

- Twining, Henry.** The elements of picturesque scenery, or studies of nature made in travel with a view to improvement in landscape painting. 4to, pp. xiv, 309; plates. London, Longmans, 1853
The first edition of this was privately printed in 1846. Two further volumes of the above were printed up to 1870.
pp. 20-148 deal with mountains, rocks and volcanoes. The plates include a view of the Jungfrau and of the Pic du Midi d'Ossau.
- de Villeneuve-Bargemont, C.** Voyage dans la Vallée de Barcelonnette, Département des Basses-Alpes. Agen, Noubel, 1815
8vo, pp. 164.
- Vulliemin, L.** Notice sur Abraham Ruchat. Lausanne, Ducloux, 1838
8vo, pp. 30.
- Wäber, A.** Bibliographie nationale Suisse. Fascicule III², Descriptions géographiques et récits de voyages et excursions en Suisse (fin du fascicule III). 8vo, pp. xvi, 172. Berne, Wyss, 1909
- Walcher, S.** Touristenführer durch die Schweiz. Leipzig, Weber, 1856
8vo, pp. xii, 407; maps, plates.
- Walser, Dr Hermann.** Landeskunde der Schweiz. Sammlung Göschen. Sm. 8vo, pp. 146; map, plates. Leipzig, Göschen, 1908. Pfg. 80
- Williamson, C. N.** The climbs of the English Lake District. In All the Year Round, vol. 25. November 18, 1884
8vo, pp. 28-50. Reprinted from no. 1 of Journal of Rock and Fell Climbing Club, q.v.
- Wolterstorff, Dr Hermann.** Aus dem Hochgebirge. Erinnerungen eines Bergsteigers. Teil 1 : Zermatt und die Zermatter Bergwelt. 2te vermehrte und verbesserte Auflage. Magdeburg. Selbstverlag, Gustav Adolfstr. 18, 1909. M. 5 u. M. 4.50
8vo, pp. xii, 148; plates.
This agreeably written book is well illustrated by drawings by Mr Compton and by excellent photographs, chiefly by Signor Sella. The first edition was published in 1902. Many additions have been made to the present edition, of which the above is the first part.
- Zdarsky, Mathias.** Alpine (Lilienfelder) Skifahr-Technik. Eine Anleitung zum Selbstunterricht. 4te, methodisch umgearbeitete Auflage. Berlin, Mecklenburg (1908)
8vo, pp. 99; plates.
- Items.*
- Photograph.** A photograph of François Favret at the age of 82 has been presented to the Club by Mr H. F. Montagnier. Favret was one of Albert Smith's guides on Mont Blanc. His father, Pierre Marie Favret, was one of Dr Hamel's guides and also accompanied Clissold and others. His grandfather François Favret was with Saussure on Mont Blanc in 1787 and on the Col du Géant the following year. The present François Favret lives in the house built by Jacques Balmat in the village of Pèlerin in 1787.
- Wieland, Hans Beatus.** Eiger, Mönch und Jungfrau vor Sonnenaufgang. Zürich, Rascher, 1909
A fine coloured drawing 2 ft. × 3 ft.

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 book-sellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, 12 Long Acre, W.C.

'THE ALPINE GUIDE,' THE CENTRAL ALPS. PART I.—A new edition of this portion of the 'Alpine Guide,' by the late John Ball,

F.R.S., President of the Alpine Club, reconstructed and revised on behalf of the Alpine Club under the general editorship of A. V. Valentine-Richards, Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, is now ready, and can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, 12 Long Acre, W.C. It includes those portions of Switzerland to the north of the Rhône and Rhine valleys.

'ALPINE JOURNAL.'—The Committee have had under consideration various points in connection with the 'Alpine Journal,' and recommend that it shall contain—

- (a) More information on subjects of general Alpine interest, such as new huts, inns, maps, &c.
- (b) A note of new and interesting expeditions by foreign climbers.
- (c) An annual record of the more interesting expeditions made by members, and of their visits to the less known mountain districts, so as to facilitate the exchange of information.

