

ounce of energy into any problem upon which he embarks. Alfred, who was serving only the second season of his apprenticeship, is fast following in his brother's footsteps. He too will, sooner or later, become a first-class guide. Four Courmayeur porters accompanied us up to the Col Supérieur du Fresnay. They carried heavy loads, but through all the trying situations that arose, they preserved their good humour and determination. Their conduct was admirable.

Note.—Those interested in photography may like to have the following particulars of my photographic equipment. I carried two cameras; the first a quarter-plate roll-film Ensign fitted with Compur shutter and Zeiss Tessar lens $f/4.5$, $F = 10.5$ cm.; total weight, including case, about 2 lb. My second camera was a Goerz Tenax roll-film, VPK size, fitted with Compur shutter and Goerz Dogmar lens $f/4.5$, $F = 7.5$ cm.; weight, 8 ozs. Three-quarter plate spools of twelve exposures each, and five VPK spools of eight exposures each (Kodak non-autographic speed film), were used. Two films were spoilt through omitting to wind the film after exposure. The remainder were satisfactory. The spools were packed separately in airtight and moisture-proof tins. No light filters were used.

THE FIRST WINTER ASCENTS OF THE VALLAISAN
SUMMITS OVER 4000 M.

COMPILED BY MARCEL KURZ.

[Monsieur Marcel Kurz, the Swiss topographical engineer, is good enough to supply the following notes of first winter ascents. His own experience is considerable, as he has himself ascended, in winter, the summits marked *. His MS, which will be available at the A.C., contains notes of the principal attempts in which the summit was not actually gained, and of other completed ascents].

1. *Grand Combin* * (4317 m.).

F. F. Roget and Marcel Kurz with Maurice Crettez. March 31, 1907. Left Cabane Panossière 7.15; on ski to the foot of the Col du Meiten (10.55–11.15); Col du Meiten 11.45; Combin de Valsorey 14.30; Grand Combin 15.30–15.40. Back at Panossière 20.00. Excellent conditions. Rocks absolutely dry.

2. *Dent Blanche* * (4364 m.).

F. F. Roget and Marcel Kurz with Maurice and Jules Crettez, Louis Theytaz and Léonce Murisier. January 13, 1911. Left Bertol 6.00; on ski to the W. foot of P. 3714 (9.15-9.45); S. arête 10.10-11.00; P. 3912, 11.25; S. arête above the big gendarme 13.00; summit 15.30. Resumed ski at 20.30 and back at Bertol by moonlight. It snowed nearly all day on January 10, but the mountain was in good condition. Weather a little uncertain and misty at intervals. Moderately cold.

3. *Ober Gabelhorn* * (4073 m.).

Marcel Kurz with Joseph Knubel. February 3, 1920. Left Hotel Trift 4.45; on ski by the Trift Glacier to the snowy shoulder N.E. of the Wellenkuppe (8.45-9.20); Wellenkuppe 10.10; summit Gd. Gendarme 10.50-11.05; summit Ober Gabelhorn 12.50-13.10; Gd. Gendarme 14.00-14.10; Wellenkuppe 15.10-15.20; Trift 17.10. Notwithstanding the snowstorms of January 31 and February 1, the mountain was dry, except for the final arête. Two portions of the arête between the Wellenkuppe and the Ober Gabelhorn were hard ice and we found there the previous summer's steps. Weather uncertain in the morning with a disagreeable wind, fine after 11.00. Very moderately cold.

The first winter ascent of the Wellenkuppe was made on January 19, 1893, by Mr. Sydney Spencer with C. Jossi and Ad. Schaller.

4. *Zinal Rothhorn* * (4223 m.).

Marcel Kurz with Théophile Theytaz. February 7, 1914. Left Mountet 7.20; on ski to Le Blanc (9.15-9.40); Epaule (4065 m.) 10.30-10.35; summit 12.30-13.00; skis 14.55-15.05; Mountet 15.45-16.20; Zinal 17.40. Mountain in perfect condition. It had not snowed for three weeks. Weather superb and absolutely calm.

