

includes 108 documents, ranging from 1401 to 1536, with one of 1700. In 1519 the Priory of Chamonix was united by a Bull of Leo X. to the Chapter of Sallanches. M. Perrin has only printed the most important documents relating to this transaction, reserving the rest for detailed analysis in a history of the priory, based on the cartulary, which, we learn from him, he will be able to send to press in the course of the present year. This work ought to be of the greatest value, owing to the very solid foundation which has been laid for it, and it will be eagerly awaited by all students of alpine history. At the end of his second volume M. Perrin gives a list of the abbats of St. Michel de Cluse (near Turin), of which great house Chamonix was a cell, and also a list of the ascertained priors of Chamonix, ten in number. He has also added very full indexes of places, names, and subjects to the two volumes—a labour of love which cannot be too highly commended. The index of places gives both the ancient and modern forms, which will do much to destroy various current etymologies. It is interesting to find that the Col de Balme (Balmæ) is mentioned in the foundation charter of 1090 as one of the boundaries of the valley, while the Tête Noire is not mentioned by name till 1519, although the boundaries between Val Orsine and the communities of Salvay and Finhaut were carefully set out in 1307. The Col de Voza (or rather the pastures of that name, here spelt Vossa) is mentioned in 1264, and the Blaitière pastures in 1298. The ‘rupes quæ vocatur alba’ of the charter of 1090 is shown by other documents to be not ‘Mont Blanc,’ but the ‘Says-Blans,’ S.E. of Servoz, and the grant of the rights of the lake fishery at Servoz in 1299 is a proof of the existence of a lake in the Servoz basin at that date. A car road, possible for laden wine carts, with parapets and places for passing, from Servoz to Les Ouches, was made as early as 1458. The ‘communitas’ (or township organisation) of Chamonix appears as early as 1264, and throughout we find the syndics maintaining as popular representatives their ancient rights and franchises, and in particular the rights of the ‘prud’hommes’ of the valley to exercise all criminal jurisdiction, even in cases of heresy. It would be interesting to know whether any traces still remain of the ‘Theutonici,’ to whom, in 1264, the then Prior leases out half the Val Orsine (the limits being carefully defined) on payment of a small quit rent.

When M. Perrin’s history is published, Chamonix will be able to boast that, as it was the earliest frequented of the great mountaineering centres, so it is the first to possess an elaborate and authentic account of how it came into existence and of the various phases it has passed through up to the present time.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

On Tuesday, February 5, 1884, a General Meeting of the Club was held, Mr. F. C. Grove, *President*, in the chair. The Hon. Secretary presented the accounts for the past year to the Club. Messrs. Colin B. Phillip and Charles S. Roy, M.D., were elected members of the Club.

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Mr. C. D. CUNNINGHAM read a paper upon 'Chamonix as a Mountaineering Centre.' At the conclusion of the paper a discussion took place, in which Messrs. H. Pasteur, Freshfield, W. E. Davidson, and the President took part. An unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Cunningham, who briefly replied.

The well-known guide, Emile Rey, was present at the meeting as a guest of the Club.

A series of sketches of Corsica, by Mr. Compton, which unfortunately arrived too late for the Winter Alpine Picture Exhibition, was on view at the Club-rooms on this and some subsequent days.

On Tuesday, March 4, 1884, a General Meeting of the Club was held, Mr. F. C. Grove, *President*, in the chair.

Mr. J. STAFFORD ANDERSON read a paper upon an ascent of the Gross Schreckhorn by the N.W. arête; at the conclusion of which Messrs. G. P. Baker (who accompanied Mr. Anderson on the ascent), D. W. Freshfield, and the President made some remarks upon the expedition. On the motion of the President a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Anderson for his paper.

On Tuesday, April 1, 1884, a General Meeting of the Club was held, Mr. F. C. Grove, *President*, in the chair.

The PRESIDENT said he desired to take this—the first opportunity—of communicating to the Club at large a letter which he had received from Signor Baretta, Vice-President of the Italian Alpine Club, announcing the decease of the eminent statesman and patriot, Signor Quintino Sella, by whose untimely and lamented death the Italian Club loses its President, and the English Club one of its earliest and most distinguished honorary members.

On the motion of the President, seconded by Professor Bonney (ex-President), the meeting passed an unanimous vote of condolence with the Italian Alpine Club in their irreparable loss, assuring them of the great sympathy of the Alpine Club.

The PRESIDENT then announced that Signor Focardi had presented to the Club the original cast—in *alto relievo*—of the late Mr. Hinchliff which he had executed for the Hinchliff memorial to be erected near Zermatt. The thanks of the Club were unanimously voted to Signor Focardi for his valuable gift.

Mr. J. WALKER HARTLEY read a paper upon his ascent of the 'Western Summit of the Aiguille du Dru.' Messrs. C. T. Dent, W. E. Davidson, and the President spoke, and Mr. Hartley briefly replied to an unanimous vote of thanks which was accorded to him by the meeting.

Errata in last Number.

- Page 412, line 27, for Bessaese read Bessanese.
 " " " 30, for Meiji read Meije.
 " 413, " 26, for ice axe read compass.
 " 418. Mr. Barbey ascended only the second in height of the Aiguilles Dorées (Tête Biselz, 8,528 m.). The highest peak (8,543 m.) was not climbed till August 13, 1883, when M.M. Thury, Wanner, and Guttinger, with Gaspard Coquoz, of Salvan, conquered it. It was named Aiguille de la Varappe. This ascent is described in the 'ECHO des Alpes' for 1883, No. 4, pp. 241-52.