

- Spont, Henri.** Les amateurs et la montagne. In La nouvelle revue, Paris, N.S. 29, no. 117. 8vo, pp. 453-462. 15 août, 1904. Fr. 1.50  
With reference to the Pyrenees.
- Trachsel, P.** Guide des Hôtels et Pensions des stations d'hiver en Suisse. 8vo, pp. 16; ill. Genève, Pfeffer [1904]
- Uhlig, C.** Vom Kilimandscharo zum Meru. In Zeits. f. Ges. f. Erdk. Berlin, no. 10. 8vo, pp. 692-718; ill. 1904  
Contains several illustrations of Meru.
- Wehrli, Dr Leo.** Vierzehn alpine Pracht-Stücke. Zürich, Scholl [1904] 8vo, pp. 11; ill.  
This describes Gebrüder Scholl's Alpine Briefbeschwerer, one of which has been presented to the Alpine Club, and is described under '*Item*' below.

*Item.*

- Alpine Letterweight.** Eiger, Mönch und Jungfrau. Weight 1½lbs; size 5½ × 2¾ inches; scale 1/100,000. In bronze, Fr. 20; silvered, Fr. 25.  
This careful relief is one of a variety of letterweights designed from the models of the Alps prepared by Herr X. Imfeld, and issued by Gebrüder Scholl, Zurich. It is very suitable for the writing table of a climber. Models of the Matterhorn, Jungfrau, Wetterhorn, Titlis, Rigi, Pilatus, Ortler, and other mountains may also be had, and others are in preparation. The prices vary from Fr. 17 to Fr. 85, according to size, subject, and finish. The models may be obtained in London from the makers, the Würtemberg Electro-Plate Co., 91 Fore Street.

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1904—*continued.*

*Valpelline District.*

**BEC DE LUSENEY FROM THE LIVOURNEA GLEN.** (E. W. C. Saunders, J. H. Clapham, and Joseph Simond of Lavancher.) Aug. 13.—The climb was the result of an attempt to find a direct route to the Bec de Luseney from Prarayé. The party started as for the Col de Livournea. From the Chaz pastures turned W. up a gully between the Mont Gela and the steep rocks that form the N. buttresses of the Cima de Livournea. Climbed these rocks from the little col at the head of the gully. They were steep, and in places difficult, so that this part of the climb took 1½ hr. On the W. side this rock ridge overlooks the Luseney glacier. From the point where they struck the crest of the ridge they reached the Col de Luseney in about 35 min., and climbed the summit cone mainly by the rocks on its E. side. Seven hours, excluding halts, from Prarayé.

**BEC D'ÉPICOUN BY N.E. RIDGE FROM THE SASSA GLEN.** (Same party, with addition of C. A. Werner.) Aug. 17.—Slept at Chamin and went straight up the Sassa glen to the foot of the rocks beneath the peak. Climbed the rocks, bearing a little to the E., to the summit of the frontier ridge between the Bec d'Epicoun and the Grand Epicoun (1 hr. 25 min.). Followed the ridge to the summit of the mountain (40 min.). The climb took under 5 hrs., excluding halts.

*Zermatt District.*

BALFRINHORN BY N.E. ARÊTE. (12,474 ft.) *September 4.*—Mr. Montague F. Tilleard, with Alexander Burgener (senior), left the Huteck at 2.40 A.M. and reached the snout of the Balfringletscher at 5.45. Keeping to the W. bank they proceeded along the moraine till they reached the arête. Here they climbed straight up, until at 8.0 the top was gained. Keeping to the ridge for the most part, but occasionally being forced on to the E. face by overhanging *gendarmes*, they proceeded for 1½ hrs. Then a traverse of the E. face for 1 hr. brought them to slabs which were impossible under the prevailing conditions. At this point, seeing that their original line of attack along the E. face of the arête could not be adhered to, they crossed to the W. face, where the snow was in slightly better condition, and descended a short distance. After a traverse of 2 hrs. along the W. face they reached a rock-rib which led up to a small *gabel* on the ridge after rather under an hour's climbing. Thence the top of the ridge was followed to a spot where the ordinary St. Niklaus route strikes the arête. The summit was reached at 2.40 P.M., the ordinary route along the snow arête being followed. The descent to St. Niklaus by the ordinary route was accomplished in 4½ hrs. The times given include halts. The conditions were extremely unfavourable.