The Committee have submitted the matter to the Editor, and, at their request and with the Editor's concurrence, Captain Farrar will for the present collect the information for this portion of the work, as well as

(d) collect and edit the accounts of new expeditions and of accidents.

Information on these subjects, preferably type-written, should be sent to him, Brayfield House, Newport Pagnell, and for the August number *not later than June 30.*

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY.—Sir Maurice Holzmann (1874), Count Henry Russell (1864), Sir John Bamford Slack (1904), Colonel H. G. Watson (1908).

THE DUPUIS CABANE ON THE COL D'ORNY.—Members of the Club who may not have recently visited the N. end of the chain of Mont Blanc will be interested to know of the splendidly situated hut, 'Cabane Julien Dupuis,' now erected on the Col d'Orny, on the eastern edge of the Plateau du Trient. It is reached in an hour or so from the Cabane d'Orny, on the same side (left bank) of the Glacier d'Orny, and stands some 10,800 ft. above sea level, commanding a most magnificent and romantic prospect. All the climbs on the edge of the Trient plateau, so well loved and charmingly described by Javelle, are within quite easy reach, and as the Fenêtre de Saleinaz is only about 40 minutes' distant, the Aiguilles d'Argentière and du Chardonnet, as well as the Col du Chardonnet, are more accessible from this hut than from the Saleinaz. The hut is the property of the S.A.C. (Diablerets Section), and has accommodation for twenty-five persons, as well as supplies of wood for their use, whilst water is close at hand. Climbers finding themselves crowded out of the Cabane d'Orny by the tourists from Champex (4–5 hrs. distant), may well go further and fare better in this grandly placed and well-built refuge.

WALTER WESTON.

THE RIFUGIO-ALBERGO GASTALDI (2,649 m.), in Valle d'Ala di Lanzo, was, unfortunately, destroyed by fire on December 6, 1908; but we understand from the 'Rivista Mensile del C.A.I.' for April

1909 that it is hoped for the summer of 1909 to organise 'un modesto servizio di osteria' in the *old* Rifugio Gastaldi, near by.

THE FIRST ASCENT OF THE ROSENGARTEN SPITZE.—We have received the following statement from Mr. Comyns Tucker and Mr. T. H. Carson: 'Our attention has been called to a statement by Messrs. Purtscheller and Hess, in the 3rd vol. of their guide to the Eastern Alps ("Der Hochtourist in den Ostalpen," 3rd ed. 1903, pp. 63), to the effect that the first ascent of the Rosengarten Spitze (formerly known as the Federer Kogel) was made by us from the western side. So much care has been bestowed on this guide-book, and it is in general so accurate, that we think it right to correct the above statement, which is indeed wholly inaccurate. On the day before our ascent in 1874 we examined the mountain from Vajolet, the glen on the eastern side of the Rosengarten Spitze, and determined to make our attempt by a long steep slope of rock which, as we looked at it from below on the east side of the mountain, fell away from the northern shoulder of the peak.* On the following day we reached the foot of this steep slope by means of a couloir, which descends into the gap marked Gartl Schlucht on the map of the group (1 : 25000) published by the D.Ö.A.-V. in 1898. From the top of the couloir we climbed the above-mentioned slope of rock, inclining always to our left and so coming more and more on to the eastern face. During this time we were climbing in full view of the Vajolet shepherds, who later in the day came to congratulate us on our ascent.† At the top of the slope we turned again a little to the left, bearing still further south along the eastern face and following the brink of the precipices above Vajolet.‡ Eventually we reached the summit through a high mountain cirque on the eastern side, which we had previously seen from Vajolet. We never touched the western side of the mountain at all.

'The climb was made nearly thirty-five years ago, but it was not one easily to be forgotten, and on all the above points our recollection is clear. If any corroboration is needed it will be found in Mr. Comyns Tucker's article in vol. vii. of the "Alpine Journal." Our only guide was François Dévouassoud.

