

his especial study, and in some of his finest pictures of Venice has introduced them into the background, glowing in the richest sunshine and resplendent with the most dazzling colours. But they lose nothing on a nearer approach, and we gladly hail the appearance of this book, which gives so interesting an account of them that we doubt not they will speedily become a new and favourite field for Alpine adventure. We cannot conclude this notice without expressing our admiration of Mr. E. Whymper's woodcuts, which adorn the volume. They could only have been executed by one who is himself a thorough mountaineer as well as a skilful artist, and we predict that he will speedily become as famous for woodcuts of mountain scenery as Bewicke was for animals.

H. W. C.

SUMMARY OF NEW EXPEDITIONS DURING THE
SUMMER OF 1864, UP TO AUGUST 16.

Mountains of Dauphiné.

COL DES AIGUILLES D'ARVE, *June 21.*—Messrs. Moore, Horace Walker and Whymper, with Christian Almer and Michel Croz, left some châteaux at the entrance of the Vallon des Aiguilles d'Arve $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from Valloire, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from St. Michel on the Cenis road, at 3.55 A.M., and reached the head of the valley at the base of Les Aiguilles d'Arve at 5.30. Mounting thence along the left side of the valley and over a series of steep snow slopes, a col between the central and northern peaks was reached at 8.45. Estimated height, 10,450'. The descent was effected by a very steep snow couloir, and the party reached the châteaux of Rieu-blanc in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from the col, and the châteaux of La Sausse, near the head of the valley of St. Jean d'Arve, in half an hour more. Total actual walking, $5\frac{3}{4}$ hrs.

June 22.—The same party left the châteaux of La Sausse at 4.15 A.M. and ascending to the head of the Combe de la Sausse, mounted along a projecting buttress to the water-shed between the Maurienne and Dauphiné, a point on which, to the east of and above the Col de Martignare, was reached at 7.20. Thence a steep ascent over snow and rocks led in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. to the summit of a peak still further east, probably the Bec du Grenier. Estimated height, 11,000'. Further along the ridge there was a snow peak (Aiguille de Goléon?) somewhat higher. The descent was effected direct to La Grave in 3 hrs. over steep snow slopes, and along the left side of an extensive lateral valley which opens out a little below that place. Total actual walking, $7\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

BRECHE DE LA MEIJE, *June 23.*—The same party left La Grave at 2.40 A.M. and crossing the Romanche, reached the head of the gorge which receives the drainage of the glaciers of the Meije and Rateau at 4, and followed the moraine and snow slopes till 4.55, when they took to the eastern of two ridges of rock which, running up towards the Rateau, divide the glacier which flows down from the Brèche into two branches. At 6.20 the party got on to the western branch of this glacier, and traversed it to the col, between the Meije and Rateau, which

was reached at 8.50. Height, 11,054'. The descent to the Vallon des Etançons by the glacier of the same name was straightforward; the level of the valley was reached in $1\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. from the col, and La Bérarde in $1\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. more. Total actual walking, $8\frac{3}{4}$ hrs.

PIC DES ECRINS, *June 25.*—The same party left their bivouac on the upper plateau of the Glacier de la Bonnepierre $3\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. from La Bérarde at 3.55 A.M., and reached the Col des Ecrins at 5.55. Thence ascending a steep slope of broken glacier, the bergschrund running along the base of the final peak was passed, on the extreme left, at 8.10. Above this obstacle the difficulties were so great that $4\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. were spent in getting to the arête at a point to the left of the summit, which from thence was reached in 35 min. at 1.25 P.M. Height, 13,462'. It was not thought advisable to return by the same route, and the party accordingly descended for 2 hrs. along the arête connecting the highest point with peak No. 2, and then in another hour cut their way down to the bergschrund, which was crossed at 4.45. The Col des Ecrins was reached at 5.25, and the top of the steep rocks above the lower ice-fall of the Glacier Blanc at 7.45. The party were finally compelled, by darkness to halt at 9.40 P.M., and bivouac in the middle of the Pré de Madame Carle, $2\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. from Ville Val Louise. Total actual walking, $15\frac{3}{4}$ hrs.

COL DE LA PILATTE, *June 27.*—The same party left the châteaux of Entraignes 2 hrs. from Ville Val Louise at 3.35 A.M. and followed the route of the Col du Célar till 4.55. They then turned sharp to the right, and mounting by a long slope of avalanche snow, succeeded by steep rocks, at 8.25 got on to a small glacier much crevassed, running down from the ridge between the peak called Les Bans, and the highest point of the Crête des Bœufs Rouges. The ascent to the head of this glacier occupied an hour, and from thence a very steep and difficult couloir led in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. to the col, a gap in the ridge above mentioned. Estimated height, 11,500'. The descent to the Glacier de la Pilatte by a steep ice-wall, followed by enormous séracs, was difficult, and occupied $1\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. In $1\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. the party quitted the ice, at a distance of $1\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. from La Bérarde, which was reached at 3.55 P.M. Total actual walking, $10\frac{1}{4}$ hrs.