## NORWAY.

*The Horungtinder.*

SKAGASTÖLSTIND BY THE S.W. ARÊTE.—This route had been previously attempted by \* J. Heftye with Jens Klingenberg and Peder Melheim; by† Carl Hall with Mathias Soggemoen and Thorgeir Sulheim; and by Fröken Therese Bertheau and A. Saxegaard with Ole Berge. It was followed to the summit on July 24 by Mrs. O. Rostrup, Messrs. E. Rostrup, H. Tönsberg, and Erik Ullén. From the hut the party took the ordinary way till it strikes the S.W. arête. The leader then climbed straight up a perpendicular and exposed corner to a comfortable ledge, the others preferring an easier way to the right. With the aid of a shoulder a higher ledge was reached, and an easy crack led to another resting-place. From here the leader first tried an overhanging corner, but finding the place very difficult, and seeing a way to the left, he descended and traversed steep slabs to a narrow and almost vertical crack. The upper portion of this crack proved impossible, and it was only after a prolonged examination of the holds that he was able to return. The others, who could not see him and who found the waiting tedious, kindly asked, 'Are you sleeping well, Ullén?' Having descended, he continued the traverse, and ran out 65 ft. of rope before he reached an anchorage at the foot of a

\* Heftye, *Horungtinderne i Sogn*, p. 43.

† N. T. F. *Aarbog*, 1891-2, p. 45.

wide, vertical chimney. This was sufficiently well provided with small ledges, first in the middle, and, when the right wall became overhanging, on the left-hand side. A short gully and easy scrambling led to the gap below the summit, and from here the lady of the party led to the cairn. The weather was splendid, and the rocks free from snow and very firm. The climbing resembles that of S. Dyrhougstind from Bandet, but is generally more sporting.

On July 29 Messrs. Th. Tjersland and Erik Ullén made the second ascent for photographic purposes, and discovered several interesting variations.

SKAGASTÖLSTIND BY THE FACE BETWEEN HEFTYE'S AND VIGDAL'S CHIMNEYS.—On August 8 Fröken Bertheau, Dr. Stenhouse Williams and Erik Ullén made the above ascent. The wall is somewhat overhanging and was streaming with water. The first portion is difficult, the holds being poor and sloping the wrong way; higher up they improve. The difficulties having been overcome by the leader, the others followed with the help of the rope and of a shoulder from below, but Mrs. Williams, who had accompanied the party up to this point, preferred the route by Heftye's chimney to the prospect of being cut in two by the rope.

There are now four ways from the traverse to the summit :—

(a) Heftye's chimney, usually easy, but when filled with ice almost impossible.

(b) Vigdal's chimney (so called from its discoverer, Hans Olsen Vigdal \*), to the left of the traverse. This is generally practicable, and much more interesting. The slabs below are difficult to traverse, but the chimney itself is fairly easy, though some of the jammed stones are loose.

(c) Tandberg's way, made by Miss Bertheau and Messrs. K. Tandberg and Erik Ullén.† This follows a buttress to the right. It is much exposed and has one very awkward step.

(d) The way described above, more severe than the other three.

SKAGASTÖLSTIND FROM THE SKAGASTÖLSBRÆ.—On August 19, by Erik Ullén with Knut Fortun. Leaving Fortunsdal in the night they reached the schrund below Mohn's Skar at 10 A.M. The rocks were covered with *verglas* and fresh snow, while snow and hail fell during the whole ascent. Crossing the schrund they ascended steep and ice-worn rocks until the way was blocked by a huge accumulation of old snow. This they passed by crawling through the tunnel formed by water, and climbed broken and very rotten rocks till they reached the snow-slope lying in the shallow depression. Their plan had been to ascend the snow-slope with the couloir above it, and to try to find an exit on the left; but finding ice beneath the new snow they cut across the slope to a slabby buttress on the right. Under ordinary circumstances this buttress would be easy, but the greatest care was necessary, as the slabs were completely covered with snow which was very apt to peel off. Twice the leader slipped, but was held by the second

\* N. T. F. Aarboeg, 1891-2, p. 41 and 1903, p. 121.

