

descent of the Teufelsgrat in 4½ hrs., reaching Randa at 7.5. Mr. Jones led throughout and did all necessary step-cutting, which was not much, as the conditions were good. On the same day another party followed in Mr. Jones's route as far as the top of the Täscherhorn, whence they descended to Randa by the ordinary way.

In conclusion I should like to most strongly recommend the expedition, whichever way it be taken, to any mountaineers at Zermatt who are on the look-out for something a little out of the way. There can be very few 'Gratwanderungen' in the whole range of the Alps which lie for so many consecutive hours at so great a height and present such varieties of snow and rock. The ridge from the Täscherhorn to the Domjoch is as firm and delightful as that from the Domjoch to the Dom is rotten, but both command magnificent views and call for care and skill. Possibly the best way to take it would be to start from Saas Fee at midnight, with a full moon, and to descend to Randa, as this avoids both a night in a hut and the interminable descent of the Kien glen, which is at its worst in the gloaming. A strong and quick party should have no difficulty in accomplishing the ascent in this way, and, if time fails, the luxury of the Festi hut is far preferable to the unpleasant bivouac below the Kien Glacier, which is the refuge of the benighted on the Täscherhorn.

C. S.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps. By the late John Ball. A New Edition, prepared, on behalf of the Alpine Club, by W. A. B. Coolidge. Pp. 164. (London: Longmans. 1899.)

THIS is the second instalment of the 'New Ball,' for (as I pointed out in the November 'A. J.')

the 'General Introduction' is an integral part of Mr. Ball's great work, though (with the solitary exception of the first edition, 1863, of the 'Western Alps') it has always appeared as a separate pamphlet or booklet. It is thus in no sense (and was never meant by Mr. Ball himself to be) an 'Introduction to the Alps,' for it has never contained any account of what the Alps are, or where they are, of their various divisions, of Alpine rivers, lakes, &c., such as may be found in Umlauf and other similar works. The book under notice is thus the 'preliminary chapter' to a special and more detailed work. Rightly or wrongly this was the character given by Mr. Ball to the book, and I have, of course, felt myself bound in preparing a 'memorial edition' to keep this fact always before my eyes and in my thoughts. It need hardly be added that the book is thus concerned with the *Alps* exclusively, and not with mountains in general. The new edition of the 'General Introduction' is but thirty-four pages longer than the previous edition. It has been thoroughly revised by myself, with the assistance of many helpers, to whom my heartiest thanks are due. It has been thought best to slightly alter the title, so as to re-

arrange the articles under two main heads. The articles number fifteen (as in the former edition), but the new edition contains also two appendices. One article ('Hypsometry') has been omitted in the new edition, as the publication of the great Government surveys have now rendered it superfluous.

Of the ten articles classed under the title of 'Practical Hints' but one is new—'Life in an Alpine Valley.' I have therein tried to sketch the way in which Alpine valleys were settled, and villages gradually formed, and to give some idea of the daily life of the inhabitants of a typical Alpine valley (many illustrations being drawn from that of Grindelwald as very well known, and my present residence). Considerable space has been given to an account of the Alpine pastures, which, I think, contains much information new to many Alpine travellers. Under Article I. ('Preliminary Information') some advice is given as to passports, money, luggage, telegraphs, time, measures, and such like useful matters. In Article II. I have endeavoured to enumerate the 'quickest and shortest route from London to each of the chief districts of the Alps.' General indications only are supplied as to the Eastern Alps, with which my acquaintance is comparatively limited. But as regards the Western and Central Alps I have tried to classify the chief places which it should be the traveller's object to gain, giving somewhat minute details in the case of each of the forty sections in which the Western and Central Alps are described in the body of the work. As I mention only the 'shortest and quickest routes from London' this will explain why many ways of reaching the chief Alpine centres are omitted, not accidentally, but of set purpose. In Article III. ('Modes of Travelling in the Alps') the paragraphs relating to mules, 'vetturini,' and 'chaises à porteurs' have been shortened, as of little practical use nowadays, while the new mountain railways are put in the forefront. Article IV. ('Plan of a Tour') is practically unchanged, while V. ('General Advice to Travellers in the Alps') has been but slightly altered, save an expansion of the paragraphs relating to the different languages spoken in the Alps. In VI. ('Advice to Pedestrians') much use has been made of the report of the A. C. Committee on 'Equipment of Mountaineers,' but in VII. ('On Mountaineering') Mr. Ball's classical notice has been retouched only to the very smallest extent. Article VIII. ('Guides and Porters') has been considerably enlarged and revised, as the state of things in these respects nowadays differs very much from what it was in Mr. Ball's time. Little change has been made in the sections of IX. as regards 'Inns,' but two pages (entirely new) are devoted to 'Club huts,' which are now of such importance to travellers in the Alps.

