

necessary—or at least a saving of time—to make continual reference to the index.

All these however are minor defects, which detract but little from the real value of the book. Although it will not entirely replace the 'Range of the Tödi,' it will be found an indispensable addition to it by all who intend to climb in the Glarus district. The print is good, and the size convenient for the pocket. Like every other guide-book it is not entirely free from inaccuracies, but we have found the text, as a rule, correct and clear; if anything it errs on the side of too much detail. But, taken as a whole, the book is admirable, and the editor, Dr. Naef-Blumer, is to be warmly congratulated on the successful start he has given to the new series. The guide was originally distributed free of charge to all members of the S.A.C., and was not to be procured commercially; but an enterprising Glarus bookseller has purchased a number of copies from members who did not require them, and we believe there is now no difficulty in obtaining the book at the modest price of two francs. In this respect it has a great advantage over its rival. We heartily welcome this new effort on the part of the S.A.C., and look forward with much interest to future volumes.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Club was held in the hall on Monday evening, December 14, at 8.30, Sir Martin Conway, *President*, in the chair.

The following candidates were balloted for and elected members of the Club: Messrs. E. A. Aldridge, J. A. B. Bruce, L. W. Dent, C. B. R. Ellis, H. W. Phillips, H. G. Pulling, H. Symons, E. Teichelmann, W. J. Williams, A. F. R. Wollaston.

On the motion of Mr. H. WALKER, seconded by Mr. A. G. SOLLY, Sir Martin Conway was unanimously re-elected *President* for the ensuing year.

On the motion of Mr. C. T. DENT, seconded by Mr. G. H. MORSE, Mr. J. H. Wicks was unanimously elected *Vice-President*, in the place of Mr. Walter Leaf, who did not offer himself for re-election.

Mr. Leaf took this course for the following reason. The committee consider that it would be in the interests of the Club if a new *Vice-President* commenced his term of office in each of the years in which there is no change in the office of *President*, instead of a change of all three officers taking place at once, as has been the case hitherto. The object of Mr. Leaf's retirement was to start a rotation which would produce this result.

On the motion of Dr. WILLS, seconded by Mr. A. B. W. KENNEDY, Messrs. L. W. Rolleston and J. J. Withers were unanimously elected new members of committee, in place of Messrs. W. Pickford and F. W. Newmarch, whose term of office expired.

On the motion of Mr. C. E. MATHEWS, seconded by Mr. H. WALKER, Mr. H. Woolley was unanimously re-elected Vice-President; and on the motion of Mr. A. G. TOPHAM, seconded by Mr. G. YELD, the other members of committee being eligible—viz. Messrs. S. Spencer, C. Schuster, A. V. Valentine-Richards, R. N. Arkle, and C. Hopkinson, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. L. Mumm—were unanimously re-elected.

The PRESIDENT said that it was customary first to refer to the losses sustained by the Club during the year. He would specially name Mr. Broadrick, who was killed on Scafell, a climber of great promise and great performance, and much beloved by his friends; the Rev. J. Robertson, elected in 1864, who would be remembered as having almost formed one of the party who made the first ascent of the Matterhorn; and Mr. W. D. Freshfield, elected in 1858. And one of the original members, though not a member at the time of his death, had died—Mr. St. John A. Mathews. The Club had also lost an honorary member, Dr. Radde, director of the Tiflis Museum, who was always ready to assist members travelling in the Caucasus, all of whom spoke of his helpfulness and thoughtfulness. He was sorry to say that Sir Leslie Stephen was lying on a bed of sickness, but it was pleasant to know that he had shown his thoughtfulness for the Club by offering to present a very early form of alpenstock and two early ice-axes, which the Club would be glad to have both for their historic importance and for the kindly interest shown in the Club by the donor, whose memory was ever held dear by members. He thought that it would be the wish of the meeting that he should write to Sir Leslie Stephen to convey to him their thanks and their sympathy and a message of hearty goodwill from his many friends at the meeting. The President further said that he had to explain that the committee had had under consideration for some months the question of the revision of the rules. It had long been recognised throughout the Club that the rules stood in need of revision. The committee had approached the task in a most thorough and laborious manner, and had produced a new set of rules which they hoped would meet in general with the approval of the Club. As it was impossible to consider them on the night of the annual general meeting, it had been thought well to set aside the first meeting of next year for the purpose of considering and, if approved, of adopting the new rules.