'Messrs. Purtscheller and Hess also refer in their guide-book (vol. 3, p. 63) to an ascent of the eastern side of the Rosengarten Spitze made in 1896 by Messrs. Raynor and Phillimore; and on p. 65 they give a detailed account of this route. The "Alpine Journal" (vol. xviii. p. 252) contains an account by the last-named climbers of an ascent made by them of a peak in the Rosengarten group, called "Catenaccio," from the east. This peak appears to be identical with the Rosengarten Spitze, which on the old Austrian survey (1 : 75000) is called M. alto di Catenazzi. And it may be added that Messrs. Raynor and Phillimore's account of this climb corresponds substantially with the route up the eastern side of the Rosengarten Spitze described by Messrs. Purtscheller and

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. vii. p. 359.

† *Ibid.* p. 363.

‡ *Ibid.* p. 361.

Hess on p. 65 of their guide-book. The whole of this route must, so far as we can gather, have lain to the south of the route by which we ascended.'

NEW ASCENTS IN NEW ZEALAND.—We learn from the 'Otago Daily Times' of March 6, 1909, kindly sent to us by Mr. G. A. Solly, that some very interesting ascents have been made in the Mount Cook district.

The Hermitage, March 2.

Mr. Claude A. MacDonald, a well-known member of the English Alpine Club, who has been here for some weeks with his wife and family, has been doing some good mountaineering work. It has already been mentioned that, accompanied by Peter Graham, the chief guide, he made an attempt on Mount Cook, and got within 600 yards of the summit, when a south-west gale sprang up, and the ascent had to be given up. The climb, however, was not without fruit, as Mr. MacDonald, returning by Green's Saddle and the Linda Glacier, made the first traverse from the Hooker Glacier to the Tasman Glacier. He was thus enabled to examine the route taken by the Rev. W. S. Green in the first ascent of Mount Cook. This has been adversely criticised by other mountaineers, but both Mr. MacDonald and Graham agree that in the present condition of the ice the route is excellent, and about as good as could be chosen. The time occupied in the traverse was 17 hours to the Ball Hut.

On February 26, Mr. MacDonald scaled Coronet Peak from the south—the first time that the ascent has been made. It was a very interesting and varied climb, occupying 10½ hrs. A fine view of the Francis Joseph and Spencer Glaciers was obtainable. On February 27 Mr. MacDonald, accompanied by Graham, made the first traverse of Mount Malte Brun, ascending by the south arête and descending by the north arête. This was a traverse of grand climbing, with good rock all the way, and occupied 18½ hrs., including 1½ hr.'s rest on the top.

Mr. Macdonald describes the panorama seen from the summit as simply magnificent. He could see the sea on both sides of the island, and the West Coast (only about 20 miles distant) seemed to be almost lying at his feet. The townships could be seen, and even the breakers on the seashore. The rich vegetation on the western slopes of the ranges made a striking feature in the view. It was most unfortunate that in returning to The Hermitage from the last climb Mr. Macdonald injured his foot, probably getting it poisoned from a coloured thread in his stocking. But for this he intended to make an assault on Mount Sefton, which just now is in the finest condition for climbing.

Dr. Bell, the Government Geologist, with Mr. Earle, a member of the English Alpine Club, and Mr. Jack Clarke, the well-known Alpine guide, now attached to Dr. Bell's survey party, arrived here on Monday, coming over from the West Coast by way of Graham's Saddle and the Tasman Glacier. Dr. Bell is engaged in a very interesting survey of the Francis Joseph Glacier.

Hokitika, March 9.

Advice was received to-day of the ascent of Mount Cook by a new route over the rocks on the western face from the Hooker Glacier, hitherto considered impassable. The ascent was made on Friday by Mr. Earle, a member of the English Alpine Club, with Guides Graham (2) and Clarke. The climb occupied $7\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. The descent was made by the north-western route.

CLIMBING IN CORSICA.—In August, Newbey S. Green, H. Scott Jones, H. S. Mundahl and T. G. Ouston spent twelve days in the Monte Cinto group. They camped by a cave in the Val de Vallone called the 'Grotte des Anges' by the native shepherds.