Graian Alps.

DENT PARASSEZ, *August 3.*—Messrs. Rowsell, Cuthbert and Blandford, accompanied by Joseph Victor Favret of Chamouni and two chasseurs of Modane, left the châteaux of Fournache above Aussois in the Val Maurienne at 3.40 A.M. Having reached the highest part of the lateral valley, they turned to the left and gained a depression in the W. arête of the mountain by a couloir partly filled with snow. Crossing this col they worked up and across a number of steep rock buttresses, much broken by weather, to the main arête; hence a ridge of ice which required an hour of step-cutting led to the summit, consisting of an ice cornice leaning over to the SE. This was reached at 12.20 P.M. The ascent must always present some difficulty, but was rendered more tedious than it might sometimes be, by the frozen state of the snow on the arête and in the couloirs. In descending, the party went down the

opposite side of the col before mentioned (which they propose to call the COL DE L'ARPONT) by a short ice slope, and followed the Glacier de l'Arpont for rather more than two hrs. Not having been successful in their search for a châlet, they halted at 8.30 P.M. and remained in the rocks till the following morning, when they descended to the châlets of the Combe de l'Enfer, above Villard in the Val de la Leisse.

Note.—The Glacier de l'Arpont drains the whole of the northern and eastern sides of the Dent Parassée; a glacier-covered ridge bounds it on the north and separates it from the district whence the Glacier de la Vanoise draws its supply.

GRANDE MOTTE, *August 5.*—The same party left Entre deux Eaux at 3.30 A.M., reached the glacier above the Col de la Leisse at 6.35 A.M., and then ascended a series of snow slopes to the cornice of the Grande Motte. The highest point, which was not visible from the col, was gained at 10.20 A.M. The descent to the glacier was made in 1 hr. 20 min., and Tignes was reached at 4 P.M.

BEC D'INVERGNUON, *August 13.*—Messrs. Nichols, Rowsall, Neighbour, Cuthbert and Blanford, with Joseph Victor Favret of Chamouni and Michel Brunod of Courmayeur as guides, left the Chalet of Epines dessus above Val Grisanche at 5.15 A.M. Passing round the lower part of the ridge coming from the Bec de Mont Forchu, they ascended to the Glacier d'Invergnon, and reached the foot of the mountain at 7.30 A.M. Hence the ascent was up a steep and difficult glacier, much crevassed, and with slopes of hard ice. It required nearly six hours to reach the arête, and a point 30 feet below the summit was gained at 2 P.M. The last part of the arête consisted of a narrow wall of loose rock crested with blocks that were too unsteady to be safely crossed. The descent was commenced at 3.10 P.M., the base of the mountain reached at 6.15 P.M., and the châlets at 8.30.

Range of Mont Blanc.

COL DE TRIOLET, *July 8.*—Messrs. Reilly and Whympier, with Michel Croz, Henri Charlet, and Michel Payot (not the well-known guide of that name), all of Chamouni, slept at the Couvercle, and starting at 4.30 A.M. went up the Glacier de Talèfre to the left of the Aiguille de Triolet, which they reached at 7.50. Rounding its base for a quarter of an hour, they arrived at the col on its S. side (height, 12,162', according to the French survey now in progress), and descended a steep wall of rocks and snow for an hour, after which another wall of snow alone led them in half an hour down on to the Glacier de Triolet. Thence they went down the centre of the glacier, took afterwards to the cliffs on its left bank, but were compelled to return to the moraine, and reached Praz-de-Bar in the Val Ferrex at 3.55 P.M. Time, 8 hrs. 35 min. actual walking; but the snow on this and the following expedition was in such perfect condition that the time consumed was much less than might otherwise be the case.

MONT DOLENT, *July 9.*—The same party left Praz-de-Bar at 4.15 A.M., reached the Col Ferrex in an hour, thence went up the left bank of the Glacier de Mont Dolent, the upper part of which is a great level

plateau, distant about 2 hrs. from the Col Ferrex. Leaving this plateau, they turned to the left, ascended snow slopes directly towards the peak, crossed the bergschrund at 9.20, and immediately got on to an arête which led them to the summit by 11. (Height, 12,566', French survey.) They descended by the same way, reaching Praz-de-Bar at 8.10, and Courmayeur at 6.40 P.M. Time, 11 hrs. 15 min. actual walking.

