

isothermic charts of air temperature especially. The book is really just about what it professes to be, a pleasant little handbook for a railway tourist; but it would fulfil even this function better if it gave some information about the history of its own railway, *à la* Acworth. It ought also not to omit systematic reference to hotels, prices, time-tables, driving, steamers, distances, and other prosaic details important to travellers. We are bound to state, however, that the reader is duly referred to the company's time-tables and guide-books on these points.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

A GENERAL MEETING was held on Tuesday, May 6, 1890, at 8.30 P.M., Mr. F. A. WALLROTH, *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

Messrs. W. Parry Haskett-Smith and William Maude were balloted for and elected members of the Club.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. F. A. Chapin, of Hartford, Connecticut, had presented the Club with an album containing a large collection of photographs of the Rocky Mountains, and the thanks of the Club were voted to Mr. Chapin for his handsome present.

Mr. THEODORE CORNISH read a paper on 'The Ascent of the Weisshorn from Zinal, and some winter expeditions in the Oberland.' After a brief discussion, in which Messrs. TROTTER, MEAD, and the Rev. A. FAIRBANKS took part, the CHAIRMAN moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Cornish for his interesting paper, which was carried unanimously, and the proceedings terminated.

An interesting collection of water-colour drawings, by Mr. C. J. Way, of mountain scenery in various parts of the Alps was on view during the meeting and on the following day.

A *General Meeting* was held on Tuesday, June 3, 1890, at 8.30 P.M., Mr. S. F. STILL, *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

Captain C. H. Powell, Messrs. G. Hastings, G. H. Rendall, and H. J. T. Wood were balloted for and elected members of the Club.

Mr. DOUGLAS FRESHFIELD read a paper on 'The High Level Route of the Caucasus and the Forest of Abkhasia.'

At the conclusion of the paper Mr. DENT remarked that he felt sure some members would go to the Caucasus again this summer, and that he hoped more attention would be paid to the Adai Choch group, where very little had hitherto been done. The Skatykom valley had not been touched, and would probably well repay exploration; there must be most magnificent passes between the Caragam and Ceja glaciers, and only one peak in the group, and that by no means the most important one, had been climbed. The maps hitherto published of that district were not to be trusted. His advice to future explorers, who were also climbers, was to give their whole attention to single groups, and not to endeavour to cover a great deal of ground. With regard to the Saluinan Chiran Pass, which had been so well described by Mr. Freshfield, he felt most strongly that, if crossed at all, it should only be taken from west to east, and not *vice versa*, as their party had

done; the best line of attack on the west side probably lay rather north of the route adopted by them.

Mr. HERMANN WOOLLEY said that the only portion of the country described in Mr. Freshfield's paper with which he was well acquainted was that lying between Bezingi and Karaoul; and he was convinced, from the magnificence of its scenery, that this district would always be one of the most popular with climbers in the Caucasus. Mr. WOOLLEY also referred to the great difficulty he had experienced at Betscho in finding provisions; Mazeri, close by, would probably prove a better provided base.

Mr. MUMMERY thought it ought to be quite possible to cross from Misses Kosh to Karaoul in one day. An alternative high-level route to that beginning with the Saluinan Chiran might be made by crossing from the Zanner to the Thuber, and from there to the Gvalda glaciers.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN a cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr. Freshfield, who proceeded to exhibit and explain a most interesting series of lantern-slides; and the meeting, which was very numerously attended, came to a close.

The Annual Summer Dinner was held at the Queen's Hotel, Richmond, on Thursday, June 5, the *President*, Mr. HORACE WALKER, in the Chair. Upwards of thirty members and guests were present.

THE following circular has been issued to members of the Club, and others likely to be interested in the matter to which it relates:—

Alpine Club, 8 St. Martin's Place, W.C.,
May 19, 1890.

PROPOSED REPUBLICATION OF BALL'S 'ALPINE GUIDE.'—As already announced, the Committee of the Alpine Club have decided to endeavour to bring out a new edition of Ball's 'Alpine Guide' as the most fitting tribute to the memory of the first President of the Club, and in order to retain for the work its place in the front rank of Alpine Guide books.

The first edition of the book, appealing as it did, especially at the time of its appearance, to a limited public only, was not a success from a financial point of view, and the Committee have, after careful examination, come to the conclusion that it will be necessary to raise a fund amounting to 750*l.* before the work of a second edition can be taken in hand.

They therefore now appeal to the members of the Alpine Club, to the friends of Mr. Ball who desire to perpetuate his memory, and to all who take an interest in the Alps and in Alpine literature, for promises of subscriptions towards that fund. Such subscriptions will be payable when the aggregate sum promised amounts to 750*l.*; should that sum not be reached the entire project would have to be abandoned. It is intended that subscribers of 1*l.* 1*s.* and upwards shall receive a copy of the entire work free. The fund and the superintendence of the work will be under the control of the Committee, for the time being, of the Alpine Club.

If any profits should arise from the publication, it is intended that

they shall in the first place be devoted to the remuneration of those who have assisted in the work, and the balance will be disposed of in such manner as the Committee shall decide.

The Editor of the 'Alpine Journal' has consented to undertake the duties of Editor-in-Chief.

Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co., the Publishers, have expressed their willingness to assist the Alpine Club in any way they can in bringing out this new edition, and to place the book including the existing plates of the maps at the disposal of the Club for this purpose.

Intending subscribers are requested to address their communications to the Hon. Secretary at the Alpine Club Rooms, 8 St. Martin's Place, Charing Cross.

HORACE WALKER, President.

FELIX O. SCHUSTER, Hon. Sec.

A list of subscriptions promised up to July 10 will be found on a separate leaf.

Errata in Last Number.

- Page 106, line 24, for 'us' read 'up.'
" 152, line 16 from bottom, for 'Neufelgin' read 'Neufelgia.'
" 166, line 8, for 'Helvis' read 'Steivio.'