CAPO TAFONATO (7,810 ft.).—Supposed second ascent. This peak of Dolomitic steepness is crowned by two summits. Some 400 ft. below the southern summit it is perforated by a large hole, about 40 ft. high by 100 ft. long and 30 ft. in thickness, the floor sloping at an angle of about 45 degrees to the west. The situation and character of this hole render it one of the most remarkable and impressive mountain freaks in Europe. On August 27, H. S. Mundahl and T. G. Ouston left camp at 5.45 a.m., crossed the col Foggiale to the col connecting Paglia Orba with Capo Tafonato, reached the hole by means of a 'rake' and easy rocks on the east face at about 10 a.m. Leaving the hole by its S. end a few minutes' scrambling brought them to a prominent gap S. of the S. summit at 12 o'clock noon. A difficult 40-ft. wall facing E., was followed by a delicate traverse leading W., which in turn gave access to a small cave in the remarkably honeycombed rock. Some 25 ft. above the cave a recently inserted iron piton with two new loops of rope was encountered, which was probably placed there by a party of Italian climbers whom they subsequently learned had been on the mountain three weeks previously. A few minutes later an awkward piece of face followed by a trying arm-pull gave access to the narrow heady summit-ridge. The southern summit, reached at 2.45 p.m., showed two superimposed stones, and across a formidable gap the northern summit appeared, about 20 ft. higher.

Northern Summit.—On August 31 the same party, after a fruitless attempt nearly straight up from the northern end of the hole, reached this summit in 35 minutes from the foot of the rocks. The hole was left at its northern extremity, and a series of ledges broken by one chimney led in a spirally ascending manner to the cairn-crowned summit. The actual course was north, then west, then south, then east, then north, then west.

The writer believes the Italian climbers made the first ascent of the S. summit. He was told at the tourist office in Ajaccio that Tafonato was climbed years ago; this *may* have referred to the northern summit. The local guide to M. Cinto and Dr. F. von Cube's party had, however, separately reached the hole, but both believed the two summits 'virgin.'

See also article 'Hochtouren auf Korsika,' by Dr. Felix von Cube, 'Zeitschrift D.O.A.-V.,' 1901 and 1903.

T. G. OUSTON.

ASCENT OF POINT No. 4 OF THE FÜNFFINGERSTÜCKE FROM THE SOUTH.—I have been urged by my companions, Messrs. W. C. Compton, Valentine Richards, and T. H. Fitzpatrick, to send a note to the 'Alpine Journal' on this expedition from Stein, and so to supplement the somewhat meagre details of the original ascent in 1884,* contributed by the late J. A. Hutchison. Our route on that occasion was by couloirs on the south side, the descent being made on the east side; whilst Messrs. Compton and Valentine Richards (who thoroughly explored the several summits of the Fünffingerstöcke in 1889†) climbed the point from the east, but by a different route from that taken by my late friend and myself on our descent.

On September 8 last our party again attacked the steep south face of this fine rocky summit, which rises some 600 feet above the west portion of the Oberthal glacier. After an interval of nearly a quarter of a century it is not unnatural that details of the exact route formerly taken should not be very vividly recalled, and my recollection of special features on the east side fails me greatly. On the ascent, however, the incidental details came back to me quite unmistakably.

The climb starts up a steep and rather broad buttress immediately under the highest summit and at the N.E. corner of the W. Oberthal glacier. The buttress is best attacked from its west side. It is decidedly steep for some 50 or 60 feet and then becomes easier. By traversing to the left or W. there is no difficulty in reaching the foot of a narrow and steep couloir, clearly visible from below. At the same level and some distance to the right, or E., there starts another similar couloir, which slopes towards the left; the two meet about half-way up the mountain and form a very acute angle. Hence a long and still steeper couloir leads to a gap or col on the main S. arête of the peak, giving access to the east branch of the Oberthal glacier. The westerly of the two lower couloirs was the one we climbed, a proceeding which required considerable care, owing to its steepness and the scarcity, in places, of good hand and foot holds. The upper couloir, however, leading to the gap or col referred to, was the most difficult part of the ascent. In places it was so narrow, steep, and lacking in holds of any kind that it became necessary to climb sideways, with one's back lodged against one wall whilst with hands and knees pressed against the other we hoisted ourselves little by little until fresh holds could be reached. From a point just below and W. of the little col another shorter couloir, offering excellent holds, affords a way up to the last part of the peak towards the west and gives access to its easily climbed S.E. face.