† *Ibid.* 1904, p. 151.

man, who was firmly anchored. Having reached the level of the couloir they tried to traverse back into it, but found the slabs so dangerous that they abandoned the attempt, and instead ascended the buttress to the foot of the wall immediately below Mohn's Skar. They followed the base of this wall to the right until the slabs merged in the face of the final peak, and here they succeeded in forcing their way up the partly overhanging rocks, and were on the Skar at 2.30 P.M. The summit was reached by Slingsby's way at 3. The above route is not without danger from falling stones.

THE MARADALS RIDGE FROM THE IRON GAP GULLY TO THE NORTHERN MARADALSTINDER.—Although the E. Maradalstinder ('Manden' and 'Kjaerringen') have been ascended several times, only three parties have been on the Maradals Ridge. In 1887\* Carl Hall with Soggemoen and Sulheim ascended the first peak of the Northern Maradalstinder from the Slingsbybrae and tried to gain the second peak by the ridge, but found a tower which they considered inaccessible,† and descended to the snow-slope on the S.W. face of the ridge, from which they were able to climb the second and also the third (and highest) peak. Herr Hall also considered it impossible to cross the great gap which separates the Maradals Ridge from the S. arête of Centralind.‡ In 1889 the same climber with Soggemoen made a pass from the Maradalsbrae to the Slingsbybrae across this gap.§ In 1903 Fröken Bertheau and Messrs. H. Ræburn, W. N. Ling, and Erik Ullén ascended the Maradals Ridge from the Midtmaradal by the Iron Gap Gully, and turning to the right climbed Kjaerringen.

On July 30 Erik Ullén with Knut Fortun went to the Skagastölshut, but the weather being bad they did not start until 12.30 P.M. on the next day. They descended Midtmaradalsbrae, climbed the Maradals Ridge by the Iron Gap Gully, and turning to the left began to traverse the ridge. The first tower, which they ascended a few feet to the left of the actual ridge, was exceedingly difficult. 'Having climbed a vertical wall with finger-tip holds, one had to grasp some downward-sloping points of rock between the finger and thumb, and haul oneself up without any footholds at all.' The slabs which followed were also very severe, the holds sloping downwards in a very disagreeable manner. The greatest caution was necessary, as the leader was unable to find any safe standing place or belaying pin within the length of a 100 ft. rope. Having overcome these difficulties the party came in for a sudden storm, with rain, sleet, and biting wind, which forced them to push forward. They climbed a difficult corner, gained easy rocks, and hastened along the ridge until they reached a peak which they imagined to be the third of the N. Maradalstinder. In reality it was the first. Hence they descended the S.W. face by an easy gully and snow-slopes to the Slingsbybrae, and reached the hut at 7 P.M.

\* *N. T. F. Aarbog*, 1888, p. 22.

† *Ibid.* 1891-2, p. 45.

‡ *Ibid.* p. 23.

§ *Ibid.* 1890, p. 86.

**NORTHERN MARADALSTINDER, CENTRALTIND AND THE SKAGASTÖLSTINDER RIDGE.**—On August 9 the same party left Turtegrö at 5.30 A.M. in very fine weather, and after a rest on Bandet (7.30–8.10) they crossed the Slingsbybrae, and ascended the first peak of the N. Maradalstinder (10.50 A.M.), where the weather had compelled them to give up the traverse on July 31. They now traversed all the peaks of the Maradalstinder, crossed the great gap, and ascended the Centraltind by the S.W. arête, following the actual skyline all the way. The tower which had stopped Hall's party consists of a vertical rockwall rising from very steep and smooth slabs. Removing some moss at the top of the slabs the second man revealed two handholds. He was thus able to offer a shoulder to the leader, who then jammed an ice-axe in a crack and eventually pulled himself up. The S. wall of the great gap between the Maradals Ridge and Centraltind is partly overhanging, but having 200 ft. of rope they were able to double it and thus slide down. The arête of Centraltind is generally easy, but three towers are steep and difficult, the third being the most severe. The summit was reached at 2.50 P.M. Starting again at 3 they traversed Vesle Skagastölstind (3.15), Melleste Skagastölstind (4.10–4.25), made the first descent into the V gap (5 P.M.), and reached Turtegrö at 8 via the Skagastölsnaebb and N. Skagastölstind. Both climbers consider this by far the biggest rock-climb which they have hitherto enjoyed in the Horunger.