5. *Weisshorn* (4512 m.).

L. F. Ryan with Alois Pollinger, Joseph and Raphael Lochmatter. January 10, 1902. From Randa to the Weisshorn hut in 7 hr. Next day, left at 6.30. Breakfast place 11.30. Up to here snow powdery and deep. Passage of the rocky arête in 55 min. Rocks dry. Final arête nearly

all ice. Last 2 hrs. continuous cutting. Summit 14.50. Weather superb and absolutely calm. Rocks 15.50; breakfast place 16.35; hut 18.05.

6. *Bieshorn* * (4161 m.).

The guides Pierre Cotter, Jean Genoud, Jean Epiney and Théophile Theytaz, December 22, 1912, succeeded in making on ski the first winter ascent, from Zinal in 12 hr. by the Roc de la Vache, the Col de Tracuit and the Tourtemagne Glacier.

7. *Dent d'Hérens* * (4180 m.).

(1) Mario Piacenza with G. B. Péliissier and G. Carrel. January 16 (or ? 9), 1910. On the 15th left Oyace (Valpelline) at 7.00 on raquettes. Arrive Rifugio Aosta (about 2800 m.) at 20.00. On 16th left refuge at 7.00 (powdery snow); Col des Grandes Murailles 10.30; summit 13.00–14.00. Weather superb and calm (–15° C.). Returned by same route reaching Rifugio at night.

(2) Herbert Hafers de Magalhaes with Adolf Schaller and Viktor Biner. February 28, 1918. From the Schönbühl hut on ski to the foot of the Tiefenmattenjoch. Ascended by cutting to the col, then on crampons by the arête. This took scarcely any longer than in summer; 3½ hr. for the ascent and 3 hr. for the descent.

8. *Matterhorn* * (4482 m.).

(1) Vittorio Sella with J. A., L. and J. B. Carrel. March 16–18, 1882. After two attempts in February (in the course of which the Italian hut was reached) the party left Breuil on March 16 at 23.00, reached the Glacier du Lion at 3.00 (on 17th) and the Col du Lion at 6.00. At 10.00 they arrived at the Pic Tyndall ('without extraordinary difficulty'); summit 14.00 (rocks dry). Traverse and descent very easy to the shoulder (rocks absolutely dry). Below the shoulder more snow than usual. Arrived at the old hut at 19.30. Descended (on 18th) to Zermatt. On 19th returned to Breuil by the Théodule. Temperature very supportable, weather splendid.

(2) Charles Simon with Alex. Burgener and Alois Pollinger (father). March 27, 1894. The party left Schwarzsee at 1.00, ascended the Furggletscher and, following more or less the 'old route,' mounted almost directly to the old hut (8 hr.).

On the shoulder the steps cut the preceding summer were quite visible and much facilitated the ascent. From there to the summit, rocks almost dry. Summit 13.10–13.30 ('warm and wind free'). Rapid descent. Cold very severe after sunset. Old hut 16.30; Schwarzsee 20.20.

9. *Breithorn* (4171 m.).

Robert Helbling, Eduard Wagner and Hans Biehly. January 6, 1899. Left Schwarzsee on ski at 3.20; Piano Rose 8.0; by the arête to the Gobba di Rollin (10.15) which was all ice. Left skis on Plateau du Breithorn. Arrived on summit in shirt sleeves. On the descent ascended the Petit Cervin. Back at Schwarzsee 18.20.

10. *Pollux* * (4094 m.).

Alfred v. Martin and Karl Planck. March 7, 1913. From the Bétemps hut, on ski, by the Schwärze Glacier and the Schwarztor.

11. *Castor* * (4230 m.).

