

ALPINE NOTES.

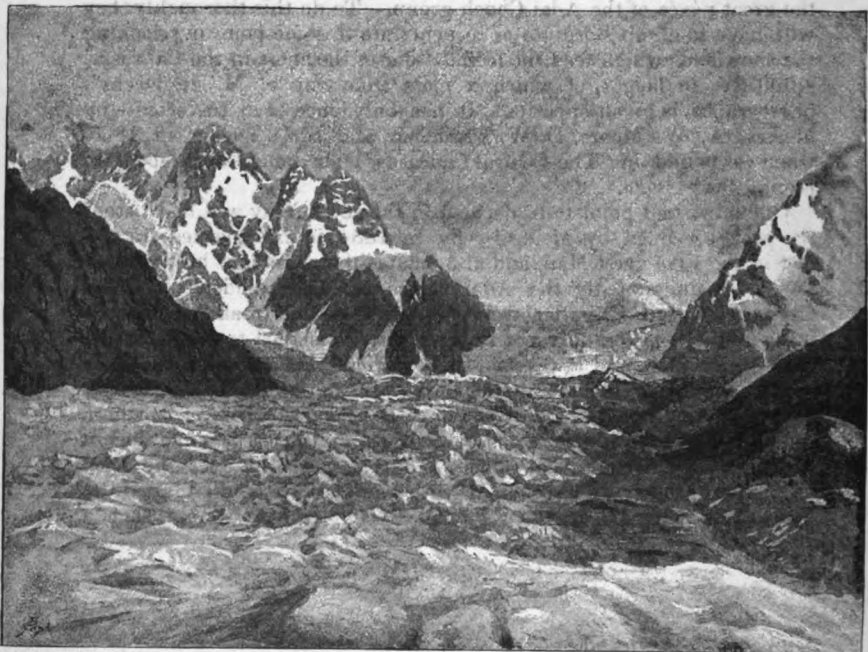
ASCENT OF CHAMPAGNE CASTLE, IN NATAL.—We are indebted to Mr. T. W. Wall for the following very interesting extracts from a letter written by the Rev. A. H. Stocker, describing a successful ascent of the reputed highest point of the Drakensberg range, in Natal: 'The range of the Drakensberg (also called the Kathlamba Mountains—the name is generally spelt without the "t," but pronounced as I have written it) is the western boundary of Natal. The high part of the range on the Natal border is from 50 to 60 miles long and about 10,000 feet high. The supposed highest point is Champagne Castle, which by aneroid I made 11,355 feet high. My young brother and I camped out in a small tent on the upper shingle of a mountain stream (c. 5,625 feet) in a lovely gorge some three or four miles from the hill. On Thursday, April 26, 1888, we started at 6.30 A.M. up the gorge for about half a mile, and then struck up the eastern spur of the mountain. Steep grass slopes led up to a rather interesting but broad arête, which abutted against the eastern precipice, leaving a sheer wall of 500 feet of rock quite unassailable. When at a height of 8,545 feet we left the arête by very steep grass slopes, and worked to the left (i.e. south) along a grass ledge, round the S.E. angle of the mountain. The only difficulties lay between the S.E. arête and that one of the southern arêtes which tapped the southern precipice. The first gully was easy to cross, keeping about level. We had to descend a little in the second gully to turn the foot of a *Krantz* (i.e. a precipice) by very steep grass. In the third gully we had to cross a nasty sloping rock with a drop of a hundred feet at the outer end, and one of 40 feet at the gully end. In the fourth gully we met with ice-glazed rocks, rather nasty, and the gully itself was unpleasantly slithery. The next shoulder was the one we were aiming for. It was very easy, and led to an easy slope up to the top of the *Krantzes* (10,635 feet). The summit is double, the eastern point being the lower but the finer, and ending in grand *Krantzes*. The western point is a flattened dome, extremely dull and uninteresting. There are *Krantzes*, gullies, and arêtes on the southern face, but we had not time to examine them. We got to the top at 2.30 P.M., and only stayed ten minutes. There was a fairly keen wind, but the thermometer was only 46° in the shade. The view was fairly good, but spoiled by clouds. We set fire to the grass on the top to let people below know that we had got up, but no one saw it—too much cloud, I am afraid. We descended by the Champagne Castle Pass (11,135 feet) to the south, the stoniest and most abominable gully I ever was in. It was full of glacier débris and ploughed up by the stream. The going was terrible, and the result was that we did not get back to the tent till 10.20 P.M. Luckily there was a moon. The map distance (but I believe the map to be hopelessly wrong in many other points, so probably wrong in this too) was eight miles altogether, and it took 15h. 50m. Not particularly fast time! It was a most interesting excursion, and the scenery was simply magnificent. The view from an old terminal moraine,