AIGUILLE DE TRÉLATÈTE, July 12.—The same party bivouacked on Mont Suc, at a spot overlooking the Glacier de Miage, about 9,500' high, and distant some 5½ hrs. from Courmayeur. Starting at 4.45 A.M. they followed the ridge of Mont Suc for an hour, and then were obliged to quit it for a short distance, make their way over the north branch of the Glacier de l'Allée Blanche, and strike it again higher up. They gained the south summit of the Trélatète at 9, thence went along a narrow arête which led them in 30 min. to the highest peak. Returning to their *gîte* by the same route, they descended round the base of Mont Suc to the châtelets of the Allée Blanche, and reached Mottet by the Col de la Seigne at 5.35. Time, 9 hrs. 45 min. actual walking.

AIGUILLE D'ARGENTIÈRE, July 15.—The same party without Charlet, after sleeping at the châtelets of Les Ognons above Argentière, started at 3.15 A.M., and taking to the Glacier d'Argentière at 4.55, crossed it to the foot of the lateral glacier leading to the Col de Chardonnet. Having learned by a previous expedition that the lower part of the arête leading up to the Aiguille d'Argentière from the Col de Chardonnet was impracticable, they turned aside up the left affluent of the lateral glacier, directly towards the peak, and at 10.5 (the last hour having been spent in making steps up a steep couloir) gained the same arête, which led them in about 1½ hrs. to the summit. They returned the same way to the level of the Glacier d'Argentière, whence Mr. Reilly descended to Chamouni by the ordinary route, and Mr. Whympfer by a most unprofitable short cut to Argentière down the right bank of the glacier, where he arrived at 7.10 P.M. Time, 12 hrs. 35 min. actual walking.

COL DU DÔME DU GOUTÉ, August 5.—Messrs. Reilly and Birkbeck, with Michel Croz, Michel Clemence Payot, and Mark Tairraz, after sleeping at the châtelets of Miage, started at 8.10 A.M., and reached the Col de Miage at 9.5. Leaving it at 11.35, they passed diagonally downwards to the surface of a large glacier descending from the S. side of the arête joining the Aiguille de Bionnassay and the Dôme, gained the top of this arête at about its central point, and passing along it reached the Dôme at 4.35. Descending the Dôme on its N. side to the Grands Mulets, they arrived at Chamouni at 10 P.M. This proves the accessibility of Mont Blanc from the Miage side, a point which has long been in dispute; but it is doubtful whether it would be possible to repeat this expedition in a season less remarkable for the great accumulation of snow on the mountains than the summer of 1864.

It has also been satisfactorily shown that an active mountaineer may ascend Mont Blanc without the discomfort and expense of sleeping at the Grands Mulets, or on the Aiguille du Gouté,—Mr. Moore with Christian Almer having reached the summit viâ the Dôme, starting at 12.30 A.M. from the Pavillon Bellevue, and descending to Chamouni,

and Mr. Morahead having completed the ascent by the ordinary route, alone from the Grand Mulets onwards, and returned to Chamouni, in the extraordinarily short space of 16 hrs.

Monte Rosa district.

STEINBOCK, *July 8.*—Mr. Moore, with Christian Almer and Jean Martin of Vissoie, left some châteaux in the Val Moiry, at the foot of the Col du Torrent, at 3.55 A.M., to attempt the ascent of the Grand Cornier. Mounting by the 'gazon' and rocks on the right bank, they got on to the great Moiry Glacier, above the central icefall, at 7.30, and always hugging the right bank, reached the base of the final peak at 9.10. The summit proved to be inaccessible from this direction, and the party therefore ascended in 15 min. the point marked 3,484 metres on the Federal Map, which is called by the natives of the Val d'Anniviers 'Steinbock.' The view from this point, which may also be reached from Zinal by the Col de l'Allée, is most superb, and was considered by Almer the finest he had ever seen in the Alps. Two hours were then spent in endeavours to descend from the head of the Moiry Glacier on to an extensive glacier, running down from the W. face of the Grand Cornier towards Abricolla, by which the peak appeared practicable. No way of descent could be found, the precipices which support the upper plateau of the Moiry Glacier absolutely overhanging. Retracing their morning's route, the party crossed to the left bank of the glacier below the icefall, and reached Evolena by the Col de Bréona at 6.35 P.M. Total actual walking, 12½ hrs.