In revising these 'Practical Hints' my aim has been to follow Mr. Ball in supplying information suitable for those who have already some knowledge of the Alps and of travelling abroad, the book being in no sense intended for trippers and the host of ordinary tourists.

Very great changes (and I hope improvements) have been made in

the case of the five articles included under 'Scientific Notes.' Professor Bonney has taken infinite pains to bring up to date the 'Geology of the Alps' article (XI.); in fact, it is mostly rewritten and now fills over thirty pages. At the end a list of geological works and maps is added, but Professor Bonney has thought it best to omit the elaborate account of the geological divisions of the Alpine chain contained in M. Desor's original article, for 'the subject is one which cannot be satisfactorily treated in the present state of our knowledge of Alpine geology.' Mr. Percy Groom has carefully revised Mr. Ball's article on the 'Climate and Vegetation of the Alps' (XIII.), and has added most valuable 'Supplementary Notes,' which form in reality a miniature treatise on Alpine botany, a subject which, oddly enough, Mr. Ball passed over in silence in former editions. A list of modern works relating to climate and botany is appended to Mr. Groom's admirable article. Article XII. ('Alpine Zoology') has been carefully revised by several specialists of repute. Article XIV. ('The Snow Region of the Alps') has been enlarged by the mention of the best modern works relating to glaciers, of some statistics (taken from Professor Heim's work) as to the number and extent of glaciers in the Alps, and a list of the best monographs on Alpine glaciers and glacier lakes. Otherwise this article remains much the same, being intended to serve as a *general* account of glaciers, and therefore intentionally passing over the more minute phenomena which they exhibit. Finally Mr. Sydney Spencer has written an entirely new article on 'Photography in the High Alps,' of which it need only be said that it is worthy of so excellent an amateur photographer.

I myself am more or less exclusively responsible for the two appendices. The first is an expansion of Mr. Ball's list of books and maps relating to the Alps. Under the former head it 'is intended to include all the important books relating to the Alps,' excluding purely scientific works, articles in periodicals, and guide-books. It has been drawn up with the greatest pains and trouble, and it is hoped that no really important book has escaped mention. Naturally the mountaineering side of the subject has been kept chiefly in view, but representative books have been added in the domain of military history, local history, Alpine economy, Alpine dialects, Alpine legends, songs, &c. I am much indebted to many persons for help in compiling this list, and particularly to three Austrian friends who have supplied me with invaluable information as regards books relating to the Eastern Alps. The list of maps is mainly confined to the great Government maps, reference for more complete indications as to local maps being made to the three volumes of the 'Alpine Guide.'

As in the case of the 'List of Books,' the 'Glossary of Alpine Terms' (which forms the second appendix) is meant to be *select*, and not in any sense exhaustive. This glossary 'aims only at including the principal *technical* and *patois* terms—slang excluded—that may puzzle an English traveller or reader.' The selection has cost me very great trouble, and doubtless some terms are

omitted that should properly have figured in this glossary. But a great number of glossaries, &c., have been examined, and I hope that this glossary may be of practical use, while we are waiting for the complete Alpine glossary that it is surely some one's duty soon to undertake.

An index closes the new edition of this part of Mr. Ball's great work, and thus makes good a somewhat surprising omission in former editions.

W. A. B. COOLIDGE.

Die Alpenflora der österreichischen Alpenländer Südbaierns und der Schweiz.
By Prof. K. W. v. Dalla Torre. (München: J. Lindauer. 1899.)