Déchy phot'

ELBRUZ FROM TERSKOL

The photograph shows the mountain range from the point of view of the glacier. In these the glaciers are indicated with much greater precision than in former papers. These sheets now extend as far as the Western Pass. It will be interesting to see how the snow-covered in comparison with the former program presented by the expedition.



Déchy phot'

THE ICEFALL OF THE KARAGAM GLACIER

about four miles above our upper tent, is the grandest I know anywhere—a lovely valley with four magnificent peaks at the upper end, two square blocks, and two aiguilles, lying to the north of Champagne Castle. From the summit of our peak we saw one peak in the range which looked as high as ours, and one in Basutoland (further west) decidedly higher. There was also a distant range which looked higher. There seem to be two kinds of rocks in particular—a red rock, which forms sheer precipices, and a greyish blue rock, which weathers black, and which, I think, is climbable. These may be syenite and protogine gneiss.

NEW MAPS OF THE CAUCASUS.—In General Chodzko, the officer under whose charge the Five-verst Map was made, the Caucasus has had its Dufour. A surveyor who, thirty-eight years ago, forced his Cossacks to camp for five nights on the top of Ararat, 'in a large and deep cavity cut in the snow,' at an elevation of nearly 17,000 feet, deserves the respect of all mountaineers.* But no first survey—much less a survey executed under the extraordinary difficulties from hostile tribes as well as from impenetrable mountain fastnesses which attended the original Caucasian Survey—can hope to approach perfection.

General Shdanov, the present head of the staff at Tiflis, is actively employed in carrying on the work of his predecessor. From the Dariel Pass westwards new sheets are being published on the scale of the original drawings of the Five-verst Map—that is, on the scale of one verst to the inch. In these the glaciers are indicated with much greater precision than on former maps. These sheets now extend as far as the Mamisson Pass. It will be interesting to see how the surveyors succeed in grappling with the intricate problem presented by the great *névés* of the Adai Choch group. To do this thoroughly they will have to climb Bordjula or to penetrate to some point overlooking the snowfields which feed the icefall—one of the finest in the Caucasus, 4,000 feet in height, of which a plate from one of M. de Déchy's photographs is given opposite. It has only once been traversed—by Messrs. A. W. Moore, D. W. Freshfield, and C. C. Tucker in 1868, when (as is told in 'The Central Caucasus') six hours were spent in forcing the passage.

One important point to be decided in the new survey will be whether the peak ascended by M. de Déchy in 1884 is that marked 15,241 feet in the Five-verst Map, and also what is the name it is best entitled to. It is undoubtedly the Adai Choch of Mr. Freshfield's 'Central Caucasus;' but it is far from certain that this peak is the one measured. It is certainly not in the position assigned to the measured peak on the map, and last year Mr. Freshfield saw one or more lofty peaks behind that ascended by M. de Déchy, and apparently of at least equal height. It may be that one of these peaks, which lie on northern spurs, and not on the watershed, will claim the ascertained height and the Ossete title of Adai Choch, and that the peak over the Rion sources will have to be content with the designation Tuilsas Mts, assigned to it by Dr. Radde. It will be unfortunate should such a

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. viii. p. 215.

change become necessary ; and the summit ascended by M. de Déchy will always, like the Wetterhorn, remain pre-eminent in the eyes of travellers, even should it have to yield by a few feet to a rival.