BIES JOCH, *July 15.*—Messrs. Gaskell, Moore and Morahead, with Christian Almer and Peter Perrn, left Randa at 8.5 A.M., and mounting by steep grass slopes and rocks along the left bank of the Bies Glacier, got on to that glacier at 6.40, but in an hour were compelled to abandon it, and again take to the rocks. The ascent of these was exceedingly difficult, but in 2 hrs. the upper plateau of the glacier was reached, and in 25 min. more, at 10.55, the col, 11,645' in height, between the Brunegghorn and the second peak of the Weisshorn (4,161 metres). The descent of an icewall on to the head of the Turtman Glacier occupied 1¼ hrs., but the glacier itself presented no difficulty. Following the right bank, the party quitted the ice at 3.10 P.M., and reached the inn at Gruben at 5.15. Total actual walking, 11½ hrs. The pass made from Gruben to Randa, in 1862, by two French gentlemen led by Franz Andermatten, lay considerably nearer to the Brunegghorn than that above described.

MOMING PASS, *July 18.*—Messrs. Moore and Whymper, with Christian Almer and Michel Croz, left the highest châlet on the Arpilletta Alp 2¼ hrs. from Zinal at 5.40 A.M., got on to the Moming Glacier at 6.15. and crossing it, took to the rocks which form the base of the Schallhorn at 8.40, after being exposed to considerable risk from avalanches. A difficult ascent led in 1 hr. 20 min. to a steep wall of snow or ice, up and along which, a col above and to the right of the lowest point in the ridge between the Rothhorn and Schallhorn was reached in 1¼ hrs. more, at 11.50 A.M. Height about 12,700'. The descent to the upper

plateau of the Schallenberg Glacier, by a steep snow-wall, succeeded by most formidable séracs, occupied $1\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. The appearance of the lower icefall of the Schallenberg Glacier being unpromising, the party bore to the right, and in 45 min. reached a well marked depression in the ridge connecting the Rothhorn and Mettelhorn. From this point it proved impracticable to descend towards the basin of the Trift Glacier, but after following the ridge towards the Mettelhorn for 45 min., an easy descent was found on to the Rothhorn Glacier, over which and the grass slopes below, the foot of the Trift Glacier was reached at 5.40, and Zermatt at 7.20 P.M. Total actual walking, $11\frac{3}{4}$ hrs.

August 1.—Messrs. J. Robertson and C. G. Heathcote made the first passage from Saas to Simplen, between the Weissmies and Laquinhorn. 'We left Saas at 2.15 A.M., with Franz Andermatten, Pierre Venetz, and Pierre Zurbrücken, as guides. After passing the Trift Alp we kept along a steep ridge of rocks between the two arms of the Trift glacier, and reached the summit of the pass at about 7.15. The snow-slopes above the rocks presented no difficulty. The point we reached on the grat was immediately under the Laquinhorn, and a little to the left of the lowest point of the pass. The rocks descending from the Trift-grat to the Laquin Glacier are exceedingly steep, but we found it possible to effect the descent by bearing to the left along the precipices of the Laquinhorn. Late in the day there would be danger of falling stones in crossing the numerous 'graben' which seam the mountain side. The descent of the rocks occupied about 3 hrs. We experienced some little difficulty in descending to the lower Laquin Thal, the sides of which consist of precipitous buttresses, alternating with impracticable watercourses. From thence a tolerable path leads down the valley to the Simplon road, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. below Simplen. The whole distance from Saas to Simplen occupied about 10 hrs., exclusive of stoppages, and the pass can hardly be surpassed in magnificence of scenery.'—C.G.H.

This is apparently the same as the Laquin Joch, made by Messrs. Jacomb and Chater in 1863, but in the opposite direction, which is mentioned in the Alpine Journal, No. 4; but Messrs. Robertson and Heathcote seem to have found an easier way of traversing the rocks on the Simplen side, which form the main difficulty of the pass.

August 10.—Messrs. Riddell and J. R. King, with Johann zum Taugwald of Zermatt, and Auguste Dorsaz of S. Pierre, passed from the châteaux of Chanrion to Evolena, ascending to the Col de Chermontane by the usual route, but descending by the northern branch of the icefall of the Vuibez Glacier to the Glacier d'Arolla. Time occupied on the icefall, 2 hrs.; whole time from Chanrion to Evolena, $11\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., exclusive of stoppages.

NEW WAY UP THE LYSKAMM, August 16.—Messrs. Stephen and E. N. Buxton, with Jakob Anderegg and Franz Biener, ascended the Lyskamm from the W. side. 'We left the Riffel at 3, reached the Col des Jumeaux at 7.45, and the summit at 11.15. The arête between the western (lower) peak and the real top is very tough, and would hardly be possible except under a favourable combination of circumstances.'—E. N. B.

