

- Théotoky, Comte C.** Vie de montagne. Paris, Perrin, 1895  
8vo, pp. 313.  
A novel, with a brigand as hero.
- Tirol.** Die neuen Hochstrassen in den Dolomiten. Ansicht vom Norden. Originalithographie von Gust. Jahn. Textliche Erläuterungen von K. J. Wolff. K.k. priv. Südbahn-Ges. Bozen, 1907  
A large coloured bird's-eye view.  
The text is in German and English. The map is entitled 'Mountain Boards'—misprint for 'Roads'? later throughout the text called 'streets.' The mountains are described as 'mounting from the endless green of softly undulated alm-grounds, . . . which is a source of surprising sceneries.'
- Tomlin, James.** Notes from a traveller's Journal, during an excursion in Norway and Sweden. Privately printed [London], Woodfall, 1852  
8vo, pp. 204.
- von Troil, Rev. Uno.** Letters on Iceland; containing observations on the Civil, Literary, Ecclesiastical, and Natural History; . . . made During a Voyage undertaken in the Year 1772, by Joseph Banks, . . .  
8vo, pp. xxvi, 400; map, plate. London, Richardson, etc., 1780  
Presented by Dr Tempest Anderson.
- Wollaston, A. F. R.** From Ruwenzori to the Congo. A naturalist's journey across Africa. London, Murray, 1908. 15/- net  
Roy. 8vo, pp. xxv, 315; maps, plates.
- Xalet-Refugi d'Ull de Ter.** In Ilustracio Catalana, Barcelona, any vi, no. 255. 19 Abril, 1908  
Folio, pp. 273-280; ill.
- Zsigmondy, E.** Die Gefahren der Alpen. Erfahrungen und Ratschläge. Neu bearbeitet und ergänzt von W. Paulcke. Innsbruck, Edlinger, 1908. M. 4  
8vo, pp. xiii, 346; ill.

*Photographs.*

An album of fine photographs of the New Zealand Alps has been presented by Mrs. Teichelmann.

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## ALPINE ACCIDENTS IN 1908.

WE are glad to know that the Alpine Accidents of 1908 do not reach the terrible figures of 1907, although the season has been very bad from a climber's point of view. One of the oldest guides, whose exploits are well known to all mountaineers, described the season to us as 'one of the worst he had ever known.' We have not, we are glad to say, to lament the loss of any of our members, but the death-roll is still far too long for the good name of Alpine climbing. In the 'Revue Alpine' for October 1908, p. 878, will be found a typical example of how men of no experience venture in broken weather into places where their betters would not think of going. We regret that want of space forbids our reproducing in full the graphic story there given.

It tells how M. J. Perdrieux and his two guides saw, to their horror, 'en pleine glace noire les touristes' (three young men without guides) 'égarés, cherchant leur chemin dans les crevasses et cela à la tombée du jour. Ils avaient pris le seul endroit mauvais.'

About half of this season's victims were lost in the Eastern Alps, i.e. E. of the Swiss frontier.

## THE ACCIDENT ON THE KLEIN DOLDENHORN.\*

On July 12 a tourist named Egg, of Zürich, was killed on the Klein Doldenhorn. In company with two travellers and a lady he left the Klubhütte for the peak above mentioned. They were not roped. On the rock called the Sparren, Egg fell backwards and was precipitated 200 metres to a snow-field below. As he struck the rocks several times in falling death must have been instantaneous. It is probable that the rock came away in his hand.

## THE ACCIDENT ON THE JUNGFRAU.

On July 17, 1908, two parties, each consisting of four persons, left the Roththal hut for the ascent of the Jungfrau. The rocks being covered with *verglas* made progress very slow, and in addition there came on a fall of snow, which entirely prevented retreat; thus the travellers did not reach the summit till 10.30 P.M., and had to pass the night there. One of the parties managed to reach the Concordia hut the next day. Of the members of the second party M. Jean de Rougemont, of Neuchâtel, who had injured himself with his axe,\* succumbed to fatigue; M. Keller went on in front to seek for help at the Concordia; but it was not till 6 A.M. on July 20 that the two other travellers, MM. Contesse and Du Pasquier, who had remained behind, were found in a state of complete exhaustion. They were carefully tended for several days at the Concordia before they were able to continue their descent.†

## THE ACCIDENT ON THE WETTERHORN.

We are indebted for the following account of this accident to Messrs. George and Max Finch:—