Our descent was made by the same easy S.E. face and short couloir to the upper portion of the long couloir, which was climbed to the little col from which it is easy to reach by a snow ridge the E. branch of the Oberthal glacier.

* See *A. J.* vol. xii. p. 226.

† See *ibid.* vol. xx. pp. 20-29 and 116-121.

Fortunately at no part is there much trouble from loose stones. Opposite p. 118 of vol. xx. of the 'Journal' is a view of the summit from the east, which plainly shows the gap or col.*

There is no question that the climb of this interesting summit from the south is one of the finest in the neighbourhood, whilst the route by way of the E. Oberthal glacier and the gap in the south arête (i.e. the line of our descent) is by far the shortest and easiest way to the summit. We took two hours over our ascent from the foot of the rocks, but we proceeded very slowly and carefully. The ascent from the little col from the E. ought to be made easily in less than half an hour.

LEGH S. POWELL.

PETIT PARADIS.—On September 14, 1908, Mr. Edward Backhouse with the guides Maurice Joseph Chabod and Albin Dayné of Val Savaranche found a route on the W. face of the Petit Paradis which does not appear to have been described, and which the guides thought was new. The original object of the climb was to reach the Col du Petit Paradis from Val Savaranche, and thence to ascend the Grand Paradis. Dégioz was left at 2 A.M., and the Lavetiau glacier reached at 7 A.M. The correct route to the Col is to skirt below the cliffs of the Petit Paradis, and climb a couloir to a point between the snow summit of that mountain and the Col. But the guides were rather uncertain of the correct route, and the rocks above looked interesting; so the bergschrund was crossed by a snow bridge, and Dayné led up the face. At first there was very little difficulty; but higher up the large quantity of fresh snow on a series of rock ribs made progress slow. In better conditions the climb would probably be easy. At noon, after 3½ hrs. on the rocks, the foot of one of the turrets which form the summit of the mountain was gained. After a meal, Chabod, who had led most of the way, unroped and traversed round the foot of the two turrets further S., while the other members of the party climbed the turret immediately above. Chabod reported favourably and at 1.45 the traverse to the Col commenced. No difficulty was met with, though the climbing was interesting at first, and the Col was reached at 8.15.

The N. ridge of the Grand Paradis is well known. On this occasion step-cutting was necessary all the way, and the summit was not passed till 5.45. Half-an-hour later the rock 'summit' was reached, and at 6.45 the descent began. The Rifugio was left behind in the dark by 8; Pont was reached at 9.15, and, after a quarter of an hour's halt, Dégioz at 11 P.M. Thus the whole expedition took 21 hrs.; but this was due to the condition of the mountains, and the time wasted near the summit of the Petit Paradis.

ICE AXE FOUND ON THE GRAND PARADIS.—It may be of some interest to record that an axe was found by the above-mentioned party on the rocks which interrupt the snow ridge of the Grand Paradis. There is little doubt that it belonged to the party of

* The third notch from the summit.

Alpine Club men who fell from this ridge in 1904.* Probably the leader, while the others were still on the ice slope, had put down his axe in order to get a good grip of the rocks; and had been dragged from his hold.