Mr. A. G. Puller sends the following note of a complete tour of Monte

Rosa by high glacier passes, which has probably never been accomplished before, though each separate pass was already known:—

'August 4.—From the Riffel to Macugnaga by the Weiss Thor, and ascent of the Cima de Jazi.

August 5.—Passage of the Col delle Loochie, from Macugnaga to the châlets of Bours in the Embours Thal.

August 6.—From the Embours Thal to Gressonay la Trinité, by the Embours Glacier, and the passage of the Col delle Piscie.

August 7.—Rested, and in the afternoon walked up nearly to the summit of the Hohes Licht, where we passed the night.

August 8.—Ascent of the Gipfel des Lyakammes, and passage of the Col de Lys to the Riffel Hotel.

Except on the first day, I was unaccompanied by anyone except my two guides, Peter Taugwald of Zermatt and Alexander Lochmatter of St. Nicholas.—A. G. P.

Bernese Oberland.

BIRCHFLUH PASS, July 8.—Mr. Tuckett, with the two Michels of Grindelwald, and Johann Rubin of Ried in the Lötschenthal—('a right good fellow, thoroughly acquainted with the neighbouring mountains,' F.F.T.)—crossed from Kippel to the Bell Alp by this pass, which has been occasionally used by the hunters of the Lötschenthal, but is not known ever to have been made by a traveller. Mr. Tuckett suggests the name Aletsch Pass, but it is referred to in the Alpine Guide by the former and more distinctive title. The way from the Lötschenthal lies up the Distel Glacier, over the ridge, called Birchgrat on the Federal map, between the Schienhorn and Breithorn, and down by the Jägi and Ober Aletsch Glaciers. Time, 7½ hrs.' easy walking, exclusive of halts; so this pass is shorter than the Lötschsattel, and much more beautiful. On July 21, Mr. Moore, with Christian Almer and Anton Eggel, a Bell Alp porter, crossed this pass to Kippel after ascending the Aletschhorn, the Bell Alp route to that peak and the way to the pass being the same for a considerable distance. They took about 2½ hrs. to descend from the pass to the highest châlets in the Lötschenthal.

BALMHORN, July 21.—Messrs. Frank and Horace Walker and Miss Walker, accompanied by Melchior and Jakob Anderegg, made the first ascent of the Balmhorn. Leaving the Schwarenbach inn at 2.80 A.M. they proceeded by the Schwartz Glacier, which descends between the Altels and Rinderhorn, to the col at the head of the valley. From thence a ridge runs up to the summit of the mountain, which they reached at 8.20. The ascent thus occupied 5 hrs. 50 min. including several long stoppages, but it might be easily made in 4 or 4½ hours. The view is the same as from the Altels.

WETTER LUCKE, July 22.—Mr. Moore, with Christian Almer and Anton Eggel, of Blatten above Brieg, left the Guggi Staffel Alp in the Lötschenthal at 2.40 A.M., ascended the Inner Pfaffier Thal, keeping to the left bank of the torrent, and mounting by steep rocks and grass slopes, got on to the glacier from its left bank at 5.15. The passage of the glacier to the col between the Tschingelhorn and Breithorn, which was reached at 7.15, occupied 1½ hrs., the gigantic crevasses which un-

dermine the névé giving some trouble. The col appeared to be rather higher than the Petersgrat. The descent of the Breithorn Glacier, which, especially in its upper portion, is fearfully dislocated, was very difficult, and taxed Almer's powers to the utmost. The ice was quitted above the Oberhorn Alp at 10.30 A.M., and the party reached Lauterbrunnen, after a very long descent, at 3.20 P.M. Total actual walking, 10½ hrs. Later in the season, or with less snow, this pass might be impracticable on both sides.

RIZLIHORN, August 3.—Messrs. Sedley Taylor and H. de Fellenberg Montgomery, with Melchior Blatter of Meyringen, and Kaspar Neiger of Haaligrund, after sleeping at the highest châteaux in the Urbachthal, ascended this peak (10,744'). Going straight up the side of the mountain, which lies on the right or east side of the Urbachthal, they gained the summit in less than 5 hrs. The ascent is fatiguing, as it lies entirely over rocks and loose stones, but is free from serious difficulty.