**MANDEN BY THE MIDTMARADAL FACE.**—Climbers of Manden have always attacked its N.E. angle, and appear to have considered this its only vulnerable spot.\* Dr. Claude Wilson, however, in a paper read before the Alpine Club, suggested that possibly the ascent might be made by the S.E. angle.† When Fröken Bertheau, Kristian Tandberg, and Erik Ullén, with Ole Berge descended, in 1903, into the great gap between Manden and Kjaerringen, they thought it impossible to descend directly from the gap to the Midtmaradal, and therefore made a long traverse across the W. face of Manden, and ascended it again by the S.E. angle.

On July 20, 1904, Fröken Bertheau, Messrs. J. C. Procter and Erik Ullén, with Knut Fortun, left Turtegrö at midnight, and after a rest in the Skagastölshut (2.30–5 A.M.) descended into Midtmaradal with the intention of climbing to the great gap from below, and completing the traverse between Manden and Kjaerringen. The first part of this programme they carried out successfully. They ascended the wall of Kjaerringen for a short distance, turned to the right, crossed the great slabs below the gap, and climbed straight up the wall of Manden till they reached the level of the gap, into which they were finally brought by a traverse to the left. Ullén and Fortun climbed about 90 ft. of the N. wall of the gap, but returned, as they considered the rocks still too wet to justify a resolute attack. The whole party now traversed back to the Midtmaradal face of Manden, and resumed the ascent. After an interesting and partly difficult climb they gained the summit at 3 P.M.

\* *N. T. F. Aarboeg*, 1893, p. 82.

† *A. J.* vol. xiii. p. 153.

Leaving it again at 4 they descended by the ordinary way to the broad ridge, and by a partly new way to the Midtmaradal, reached the hut at midnight, and Turtegrö at 8 A.M. on the following morning.

THE SOUTHERN DYRHOUGSTIND FROM BANDET.\*—On July 22 Fröken Bertheau with Messrs. H. Tönsberg and Erik Ullén making the third ascent from this side discovered a most interesting variation. At the head of the second chimney they turned to the right instead of to the left, and followed a level ledge running for some 150 ft. along the side facing the Skagastölsbræ. When the ledge came to an end they climbed diagonally up a very steep and exceedingly rotten face. The route was difficult and very much exposed, and the leader ran out 100 ft. of rope before he reached an anchorage. Higher up another chimney, and a traverse to the left led back to the route followed on the first and second ascents.

On Aug. 2 Fröken Bertheau, with Messrs. J. A. Green and Erik Ullén, repeated the expedition and found that a fall of rock had made a portion of the variation very difficult. A diminutive hold for only two finger-tips had to be used on the most exposed place in the whole ascent. The variation ought now on no account to be attempted under unfavourable conditions. A slip by the leader would undoubtedly be fatal to the whole party.

ERIK ULLÉN,

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These notes briefly record some of the most brilliant mountain achievements ever yet accomplished amongst the Horungtinder.—  
WM. CECIL SLINGSBY.

#### TYSFJORD, ARCTIC NORWAY.

In August Messrs. Howard Priestman, Wilson Carr, and T. G. Ouston spent 13 days camping in this outlandish fjord and its branches. Some years ago the ubiquitous Karl Hall visited its mountains, and was, until the advent of the above party, the only foreigner to invade its recesses, although the Norwegian mountaineer Eckroll of Skraaven had also 'looked at' Stedtind. A large fjord in itself, Tysfjord proper runs roughly S., then E. for 40 miles; its mouth opens into the Vestfjord, S. of and close to that of the larger and better known Ofotenfjord.

