

not put his shoes on, owing to his feet being swollen from the cold which he had suffered. Vincent and Gilardi reached the hole in the snow at 4.20 (it was above 100 mètres distant from the Entdeckungsfels). On their arrival Valentino Laurent, though still showing some signs of life, was evidently very near death's door, and notwithstanding all the efforts of his rescuers died about 5 P.M. in the arms of Vincent. The intense cold of so many hours on the ice, the sufferings of two days without proper food, and two nights of mortal anxiety had done their work.

Vincent then volunteered to stay behind in charge of the body while Gilardi conducted Carlo Laurent, who was suffering greatly from the effects of the cold, to the Capanna Gnifetti, which was reached in 2½ hours. Gilardi at once went down to the Colle d'Olen, and a rescue party, consisting of Signor Alberto Ganna, the guides Angelo and Antonio Maquignaz, and four volunteers, with a sledge, set out for the Capanna. Carlo Laurent recovered. We may express our agreement with Signor Ganna when he says that, considering the sufferings endured by the party, it is a matter for thankfulness that no more lives were lost.

OTHER ACCIDENTS.

Two young and inexperienced workmen resident at Grindelwald, though not Grindelwalders, lost their lives on the Jungfrau on July 29. On September 1 Lieutenant Pache, a member of the Kangchenjunga expedition, was killed by an avalanche.

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1905.

Mont Blanc District.

MONT ROUGE DE PEUTERET (2,948 m.).—On July 26 Messrs. J. H. Wicks, E. H. F. Bradby, and C. Wilson ascended this—the S.W. sentinel of the Peuteret group. No record could be traced of any previous ascent, and no cairn was found. The ascent was made by the S. arête, and probably no other route exists, as the peak seems cut off by slabs from the Fauteuil des Allemands, and is apparently unclimbable from the Frésnay side or by the jagged northern ridge. The climb was steep and long, but not difficult. Leaving Courmayeur at 8.45 A.M., the S. buttress was rounded on the Frésnay side, the steep rocks of the peak being reached at 9 o'clock and the top at 2.10. The Val Veni was not regained till 8.45, and Courmayeur was reached two hours later.

Arolla District.

DENTS DES BOUQUETINS, S. PEAK (3,690 m.). DESCENT FROM S. ARÊTE BY E. FACE.—On July 31 Dr. O. K. Williamson and Mr. H. Symons, with Jean Maître and Pierre Maurys, having bivouacked under the rocks of the peaks near the point 3,097 m., ascended that

couloir and the rocks to the N. of it by which Mr. A. G. Topham had descended after making the first ascent,* and which strikes the S. arête just N. of a conspicuous gendarme. From the arête they traversed along the E. face and ascended until directly below the chimney which leads up to the gap immediately S. of the summit. This chimney, by means of which they had wished to attempt the ascent, was evidently impracticable, and is probably the same one concerning which Mr. Topham expresses a similar opinion.† The party therefore descended to the Italian Za de Zan glacier, bearing slightly N., down loose but not difficult rocks, and then by some slabs and an interesting chimney arrived at the 'rock staircase' by which Mr. Topham had ascended on the occasion referred to above; and they shortly afterwards reached the glacier. The route followed from the ridge until the point of striking Mr. Topham's staircase seems to be new.

Zermatt District.