The Caucasian staff are also engaged on a physical map of the glaciers of Elbruz—a work of the highest interest. An advance copy of the first sheet is before us. It shows the sources of the Baksan and their glaciers from the two peaks of Elbruz to Dongusorun. The glaciers are laid down with a precision rivalling that of the best European surveys ; many heights are given in Russian 'sashines,' seven of which go to the foot, and the map is coloured so as to show the nature of the ground, icefalls, &c. It is at once obvious that the former survey completely mis-represented not only the details but the leading features of the mountain structure. It may be enough here to point out that the bearing of the N.W. peak of Elbruz from the S.E. is shifted from N. 41° W. to N. 76° W., that the heights given are equivalent to 18,470 feet and 18,347 feet for the two peaks, and that the distance between the S.E. peak and the watershed is reduced from 11¼ to 7 miles. Bashi is the equivalent for peak in this district—thus, Dongus-orun-bashi = The peak of the place of pigs. The name is applied to several summits on the right of the Baksan sources. It may be found ultimately convenient to give the highest point—it lies just S. of the watershed—of the broad peak seen from Urusbieh the name of Josinghi Tau, from one of its glaciers. The view given of Elbruz on this side is from a photograph taken by M. de Déchy in 1884. The reproductions of both photographs have been made and lent by the proprietors of the 'Graphic,' who are about to issue a series of Caucasian views in the form of a supplement.

THE SELKIRK RANGE.—The Canadian Pacific Railway has run a high-road of commerce through the wilderness. On no section of its long course is the scenery so interesting as where it traverses the portion of the Rocky Mountains known as the Selkirk Range. From the summit of the Kicking Horse Pass a considerable glacier is seen pouring, like the Glacier du Tour, in a broad icefall from the side of a bold rock-peak known as Mount Sir Donald. Here a first-class carriage was deposited shortly after the opening of the line and named 'The Glacier Hotel' ! This temporary device has already been superseded by a substantial building. The country, however, beyond the view of the line is still practically unknown, and the statements occasionally made as to the heights of the peaks and the extent of the glaciers are mostly premature. Some more trustworthy information should shortly be attainable, as the Rev. W. S. Green, of this Club, has been commissioned by the Royal Geographical Society to make such a preliminary exploration as may be practicable in one season, and has lately left England for that purpose. His journey will, we hope, lead to the opening out of a field for mountaineering which may in the future contend with the Caucasus for the favour of our members. Meantime the following note may be read with interest :—

'The "Big Glacier" is situated at a distance of about three miles from the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is visible from the highest point over the Selkirk range reached by that line. There are many other

glaciers in the neighbourhood, but they are of much smaller dimensions. The "Big Glacier" itself, however, must be classed, in point of size, with the third-rate glaciers of Switzerland; but it possesses one thing in common with the larger Swiss glaciers—a first-class hotel on the line of railway. This hotel was built several years ago for the accommodation of visitors to the glacier; but, although the glacier is so near, no one had the energy to go far up it, the visitors contenting themselves with walking to its foot and perhaps wandering half an hour up it, but no more. The country around is practically unknown, and information from the best authorities in the Dominion is quite untrustworthy.

· ' In March last my brother and I found everything covered with snow 8 to 10 feet deep round the hotel, and anywhere up to 60 feet through the trees. We came provided with snow-shoes; without we could have gone nowhere. But they are not unmixed pleasures; for we soon found that snow-shoeing uphill was very different from snow-shoeing on the flat. Having reached the foot of the glacier, we ascended its left bank by the moraine, which must be 50 feet high in summer, but was now, owing to the snow, nearly level with the surface of the glacier. We each wore two pairs of socks, one pair of stockings, besides moccasins, the thongs of which, however, considerably blistered our feet, and could not be loosened, as they were frozen hard to the shoes, as were the stockings to the moccasins. The snow-shoes were of the usual Canadian pattern, long, not round as they should be for mountain use. When ascending a slope one must tread with one foot nearly at right angles to the snow-shoe and not pay any attention to the pain of so doing. When coming downhill the toe of the shoe will bury itself in the snow, and one is brought quietly down on one's nose. Still it is wonderful how steep a slope can be ascended by means of these snow-shoes, though it is tiring work, and they are nearly useless for descending. A ball of snow continually forms between the foot and the shoe. This must be removed, which we did with our ice-axes, this being the chief service they rendered us on our excursion, as we encountered no difficulties. We turned the ice-falls with ease, the crevasses being mostly choked with snow. The snow-fields which feed the glacier are not large, lying in a sort of cup surrounded by rocky peaks, and descending into the valleys below at several points. The views we gained from several high points on the glacier were very fine, the expanse of country seen being really wonderful—nothing, too, but snow-covered mountains. The finest thing of all was Syndicate Peak, otherwise known as Mount Sir Donald. It stands up alone with its three steep rocky sides. No one has yet attempted to ascend it, and it was for the purpose of examining it that we made these excursions on the "Big Glacier." Like many other peaks in the Selkirk range, it is well worthy of notice from a climber's point of view. The Selkirks are unlike the Rockies, for, while in the latter every peak, however precipitous on other sides, has always one side by which the summit is very easily gained, in the former Mount Sir Donald seems to have no easy side at all. Of course, later in the year, when there is less snow, one could judge better; but in March we could find no

