

at 4.15 A.M. Crossed Outram's 'first col' at the base of the N.W. arête ('A. J.' xxi. 105), and traversed névé under N.W. face to 'second col' ('A. J.' xx. 545) at foot of main W. arête (7.45 A.M.). From second col traversed back up steep snow of N.W. face, commencing step-cutting at once. Followed a succession of steep ice-couloirs, being constantly forced to our left, that is towards the middle of the face. Step-cutting continuous with the exception of two vertical bands of rock about 15 feet high. Reached foot of final cliff about 1 P.M. Climbed with great difficulty along line of almost vertical ill-formed crack 60 feet in height. By short steep snow-slope direct to summit (2.15 P.M.). Descent by N. ridge greatly delayed by deep snow, cornices, and iced rocks. Lowest 'band' cleared 9.45 P.M. Camp 1.15 A.M.

The long outlying northern spur which is separated from Mt. Assiniboine by the 'first col' was traversed by the same party with the addition of Miss Longstaff. None of its peaks appear to have been previously climbed. On July 8 the terminal peak, christened Goat's Tower (c. 9500 ft.), was ascended by the steep rocks of its S.E. face. On July 9 the spur was followed from its commencement at the 'first col' over several minor summits, and the highest peak, christened Mt. Katharine (c. 10,000 ft.), was traversed from W. to E. From this point the resemblance of Mt. Assiniboine to the Matterhorn is most striking.

## VARIOUS EXPEDITION

### *Pennine Alps.*

DENT BLANCHE (4364 m. = 14,318 ft.), BY THE E. ARÊTE.—Reverting to Mr. Raeburn's paper in 'A. J.' xxiv. 627 seq., Louis Theytaz of Zinal, the leader of the second ascent by this route, has informed Mr. Raeburn that the actual date was September 21—not September 28—1898, and that the summit was reached at 2 P.M.—not 2 A.M. The date and time quoted by Mr. Raeburn were taken from the account in 'A. J.' xix. 248. Thus this expedition was in reality one of the speediest recorded.

A few days after the expedition of Messrs. Raeburn and Ling, viz. on August 11, 1908, the guides Louis Theytaz and Felix Abbet of Zinal led Mlle. Marie Bruneton and her nephew M. Philippe Kreiss up the Dent Blanche by the original Viereselgrat. The Mountet Hut was left at 1 A.M. and the summit attained at 6.20 P.M. An account of this expedition, from the pen of the lady, appears in 'La Montagne' Janvier 20, 1910.

A further ascent by this route, but with an important variation, was made on July 27, 1910, by Mr. R. W. Lloyd with Josef Pollinger and Franz Imboden; full details of this ascent will appear in the next number.

On August 18 last, M. le Dr. Thomas of Paris, with the guide Auguste Blanc of Bonneval, left Mountet at 2.30 A.M. and reached the summit by the Viereselgrat route about 2 P.M. They descended by the route described in 'A.J.' xxv. 169, and were thus able to reach Mountet by about 8 P.M.

DENT D'HÉRENS (4180 m. = 13,715 ft.).—With the erection of the admirable Schönbuhl hut, this beautiful but little visited peak has been brought comfortably within the Zermatt circle. In 'A.J.' xxiv. 327, Mr. W. C. Compton describes a convenient variation by the W.N.W. face, which considerably shortens the ascent from the Zermatt side. He mentions also a hope that the summit may be brought within 7 hours of the Staffel Alp, and that a way may be found down the ice-fall, to avoid the stone dangers of the Tiefenmattenjoch. With the aid of the Schönbuhl, on August 18 of this year, Marcus Heywood, Josef Knubel and myself were able in part to realise these expectations. We struck straight up the hanging ice of the W.N.W. face, but instead of leaving the broken ice after about  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour and bearing away up the snow slope on to the W. ridge, as did Mr. Compton's party, we continued straight up through the ice cliffs, surmounting the last wall by a delightful hanging bridge, and joined the W. ridge only a short distance below its junction with the N.W. and S. ridges. We reached the top in  $6\frac{1}{2}$  hours from the hut. On the descent we took to the face still higher, immediately at the junction, and, using irons, were able to drop down on to the Tiefenmatten plateau in 30 minutes from the summit. We succeeded in avoiding the stone-swept left bank in descending the lower ice-fall, and unravelled a quick route down the centre of the fall. The Schönbuhl was reached in  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours from the peak, including a swim in the glacier pool below the Stockje—one of the many attractions surrounding the new hut.

Both the route up the ice cliffs of the W.N.W. face and the safe line through the Tiefenmatten ice-fall are probably closed in fine years; but the sunless summers have now to be reckoned with.

G. W. YOUNG.

#### *Ortler Group.*

TRAVERSE OF THE KÖNIGSPITZE (3857 m. = 12,651 ft.), M. ZEBRU (3710 and 3735 m. = 12,169 and 12,271 ft.) AND ORTLER (3902 m. = 12,798 ft.).—On August 19, 1910, Mr. S. L. Courtauld and I, with the guides Rudolf Pinggera and Hans Sepp Pinggera II. of Sulden, left the Hallesche Hut on the Eisse Pass, at 1.45 A.M., and traversing the Schrötenhorn and Kreilspitze, reached the top of the Königspitze at 5.15. We descended by the Suldengrat, traversed both peaks of the Zebru, ascended the Ortler by the Hochjochgrat, and, descending by the ordinary route, reached Sulden at 9 P.M.

We thought this expedition a very fine one; we were at a height of over 10,000 feet all the way from the Hallesche Hut (about

17 hours) and saw splendid views both near and distant all the time.

In a favourable season our times could doubtless be considerably lessened. After leaving the top of the Königspitze the snow was very bad all day. Large cornices, frequently shifting from one side of the arête to the other, necessitated moving with great caution in several places—both on the Königspitze and Zebra.

The climb struck me as being difficult, but the guides informed us that in good condition it is much easier. The most difficult place was between the two summits of the Zebra. The weather was fine and the climbing interesting all day.

TIMES (actual going, excluding halts):

	Hours
Hallesche Hut to Königspitze (summit) . . .	3½
Königspitze (summit) to Suldenjoch . . .	4
Suldenjoch to Zebra (S. summit) . . .	2¼
Zebra (S. summit) to N. summit . . .	1
Zebra (N. summit) to Hochjoch . . .	¼
Hochjoch to Ortler (summit) . . .	3¼
Ortler (summit) to Sulden Hotel . . .	3¼
	17½

EDMUND G. OLIVER.

## 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, 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 Rhone and Rhine valleys.

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY.—P. R. Parkinson (1908), Rev. Canon C. B. Hutchinson (1862), F. Tendron (1876), M. Carteighe (1880), E. Kelly (1890), E. B. Rodway (1887), A. J. Butler (1886), A. P. Whately (1858).

THE FRENCH ALPINE CLUB. FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SKI MEETING. This meeting will be held at Lioran (1161 metres) from the 10th to