DOM (4,554 m.=14,942 ft.) BY THE W. ARÊTE.—The whole W. arête from the Grabenhorn was followed on September 7, 1908, by Herr A. Mazlâm, with the guide Joseph Knubel. Two gendarmes on the lower portion of the arête were difficult. Conditions generally bad; crampons used.†

DUFOUR SPITZE (4,638 m.=15,217 ft.) FROM MACUGNAGA.—This ascent was repeated in mid-July 1908 by Herr H. Pfann, Dr. G. Freiherr von Saar, and a third climber. The party slept at the Marinelli hut, crossed the Marinelli couloir without any difficulty or danger very early in the morning, and ascended the snow slopes leading to the foot of the rocks of the Grenz Gipfel without incident. These rocks were, however, found to be in very bad order, the easier rocks being so iced that the party was forced off on to difficult ground, and took 5 hrs. to complete this portion of the ascent.‡

COLLE GNIFETTI (about 4,480 m.=14,699 ft.).—This very arduous col was crossed about July 30, 1908, by Professor G. Lampugnani, a well known authority on the Monte Rosa group, and Signor Jack Dumontel.§ The route followed corresponds very nearly with the Macugnaga route up the Dufour Spitze, except that before reaching the rocks of the Grenz Gipfel a traverse is made to the left, and the col, which lies between the Punta Gnifetti and the Zumsteinspitze, is finally reached up very steep snow slopes. The route is well shown in the diagram, 'Bollettino,' xxvii. p. 21. The passage now recorded is probably the second. Ascents of this E. face of Monte Rosa are more easily made in a summer of plentiful snow like 1908, and in July before the slopes become icy, but one is never quite safe from anything falling from above during the long ascent of the almost endless slopes.

NEW HIGH LEVEL TOUR OF MONTE ROSA.—NEW WEISSTHOR (3,580 m.=11,746 ft.); COLLE DELLE LOCCIE (3,353 m.=11,001 ft.); SESIA JOCH (4,424 m.=14,515 ft.).—The passage of these cols can be easily done in three days and involves no serious difficulty. The route followed describes a complete circle round the main block of the Monte Rosa group, while the views of the stupendous E. and S.E. faces of the chain are scarcely to be surpassed.

The New Weissthor is easily reached from the Riffelhaus in a little under 5 hrs. Instead of descending all the way to Macugnaga one can traverse in an easy 3 hrs. to the little inn on the Belvédère, 2 hrs. above Macugnaga and nearly 2,000 ft. higher (provisions limiteh). This inn is the starting-point for the Colle delle Loccie. Seen from the Weissthor the final slope of this col looks appallingly

* *Alpine Journal*, vol. xxii. pp. 316 fo'l.

† *Jahresbericht Sekt Uto, S.A.C.*, 1908.

‡ Communicated by Herr Pfann to J. P. F.

§ Communicated by Professor Lampugnani to J. P. F.

steep and the whole glacier very broken. On leaving the inn one crosses the little grassy basin in which it lies to its S. edge, and ascends some old moraine and stone-covered glacier to the Petriolo Alpe (1 hr.). (Chalets are not usually inhabited till August.) From this most ideal spot the view of the E. face of Monte Rosa is magnificent. One follows the moraine at the S. end of this oasis until it runs out on the open glacier (1 hr.). From this point one must steer mainly up the centre of the glacier, which is often so broken as to require considerable manœuvring. The Bergschrund at the foot of the last slope is reached in a further 8 hrs. 40 min., and when steps can be kicked up the steep final slope the pass is reached in 20 min. more (6 hrs. from the Belvédère).

One now comes in view of the Parrot Spitze and more southerly summits of the group.