route up it which was likely to be good. The height of Mount Sir Donald is probably underestimated. Our highest point was 9,000 feet above the sea level (4,800 feet above the hotel), and Mount Sir Donald appeared to be at least 3,000 feet higher than our highest point.

At this height of 9,000 feet we sat smoking for three-quarters of an hour, the sun being very warm, though a thermometer placed in the shade cast by our bodies on the snow registered four degrees below zero! We found it hard to chew the provisions we had brought with us. The spirits-and-water, too, which I had brought in a flask, placed in my inside breast-pocket, resembled a water-ice in consistency. We made three excursions in all over the 'Big Glacier,' and 'located' the various peaks around, hoping to return in the autumn. The snow in the Selkirks melts very late in the year, and hence July, August, September, and October are the best months to visit them. Game, too, is plentiful in the autumn. The country around is unknown, so much so indeed that probably we were the first human beings who had ever looked upon many of the valleys which we saw from above. Anyone who comes here must be prepared to be taken for a railway employé, a mining prospector, or an engineer. We ourselves were supposed to be taking measurements for the purpose of running a road from the hotel up to the snow-fields at the head of the glacier, where we were to make a trotting-course, bridging over and otherwise eliminating crevasses, and all this for the purpose of enabling tourists to don their furs in summer and to enjoy a sleigh-drive in the park above.

HAROLD W. TOPHAM.

THE ZWÖLFERKOFEL FROM THE GIRALBATHAL.—We learn that this route (tried previously many times in vain) up one of the highest (3,085 mètres = 10,122 feet) and boldest pinnacles of the Sexten Dolomites, was successfully accomplished on August 29, 1887, by Herren G. Winkler and R. Schmitt without guides. Starting at 4.30 A.M. from a hut at the end of the Giralba valley ($\frac{3}{4}$ hr. from the Giralbajoch) they took to a couloir about two hundred steps above the Schwarz See, and climbed up it to where it divides into two branches. Keeping them to the left (6.45) over easy rocks they gained a broad shelf of *débris*, turned a great tower surmounted by a smaller one, and then followed the shelf from N.E. to S.W. A chimney led up to a secondary summit, whence a difficult descent to a gap (at the head of the well-known ice gully) and another ascent led to the highest point at 4 P.M. The party were benighted on the way down. This new route has the advantage over the old one (*viâ* the ice gully) of being free from all danger of falling stones, and had been several times previously attempted, but in vain. The well-known guide Michel Innerkofler has found another way up the rocks on the south side to the left of the ice gully.

HYPOMETRY OF THE DOLOMITES.—The following note has been received:—

'It may, perhaps, be of some interest to the members of the Alpine Club to know the results of the new Austrian survey with regard to the heights of the Primiero group, which, although not yet published, have been communicated to me by the kindness of the

direction of the Austrian "Militär-Geographische Institut." The results of these new measurements are the most important contribution to our knowledge of the hypsometry of the Primiero Dolomites, and our previous opinions on this subject have been essentially altered by them.