THE WEISSHORN. SOUTH-EAST FACE.—This year's August weather favoured only the Mondays, and it was only at last on a Monday, August 28, that Mr. Winthrop Young, with Joseph Knubel, and Mr. G. E. Ryan, with Joseph and Gabriel Lochmatter, climbing in two parties, succeeded in ascending this face of the Weisshorn direct to the summit. Unfavourable clouds delayed the start from the hut until 4.45 A.M. The usual route for the S.E. ridge was followed over the first glacier and small containing rock ridge. Striking then diagonally N.W. up the second subsidiary glacier, which was rather heavily crevassed, the main ridge which descends from the S.E. arête was surmounted high up in the N.W. corner at its apparently most assailable point. The crest of this ridge was followed to where it merges in the foot of the huge snow couloir that seems to divide this face of the peak. In reality it lies to the east of the centre. Here the only halt, of half an hour, was made. By a long upward diagonal, inclining to the W., which necessitated much step-cutting, the bergschrund was crossed, and the shallow rib forming the western wall of the great couloir was reached near its foot. This rib was adhered to until it sank into ice-covered slabs at approximately the height of the Rothhorn. It might have been followed without apparent check to where it finishes on the S.E. ridge, somewhat E. of the summit. Up to this point, though complicated by a quantity of fresh snow, the rock had proved magnificently firm, with excellent holds, and the ropes had not been found necessary. Here, however, in order to pursue a direct line to the top, traverses inclining upward and slightly westward across uncomfortable-looking, ice-glazed *Platten* became the order, and the parties accordingly roped up. A shallow couloir or depression was crossed aslant to the next rib on the W. This was followed for a short distance, and then left for another westward traverse, the general direction being a vague

* A. J. vol. xvii. p. 254.

† *Ibid.*

bee-line for the summit. Just below the crest a final passage across some two hundred feet of slabby couloir gave very fine climbing. The snow crest was surmounted some five feet to the W. of the highest point at 11.10 A.M.: in all $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The climb is interesting, but neither so steep nor so stimulating as the somewhat similar ascent of the rib on the N.W. face, which terminates in the big gendarme. No falling stones or traces of them were observed during the day. The intention had been to descend by the Schalli Grat, but bitter wind and snow portended the inevitable break in weather, and the usual S.E. ridge, in none too good condition, was followed to the hut and thence to Randa in about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Bernese Oberland.

AELPLISTOCK (2,895 m. = 9,498 ft.).—On July 4 Mr. Frederick Gardiner, accompanied by Rudolf and Peter Almer, made the first recorded ascent of this peak. Leaving Handeck at 8.50 A.M., they crossed the stream descending from the Schafalpli, and mounted by a very faint and steep sheep track to the left of the stream until Schafalpli was reached, 5.5. They then climbed straight up the rocks and grass slopes at the head of the valley towards point 2,347 m. (breakfast 6.27-7). From there they traversed by a rock band towards the Aerlengrat, under point 3,483 m., and then, keeping under the ridge and mounting over snow slopes and glacier, reached point 2,880 m., and passed along the ridge to point 2,895 m. (9.45 A.M.). The actual summit consisted of three rock teeth rising about 30 to 40 ft. from the ridge, of which it was difficult to say which was the highest. It seemed to them that the central tooth was the highest; so they climbed that and found that it was so, although the difference between it and the other points was very slight. No traces of any previous ascent were found.

BRANDLAMMHOEN (8,115 m. = 26,620 ft.).—On July 9 the same party made the first ascent of this peak from the Bachli glacier. Leaving the Grimsel Hospice at 4 A.M., they reached the Bachlithal by a very steep, badly marked track until under point 2,412 m., where they breakfasted (6.30-7.15). From there they ascended over snow slopes direct towards a promising-looking couloir just to the E. of peak 3,115 m. without any difficulty (10.25-10.50). From the top of the couloir, however, the final peak rose in smooth precipitous rocks which seemed impracticable, as well as the slopes above the precipitous couloir on the S. side. Abandoning any attempt from that point, they descended to a rather unpromising couloir leading to the N.E. ridge of the peak. This was blocked by an apparently impassable rock. The negotiating of the overhanging rock proved rather difficult, but once that was passed they ascended easily to the N.E. ridge, and passed along it to the peak (11.40-12.30)—the rocks very rotten throughout, but not difficult. In the descent they avoided the couloir below the point where it was blocked by taking to the very steep rocks to the left, where they were safe from falling stones.