Rowing E. up the branch Stedfjord, which soon discloses itself, the terrific monster Stedtind was seen rearing his square-cut top over 5,000 ft. in Satanic majesty, nearly plumb from the head of the fjord. In view of this mountain those who deem the horn of the Mont Cervin ugly would by comparison change their adjective to pretty, nor would the term precipitous be much in evidence were a description of the famous Swiss peak to be written in Stedfjord: not that the general angles of Stedtind much exceed those of the Matterhorn in steepness, but that the former is almost completely

\* *N. T. F. Aarboeg*, 1896, p. 67; *A. J.* vol. xviii. p. 51.

armour-plated with smooth, polished slabs for the upper 4,000 ft., some of which measure at least half that figure in a vertical direction. The few little spots where a family may eke out an existence among the soilless rocks of this fjord are owned respectively by Lapps, Norwegians, and Finns (or Kvæns?). Even the hardy Norseman has left the Mongolian to the almost dayless winter of the northern shore of Stedfjord.

CENTRAL TOMMERAASTIND (about 3,350 ft.).—The party ascended this mountain to reconnoitre on August 6. The hands were seldom and the ice axes never brought into use. The summit appeared virgin. The view easterly towards Sweden was wild, weird, fantastic, grotesque—in parts almost ugly. The bare rocky mountain ridges, rising up from small glaciers and snow-circled, icy tarns, made every conceivable line and angle, but a graceful curve was hardly to be seen. K. Hall records an ascent of a Central Tommeraastind also, probably the same mountain which the party spoke of as the *Northern Tommeraastind*, and which was seen to bear a 'varde.'

Stedtind, side on, looked like a colossal sphinx, with, however, more of the features than the nose missing. The easier angles and more hopeful-looking strata of the S. ridge, corresponding to the back, shoulders, and neck, gave an appearance of accessibility to an otherwise inaccessible mountain.

The fine rock tower of Præstetind stands up S. at the sphinx's back. Thirty miles E. stretched the large Frostisen snow field, with the adjacent white domes of Rentinderne, and nearer (? S.E.) a smaller but still considerable snow field, of which more later. On the N.N.E. horizon a snow peak topped its neighbours, and was supposed to be Jæggevarre, although 150 miles distant. Comparatively near, to the N.W., Mösadlen was a prominent feature, whilst nearer still the red-coloured rocks of Hammerötinderne showed pretty forms of spiky architecture; but the artistic sense was not satisfied until the eye caught sight of the (from here) most shapely pyramid of Vaage Kallen, softened by the exquisite 'bloom' effect only to be seen around Lofoten.

Weary of waiting for a fine day, Stedtind was visited in bad weather. The torrential Storelv was followed to its source in a snow-circled lake at 2,350 ft., containing small icebergs. At 1,500 ft. snow fell heavily, and continued to do so with little intermission until the same level was reached in the descent.

After skirting the N. margin of the lake by means of its somewhat unstable snow-girdle cornice steps were kicked up a steep snow-slope of 700 ft. (which afforded a fine glissade on the return journey) to the 'skar' between Stedtind and Præstetind, 3,100 ft. A short rock scramble then led to a long promenade on the back of the mountain, and with heads bent into the storm a varde was reached, on what was evidently the shoulder, at 4,500 ft. An abyss full of boiling clouds suggested interesting possibilities ahead for the future, but enforced a retreat for the present.

PRÆSTETIND (4,500 ft. aneroid).—Driven from their camp in

Stedfjord by persistent rain, the following day found the party at Kjobvik, the tiny metropolis of Tysfjord. From this neighbourhood Præstetind challenges the supremacy of Stedtind very successfully, as foreshortening and distance place the latter under a disadvantage, and Præstetind looks what it is, a fine rock mountain with a character of its own. Although informed that Olaf Holm, a former Kjobvik schoolmaster, had once reached the summit it was considered fitting that a Priest-man should ascend the Priest mountain ! Allured by the brilliant morning, Kjobvik was left with the fjord surface like a mirror, except where the water was alive with shoals of jumping herring ; but two hours later, when within  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of a spot called Rusvik, a squall struck the overladen boat, and a desperate 25 min. of rowing and baling followed before the panting party were trying to congratulate each other on making the only little piece of beach for miles.