'The following table contains a list of the heights fixed by the new survey :—

	New Survey	Old Survey	Previous Authorities
	m.	m.	m.
Cimon della Pala . . .	3,186	3,220	3,343 (Kataster measurement)
Cima di Vezzana . . .	3,191	3,061	3,317 (Kataster measurement)
Pala di San Martino . . .	2,997	3,054	3,244 (Trinker)
Fradusta . . .	2,930.7	2,927	
Rosetta . . .	2,740	2,738	2,810 (Frischauf)
Cima di Ball . . .	2,693	none	2,533 (Euringer)
Passo di Ball . . .	2,450	"	
Cima Cimedo . . .	2,499	2,537	
Sass Maor . . .	2,816	2,813	
Passo della Val di Roda . . .	2,568	2,754	
Figlio di Rosetta . . .	2,469	none	
Pa-so Venezia . . .	2,298	"	

'The Kataster measurements, which have been thought up to now to be the exact ones, have been proved far too high by the new survey. The culminating point of the group is now considered the Vezzana, instead of the Cimon della Pala. The latter, long considered the second in height among the Dolomite peaks, must leave this honour to the *Antelao*, 3,320m., according to the new Italian survey. Amongst other Dolomite peaks the *Marmolada* has been found considerably lower by the new survey, i.e. 3,359m., instead of 3,494m.

'I shall be glad if these few notes are of some use to the readers of the *Alpine Journal*.

'Dr. CARL DIENER,

'President of the Oesterreichischer Alpen-Club.'

English readers will have been to some extent prepared for the reversal of the old measurements of the Pala and Vezzana by the opinions expressed both by Mr. D. Freshfield and Mr. Tucker on the occasion of their first ascent of the latter peak.* It will be seen that their assertion that the Pala overtopped them, if at all, 'by the height of its stonemen,' erred only on the side of modesty. The right eyes in the right place have in this instance proved more trustworthy than a Government survey imperfectly conducted.

ALPINE GAMES.—Alpine games naturally suggest some variety of athletic sports, and carry our thoughts back to the diversions of wrestling, racing, and stone-hurling, with which Berlepech ('Die Alpen in Natur- und Lebensbildern') has familiarised us. In this note, however, the

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. vii. p. 63.

term is used in a far more humble sense to denote certain parlour amusements relating to Alpine subjects, which have doubtless contributed to create the belief (so commonly held by outsiders) that climbing is a succession of hairbreadth escapes. Two specimens of these have lately come into my possession, and may be briefly described as curious illustrations of an aspect of Alpine history hitherto unnoticed in these pages. One of them is 'The New Game of the Ascent of Mont Blanc,' published at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, *sine dato*, but in connection with Albert Smith's panorama of Mout Blanc, and therefore probably some time early in the fifties (lecture first given there March 15, 1852, ascent having been made August 13, 1851). It consists of a sheet of coloured sketches, numbered 1 to 50, representing different stages on the way from the Egyptian Hall to the summit of Mont Blanc, Chamonix not being reached till No. 30. Six players, each provided with an ivory marker and three dozen counters, take part in the game, which is played with a hexagonal teetotum. If the unlucky player obtains No. 3 or 6 by his spin of the teetotum, he cannot move; in other cases he moves his marker according to the number obtained. On reaching each diagram the player pays or receives so many counters, according to a very elaborate system set forth in the rules; e.g. pay 6 at the St. Bernard Hospice, receive two from each player when the glacier—at No. 38—is first reached. Some of these penalties are amusing; 3 must be paid to keep the Grands Mulets hut in good condition for other travellers, 3 for the benefit of the families of the guides who perished on the Grand Plateau, 2 received from each player when the Mur de la Côte is surmounted, and 6 paid on slipping at No. 49. The player whose marker first reaches the summit of Mont Blanc receives all the counters in the pool. The sketches (some of them reproduced in Albert Smith's book on Mont Blanc) are in many cases delightfully old-fashioned. The game shows what a great impression Albert Smith's lecture made on all classes in England, for it must be reckoned as one of the most powerful influences which popularised mountain-climbing among Englishmen. His ascent of Mont Blanc in 1851 was the main cause of the increase in the number of ascents which begins to show itself from 1854 onward. The sheet of sketches, book of rules, coloured markers, and teetotum are enclosed in a box. The item was marked 'very rare' in the bookseller's catalogue, from which I purchased this curious Alpine antiquity for the sum of 16s. 6d.

