

Abraham Müller Vater and a Lauterbrunnen guide, happened to be at the hut, and scenting an accident when the two Swiss climbers failed to return, they started out before dawn next morning—the one party by the couloir, the other by the Gagg—and were able to render assistance. Herr Seelig had travelled in Montenegro and Albania as well as in the Andes of Bolivia, and although sixty years of age was still active enough to have made, during the last summer, ascents of the Matterhorn and Gabelhorn. He was an enthusiastic mountaineer, a charming host, and the accident to him and his companions is much to be regretted.

Herr Hurter is described as twenty-seven years of age and a competent mountaineer.

ALPINE NOTES.

‘BALL’S ALPINE GUIDE.’ VOL. I. THE WESTERN ALPS.—Copies of the new edition (1898) of this work can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Edward Stanford, Limited, 12 Long Acre, W.C. 2. Price 12s. net.

‘BALL’S ALPINE GUIDE,’ THE CENTRAL ALPS. PART I.—A new edition (1907) 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, can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Edward Stanford, Limited, 12 Long Acre, W.C. 2. It includes those portions of Switzerland to the N. of the Rhône and Rhine valleys. Price 6s. 6d. net.

‘BALL’S ALPINE GUIDE,’ THE CENTRAL ALPS. PART II.—A new edition (1911) 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 the Rev. George Broke, can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Edward Stanford, Limited, 12 Long Acre, W.C. 2. It includes those Alpine portions of Switzerland, Italy, and Austria which lie S. and E. of the Rhône and Rhine, S. of the Arlberg, and W. of the Adige. Price 7s. 6d. net.

MAP OF THE VALSESIA.—Some copies of the Map issued with the ALPINE JOURNAL No. 209, and of the plates opposite pages 108 and 128 in No. 208, are available and can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, Alpine Club, 23 Savile Row, W. Price for the set (the Map mounted on cloth), 3s.

CLUBFÜHRER DURCH DIE WALLISER-ALPEN (CLIMBERS’ GUIDE TO THE PENNINE ALPS).—Vol. III., in 2 parts, of this new

Climbers' Guide, edited by Dr. Dübi, covering the country from the Théodule to the Simplon, has just been published (in German). The price of the volume (to members of the S.A.C.) is 5fr. 15c. Post free from the Quæstor of the respective section. The book is so well furnished with route-marked illustrations that a very scanty knowledge of German suffices for its use.

The volume from the Col Ferret to the Théodule is in a forward state.

THE ALPINE CLUB OBITUARY.—

	Elected.
Rolland, J. H. W.	1885.
Newmarch, F. W.	1889.
Wood, H. J. T.	1890.

We learn with much satisfaction that one of our oldest members—**M. CASIMIR DE CANDOLLE**, elected in 1864—retains to the full his interest in the doings of the Club. Although eighty-one years of age his memory is as retentive as ever, while he gets about remarkably well. M. de Candolle paid his first visit to Chamonix in 1847, ascended the Mont Blanc in 1867, and has ascended Monte Rosa (twice) and the Piz Bernina, serious expeditions in the late 'sixties. His membership of the Club was due to his long friendship with Sir Alfred Wills, whom he met through the Marcets in London while still a young man. His grandfather the illustrious Augustin-Pyramus de Candolle was a friend of De Saussure, and it will keenly interest every Englishman to learn that his eldest son is a Brigadier-General in the English service, while another son is British consul in Geneva. The close relations of these old Genevese families, like the de Candolles, Pasteurs, Marcets, and others, with this country are of long standing, splendidly emphasized by the services of their sons to the Empire in the present juncture.

Another of our veterans, the Rev. F. T. WETHERED, now in his forty-fifth year of membership of the Club, completes, on February 5, fifty years' incumbency of the living of Hurley near Marlow. For the last twenty-eight Christmas Days he has bathed in the Thames before 8.15 A.M., and regularly practises bathing all the year round. Mr. Wethered is nearly seventy-eight, and attributes the excellent health he now always enjoys to Alpine climbing in years gone by and to regular bathing in the Thames before breakfast all the year round. He is still as vigorous a correspondent on matters of mountaineering interest as he was, in days gone by, an ardent and untiring mountaineer. It will be remembered that, led by Christian Almer, sen., he was the first to make the *descent* of the N. face of the Mönch.

Two of his sons have been awarded the D.S.O. for services in the present war. Mr. and Mrs. Wethered celebrated their Golden Wedding last December.

MARTIN SCHOCHER, THE ENGADINE GUIDE.—In 'Alpina' of August 15, 1917, Herr Fritsch gives some interesting reminiscences of this famous guide. He was born in the Safien Valley, a tributary of the Vorder Rhein Valley, in 1850, and went to St. Moritz about 1870, where his main occupation was fishing and hunting. He was often taken as second guide by Hans Grass, but it was not until 1879 that he made his first ascent of the Bernina and began to guide independently. He married in 1884 and moved to Pontresina. He was only twice in the Vallais, where his only important expeditions were the Dent Blanche, Matterhorn, and Rothhorn. Bad weather spoilt his only visit to Chamonix. He was a devoted father to his ten children, with whom he often made expeditions, and this had much to do with his staying so much in his own district.

In his thirty years of active work, from 1885 to 1914, he made 1399 expeditions, including the following: Bernina 234 ascents (58 by the Scharde and 13 in winter), Roseg 61, Palù 130, Disgrazia 9, Scerscen 22, Crast' Agüzza 56, Morteratsch 86, Diavolezza 149, Julier 24.

He had probably done more winter ascents than any other guide. His ascent from Sassfora of the couloir to the Forcola del Badile, done with Klucker, and his ascent of Piz Cengalo by the N. face are among the most desperate expeditions ever done, and have not been repeated.

CHAMONIX.—A correspondent writes (December 15): 'The weather is very fine and sky clear. We have about 6 inches of snow; it is cold—16 to 18° C. Life is very quiet, one train a day—much wood-cutting is being done for the army. Notwithstanding the scarcity of fuel the winter season promises well, and the hotels have many applicants. There was a great rush of tourists—ladies and children—in August, and all the hotels were quite full. Many American *permissionaires* ascended Mont Blanc—the Col du Géant was crossed twice—the séracs very difficult. The inns on the Plan des Aiguilles, the Flégère, Brévent, and at Lognan were all open last summer

We much regret to learn that DR. OTTO ZSIGMONDY, the survivor of the famous brothers, died recently in Vienna, in his fifty-eighth year.

The death is announced at Astrakhan of the well-known Alpine climber and Caucasian authority Dr. OSCAR SCHUSTER. Dr. Schuster was travelling in the Caucasus at the outbreak of the war and was interned by the Russians.