

Sir Alexander Kennedy's six pictures were too varied in character to bring under any one category, but all showed his accustomed felicity of selection, and Mr. Gunston was singularly happy in his choice of foregrounds. The winter scenes were few but good, particularly Mr. Quincey's interesting studies of pine forests in their winter garb, Mr. Spencer's beautiful 'Charmoz and Grepon'—his solitary contribution—and an exquisite 'Chamonix' from Mr. Woolley, who also sent two very beautiful Caucasian views.

Subalpine scenes were also less numerous than usual. Pre-eminent amongst them was Mrs. Carson's 'Barque on the Lake of Geneva,' a veritable gem; Mr. Gunston's 'Visp' and Miss Margaret King's 'La Grave' were also interesting.

Mr. Bode showed some effective colour photographs taken at Pontresina and Cortina.

Mr. Sydney Spencer's work in organising and arranging the Exhibition was, as always, beyond criticism. The Club owes a special debt of gratitude this year both to him and to the contributors who supported him in very depressing circumstances.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE ALPINE CLUB.

By Dr. C. WILSON :

The Alpine portrait album of the late William Mathews. The portraits, taken in the 'sixties, include :

John Ball, J. J. Cowell, A. Wills, Principal Forbes, Elliot Blackstone, H. B. George (2), G. S. Mathews, C. E. Mathews (as a young man), Wm. Mathews, B. St. John Mathews, R. C. Nichols, C. B. Hutchinson, Hinchliff, Horace Walker (quite young), Macdonald, Ed. Bowling, Leslie Stephen (very early, beardless), Chanoine Carrel, Signor Sella (the minister), Moore, Hardy, Tuckett (with and without beard), R. Liveing, Adams-Reilly, P. H. Lawrence, Sedley Taylor, T. F. and E. N. Buxton, W. Longman, Whympier (probably 1864), Miss Brevoort and Tschingel, Professor Bonney (about 1865 and about 1867), E. S. Kennedy, Edward Schweitzer and the guides J. B. and Michel Croz, Bennen, A. Simond, Jean Tairraz (of Aosta).

By Dr. W. A. WILLS :

A collection of rare pamphlets on the theory of glaciers as mentioned under Ball, Tyndall, Brewster &c., in the 'Older Books' section of the 'Alpine Club Library' in the present number.

Michel Carrier's 'Notice biographique sur Jacques Balmat.'

J. F. Ducros. Chansons en patois.

They are all bound up together and formed a favourite volume of his father, the late Sir Alfred Wills.

By the Rev. A. FAIRBANKS :
Notes on Bel Alp.

By Mrs. MAYNE, sister of the late Clinton T. Dent :
A replica of the Plaque illustrated in 'A.J.' xxx. 90.

By Mr. H. N. MATHEWS, of Aldwick, Bognor, son of the late William Mathews (per Mr. C. Myles Mathews) :
Three original letters from William Mathews to F. J. A. Hort, dated Feb. 1, 8, and 16, 1857. These letters give interesting and detailed accounts (with pen-and-ink sketches) of a journey in the Pennines.

At the end of the first letter is the earliest suggestion of the formation of the Alpine Club, reading as follows :

'In the meantime, I want you to consider whether it would not be possible to establish an *Alpine Club*, the members of which might dine together once a year, say in London, and give each other what information they could. Each member at the close of any Alpine tour, whether in Switzerland or elsewhere, should be required to furnish to the President a short account of all the undescribed excursions he had made, with a view to the publication of an annual or biennial volume. We should thus get a good deal of useful information in a form available to the members. Alpine tourists now want to know the particulars of the following "courses" which I believe have been recently made: Finsteraarhorn, Jungfrau from Grindelwald, Altels, Galenstock, Dom, Weisshorn, Zinal Pass, Crête à Collon, and many others.'

By Mr. Wm. LEIGHTON JORDAN, F.S.S., &c. &c. (a former member of the A.C.) :

His 'Essays in illustration of the action of Astral Gravitation in Natural Phenomena' containing a chapter 'The ends of the Cordillera de los Andes.'

The best thanks of the Club are offered to the donors.

It is intended, with the portraits mentioned and a few already in the possession of the Club, to endeavour to form a collection of portraits of members and guides of the early days of mountaineering (to about 1870), and to reproduce some of them from time to time in the JOURNAL.

Any further presentations of such portraits, or their loan for the purpose of being copied, will be much appreciated.
Communications may be addressed in the first place to the Hon. Secretary.