

are ; because they move us in some way which nothing else does ; so that some moment in a smoke-grimed railway carriage, when in the pure morning air the far-off cloud of Mont Blanc suddenly hung above the mists as we rounded the curves beyond Vallorbes, or, still fairer, from the slopes near Neuchâtel, the whole Bernese range slept dreamlike in the lake at our feet, lives in our memories above a hundred more selfish, more poignant joys ; and we feel that a world that can give such rapture must be a good world, a life capable of such feeling must be worth the living.

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### THE EXHIBITION OF HIMALAYAN PHOTOGRAPHS.

THE photographic results of the recent climbing expedition in Kumaon and Garhwal were shown in the Club rooms, where they covered three of the walls, from March 24 to April 7. Dr. Longstaff and Mr. Mumm were contributors in nearly equal proportions. The former exhibited a number of enlarged panoramas, which gave an excellent idea of the characteristic features of the higher ranges, their peaks and recesses.

This portion of the Himalaya would appear to be distinguished by the wall-like or wedge-like forms of its summits, which rise on lofty ridges, resembling a many-turreted rampart. They are divided and defended by gorges of extraordinary length and narrowness, and consequently difficult of access. The glaciers that descend into these are in their lower portions covered with the rocks and rubbish that fall from the impending cliffs to such an extent that the ice is invisible, and the valley bottom has the appearance of a disused quarry. Except Nanda Devi there are few peaks that assert their individuality by markedly singular outlines. The eye looks in vain for forms such as those of Jannu and Siniolchum, or for splintered needles like those pictured by Sir M. Conway and Mrs. Bullock Workman in the ranges beyond Kashmir. Towards India forests and villages seem to cease long before the snow is approached, whereas in Nepal and Sikkim the upper valleys may be compared to the Visp-thäler for their combination of various elements in mountain scenery. On the other hand, the contrast between the cliffs of the denuded and torrent-devastated southern face of the range and the rounded forms of the region towards Tibet, where ice has formerly protected and torrential rains have never scarred the surface, seems to be a feature of the whole Himalayan chain.

Among the more striking and instructive of the panoramas were those from the Kuari pass, and from the little peak near the entrance to the Rishi valley and that of the Raikana glacier, with Kamet in the background. Nanda Devi, with its twin horns, was represented from various aspects ; but among the peak views that

of Changabang from the Bagini pass, its cliffs, draped with fresh snow, standing out against a background of dark sky, was perhaps the most successful. Camp scenes and a few fascinating glimpses of the lower region broke the monotony of rock and snow, of horrid precipices and smutty icefalls.

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