The objective is now the Capanna Valsesia, on the rocks of the Parrot Spitze, the starting-place for the Sesia Joch. Professor Lampugnani has written a little book, 'In Valsesia, La Val Grande et il Monte Rosa' (published by G. B. Paravia, E.C., Turin, 1907), which contains many views of the head of the valley, and also the only accurate map of the district, prepared by the great mountaineers and explorers of this chain, the brothers G. F. and G. B. Gugliemina, of Borgosesia. This map shows the position of the Capanna Valsesia, a wooden hut, which can be seen with a good glass from the Colle delle Loccie. From the broad, snowy calotte of the Parrot Spitze there descends to the S.E. a broad curtain of rock, ending in a narrower tongue of rock which runs out into the Sesia glacier. About halfway down, this curtain carries the hanging Parrot Glacier, divided by a cliff into an upper and a lower half. Leaving the Colle delle Loccie one bears S.W. over snow slopes, descending slightly and aiming for the edge of the tongue of rock mentioned above. The crest of this tongue is reached up steep but good rocks in 1 hr. 50 min. after leaving the pass. This crest is then followed without any difficulty until the level of the bottom edge of the lower half of the Parrot Glacier is attained. One traverses under this bottom edge, protected by its rocky foot-wall, and in this manner the hut which lies at the S.W. lower corner of the Parrot Glacier is reached in a further 1 hr. 25 min. It is a good wooden hut with plenty of blankets and cooking utensils, and water quite handy, but fire wood must be brought. Total time from the col, 3 hrs. 15 min. It will be seen that this is a comparatively short expedition.

The *Sesia Joch* does not lie in the lowest depression between the Parrot Spitze and the Punta Gnifetti, the very steep couloir leading to it being impracticable, but leads over the N.E. shoulder of the former.

Leaving the hut the rocks immediately behind it are not followed, but a slight détour made to the right, so as to reach the crest of these rocks rather higher up, the route keeping always to the W. of the hanging Parrot Glacier. They are then followed—one can go practically where one likes, nowhere meeting with any particular

climbing difficulty—to the foot of the great summit snow slope or calotte of the Parrot Spitze (about 5 hrs. from the hut). The ascent of this—it is best to keep as far as possible to the barely emerging crest or convex part of the slope away to the right—takes, when steps can, as is usually the case, be kicked, 1 hr. One aims for the lower end of a curtain of rocks which lead in 35 min. to the N.E. arête of the Parrot Spitze, some 60 or more feet above the true col, to which the descent is easy, or the summit of the Parrot Spitze is reached over an easy snow arête in 20 min. more. Total time from the hut to the pass, 6 hrs. 35 min.

From the summit of the Parrot Spitze it is easy to descend the S.W. arête to the Piode Joch (20 min.), whence the Gnifetti hut is reached *via* the Lys Joch in about 1½ hr.

The Sesia Joch does not, when the above route is taken, in any way deserve its name of 'a difficult and dangerous expedition,' nor ought even the descent to offer any serious difficulties or dangers. On the contrary the expedition is a very fine one, well within the powers of any party of qualified mountaineers. It is apparently unknown to the Zermatt guides. The rock-climbing cannot be called in any sense hard, and unless the calotte is ice, as it may be later in the season, the snow work is nothing very exceptional.

The Gugliermas, whom we met at the Valsesia hut, pointed out to me that the earlier parties obviously kept to the N.E. of the hanging Parrot Glacier, whereas the present route keeps to its W. The routes only join somewhere about the foot of the calotte. This is certainly in accordance with Mr. H. B. George's very vivid description of the first passage of this great col, when he and Mr. A. W. Moore were led by Almer, then in his prime, and no doubt the difficulties they met with on their route warranted the character which he bestowed on the expedition.

I cannot too strongly recommend this triple expedition as a most interesting addition to the regular Zermatt programme.

My companions were Mr. H. V. Reade and Mr. George Gask (who led us well on the Sesia), and the dates July 25, 27, and 28, 1908.

J. P. FARRAR.

CORRECTIONS IN 'ALPINE JOURNAL,' No. 183.—P. 440, l. 9, the date of Mr. W. Trotter's election should be 1863; p. 453, l. 15, col. 2, for A. W. read R. W.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

The Climbs on Lliwedd. By J. M. Archer Thomson and A. W. Andrews. With illustrations and diagrams. Issued by the Climbers' Club. London: Edward Arnold, 1909. 12mo. 5s. net.

THIS volume is the first of a new series. Modern guide-books to climbs in the United Kingdom may be said to have begun with Mr. Haskett-Smith's little volume, about the size of the one before

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