confidently recommended to them. The lithographs do not add any beauty to the book, but French words and names are, as might be expected, very accurately given.

T. G. BONNEY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on Monday, December 18, 1882, Professor BONNEY, F.R.S. (President), in the chair.

Prince TEANO, Rev. H. M. PATCH, Herr KARL SCHULZ, Monsieur FÉLIX PERRIN, Messrs. G. STAPYLTON BARNES, M. LOCKE BLAKE, CARUS D. CUNNINGHAM, E. H. FISON, and WILLIAM WILLIAMS were balloted for and elected members of the Club.

Messrs. J. WALKER HARTLEY and J. OAKLEY MAUND were elected members of Committee in the places of Messrs. H. Seymour Hoare and Walter Leaf, who retired by rotation. The President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary, and other members of Committee (being all eligible for re-election under the rules of the Club) were, on the motion of Mr. WM. MATHEWS, unanimously re-elected for the year 1883.

The PRESIDENT read to the Club a communication which he had received from M. Maillot, the Secretary of the Savoie section of the French Alpine Club, announcing that it was proposed to hold the annual meeting of that club at Sixt and Chamonix in August 1883, and tendering a very cordial invitation to the members of the Alpine Club to be present on the occasion.

The Rev. W. S. GREEN then read a paper upon 'The Ascent of Mount Cook, New Zealand,' which was illustrated by an excellent sketch map and by a quantity of water-colour drawings and photographs, the work of the author. In the discussion which followed Messrs. WM. MATHEWS, C. G. HEATHCOTE, DOUGLAS FRESHFIELD, and others took part. The PRESIDENT then moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Green for his most interesting paper, which was accorded unanimously, Mr. Green, on rising to reply, being received with the greatest possible enthusiasm by an unusually numerous meeting.

The Annual Winter Picture Exhibition and Dinner took place at Willis's Rooms on the afternoon and evening of the following day. The Picture Exhibition was, as usual, extremely crowded, and, on the

whole, fully attained the high standard of former years. Where there was so much to admire it seems almost invidious to particularise; but the paintings and sketches of Mr. Croft (for many years one of the main stays of this exhibition) attracted once again undiminished interest and attention. The work of Messrs. Compton, Alfred Williams, and Garrett Smith was also greatly admired. Nor must we forget a magnificent example of the celebrated Italian artist Signor Costa (lent by Mr. D. W. Freshfield), representing the mountains of Carrara, which was one of the great attractions of the exhibition.

The collection of large photographs exhibited by Mr. Donkin showed a distinct advance even upon his wonderful work of last year, and may be almost said to mark yet another new era in Alpine photography. Perhaps the most attractive to the mountaineer of all this remarkable series was a view of the Aiguilles Verte and du Dru from Trélaporte; but undoubtedly the most amusing to the non-clambering public was that entitled 'Modern Mountaineering,' in which the most popular of ex-secretaries and most brilliant of cragsmen was represented peacefully engaging in lawn tennis on the slopes of the Prarion. Herr Beck of Strasburg, the pioneer of high Alpine photography, exhibited a most elaborate and highly-finished series of Swiss Alpine photographs, including a complete panorama from the summit of the Dündenhorn, with which the artist had been admirably successful. Signor Sella of the Italian Alpine Club sent a complete panorama taken from the actual summit of the Matterhorn, which was also greatly admired.

Mr. Green's sketches and photographs of New Zealand were much appreciated, as well for their intrinsic merit as for their special interest at this time.

Some most spirited and artistic wood carvings by the late Andreas Maurer, and a very lifelike statuette of the latter carved by his tried friend and companion Johann Jaun, were also prominent features of the exhibition.

At the dinner in the evening 166 members and their friends sat down to celebrate the 'silver wedding' of the Club. Amongst the guests on the occasion were Leonard Courtney, Esq., M.P. (Financial Secretary to the Treasury), Prof. Geikie, F.R.S. (Director General of the Geological Survey of Great Britain), and the President of the Geological Society.

Corrigenda.

- Vol. x. p. 418, line 28, M. Montandon's party reached Thun the next day.
 " xi. " 48, " 26, for 'Diablerets' read 'Neuchâtel.'
 " " 87, Mr. Watson's accident took place in 1860, not 1865.
 " " 88, the name of the porter killed on August 20, 1877, was Maurice Truchet, who perished near the hut on the Aiguille Grise. Cf. Durler's 'Mont Blanc,' p. 338 (2nd edition).
 " " " Herr Reuter was killed on the well-known Salève, near Le Coin, a small hamlet $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr. from Geneva, close to which the accident occurred.
 " " 127, Mr. Muddock's letter is dated from the Savage Club.