'My brother and I started from the Dossen Hut at 2 A.M. for the Wetterhorn on July 24, 1908. We were followed by five Germans. The snow being good we arrived at the top at 6.30 A.M., closely followed by two of the Germans—three remaining on the Sattel, not caring to attempt the final snow slope. After a short rest, we descended to the Wettersattel in 15 min., and prepared to descend the Mitteljoch couloir in preference to the usual chimney, which was rendered rather unsafe by fresh snow. The two Germans (A. Grammeisen and H. Holder) objected to follow us, as this route was not in their guide-books, and as they saw tracks leading down the usual route. (It seems that a party the day before had tried this way, but had turned back.) At their request we gave up our idea and returned to the Sattel, and began the descent by the couloir, preceded by the two Germans, and followed by the three. The two leading soon got into difficulties, not knowing how to cut steps, and the snow not being in a suitable condition for their

\* *Alpina*, August 1, 1908, p. 137.

† From the *Revue Alpine* of September 1908, p. 331.

crampons. Seeing this we offered to take the lead and cut steps; but they refused to let us pass, as they said they wished to do their share of the work. Before arriving at the so-called Dreckloch, where one usually leaves the chimney, there were several small rock islands projecting through the deep snow of the couloir. To save kicking slight steps the two took to the rocks, in spite of our repeated warnings. We ourselves cut round the rocks, followed by the three others. Suddenly the leading man of the two Germans, Grammeisen (the heavier of the two), slipped. He fell 10 ft. before the rope tightened, both men having neglected to keep the rope taut. Holder was, in his insecure position, unable to resist the shock, and was dragged down. Both received fatal injuries, bounding from side to side of the couloir before disappearing from our sight. Immediately my brother and myself prepared to continue the descent to the Glectstein Hut, but had to desist on account of the collapse of the other three Germans; and, as no assistance could be given to the two unfortunate men, we decided to return to the Dossen Hut. We at once took the lead and cut large steps to the Sattel. We then raced back to Rosenlauri in 5 hrs., and telephoned to the Bear Hotel at Grindelwald to organise a search party. The following day the bodies were recovered, terribly mutilated, lying on the Krinne Glacier, having fallen about 1,800 ft. We gave evidence at the subsequent inquiry, when a note was issued stating that no one was to blame except the unfortunate victims.'

#### THE ACCIDENT ON THE OBER GABELHORN.

On July 31, 1908, Herren A. W. Hürner, C. Wolf, and A. Hählen attempted the ascent of the Ober Gabelhorn without guides. They did not follow the usual route at all closely, as was noticed by other parties who were on the Wellenkuppe on the same day. When they reached the rocks freshly covered with snow, at about 200 metres from the spot where Herr Demelius, of Innsbruck, was killed in 1904, they slipped, and in spite of all their efforts failed to stop themselves. It was about 10 o'clock in the morning. A party of twenty-four guides, under the direction of Dr. H. Seiler and of Herren Bärenfaller and Langenger, was at once organised, and the bodies were brought to Zermatt on the following morning.\*

#### THE ACCIDENT ON THE POINTE DE TANNEVERGE.

On August 7, 1908, two young Germans, the brothers Max and Werner Grave, of Huckesvogen (Rhenish Prussia), arrived at Sixt with the object of ascending the Pointe de Tanneverge. The weather was bad; rain had fallen without ceasing on the previous days, and was still falling on that day. In spite of the unfavourable weather the brothers attempted the ascent without guides. Having reached the Pas Noir, they were about to take some food

\* From the *Revue Alpine* of September 1908, p. 332.

when a block detached itself from the mountain and carried away Werner Grave in its fall. He fell from 100 to 150 metres. He was not killed outright. His brother, not without difficulty, descended to him and passed the night by his side. His wounds, though severe, were not mortal; but it was not till the next morning that Max Grave reached Sixt in search of necessary help. The wounded man was still alive when the doctor reached him, but the loss of blood, the cold, and the long night's exposure had done their work. Werner Grave died as he was being carried down to Sixt, where, at the wish of his friends, he was buried.\*

#### OTHER ACCIDENTS IN 1908.

From the large number of accidents reported in foreign periodicals we take the following:—

On June 11 M. A. F. Mœbes, in descending the Cornettes de Bise, insisted, in spite of the protestations of his companion, M. W. Höhn, upon trying a steep couloir above the chalets of Loos. He had not been in the couloir long when he lost his footing and fell. He had been dead some time when help arrived.