Alfred v. Martin, K. Planck and Heinz v. Roncador. March 5, 1913. From the Bétemps hut, on ski, by the Zwilling's glacier and the Felikjoch.

12. *Lyskamm* (4538 m.).

Vittorio, Corradino and Alfonso Sella with J. J. Maquignaz and P. Guglielmina. March 22, 1885. Left hotel on Col d'Olen (2865 m.) 1.00, and gained Lys Glacier without stopping at Cabane Gnifetti (3647 m.). Crossed S. arête of Lyskamm above Il Naso and so reached foot of Cresta Perazzi which was followed to the summit.

13. *Mont Rose—Pointe Dufour* (4638 m.).

Vittorio Sella with J. J. and Daniel Maquignaz and Battista Aymonod. January 26, 1884. On the 25th the party came from Breuil by the Théodule, *bivouacked under tents* on the Untere Plattje. Weather calm (-14° C.). On 26th left at 4.00. Powdery snow to 3800 m., then hard. Sattel 11.30; summit 13.30 (-16° C.). Back at the bivouac at 17.30. After a halt of 2 hr. left by lantern light and made a *second bivouac* under a large rock on the moraine, at the junction of the lower

Théodule Glacier with that of Petit Cervin. Furious wind (-8° C.). On 27th descended to Zermatt by the Gorner glacier and the Riffel. On 30th, after two days of tempest, returned to Valtournanche in 18 hr. by the Théodule.¹

On February 19, 1889, the four Sellas, with Daniel and Baptiste Maquignaz, and the porter Gamba *traversed* Monte Rosa (ascent by Cresta Rey). Times—from Cabane Gnifetti to summit, $9\frac{1}{2}$ hr.; to Sattel, $2\frac{1}{2}$ hr.; to Gorner glacier, 4 hr. (much fresh snow); traversing glacier, 4 hr. Forced to bivouac on Riffel.¹

14. *Strahlhorn* * (4191 m.).

H. Hoek and E. Schottelius. December 31, 1901. Left Fluh 6.10. On ski to 50 m. below Adler. Adler 11.45, then with crampons to summit 14.00. Descent to ski in 45 min., then a marvellous descent on excellent snow.

15. *Rimpfischhorn* * (4203 m.).

Hermann Woolley with Gabriel and Joseph (junior) Taugwalder. January 17, 1893. On foot by the ordinary route of the Rimpfischwänge. Left Zermatt at midnight. Summit 12.30–13.00. Zermatt 18.30. Very fine weather all day, but too cold (-21° at Zermatt). Very deep snow in the Findelen valley, but good on the mountain itself.

16. *Allalinhorn** (4034 m.).

A. Hurter and Max Stahel with Oscar and Othmar Supersaxo. April 1, 1907. From Saas Fee on ski by the Langenfluh and the Fee glacier to Feejoch. Thence on foot to summit. Mountain very bare. Much cutting. Ascent 12 hr. Descent 5 hr.

17. *Alphubel* (4207 m.).

Alf. V. Martin and Hermann Rumpelt with Oscar Supersaxo. March 29, 1910. After an attempt on 27th as far as the Fee Kopf (3912 m.) by the Langenfluh, the party on 29th gained on ski the Alphubeljoch in 9 hr. from Saas. They ascended a further 200 m. on ski and reached summit on foot. They crossed Alphubeljoch at 2.30, reaching Zermatt in about 3 hr.

¹ [Daniel Maquignaz more than once told me of the terrible hardship and labour incurred on these expeditions.—J. P. F.]

18. *Täschhorn* * (4498 m.).

Marcel Kurz with Joseph Knubel. February 7, 1920. Left Täschalp 3.15 (moonlight). On ski to the foot of the Weingarten moraine (4.05–4.15); then on crampons by the Weingarten glacier. Reached about 3700 m. (7.40–8.30) the rock ridge leading to the Mischabeljoch (9.40–10.15). Summit 12.45–13.20. Täschalp 17.00. Raquettes were used on the Weingarten glacier, the only place where the snow was not absolutely hard. General conditions excellent, but very cold Bise on the arête. At 8.00 (3700 m.) registered -22° C. which 'is the lowest I have observed on high mountains'—M. K.