This little book of some 250 pages is published as a companion to the 'Atlas der Alpenflora' issued by the D. u. Oe. Alpenvereine. As a handy pocket flora for the Central and Eastern Alps there is nothing left to be desired. The method employed is the familiar one of a *clavis*. From the first table the generic name may be ascertained, whilst with the second (which forms the bulk of the book) the species may be run down. The systematic enumeration of families follows the modern system used by Engler and Prantl in their 'Die natürlichen Pflanzensfamilien.' Dalla Torre knows his Alpine plants well, and there can be no question of the excellence and usefulness of this volume. Mere valley plants are excluded, as also are such as occur in mountain regions without being in any way characteristic of an Alpine or sub-Alpine flora. With each description is added the season of flowering and the distribution of the species. A useful enumeration of local floras precedes the body of the work.

Jahrbuch des S.A.C. (Bern). 1898.

This volume (xxxiii.), both in subject matter and in illustrations, differs little from its immediate predecessors. In the special district there are five articles, out of it one of the principal contributions (on the Mont Blanc district) is from the pen of a lady. The editor hopes that this may lead to articles on this district (which are much desired) from the other sex. In the lesser articles, reviews, &c., the editor has done much. There are few notices except from his pen. The list of new expeditions (most of them only variations) in the Swiss and adjoining Alps is larger than usual and very carefully compiled.

In the first article several of our old friends appear again. Herr A. Ludwig (S. Gallen), with E. Imhof and E. Heinzelmann, paid a visit to the Bernina district. After climbing Piz Morteratsch and Piz Bernina, on August 10, 1897, they ascended the Piz Palü from the Fuorcla Bella vista. From the summit they effected a new descent by the S. face, not without undergoing considerable risk. Descending over some rocks Herr Ludwig, who was last, moved a stone, which struck the leader, Herr Imhof, on the leg and caused him to fall. Herr Heinzelmann, however, held fast. Soon after it was thought advisable to change the direction, and Ludwig now led. In order to gain a ridge which seemed easier

they had to cross a couloir. Herr Ludwig stepped on to it without sounding. There was ice under the snow, and in a moment he was on his back. Again Herr Heinzelmann, who seems to have been exceptionally steady, held him fast. He recovered himself so quickly that Herr Imhof did not even observe what had happened(!). These two incidents showed Herr Ludwig how far they were behind good guides in habitual caution, if they surpassed them in 'Kletterei.' On reaching the glacier they gained the Zupo Pass, then ascended the Piz Bella vista, returned to the pass, and made the traverse of Piz Zupo, descending to the Boval Hut.

Herr D. Stokar (Randen) describes several excursions near Bergün. On August 11, 1897, he effected the ascent of Piz d'Aela by a new route. Leaving Bergün at 2 A.M. he and his guide reached at 8 A.M. a gap in a ridge running N.E. from the summit. Here they expected to find a ledge which they had observed from below. Not finding it they descended a very steep rock face, and then discovered that the wished for ledge was on the same level as the gap, but some hundred paces distant. They climbed up to the ledge and by it reached the upper glacier, which since 1894 had so much diminished that they were able to work up by rubbish slopes and terraces on the E. bank. On August 19, in descending from the top of the Nadel of Piz Kesch, Herr Stokar stepped on some rubbish which gave way with him. Fortunately Mettier held fast, but lost his axe. He complains much of the remarks that have been made about this accident. It showed, however, a want of caution, and without Mettier would probably have had a fatal result. Herr L. Helbling (Bachtel) and his friend, Herr Labhardt (Uto), on September 15, from the Ducan Pass, climbed the Gletscher Ducan (3,020 m. = 9,908 ft.), and then traversed the ridge to Piz Crealetsch (2,986 m. = 9,797 ft.), and descended by a couloir on the S. face. This, he says, affords the most direct route from Davos to Bergün. He thinks Piz Michel has been much neglected. He and Herr L. made the ascent on August 6, 1895. Endeavouring to ascend by the S. face (which Mr. Coolidge had effected in 1867) they were forced to rejoin the ordinary route. In an ascent of the Tinzenhorn, four days before, they were unwise enough to start from the Aela Club hut as late as 2 P.M. They would have succeeded had not Herr H. hurt his hand, which made progress so slow that they were benighted, and compelled to pass the night on the mountain. The guide P. Mettier, in his pamphlet on the Piz d'Aela group, makes some severe (and Herr H. says untrue) remarks about this expedition.