On July 28 S. Gustavo Gibert left Promontogno, in Val Bregaglia, for the Capanna Sciora alone; he reached the Capanna, and left there in writing an itinerary of his proposed expedition. About 4.30 p.m. he was seen by some shepherds to be making for the crest, called the Forcellette, between the Punta di Cacciabella and the Pizzo Grande. A violent storm came on later, which was probably the cause of the accident. His body was eventually found under the Forcellette and brought down to Promontogno.

On August 5 Mr. Cæsar Litton Falkiner, a native of Dublin, who was staying at Trélechamp, started to ascend the Flégère by the Aiguillette. A search party, organised by the 'guide chef' of Argentière on the following day, found the body at the foot of the Aiguillette.

On August 18 Herr Logs, of Krefeld, an experienced climber, who was climbing the Fünffingerspitze with a friend, whilst leading the way up the Schmittkamin, which was covered with *verglas*, slipped and fell, receiving fatal injuries.

On the morning of August 26, as some tourists were mounting the Glacier du Tour 'pour atteindre la Tête Noire,' an avalanche of ice and stones fell, carrying away the guide, Garnier, and M. L. Molinier, who were at the head of the caravan. The other travellers, who were 20 m. from the place of the accident, escaped unhurt. The bodies of the two victims were found shortly afterwards by a search party buried under the *débris* of the avalanche at the foot of the glacier.

We very much regret to learn that Dr. Fritz Pflaum, who, when nearing the top of the Mönch on August 25 with the guide Balmer, fell with the guide from the summit ridge, died in the hospital at

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\* From *La Montagne* of September 1908, p. 379.

Interlaken on August 29. Balmer received comparatively slight injuries, but Dr. Pflaum severely injured his left leg. Help was brought to them after the lapse of two hours by members of the Interlaken Touring Club. Dr. Pflaum was carried to the Eismeer station, and attended to by a doctor who was telephoned for from Grindelwald. He was then taken to Interlaken, where, despite every care and attention, he died on August 29.

## NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1908.

### *Eastern Graians.*

COL DE LA GRIVOLETTA (8,828 m.=10,904 ft., New Map of Grand Paradis Group) (see 'Climbers' Guide to the Mountains of Cogne,' pp. 140, 1). *September 7.*—Messrs. G. and G. G. Yeld with Sylvain Pession, of Val Tournanche, and Basile Cavaignet, of Cogne, completed the traverse of this Pass, the north side of which was reached by Mr. G. Yeld with François Pession and A. Pelissier on August 11, 1892. Having attained the summit of the Grivoletta by the W. ridge in 7 hrs. from Cogne, they descended thence to the Col de la Grivoletta in an hour and 15 min.—there being a good deal of fresh snow, which made progress slow. From the Col to the so-called Col du Pousset took 30 min. The day was perfect and the views splendid.

### *Mont Blanc District.*

COL DES CRISTAUX, BETWEEN LES COURTES (8,855 m.=12,648 ft.) AND THE AIGUILLE MUMMERY (8,692 m.=12,118 ft.) (Barbey, Imfeld, and Kurz Map, 1896 ed.).—On Tuesday, *August 25, 1908*, Mr. J. J. Withers, with the guides Adolf Andenmatten and Andreas Anthamatten, of Saas, left the hotel at Lognan at 3 A.M., and went up the Argentière glacier by the usual way to the foot of a buttress which comes down from the ridge between Les Courtes and the Aiguille de Triolet, and is the last one which comes down completely to the glacier on the N. of the Aiguille Mummery. Moving round to the S. side of the foot of this buttress they got on to the rocks and climbed on to the crest of the buttress (6.25 A.M.). After  $\frac{1}{4}$  hr.'s halt they began to follow the crest of the buttress over easy rock, and in 35 min. reached a very steep snow saddle. Crossing this they found the direct way barred by steep rocks which could be turned by some interesting climbing on the right or N. side. Hence the crest of the buttress was regained and followed over good rocks and finally snow to the main ridge between Les Courtes and the Aiguille Mummery, which was reached exactly by the side of a very noticeable gendarme, the first on the main ridge N. of the last-mentioned aiguille (9.15 A.M.). On the ascent and on the Col itself a large number of fine crystals were found, one of which was placed on the stone-man which the party built. Leaving the main ridge at 9.45 A.M.