The other game is concerned with the Matterhorn and will be remembered by frequenters of the old Riffelhaus, in the *salon* of which there existed, as lately as 1886, an imperfect copy of this game. The following description is taken from a new specimen which I purchased for seven or eight francs at Bern in September, 1886. It is enclosed in a large box with a trilingual inscription, the English version being, 'Up to the Matterhorn.' It consists of a large double diagram (made to stand up) of the Matterhorn, representing the Zermatt and Breil sides respectively. A number of slits (31 in each case) show the route on either side. The game is played with twelve tin figures, half being guides and half travellers, which are divided into two parties, each being provided

with a flag. Each party has a die, and each pair (tourist and guide, who must never separate) throws in turn. One step is gained if 1, 2, 3, or 4 is thrown; if 2, 3, 4 comes up, and the traveller is in one of the three *mauvais pas*, he falls down on each side as many steps towards the glacier, and can only remount one step at a time, because 'being pulled out again is a slower proceeding than falling in,' his terrified companions being delayed until their unlucky comrade is hauled up to them again. If 5 or 6 is thrown, the pair must in any case remain where they are, and their friends too, 'some difficulty in the ascent, or the necessity of taking refreshment, delaying their progress.' That party wins, the last member of which reaches the summit before the last member of the rival caravan. It is expressly provided that the guides must precede the travellers during the whole game. The winning party plants its flag on top, and takes all the contents in the pool, two counters (a small bag of which is in the box) being paid for each pair at starting, every one that falls into a crevasse paying the number of his cast. I regret to say that each traveller is armed with an alpenstock, ice-axes being reserved for the guides. The directions for playing this most exciting game are headed by a quotation from Dickens, 'It's very nice if you make believe very much,' and open thus:—'This game enables any child to ascend this-world-renowned summit, if it will only identify itself with one of the tourists mentioned below. Accidents may certainly occur, if one does not mind one's P's and Q's, but help is always near, and the most beautiful view will reward the brave mountaineer at the top.'

Both games have doubtless an educational value, and may be commended to those who have—perhaps only for a brief period—been obliged to forswear climbing, and to indulge in 'the regrets of a mountaineer.' The new generation of Alpine climbers will certainly have great educational advantages, and it may be hoped that they will duly profit thereby.

W. A. B. COOLIDGE.

MOUNTAIN MIDGETS, OR THIRTY YEARS AFTER.—'Que l'homme est petit quand on le contemple du haut de la *mère de glace!*' writes M. Perrichon at the Montanvert in the popular French play. Undeterred, it would seem, by all that befel that worthy 'père de famille' in consequence of his literary indiscretion, some 'censor castigatoire minorum' among climbers has, it appears, ventured to elaborate into a series of couplets the sentiment concisely expressed by his predecessor. Rhymes under the above title, purporting to have been copied from the strangers' book in a well-known mountain resort, have been sent to us. To Alpine Clubmen, who, of course, have none of the foibles herein depicted, this careful and appreciative study of those who burlesque them, the annually increasing tribe of British Tartarins, ought to be welcome.

But a warning to contributors may be needful. The admission of this effusion must not be taken to imply that our pages are henceforth open to receive poetry. It is not for their rhythmical form, but for their moral and didactic worth (apart, perhaps, from some individual prejudices) that we give a page to the following lines:—

TO MY FELLOW-GUESTS.

I was with the men who conquered all the Alps, and, climbing higher,
Watched, from Caucasus or Andes, Phosphor soaring like a fire ;

But, successors of De Saussure ! You, presumably with souls,
Who treat Heaven's nearest neighbours as the pit-bear treats his poles,

Show your foolish ' forms ' upon them, ' cutting records ' as you run,
Craving of a crowd that jeers you notoriety—your bun !

You, who love an ' Alpine Centre ' and an inn that's full of people,
Where the tourists gape in wonder while their Jack befalls his steeple :

Lads, whose prate is never-ceasing, till the *table d'hôte* is crammed
With the *gendarmes* you have collared, and the *cols* you've *spitzed* or *hammed* !