The perils of the fjord are greater than the perils of the fjeld ! This squall was the advance guard of 60 hrs.' consecutive rain, which only an ideal camping-ground rendered bearable.

On August 5, following their camp stream, the Rusvikely, the party skirted two lakes in its course, between which the torrent thundered down in fine cascades.

The second lake, the source of the torrent, was reached at 1,700 ft., which in turn was fed from small glaciers and névé, occupying a gloomy cirque higher up. Resisting the allurements of a sporting but doubtfully possible 500-ft. chimney, a détour S.E. to N.W. enabled the party to turn the end of the long vertical cliff which forms the S.W. side of the mountain, and reach the summit ridge which this cliff supports. Peeps over this precipice afforded a zest to the easy going up the ridge. A snow storm soon threatened the summit, so the last 500 ft. of easy hand and foot work were raced up. A dead heat with the storm resulted, as also misty photographic negatives.

By the time 800 ft. had been raced down again the summit was grinning in the sunshine at the excess of caution exhibited, and remained in that attitude for three days.

The following day Stedtind was again visited—a laborious expedition from Rusvik, involving as it did 8,500 ft. of ascent and descent to and from the shoulder of the peak.

A 'skar' (2,400 ft.) between central Tommeraastind and Præstetind had to be traversed before the previous route from Stedfjord could be struck at nearly sea-level. In 7 hrs. of practically continuous moving the cairn on the shoulder was again reached. Across a gap of 300 yds. rose the final 700 ft. of the peak. After a vertical descent of 12 ft. the ridge suddenly narrowed to 18 ins., and ran forward quite horizontally for 60 ft., bearing at the end a tiny cairn. A walk upright along this ridge proved quite safe, but distinctly sensational. Sitting astride the ridge by the little cairn was equivalent to straddling the top stone of a steeple 4,000 ft. high, and all sorts of weird sensations down the spine and in the epigastrium could be conjured up without the least trouble.

A stone jerked to right or left from this point may perhaps touch something once in its descent to the valleys 3,000 to 4,000 ft. below. In front the ridge, here narrow as the edge of the hand, plunges down 80 ft. to the bottom of the gap, which is a comfortable 2 or 3 yds. in width. A sort of bannister slide down this is unnecessary, as a traverse can be effected on the W. side of the ridge, a huge undercut boulder, nearly detached, offering abundant, if somewhat precarious, foothold and anchorage. Beyond the gap two blocks, each forming a vertical step about 25 ft. high, guard the bottom of a ridge face. The upper one, end on, resembles the top block of the Gable needle magnified, but is minus a mantelshelf.

Some one suggested that 7 hrs. of rough scrambling was hardly an advisable preliminary to the attack of what was probably an impossible rock problem. At any rate, the gold fish who are alleged to occupy a bowl on the summit of Stedtind had no cause for serious alarm, as the solution of the problem was not attempted.

STROMTIND (4,900 ft. aneroid). *August 18.*—This peak was ascended from a spot called Forhawghen, on the N. back of the Tysfjord. After surmounting the tree zone, which on southern aspects in this region is at about 1,900 ft., the choice of route lay between dodging boiler plates in terrace formation or traversing into a large snow couloir, which looked like a possible place for falling stones.

The first alternative was chosen, and countless turns and twists round endless slabs, interspersed with a few straight-forward pitches, eventually brought the party on to the summit ridge at 4,000 ft., where a 'varde'—probably a surveyor's—was found. This ridge was in shocking repair, and large gendarmes in most unstable equilibrium were abundant; in fact the whole upper part of the mountain had not weathered into firm rock, like the corresponding parts of its neighbours, Stedtind and Præstetind. A few cautious steps on the narrow, rotten, icy ridge placed them at the foot of the final tower, up the easy rocks of which they scrambled on to the apparently hitherto untrodden summit.

A snow field to the S. (previously mentioned), was comparatively near, and observed to be at least some square miles in area. This snow field appeared to be ignored in the maps of the district, and such inquiries as the party were able to make were unsuccessful in eliciting that it had a name.

The 'strom' from which the 'tind' takes its name was recognised far below to the E.