

not think—to speak of those of whom I have had long and intimate personal experience—he was quite comparable to Melchior Anderegg, Christian Almer, Ulrich Almer, Hans Jaun (in his best days), or to Klucker ten or fifteen years ago, or Joseph Pollinger to-day. As an all-round man he was probably not excelled, unless possibly by the two last named; for he was at least as good a rock-climber as any one of the rest, while he was inferior to none of them as a path-finder, and in what has been happily described as ‘le vrai instinct des glaciers.’

His death removes a remarkable and most picturesque personality from the Alps, and I hope that you who knew him far better than any other English climber will write a detailed ‘In Memoriam’ notice of him—of which he is well worthy—for the ‘Alpine Journal.’ Guido Rey will no doubt do so for the Italian ‘Bollettino,’ and very interesting it should be to compare the two appreciations, each made by so competent and so sympathetic a judge.

THE ALPINE CLUB WINTER EXHIBITION OF ALPINE PRINTS, ENGRAVINGS, AND BLACK AND WHITE DRAWINGS.

MR. GODFREY ELLIS is to be most heartily congratulated on having produced one of the most interesting exhibitions hitherto held at the Alpine Club, whose doors were opened to the members and their friends from December 9 to 29, for the exhibition of ‘A Loan Collection of Alpine Prints, Engravings, and Black and White Drawings.’

The exhibitors must have been very much gratified at the evident interest which was shown in the really remarkable collection of about 100 black and white drawings, and over 320 Alpine prints and engravings.

Mr. Ellis and Mr. Nettleton, both of whom possess large collections of the latter, were the chief contributors, the other exhibitors who contributed in varying degrees to the success of the exhibition being Sir Edward Davidson, Sir Alexander Kennedy, Sir W. M. Conway, Messrs. Baillie-Grohman, Baird, Barnes, Baumer, Browne, Ellis Carr, C. T. Dent, G. F. A. England, Gardiner, C. A. Hunt, R. W. Lloyd, Longden, H. F. Montaigner, G. H. Morse, A. L. Mumm, G. A. Solly, S. Spencer, G. L. Stampa, Steele, P. H. Thorpe, Townshend, H. Wagner, A. H. Willink, H. G. Willink, C. H. R. Wollaston, and G. W. Young, Rev. H. J. Heard, Rev. W. Weston, Rev. A. V. Valentine Richards, Mrs. S. Morse, Miss Pawsey, the proprietors of *Punch*, the Alpine Club, and finally Dr. Dübi and Monsieur C. Montandon, who very kindly sent from Switzerland a splendid contribution of Alpine prints.

Most of the prints and engravings were over 100 years old, some dating as far back as 1770.

More than half of the prints depicted views on the lakes and in the subalpine districts, whilst about 100 represented scenes in the High

Alps. It is curious to note that they were almost entirely confined to the Mont Blanc range and the Bernese Oberland, these being presumably the only two great mountain districts which offered decent accommodation for the enterprising travellers who appeared to have visited them in steadily increasing numbers, for it is evident that the exploits of De Saussure and his successor aroused a desire to gain a more intimate knowledge of the great Alpine giants for so many centuries shrouded in mystery.

There were two solitary prints of views near Zermatt, one of the Boden Glacier, and one of the Zmutt Glacier, neither of which probably dates farther back than 1850. As we know that De Saussure visited this valley and ascended the Klein Matterhorn, and that sundry other ascents were made in the range in the early part of the nineteenth century, it seems extraordinary that the attention of the engravers of that day was not directed to that valley, and more especially to the Matterhorn, which could hardly have produced less impression on the early traveller than it does on the *blasé* tourist of to-day. Some such prints may possibly exist, but in any case none found their way to the exhibition.

It was very interesting to notice the difference in the extent of the glaciers compared with the present day.

It is obviously impossible to give a very detailed notice of the prints.

The finest exhibits in the room were, without doubt, two exquisite prints by F. N. Koenig, 'Le Retour des Alpes' and 'La Famille Laborieuse,' both lent by M. Montandon, although many probably considered two prints by Freudenberger, 'Les Chanteuses du Mois de Mai' and 'La Petite Fête Imprévue,' lent by Mr. H. G. Willink, equally fine.

A very rare and beautiful print was the 'Vue prise du Cimetière de Thoune,' by W. Woher. It may be remarked that the quaint spelling on many of the prints was reproduced in the catalogue.

There was also a very fine selection of prints by Aberli, one of the earliest engravers to produce coloured Alpine prints.

Another interesting set shown were those known as Descourti's prints, engraved by Wolff & Rosenberg.

Two beautiful prints of remarkable freshness were shown by Mr. Spencer in the 'Vue du fameux Mt. Blanc,' by Bac d'Albe, and 'Vue du Château de Chillon,' by Hubert.

There were several other fine examples of Bac d'Albe.

The prints by G. Lory Père and G. Lory Fils were all worth examination, especially 'L'Entrée dans la Vallée de Chaumont' (1788).

Those by J. A. Linck (lent by Mr. Godfrey Ellis) were distinguished by a quite delightful softness of tone to be found in few others in the room.

Other charming sets were those by Schilbach, Bidermann, and Grundmann; and twelve Tyrolese views by B. de Ben, sent by Mr. Baillie-Grohman, looked exceedingly effective hung side by side in two rows.