HANGENDHORN, August 4.—The same party ascended this peak, which lies on the opposite side of the Urbachthal, overlooking the Gauli Glacier. 'After mounting for about 1½ hrs. over easy grass slopes, we traversed the Hangend Glacier, and reached the summit over snow slopes with a little rock scrambling, at the end in 4½ hrs. from the time of leaving the châteaux. The view is decidedly inferior to that from the Rizlihorn, especially as regards the Finsteraarhorn and Schreckhörner, which are seen to perfection from that mountain; the Hangendhorn is, however, the better placed for observing the Wetterhörner, and the ascent is much more interesting than that of the rival peak. The châteaux, which belong to the brothers Neiger, are at present very rough quarters, but the erection of a comfortable boarded hut, which is to take place before next summer, will make them very convenient for mountaineers.'—S. T.

Tödi District.

SEEWELI JOCH, June 29.—Rev. J. Sowerby went with Ambrose Zgräggen of Silenen from Unterschächen up the Brunni Thal. 'At the Brunni Alp (1 hr.), turning to the right, we ascended through the pine-woods for an hour to enter the Gries Thal, which we followed nearly to its head, then turning left we crossed the ridge called the Mantliser Grat (7,500') at a point immediately below the Great Windgelle (about 4½ hrs. from Unterschächen). Descending to the Seeweli See, and passing round a shoulder of the Little Windgelle, Amsteg may be reached by a rather rough path in about 3 hrs. The views of the N. side of the range of the Clariden are very fine. We took 10 hrs., but five were through deep fresh snow, and on one occasion we were nearly entangled in an avalanche. But generally there is no snow; 7½ hrs. would be ample time, and it is a walk quite practicable for ladies.'—J. S.

GROSS RUCHI, July 12.—Rev. J. Sowerby, accompanied by Ambrose Zgräggen of Silenen, and Melchior Trösch of Bristen, ascended the Gröss Ruchi (10,296'). 'Starting from a chätlet in the Maderaner Thal (about 3,500') at 2 A.M. we gained in 3½ hrs. the névé of the

Aelpli Firn (which descends towards the Hüfi Glacier some way above its lower end), then N. to the top of the Krükeli, and W. to the foot of the peak, which is a short narrow and very steep ridge running N. and S., surmounting several hummocks of névé. The soft snow made the last part difficult. Reached the top at 8.30.—J. S.

Leontine Alps.

MARSHOLLHORN, *June 30.*—Mr. Morshead, with Peter Perrn, ascended the highest peak of this group from Hinterrhein by a stiff but not very long climb up the rocks. Thence he found a line of descent into the head of the Val Calanca, and returned over the ridge to Bernardino. 'There is a col to the NW. of the highest peak, leading to the head of the Val Malvaglia, but I could not explore it. The guides at Hinterrhein are worthless, but there is a chasseur, whose name sounds like George Tripp, whom I can confidently recommend.'—F. M.

PIZ VALRHEIN, *August 6.*—Messrs. D. W. Freshfield, J. D. Walker and M. Beachcroft, guided by François J. Devouassoud of Chamouni, ascended this peak from the Lenta Glacier. Having slept at the Lenta châteaux on the Lampertach Alp, they ascended by the centre of the Lenta Glacier, in 4 hrs., to a point on the ridge connecting the Piz Valrhein and the Guferhorn. This point has been gained from Hinterrhein on previous ascents, and the arête thence is the only way to the summit. Following the arête they gained the summit in 40 m. more, and descended to Hinterrhein by the Rheinwald Glacier in 4½ hrs. Those who wish to cross from Hinterrhein the pass thus made (which may perhaps best be called LENTA PASS) must look for a ridge of rocks somewhat to the E. of the apparent col, by which they may descend to the Lenta Glacier.

MUTTBORN, *August 9.*—Messrs. Taylor and Montgomery, with Melchior Blatter and Caspar Neiger, ascended this peak (10,181') from the inn on the Furka. 'We kept to the rocky arête on the right of the glacier descending from the peak until, the rocks becoming impracticable, we descended by a snow couloir to the glacier, and crossing it, reached the summit without much difficulty by its opposite side. The view, while it coincides in the main with that from the Galenstock, has the advantage of including a glimpse into the Italian valleys. Time of ascent 4½ hrs., of descent 3 hrs.'—S. T.

Bernina District.

BELLA VISTA PASS, *July 15.*—Messrs Hartman, Hoole and Cooke, with P. Jenni and B. Walther of Pontresina, and Anton Walther of Lax, starting at 5 o'clock from the lower châteaux of Fellaria, followed the route of the Sella Pass as far as the upper névé of the Fellaria Glacier, and thence proceeded in a north-easterly direction, leaving the Piz Zupo on the left, and having the Piz Palù immediately in front of them. They then turned slightly to the west, and reached the col between the Piz Spigna of the Palù group, and the snow points, called by the guides the Bella Vista, at 11 o'clock. Keeping to the west—i.e. in the direc-

tion of the Piz Bernina—they descended by steep snow slopes on to the Morteratsch Glacier, leaving the rocks known as the Gernsen Freiheit well to the right, and reached the level of the glacier at 1.30. 'It would no doubt be possible to ascend the Piz Palù from the Fellaria Glacier, descending on to the Morteratsch, but it would require a long day, and should be done when the upper Fellaria châteaux are inhabited.'—S. H.