19. *Dom* (4554 m.).

Sydney Spencer with Christian Jossi and Adolf Schaller. January 13, 1894. On the 12th ascended without difficulty to the Festi hut. Left hut 4.30; powdery snow very deep on the Festi glacier, many crevasses. Foot of Festijoch 9.30. Ascent by the N.W. arête which needed much cutting. Cold very severe, in spite of the calm weather. Summit 15.05–15.30. Returned to the hut (20.30) by moonlight. Weather perfect, but conditions bad.

20. *Lenzspitze* (4300 m.) and *Nadelhorn* (4334 m.).

H. Rey and — Gelpke with Heinrich Supersaxo. March 25, 1918. From Mischabel hut in 6 hr., by E. arête to the summit of Lenzspitze. From there, in 1 hr. 25 min. to Nadelhorn. Returned to hut in 1 hr. 40 m. by the Windjoch.

21. *Stecknadelhorn* (4235 m.), *Hohberghorn* (4226 m.),
Dürrenhorn (4035 m.).

Hans Fritsch with Othmar Supersaxo and Gustav Imsenge. March 5, 1921. From Mischabel hut (reached the day before in 4 hr.) 5.15; Windjoch 7.30. Descent to foot of Hohberg pass on Ried glacier (snow frozen hard to here), then up the steep snow couloir to pass (powdery snow knee-deep, sometimes deeper). Thence over the S.E. ridge to summit of Dürrenhorn (noon); back to pass 20 min. Over the slightly iced N.W. ridge to Hohberghorn about 3 hr., and to the saddle between that and Stecknadelhorn; snow ridge was hard and good going. Stecknadelhorn climbed from the saddle by the W. ridge 4.30,

and the summit of the Nadelhorn reached 5.40. Return over the Windjoch to the hut 7.40 P.M. Conditions generally very good and summerlike.

22. *Weissmies* (4031 m.).

Alf. V. Martin and Hermann Rumpelt. March 25, 1910. Left Hotel Weissmies 5.00; on ski to the Mellig glacier (8.00); summit 14.00; Hotel 16.45. Effective time: ascent 8 hr., descent $2\frac{1}{4}$ hr.

23. *Laquinhorn* (4005 m.).

H. Rey and Gelpke with Heinrich Supersaxo. March 22, 1918. Left Hotel Weissmies 8.15; ascended by W. arête; summit 13.25. Descended in 3 hrs.

24. *Fletschhorn* (4001 m.).

Angelo and Romano Calegare and G. Scotti. January 1, 1914. On December 31, 1913; bivouacked at Hohmatten (1904 m. in Laquinthal). Left Hohmatten 4.00. Up to Fletschhorn glacier three porters preceded the party to break trail. At 13.00 porters descended. At 14.45 reached Fletschjoch (3673 m.). Thence to summit and back to col. Left col about 18.00. Descent by moonlight to Hohmatten 23.30. On foot throughout, splendid weather.

IN MEMORIAM.

EDWARD THEODORE COMPTON.

1849-1921.

By the death of Edward Theodore Compton the Alpine Club has lost both an experienced mountaineer and a distinguished Alpine artist.

Compton was born at Stoke Newington on July 29, 1849. Already at an early age his talent for painting was manifest, for, when fifteen years old, he was awarded a prize for a painting entitled 'Moonlight on Derwentwater.'

He first visited the Alps in 1868, and in the following year spent six months in Switzerland with his brother, W. C. Compton, and climbed the Titlis, his first ascent above the snow-line. This trip seems definitely to have determined his career as an Alpine painter; he went on to Munich to study art during 1869-70. In 1870 he