Nomenclature of the Bernese Oberland.

In the Jahrbuch of the Swiss Alpine Club for 1865 is a short paper by M. von Fellenberg, stating the various changes which have been suggested by a committee appointed to consider the nomenclature of Blatt XVIII. of the Federal Map, and the reasons why these alterations were thought necessary or desirable. There may perhaps be a difference of opinion among mountaineers as to the propriety of some of the names suggested, but on the whole the work has been done extremely well, and great improvement effected. Since the Federal authorities have entirely adopted the nomenclature proposed in this paper, and will make use of it in a new edition of Blatt XVIII., there is no longer any room for discussion on the point; and it seems desirable to call the attention of mountaineers to the changes thus introduced.

1. It has been wisely decided, in order to distinguish the fields of névé from the glaciers proper, to give separate names to the former, thus bringing into its due prominence the neglected word *firn*.

a. The huge field W. of the Finsteraarhorn is to be called the Walliser Viescherfirn; the Viescher glacier also receiving the prefix of Walliser to distinguish it from the similarly named tributary of the lower Grindelwald glacier, which is to receive a corresponding prefix of Grindelwaldner.

b. The snow-field E. of the Finsteraarhorn, included between it, the Studerhorn, Rothhorn, and Oberaarhorn, is to bear the name Studerfirn.

c. The real head of the great Aletsch glacier, the valley between the Jungfrau and Trugberg, is to be called Jungfraufirn.

d. The snow-field E. of the Trugberg, extending up to the Mönch Joch, is to be called Ewigschneefeld, a name occasionally used by local guides, but otherwise in no way distinctive.

e. The broad valley leading from the Lötsch Sattel down to the main stream of the Great Aletsch is to be named Grosser Aletschfirn.

f. The name Jägi Gletscher, given to the névé fields out of which the Ober Aletsch glacier flows, is to be entirely abolished, the name Ober Aletsch Gletscher extended to that affluent which descends from under the Aletschhorn, and the term Beichfirn applied to the

tributary from the region of the Birchgrat, whose spelling is corrected to BEICHGRAT.

g. The name STRAHLECK GLETSCHER is to be given to the valley leading from the Finsteraar glacier to the foot of the Strahleck, which has before been called more suitably Schreckfirn.

2. A great deal of confusion has hitherto existed with respect to the names of peaks, which the proposed changes will almost entirely remove.

a. The name Viescherhörner has always been a source of bewilderment to travellers, who knowing Viesch to be in the Rhone valley, could not see the propriety of affixing its name to peaks overlooking Grindelwald. It is a pity that this anomaly has been perpetuated, but order has at least been evolved out of the chaos. The group of Walliser Viescherhörner retain their name, distinctive appellations being given at the same time to the two highest peaks, the GROSS WANNEHORN (3,905 m.) and the SCHÖNBÜHLHORN (3,864 m.). But the group hitherto called Viescherhörner is to be divided into two, of which the most northerly comprises the two peaks overlooking the Grindelwald glacier and a third behind them. They are to bear the collective name of GRINDELWALDNER VIESCHERHÖRNER, and the highest of them (4,048 m.) is to be called GROSS VIESCHERHORN, the second (4,020 m.) very appropriately HINTER VIESCHERHORN, and the third (3,873 m.) by its local name of OCHS, or more usually Ochsenhorn. The group between these and the Grünhorn Lücke are to be called GRÜNHORN GRUPPE, the highest of them (4,047 m.) GROSS GRÜNHORN, and the remainder by other names ringing the changes on the word *grün*.

b. The single name BIETSCHHORN is to be retained for that magnificent and undeservedly neglected peak, and therefore all necessity disappears for a distinguishing adjective to the less lofty NESTHORN.

c. The small peak now called the Wetterhorn, between the Tschingel and Breithorn glaciers, is to be entitled KANZELHORN, its outline from the west closely resembling that of a pulpit.

d. The nomenclature of MM. Roth and von Fellenberg for the Blümlis Alp group, suggested in their *Doldenhorn und Weissefrau*, is henceforth to be adopted.

3. Many names now in familiar use, which had never been thought of when Blatt XVIII. was first published, will hence-

forth appear in the map. The most important of these are JUNGFRAU JOCH, LAUINEN THOR, EIGER JOCH, MÖNCH JOCH, FINSTERAAR JOCH, STUDER JOCH, KRANZBERG, and TRUGBERG.

It is to be regretted that no attempt has been made to get rid of the duplicate Breithorns, which confront one another across the Lötsch Thal, and the two Jägi glaciers lying under them; nor is it desirable that there should continue to be two Rothhorns, one on each side of the Oberaar Joch, especially when there is another and much lower Rothhorn near Brienz. If it were still possible we would suggest that the Rothhorn which divides the two névé fields out of which the Viesch glacier flows should be called after Hugi, who was the first well-known explorer of that intricate region, since Scheuchzer, Agassiz, Gruner, and Studer are all commemorated in neighbouring peaks. A distinctive name for the vast snow-field now vaguely denominated *Tschingel oder Kander Gletscher* would also have been useful, and would have rendered it possible to confine these two very distinct names to the true glaciers flowing in opposite directions out of this snow-field. But these are almost the only blemishes left on Blatt XVIII., and everyone will concur in thinking that a great and valuable improvement has been effected.

ASCENT OF THE SILBERHORN FROM THE NORTH.

By the Rev. J. J. HORNBY, M.A.

ON the 29th July, after nearly a fortnight of rainy weather, my friend Mr. T. H. Philpott and I took advantage of a tolerably fine morning to walk up to the Wengern Alp through the quiet Trümleten Thal. This route seems to find little favour with tourists, probably owing to the fact that the little upland valley looks rather difficult of access from below, and that the steep path which leads up to it is not practicable for horses. It well deserves, however, more notice than it has received as an Alpine byway. The path leads up through a pretty little wood commanding a succession of noble views—first of the fine peaks at the head of the Lauterbrunnen valley, then of the steep cliffs of the Schwarz Mönch and Silberhorn towering close overhead, and lastly of the Mönch and Eiger closing the end of the valley. When once the actual trough of the valley is gained, the pedestrian may strike up where he pleases, through wood or over open pasture, to the ordinary Wengern Alp route.