WASENHORN (3,086 m. = 9,960 ft.) (SOUTH SUMMIT FROM THE WENDEN GLACIER).—On July 28 the same party left Stein at 4.30 A.M., and mounting steep grass slopes to the left of the Oberthalbach they reached the upper part of the valley, and then passed over moraine to the right-hand branch of the Oberthal glacier between points 2,831 m. and 2,918 m. Climbing up the steep glacier and threading numerous small crevasses, they reached the pass at the head of the glacier between points 2,993 m. and 3,002 m. (7.20–8 breakfast.) From there they descended the Wenden glacier until the foot of the N.W. rocky face of the Wasenhorn was reached. Up these very loose and steep rocks they climbed with much precaution, and arrived on the summit at 9.15–9.40.

THE NESTHORN BY N.W. ARÊTE.—The arête is not at all well marked on the Siegfried map (sheet 492), where it appears to be merely the edge of a hanging glacier. It is really a well-defined rock ridge, ending in snow about 400 ft. from the summit. Towards the bottom the arête curves round in a northerly direction, but it is quite distinct from the N. arête, which is one of the routes given in the 'Climbers' Guide.'

On August 18, 1905, Messrs. R. P. Hope and W. T. Kirkpatrick left the Ober Aletsch hut at 4.30 A.M. and crossed the bergschrund below the foot of the arête at 7.20. They followed the arête for an hour, and then traversed to a gully on the E., which they climbed until it broadened out and led on to the arête again, near the point where it bends to the N. The portion of the arête thus avoided seemed very slabby, if not impossible. The arête was then followed to the summit over several rock towers, some towers being turned where possible. The snow arête above them was free from ice and cornice, and the summit was reached at 9.10 P.M. The rocks in the lower part of the climb were rather rotten, and in the upper part difficult. The mountain was in very bad condition, all but the very steepest rocks being covered with 18 inches of new snow, which had to be scraped away to find the holds, and this made the time abnormally long. The descent was made by the ordinary route by moonlight, and the hut was reached at 5 A.M. on the 19th.

PASS BETWEEN LAUTERBRUNNEN BREITHORN AND POINT 3,387 M. LAUTERBRUNNEN TO RIED.—On July 26, 1905, Dr. O. K. Williamson and Mr. H. Symons, with Jean Maître and Pierre Maurys, made the first passage of this pass. Leaving the Hotel Ober Steinberg at 2 A.M., they ascended past the Oberhorn See, over the moraine of the Breithorn glacier, and on the latter to the E. side of the point 2,316 m. They here diverged from the Schmadrijoch route. Ascending the glacier in a S. direction, they reached the minor col immediately S. of the summit of that rock ridge which starts S. from the point 2,316 m. Ascending a snow couloir and the rocks to the left thereof, more rocks led them up to the ridge which extends southwards from the above-mentioned minor col. This ridge was followed to the point where it abutted on the glacier to the S. of it. A stone-boy was here erected. The glacier

was now ascended in a generally S.E. direction, the crevasses giving no trouble and the scenery being magnificent (the N. face of the Breithorn a splendid object), until the formidable bergschrund at the foot of the final wall was reached (total halts up to this point $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr.). A clinometer reading showed the angle of this slope to be 65° . Leaving the bergschrund at 8.22 A.M., the party proceeded to cut up the ice slope. The ice soon gave place to rocks with some snow over them; these in turn were followed by more ice, and bearing slightly to the left, hard snow finally brought them to the col at 11.9 A.M. (estimated height 11,000 ft.). Having halted till 12.32 P.M. for purposes of photography and the enjoyment of the glorious views, the party followed the ridge eastwards over the point 3,387 m., and so reached the base of a rectangular rock tower separating them from the Schmadrijoch. They now descended the wall of rock which falls away on the S. side of the ridge, bearing gradually to the left, reached a band of snow which they traversed in the same direction, and descended more rock: this gradually became firm and more interesting, and by an enjoyable climb they reached the bergschrund at 4.53 P.M. (halts from pass about 20 min.). Descending the Jägifirn without difficulty, the crevasses being well bridged over, the right lateral moraine of the glacier was reached, and so the Lötschenthal, Ried being attained at 10.5 P.M. (halts from time of reaching Jägifirn about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hr.). As regards the descent on the S. side of the pass, it is highly probable that further to the W. no way could be found. The expedition would not as a rule be possible late in the season, but under suitable conditions it can be confidently recommended. The name Breithorn Joch is suggested for the pass.