Mr. J. NORMAN COLLIE read a paper, entitled 'Rock-climbing on the Lofoten Islands,' which was illustrated by lantern-slides.

Mr. SLINGSBY said that there was a great charm in the scenery and the climbing in the Lofotens. There were some peculiar features about the rocks. One was that after every difficult pitch a ledge was reached where one could rest comfortably, and nearly always on such ledges marsh marigolds were found. Then there was a delightful uncertainty as to whether one was going to succeed or not; in the ascent of the W. peak of Rulten this was prolonged to within 5 min. of the top. It was within a week of London, and

there was no difficulty about provisioning. The climbing is very safe, as the steeper the rocks became the firmer they were.

Mr. WOOLLEY thought that the paper read did not really show how difficult the ascents were. Great smooth slabs of rock were found everywhere in the Lofotens, and on Rulten they were unusually long, steep, and unbroken. Nature had meant them not to be ascended, but to be very rapidly descended. With regard to the W. peak of Rulten, the party had probably found the only possible route up. He only regretted that he had not been sitting on a neighbouring peak watching Slingsby's exuberant enjoyment of the slabs.

Mr. PRIESTMAN could only say that all who went to the Lofotens found it difficult not to make their descriptions too glowing.

Mr. C. PILKINGTON congratulated Mr. Slingsby on the way in which his son was treading in his father's steps.

Mr. BRYCE thought that no one who had not visited the Lofotens could understand their extraordinary fascination. If Mont Blanc should be taken and the mountain submerged, leaving only the Aiguilles, something of the Lofoten scenery would be obtained. The only parallel which he knew to the fjords were the sounds running from the Straits of Magellan. The sea, combined with peaks and the mists on the islands, made the charm. The place was full of romantic mystery. He wished to bear testimony to the attractions of the mountains, and to the fact that they are almost always more difficult than they look.

Mr. OUSTON had never seen a stone detached nor an avalanche fall in the Lofotens during two years' climbing, but on the day of the ascent of Rulten he noticed a huge mass of rock come down, and had felt some anxiety till he found that the party had returned safely. He thought that Mr. Collie had, if anything, underrated the slabs.

The PRESIDENT congratulated Mr. Northall Laurie on taking the beautiful photographs which had been shown by Mr. Collie. Mr. Bryce had pointed out the resemblance between the Lofotens and the channels and islands to the S. of South America. He had himself been only a few days in the Lofotens, but long enough to see the beauty of the scenery. The channels from the Straits of Magellan possess something of the same quality, and the mountains that rise from them had something of the same charm. But he had seen the Lofotens bathed in sunshine, whereas the mountains of South America were generally in the highest degree gloomy and tragic, as dark clouds brooded eternally over the region, out of which fell dark showers of rain, hail, and snow. Nevertheless, the scenery was remarkably fine. He hoped the members of the Club who liked a winter season would go to South America and bring back interesting tales of climbing.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Collie for his paper brought the evening to a close.

AN EXHIBITION OF ALPINE PAINTINGS was held in the Hall of the Club from Saturday, December 5, to Saturday, December 26, and

was attended by about one thousand persons. Refreshments were provided on the afternoon of December 15.

THE WINTER DINNER was held in the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on the evening of Tuesday, December 15, at 7 p.m., Sir Martin Conway, *President*, in the chair. Two hundred and seventy-eight members and their friends sat down to dinner. Among the guests were:—Surgeon-General Sir William Hooper, K.C.S.I.; Mr. John Tweedy, President of the Royal College of Surgeons; Professor J. W. Judd, C.B., F.R.S.; Professor H. Turner, F.R.S.; Mr. Marcus Stone, R.A.; Major Moore; Dr. H. R. Mill; Dr. Ormerod; Mr. J. B. Carrington, Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company; and Messrs Leonard Borwick, W. J. Corbett, Edmund Gosse, F. Carruthers Gould, B. F. Hawksley, Anthony Hope Hawkins, Wynne Hooper, and Frederick Sternberg.

Mr. F. Ormiston Smith gave a representation of his biograph views of ascents of the Jungfrau and the Matterhorn and of other Swiss scenes, in the Hall of the Club, on the evening of Wednesday, December 16. It was witnessed by an amused and interested audience of members and ladies numbering about two hundred and thirty, and the expression of thanks by the President at its close was cordially endorsed by all present.