PIZ KESCH AND ESCHIA PASS, *July 24 and 25.*—Messrs. Tuckett and W. Fowler, with Chr. Michel of Grindelwald, and Michel Payot of Chamouni, slept at the Platzli châteaux in the S. arm of the Val Tuors, $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours from Bergtün. 'In $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from the châteaux we reached the ridge at the head of the Porchabella Glacier, just to the E. of Piz Kesch and immediately above the N. end of the Eschia Glacier. Thence we reached the summit of Piz Kesch without the slightest difficulty in 1 hour 10 m. (45 m. over snow and 25 m. up very steep but good rocks). On a second summit to the SE., which a level showed to be slightly lower than where we stood, was planted a baton; but on our peak were no traces of any previous visit. M. Coaz, I was told, had ascended Piz Kesch a few years ago, so that probably he climbed the second peak by mistake. Returning in 55 m. to the col, which I propose to call Eschia Pass, we reached Ponte in the Engadine from thence in 3 hrs. walking.'—F. F. T.

CRESTA AGIUZA SATTEL, &c., *July 28.*—Messrs. Tuckett and E. N. Buxton, with Peter Jenni, Christian Michel, and Franz Biener of Zermatt, having passed the night at the Fellaria châteaux, started very early for the Cresta Agiuza Sattel. 'We reached the ridge between the Fellaria and Scerscen Glaciers in less than 2 hrs., the foot of a couloir beneath the Cresta Agiuza in 55 min., and ascending the couloir gained the summit of the pass without serious difficulty in $2\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. Instead of descending to the Morteratsch Glacier, we struck off to the right round the N. shoulder of the Cresta Agiuza, and gained the ridge overlooking the Fellaria Glacier, at the SW. foot of Piz Zupo. The latter peak was easily ascended in 45 min. from this point; after which, returning to it again, we skirted the NW. slopes of Piz Zupo until we came below the depression which separates that peak from the Bella Vista. Then again striking straight up to the right, over a bergschrund, snow, and rocks, we reached the depression in question (about 12,600'), which we propose to call the Zupo Pass, and descended in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. upon the highest névé of the E. portion of the Fellaria. Going down this in an easterly direction, we exactly struck the head of the Palù Glacier, but as it was late we turned off to the right, partly descended the icefall of the Fellaria by its left bank, and then, taking up a glacier that came down on the left from the S. shoulder of the Pizzo de Verona, crossed the ridge at its head, thus making a third new pass, and thence reached Poschiavo in $2\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. more by the valley through which lies the route of the Passo Rovano. Time, 14 hrs. 20 min. actual walking.'—F. F. T.

MONTE SISSONE AND FORNO PASS, *August 10.*—Messrs. Freshfield, Walker, and Beachcroft, with François Devouassoud and a porter from Val Bregaglia, started from San Martino to cross by the Forno Glacier to Maloya. 'Leaving the Zocco Pass to the left, we climbed steep slopes to the Piode Alp, and steered over rocky débris to a col lying

S. of Monte Sissone, and overlooking the Val Malenco. An hour from hence we reached the peak itself, which commands one of the grandest panoramas in this district. Steep and much crevassed snow slopes stretch down to the Forno Glacier. Keeping for some distance down the right arête, we found an easier descent, and followed the long Forno Glacier to its foot, near the châteaux of Piancaning on the Mureto Pass. Time from St. Martino to Maloya Inn, 11 hrs. exclusive of halts.' D.W.F.

Mr. Tuckett made the same pass the next day, but ascended Monte Sissone by a couloir lying on its W. side, thereby saving time.

Orteler District.

MONTE CONFINALE, *July 30.*—Messrs. Tuckett and H. E. Buxton ascended this peak from Sta. Caterina. The ascent, which is very easy, was made in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., the descent in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. It commands an admirable near view of the Orteler range, and a more distant panorama of nearly all the Rhetian and Lombard Alps.