BEICHGRAT. POINTS 3,252 M. = 10,670 FT. AND 3,254 M. = 10,676 FT.
August 31.—The Rev. W. C. Compton, with Johann Stoller, of Kandersteg, and Mr. G. Yeld, with Benjamin Pession, of Val Tournanche, left the Ober Aletsch hut at 7.5 A.M. to make the first ascent of these two points, as to which the 'Climbers' Guide to the Bernese Oberland,' vol. i. p. 98, says, 'No Information.' At first they followed the Beich Pass route, then, keeping more to the N.E., they reached the place marked 2,798 m. on the Siegfried map. They then ascended the rocks indicated on the same map to the N. of 2,798 m., and working round the semicircle of rock to the S.E. of point 3,254 m. (10,676 ft.) of the Beichgrat, turned to the W., and mounting by the snow indicated on the map between the two rock walls which bound the above-mentioned semicircle, reached point 3,254 m.—the last bit being fairly steep rock—at 10.15 A.M. No trace of a previous ascent was found. After throwing together four or five stones, the rocks being heavily laden with new snow, they retraced their steps part of the way by the route taken on the ascent, and then descended the W. wall of the rock semicircle by a not altogether easy scramble to the snowfield on the W. of it. They then turned N. and reached the E. end of the snow arête of the other point of the Beichgrat, 3,252 m. (10,670 ft.), a beautiful little

snow pyramid. After a halt for breakfast, 11.55 A.M.—12.45 P.M., they reached the top of the pyramid, which had in one part quite an imposing cornice, at 1.0 P.M. The view was very interesting, the Nethorn, Lonzabörner, and Lötschenthal Breithorn, in an ever-changing vesture of mist, being the great features of it. From the snow pyramid they descended by interesting rocks to the Beich pass and thence to Ried. There was an excessive quantity of fresh snow everywhere: in some places it was a serious hindrance, whilst in others, *e.g.* on steep ice, where it showed no sign of slipping away whatever, it was a very considerable help. The expedition was a most enjoyable one, and was the only one the party succeeded in carrying to a successful issue during eight days, owing to the very broken weather.

GISIGHORN (8,182 m. = 10,440 ft.). *September 4, 1905.*—Messrs. R. Corry and R. C. Craig, with Clemenz Ruppen, made the first recorded ascent by the S. ridge from the col between the Birgischhörner and the Gisighorn.

The col is reached in 2½ hrs.' easy walking from Bel Alp; thence to a conspicuous cleft in the ridge, 1 hr. 5 min., and from this to the summit, 1 hr. 42 min.

Another party starting earlier ascended direct to the cleft by a very difficult chimney, and completed the ascent for the most part by the E. face, keeping below the S. ridge till near the summit.

If the S. ridge is adhered to, the climb is an interesting one, with two or three short passages of some difficulty. The traverse of the whole ridge of the Gisighorn from the S. to Dame Alys (10,821 ft.) on the N. would give at least 5 hrs.' rock-climbing.

ALPINE NOTES.

'THE ALPINE GUIDE.'—Copies of Vol. I. of the new edition of this work, price 12s. net, and of 'Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps' (being a new edition of the General Introduction), price 3s., can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, Charing Cross.

THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE is now printed, and may be obtained, bound in cloth, on application to the Assistant Secretary, 23 Savile Row. Price 8s.; postage 4d.

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY IN 1905.—F. D. Brocklehurst (1868), J. Collier (1893), C. E. Mathews (Original Member).

SKI-RUNNING.—Mr. W. R. Rickmers will be in Innsbruck from December 18 to 19; in Villars-sur-Ollon, January 16 to 30; on the Feldberg (Schwarzwald), February 1 to 6; in Igls, above Innsbruck, February 7 to 23; in Kitzbühel, February 24 to March 5; and probably in Norway from about March 27 to April 15. No fees.

OPENING OF THE CARRIAGE ROAD FROM ST. RÉMY TO THE HOSPICE OF THE GREAT ST. BERNARD.—An account of the opening