Not for you the friendly *Wirthshaus*, where the *Pfarrer* plays the host,
Or the vine-hung *Osteria*, where the bowls go rattling most ;

Not for you the liquid splendour of the sunset as it dies,
Not for you the silver silence and the spaces of the skies,

Known of men who in the old time lodged in hollows of the rocks,
Ere those Circe's sties, the Club-huts, harboured touristdom in flocks.

There you lie beside your porters, in tobacco fumes enfurled,
And think more of cold plum pudding than ' the gleaming of the world ; '

There you ponder with your fellows on the little left ' to do,'
Plotting darkly Expeditions that may, partially, be New ;

Boasting lightly, while the brightly-beading Bouvier brims the glasses,
How you'll romp up avalanche tracks, and you'll rollick in crevasses ;

Dreaming fondly of the glory that such ' azure feats ' must get,
When your guide narrates the story in the ' Grindelmann Gazette ; '

Gloating grimly on the feelings Hobbs and Nobbs will strive to smother—
When they learn the Gross Narr Nadel has been just bagged by another—

Hobbs and Nobbs, who, slyly stealing to our Grün Alp telescope,
May find solace in revealing how you faltered on the rope.

Mountain Midgets—thus I hail you—who to littleness your own
Fain would drag down Nature's Greatest, leave earth's minster-spires alone !

Yet in vain an old man preaches. What is brought must still be found,
Still the raw, relentless athlete make the Alps his running-ground,

Still the Greater breed the Lesser on through infinite degrees,
And the mountains have their Midgets—as the glaciers have their fleas.

MR. H. G. WILLINK'S ALPINE SKETCHES.—The exhibition of these drawings, recently held in the Club Rooms, has enabled lovers of Alpine pictures to make a better estimate than before was possible of the capacities of Mr. Willink as an Alpine artist. The drawings exhibited by him at the annual winter collections at Willis' Rooms have attracted considerable attention, owing to the fact that, for the most part, they have dealt with a series of subjects previously neglected by

the painters who go among the Alps. Mr. Willink studies not so much mountains as mountaineers. He sends indeed a few pictures of mountain scenery, pure and simple, such as his view of the *Flletschhorn* or his *Sunset from the Old Matterhorn Hut*; but these cannot, of course, take rank with the works of Loppé, Croft, or Donne. His incidents of mountaineering adventure suffer from no such dangerous rivalry. They are entirely new and original, and as such they have already won a remarkable popularity. The best of them are certainly the monochrome drawings. Their excellence is due to the fact that the artist knows how to attract attention to the figures, and to keep the eye fixed and interested in their action. The party crossing the *Bergschrund* may be quoted as an example. It would be idle to contend that the painting of snow is by any means faultless, but it is quite good enough as accessory and background to the figures, and every climber will feel so interested in observing the truthfully rendered struggles of the man on the snow-bridge that he will have no attention to spare for the details of surrounding nature. *Ware Stones*, *Cutting away the Cornice at the Top of the Dru Couloir*, and *Cutting Steps across a Snow-slope*, all give rise to similar observations. One of the best of the series of monochromes is the *Party Crossing a Moraine* by faint dawn and lantern-light. This we are glad to know has been presented by the artist to the Club. It proves him to be possessed of a remarkably quick observation, manifested in this case by the not obtrusive but still true rendering of the easy and certain pacing of the guides and the stumbling hesitancy of the gestures of the amateurs. In the *Ulrich Almer on the Gabelhorn* Mr. Willink has attempted to bring before the eye one of the most stirring episodes of historical mountain adventure. It is a bold, and on the whole a successful, attempt. It manifests a considerable power of imagination, the solitary gloom of the wild surroundings being well in harmony with the desperate energy of action of the solitary figure. The attitude seems to be truly conceived, and it must certainly have been a difficult one for an artist to evolve without the possibility of experimenting upon models. Besides the more careful and finished drawings, the collection included several frames filled with swiftly executed sketches. Some of these are remarkably good. We may mention as examples *Above the Tschingeltritt* in 1836, and *Snowdon from Moel Siabod*. We trust that Mr. Willink may be encouraged to devote himself with increasing skill to a branch of art which he has been original enough to invent for himself. An illustrated volume of incidents in mountaineering, from the early start to the last rest on the descent, would doubtless attain success even in the present over-written days. Mr. Willink is rapidly bringing together materials for such a work.

