

Highland of Asiatic Turkey. By Earl Percy. (London: Arnold, 1901. 14s. net.)

The author passed through the alpine region of Hakkiari, in the north of Kurdistan, and gives good photographs of the peak of Jelu and the mountains near it—a district still little known by Europeans. The book is principally historical and political.

The River Katun and its Sources. By V. V. Sapojnikof. (Tomsk: Makushin, 1901.)

Between 1895 and 1899 Professor Sapojnikof, of the Imperial University of Tomsk, made four exploratory journeys in the range of the Altai. The journal of the first expedition was published in Tomsk in 1897, and in the present volume (in Russian) the results and discoveries of the three later expeditions are given. The Altai range, in which the Katun has its sources, is formed of gneiss and schist, and is consequently pointed and steep. The average height is about 3,000 metres. The chief summit, Belouha, was found to reach 4,540 metres (14,800 ft.), according to the author's calculations, as compared with the previous calculation by Gebler of 11,000 ft. This summit has two peaks, and in 1899 Professor Sapojnikof made an attempt to reach the saddle between them, but was driven back by a snow storm when 400 metres below it.

The book is well illustrated, and accompanied by a bibliography and careful maps, on which are shown many previously unknown glaciers.

After Wild Sheep in the Altai and Mongolia. By E. Demidoff. (London: Rowland Ward, 1900.) 21s.

The frontispiece of this work is an excellent coloured illustration of the fine mountain sheep, the *Ovis ammon*, the pursuit of which was the chief object of the author's trip. The account will interest all sportsmen, and the descriptions of the country and of the mountaineering difficulties met with in following sheep and ibex should prove interesting reading for all climbers. We think it is regrettable that the author and his friends should have slaughtered so many noble animals merely for the sake of sport, and cannot but believe that the two photographs of thirty and of seventeen heads—only part of the total bag—will give pain to every reader of the book. The text is accompanied by fairly good photographs.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Alpine Club was held in the Hall of the Club on Tuesday evening, June 11, at 8.30 P.M., the Right Hon. James Bryce (President) in the chair.

Mr. G. T. Walker was balloted for, and elected a member of the Club.

The PRESIDENT announced that Mr. W. Mathews had presented to the Club a collection of photographs belonging to the earlier

days of mountaineering, taken by the brothers Bisson; that two photographs exhibited at the recent Exhibition in the Club rooms had also been presented—'Latsga' by Mr. Woolley, and 'Alagna' by Mr. Henry Speyer; that Mr. Henry Wagner had presented a very interesting water-colour sketch of the Wetterhorn by R. P. Bonington, one of the early English landscape painters.

A vote of thanks to those who had made these presentations was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT then announced that a circular had been received giving information as to the formation in Moscow of a Russian Alpine Club. He was sure that members would receive this news with very friendly interest, as travellers in the Caucasus had always received from the Russians every possible assistance, and the newly formed club also trusted that it would be able to afford information and help to climbers.

Mr. HUGH E. M. STUTFIELD read a paper entitled 'Mountain Travel and Climbs in British Columbia,' which was illustrated by lantern-slides and also by a large number of photographs which were hung on the walls.

Mr. SPENCER said that during a brief stay at Glacier House he had intended to make the ascent of Mount Sir Donald, but was persuaded by an American gentleman to join him in an attempt to make the first ascent of Peak Swanzy, a fine summit about 10,200 ft. high, situated at the S.W. end of Mount Bonney.

The ascent was made *via* Mount Abbott and the Little Glacier, from which the party ascended the peak on the south side by steep but easy snow-slopes to a rock cap, which gave them a short piece of good climbing. Owing to the bad condition of the snow the descent to the glacier was made by a long rib of steep rocks of moderate difficulty.

Mr. Spencer exhibited a few slides illustrating the climb, and showing the magnificent view which Peak Swanzy affords.

Dr. NORMAN COLLIE also exhibited some slides, taken by Mr. Thomson, of Chicago, who had explored a pass to the south of Mount Bryce, which Dr. Collie had noted in the previous year. Dr. Collie thought it well worth anyone's while exploring in the mountains of British Columbia, as there was still much work to be done and many virgin peaks to be climbed.

Mr. WOOLLEY thought that the right way to approach Mount Columbia would be from the east, as it was impossible from the west for a party with only five or six weeks. It might become possible when a great deal of the timber had been removed. Assistance might be had, perhaps, from taking a collapsible boat.

The PRESIDENT found it satisfactory to know that there was still so large an amount of unexplored country. Though he had only a slight knowledge of the district, yet it appeared to him that it would be best to approach the mountains from the east, as the valleys were higher on that side and the rain came from the west, making the growth of trees greater on the west side. No one who had not tried exploring in the region could have really any idea of what an

obstacle the forests were to progress. He noted as curious that there was very little space between the upper edge of the forest zone and the commencement of the snowfields, unlike the pastures which are found on the Alps.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Stutfield brought the meeting to a close.

JOSEF SPECHTENHAUSER.

WE regret to learn from Mr. A. J. Butler that the health of this well-known guide has completely broken down, and that, as, unlike most Tyrolese, he is without private means, his case is a serious one. Any contributions for his benefit will be gladly taken charge of and forwarded by A. J. Butler, Esq., Wood End, Weybridge.

Corrigenda in 'Alpine Journal,' No. 153.

Illustration of Pizzo Columbe to face p. 454, *for Brooke read Broke.*

Page 471, line 4, *for C. H. Nettleton read C. W.*

Page 478, line 4, *for Cathels read Cathells.*

Page 479, line 11, *for Laakofel read Langkofel.*

Page 471, line 19, page 486, line 7 from bottom, and page 487, line 19, *for Deasey, read Deasy.*