There were several versions of the well-known prints illustrating De Saussure's ascent of Mt. Blanc, all of which have apparently been drawn from the same sources, similar figures with some variations of positions appearing in all the prints. The two shown by Sir Alexander Kennedy are identical with the two sent by Mr. Ellis, excepting that the figure of De Saussure differs as to the position and costume. The prints belonging to Mr. Ellis are, we believe, exceedingly rare. Two of the other prints showed a curious discrepancy in the date, giving 1785 as the year of the ascent.

There were also interesting portraits of De Saussure, Dr. Paccard, Jacques Balmat, and Cachat le Géant. Two prints of the Source of the Arveyron, and of the Glacier des Bossons, were also interesting as being made from drawings by Bourrit.

There were a few entertaining prints of the gymnastic performances of chamois hunters, one illustrating an amusing mode of the use of the rope to pull an adventurous amateur up a steep rock face.

A very attractive and instructive group of prints gave illustrations of the old native costumes, and of domestic life in the mountains. Particularly interesting was a set of prints entitled 'Jeux et Usages,' lent by Rev. H. J. Heard.

Two very quaint and characteristic prints of Fuji Yama, by Hokusai, were shown by the Rev. W. Weston.

Modern work was well represented by two very beautiful coloured photogravures from pictures by Mr. E. T. Compton, one being Monte Rosa from Monte Moro, and the other the Rosengarten Range, both lent by Mr. E. A. Broome.

Turning our attention now to the other section of the exhibition, Sir Edward Davidson lent four splendid examples in monochrome of Mr. E. T. Compton's art. Mr. Compton's drawing of peaks and ridges is unerringly correct, and at the same time he always conveys the majesty of the mountains. As exemplified by the remarkably correct drawing of the Matterhorn, Ruskin showed that he at least had no desire to improve on the design of nature.

There were several nice monochrome sketches of Alpine snow scenery by Mr. A. D. McCormick, but the best exhibits from this gentlemen were the charming Himalayan pen and ink sketches, and two excellent climbing sketches, 'The Crack Climber' and 'Crossing the Bergschrund.'

Mr. Ellis Carr sent fourteen very delightful pen and ink drawings of British Hill and Sea-cliff Scenery. The minute detail which he has worked into these drawings is quite extraordinary, and that without impairing them in any way in an artistic sense.

Mr. C. A. Hunt sent several pleasing sketches, of which the 'Old Bridge, Lucerne,' and the impressionist 'Rothhorn from the Hornli' took our fancy most. Other interesting exhibits were a drawing of Mt. Blanc by J. A. Linck, and some pencil drawings in the same district by J. J. Juite, about one hundred years old.

Three very pretty pictures were those by Mr. Longden of New

Zealand Alpine scenery, and Miss Pawsey showed some nice little pencil sketches.

The drawings by Mr. I. Finnemore were very well executed, but the attitudes of the party cutting steps, and the angles of the slopes down which the party glissaded, did not suggest the precautions which experience was supposed to have suggested.

We were very glad to renew our acquaintance with Mr. H. G. Willink's inimitable drawings of the incidents of a climber's day. How could those who have experienced the miserable joys of 'The Doubtful Day' fail to take a delight in Mr. Willink's sketch.

The humorous side of Alpine life was well in evidence at the exhibition.

We had several original *Punch* drawings, of which perhaps the most successful was 'Toil and Pleasure,' by Mr. G. L. Stampa.

'A Lecture at the Alpine Club,' by Mr. George Morrow, was extremely comical, and should really find a permanent home in the Club rooms. Another delightfully humorous sketch was 'A Very Comfortable Place,' by Mr. Lewis Baumer, who also sent two others equally well drawn, but not quite so telling in humour.

Mr. Arthur Rackham's originality was well displayed in the delightful 'Alpine Notes,' which was worth careful study, as were also the two other *Punch* drawings by Mr. Townshend and Mr. Rowntree, both of which added decidedly to the gaiety of the exhibition, which would certainly not have been complete without something from the facile pencil of the popular Sir F. Carruthers Gould, who always manages to strike the right note. The drawing of the chamois with Mr. Bryce's head was one of the best things shown. There were two very nice original drawings for book plates by Mr. L. L. Brooke and Mr. Harold Nelson.

The arrangement and hanging of the exhibits was kindly supervised by Mr. Sydney Spencer, whose great experience was an invaluable aid in this important detail.

THE ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY.

THE following additions have been made to the Library since July:—

New Books, Pamphlets and Articles.

- Alpine Club of Canada:** *see* Rockies, 1909.
- Alpine Gipfführer.** Stuttgart u. Leipzig, Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt, 1909.
8vo, ill. M. 1.50 each
- xviii. Das Binnhorn und seine Umgebung, von Jos. Gmelch. pp. 76.
- xix. Das Zuckerhütl und seine Nachbarn, von Ernst Entress. pp. 76.
- xx. Schwarzstein-Mörchner-Möselle, von Leon Treptow. pp. 81.
- Baedeker, Carl.** Switzerland and the adjacent portions of Italy, Savoy, and Tyrol. 23rd edition.
Leipzig, Baedeker; London, Unwin; New York, Scribner, 1909. M.9
8vo, pp. xl, 584; maps.
- Binz, A.,** Flore du Binnental; *see* Desbuissons, L.
- Bosazza, F.** L'alpinismo nel biennio 1907-8. In La Rassegna nazionale,
Firenze, vol. clxix. 15 Settembre 1909
8vo, pp. 10.