W. M. C.

NEW CATALOGUE OF THE ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY.—A new edition of the Alpine Club Library Catalogue is now ready. It has not only been completed by the addition of books acquired since the catalogue was first printed in 1880, but revised and improved in other ways.

1. The publications of the various Alpine Clubs are now arranged in a systematic manner.

2. Endeavour has been made to assign anonymous and pseudo-

nymous works, so far as practicable, to their real authors; and, where the same author's name occurs in different forms (French, German, or Latinised), to collect all his works under the best known form of the name.

3. An index of subjects has been added, which, it is hoped, will facilitate the use of the library.

The obligations of the Hon. Librarian to several members of the Club in the preparation and revision of the catalogue are recorded in the prefatory advertisement. Corrections and suggestions for improvement in any future issue will be thankfully received by the Hon. Librarian.

ALPINE CLUB RELIEF FUND.—Since the publication of the first subscription list in the 'Alpine Journal' (May 1888) the following additional subscriptions, amounting to 115*l.* 16*s.*, have been received:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
John Ball, Esq.	2	0	0	The Very Rev. the Dean of			
George Bennett, Esq.	1	1	0	St. Paul's	5	0	0
H. Entwistle Bury, Esq.	1	1	0	P. Marriage, Esq., and Miss			
A. J. Butler, Esq.	1	1	0	Marriage	5	0	0
G. Chater, Esq.	2	2	0	H. V.	5	0	0
Major E. Clayton, R.A.	1	0	0	G. R. Copeman, Esq.	3	3	0
E. Dent, Esq.	3	3	0	Sir Alfred Dent	3	3	0
H. Fox, Esq.	3	3	0	Mrs. Hughes	3	3	0
R. Hughes, Esq.	3	3	0	R. Twining, Esq.	3	3	0
C. W. Mead, Esq.	1	1	0	Rev. E. C. Wickham	3	3	0
Sir G. R. Osborn, Bart.	1	0	0	J. B. Carrington, Esq.	2	12	6
Rev. T. H. Philpott	1	1	0	Rev. H. West	2	2	0
J. H. W. Rolland, Esq.	1	1	0	Mrs. Abbott	2	2	0
F. W. Saunders, Esq.	2	2	0	Miss Pigeon	2	2	0
G. Scriven, Esq., M.D.	1	0	0	E. M. Courtney, Esq.	1	1	0
J. W. Garrett Smith, Esq.	5	5	0	A. Loughborough, Esq.	1	1	0
W. Trotter, Esq.	5	5	0	R. T. Walker, Esq.	1	1	0
F. F. Tuckett, Esq.	2	2	0	F. H. B. Daniell, Esq.	1	0	0
W. Williams, Esq.	5	5	0	G. A. Solly, Esq.	1	0	0
G. Yeld, Esq.	1	1	0	The Misses Talbot	0	10	0
				The Misses G. Clark	0	10	0
				Miss Colville	0	10	0
B.	10	0	0	A Curate	0	5	0
M. K.	10	0	0	G. P.	0	5	0
Miss Dent.	5	0	0	M. S. G.	0	2	6

The fund is now closed. It amounts altogether to 534*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*, all of which has been received: 280*l.* was sent out in April under the conditions named in the last number of the 'Alpine Journal.' A further sum of 100*l.* has been sent to the Central Committee of the Italian Alpine Club, and 100*l.* to that of the Swiss Alpine Club. The expenses of printing, advertising in the 'Times,' &c, will amount to about 10*l.*, leaving a sum of about 44*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* still in hand.

Letters acknowledging in the warmest terms the sympathy and assistance rendered to the sufferers through the action of the Alpine Club have been received by the President from Herr Gallati, President of the Swiss Alpine Club, and Signor P. Livry, President of the Italian Alpine Club, as well as from other gentlemen connected with the distribution of the fund.