MONTE CRISTALLO AND MADATSCHJOCH, *August 1.*—Messrs. E. N. and H. E. Buxton and Tuckett, with Chr. Michel and Franz Biener, leaving the Stelvio road at Spondalunga, went up the Vitelli Glacier for 2 hrs., then turning to the E. crossed the N. slope of the second summit of the Cristallo, and so reached the Madatsch Glacier. Ascending this to its head they gained a col overlooking the Val Zebbru, from which the Monte Cristallo was attained in 30 min. (This peak is only 11,400', much lower than has been usually supposed, and inferior to at least twelve others in the Orteler group.) Returning to the col (about 11,000') they descended the (Cristallo) glacier for 2 hrs. 50 min. into the Val Zebbru, and returned to Sta. Caterina over the ridge dividing that valley from the Val Forno. Time 12 hrs. 15 min. actual walking.

KÖNIGSSPITZE AND ZEBBRU PASS, *August 3.*—The same party went from Sta. Caterina up the Val Forno, and ascended a glacier to the ridge immediately under the E. side of the Zebbru, or Königspitze, which they reached in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. Thence they gained the summit of the peak (12,660') by an hour's ascent of steep snow slopes. Returning to the ridge, and following it to a somewhat lower part (about 11,000'), they descended with some difficulty over rocks and soft snow on to the head of the Sulden Glacier. Traversing this nearly to its base, they descended to the Sulden Thal to Gomagoi, and reached Trafoi by the Stelvio road. Time, 13 hrs. 40 min. actual walking.

ORTELER SPITZE, *August 5.*—The same party ascended this mountain from Trafoi by a new route—the first ascent of the actual Hóchst Spitze for thirty-four years, as it is stated on good authority. Leaving the ordinary route to the right, they went up the valley or hollow beneath the cliffs of the Orteler, as far as the ridge bounding the Sulden Thal on the W. Thence they struck up steep slopes of snow and séracs to the right, straight for the summit of the mountain, which was easily reached in 6 hrs. 50 min. fast walking from Trafoi. The descent by the same course occupied 3 hrs.

Pyrenees.

NEW HIGH LEVEL ROUTE FROM LUCHON TO CASTANEZE.—Messrs. Charles Packe and Wm. Mathews with the guides Pierre Barrau and Bertrand Lafont, left Luchon on July 8, and bivouacked at the foot of the Maladetta near to the Trou de Toro. On the 9th, they crossed a snow pass between the Pic de Néthou and the Pic de Salenque to the head of a valley descending towards the Hospice of Viella. Keeping to the right bank of this valley, nearly on the level, they passed by a second col into the valley of Néthou, and followed the latter to the point where the river plunges in a cascade between two steep faces of rock. It was judged impracticable to descend farther, and they were obliged to remount and cross a third col which led them into a branch of the valley of Castanéze. Time from the Trou de Toro to the Granges of Castanéze, 10 hrs., exclusive of halts.

* * *This summary will be continued in the next number: the notes of Messrs. Bonney, Brooksbank, and Hornby, were received too late for present insertion.*

NOTES AND QUERIES.

ALPINE BYWAYS. VII.—*From Gadmen to Guttannen by the Trift Thal and Furtwang Pass.*—About 6 o'clock on a fine morning early in July, Mr. Adams and I left the Bear at Gadmen, intending to make our way into the Trift Thal and by the Furtwang to Guttannen. Crossing the Gadmen Aar and following the road for a short distance, we took a path to the left, which led us at somewhat too great a height over the shoulder into the valley of the Trift, and about 9 we reached the highest châteaux at the foot of the glacier, which rivals that of Rosenlauri in purity. I had before seen the valley through which we meant to cross, both when descending from the Triftgletscher Joch and from the top of the Mährenhorn, but not feeling quite so certain of the locality as I expected, we obtained the help of the shepherds. We had choice of two paths, either to ascend the right bank and cross the glacier opposite the lateral valley, or to follow the left (or western) bank without touching the ice. The latter was chosen as being the shorter, and crossing the Triftbach by a snow bridge immediately below the glacier, we followed a path along the moraine. In about an hour we rounded a projecting spur of the Mährenhorn and saw before us a level stretch of glacier, surmounted by the grand ice-fall of the Trift, and flanked on either hand by the peaks of the Thierberge and the Steinhaushorn. The valley we were to follow lay on our right, but the pass itself was hidden by projecting ridges. Rounding these and crossing patches of snow and blocks, we came in sight of the col, which is formed by the depression between the Steinhaushorn and Mährenhorn. It is wrongly placed to the south of the Steinhaushorn, in the map to 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers,' second series. We made straight for it, but were turned back by cliffs, and had to descend into the valley, whence it took us rather more than an hour over snow to the top of the pass, which we reached about 2 P.M. The mists lay heavy and obscured the view over the vale of Hasli. We