Herr E. Heinzelmann (S. Gall) describes an ascent of Piz d'Esen (3,130 m. = 10,270 ft.). This mountain lies on the S. bank of the Inn between Zutz and Zernetz. With his two friends he ascended from Val Trupchum by the S. face. They had a difficult climb over rocks, but only two critical places. Dr. E. Walder (Uto) describes an ascent of Piz Linard, and gives a very interesting history of its exploration. Herr W. Paulcke (Davos), after giving an account of the different routes up the Verstankla horn, describes

an ascent made by him and Herr Frerichs on August 28, 1897. They left the Silvretta Hut 3.20 A.M., and attacked the rocks on the N. face at 6.50. Here they encountered many difficulties. They had to hammer in iron pegs (number not mentioned), to hack out the handholds and footholds with the axe, and three hours passed before they found a place to sit down. After this they came to a 'Platte,' where footholds could not be made, and crossed it with difficulty spread out flat, one pushed from behind and the other pulled. The top was finally reached at 5 P.M. The descent was made to the Vernela Pass, and the Vereina Hut was reached at 11 P.M.

Out of the special district Herr Gustav Euringer describes a number of expeditions in the Cogne district. After two unsuccessful attempts on the Grivola in 1895 and 1896, being driven back by falling stones or bad snow, he succeeded on August 17, 1897. On this occasion no stones fell, but he thinks the mountain the most dangerous of all that he knows. Mademoiselle Eugénie Rochat describes a number of difficult excursions in the Mont Blanc district, amongst others the Aiguille du Géant, Aiguille du Dru, and the Aiguille Verte, and ending with the very difficult traverse of the Grépon pinnacles. Most of these were made in 1895. The attempt on the Aiguille Verte was made in 1897. No ascent had been made since 1895, which year was an exceptionally favourable one, the snow being good and the rocks dry. The mountain is the one most feared in the Chamonix district, from the danger of falling stones and avalanches. She started from a bivouac at 12.50 A.M., with two guides, and also the porter, who asked to be allowed to go with them. At 11.15, when, under favourable circumstances, the top was less than one hour distant, the state of the snow compelled them to turn. At 1.15 P.M. they were off the rocks, and made the first halt after going 12½ hrs. Here they had to cross a dangerous spot. They had to wait 3½ hrs. till the avalanches ceased, and reached the bivouac at 9 P.M. They were then only too thankful that the porter had gone with them, for otherwise their wraps would all have returned to Chamonix.

M. Julien Gallet (Chaux de Fonds) presents us with some hitherto undescribed routes made by himself and his wife in the Bernese Alps, several of which are new. On July 12, 1897, from the Schwarzegg Hut (Grindelwald) he crossed the Strahleck and the Studer Joch to the Oberaar Hut (3,233 m.=10,607 ft.). From this it was easy on July 13 to make the first ascent of the Oberaarrothhorn (3,458 m.=11,345 ft.). On July 14 he passed by the Gemslücke and Grünhornlücke to the Concordia Hut and the Hôtel Eggishorn. On July 17 he made the first ascent of the Ebnefluh by the N.E. arête. On July 22 he made the first ascent of the Dreieckhorn from the Aletsch Joch. A difficult descent was effected by the N.E. arête, to avoid the long traverse of the Mittel Aletsch glacier. On July 26 he ascended the Gletscherhorn by the N. arête, and on July 27 the Mittaghorn by the N. arête. Both of these routes were new.

Herr Paul Montandon (Bern and Blümlis Alp) describes the first

ascent of the Hugi-horn (3,622 m. = 11,883 ft.) on August 13, 1897, and of the Lauteraarhorn on August 15.

Herr R. Reber (Bern) describes the valleys of Mesocco (Bernardino) and Calanca. The mountains are not of the first order, but afford very fine views and plenty of fine climbing.

Dr. Rudolf Zeller (Bern) takes us away from the Alps to scenes of an opposite character. He describes a visit to the Lybian desert, W. of Cairo. Here in Wadi Natron are a number of small salt lakes, the nearest being about 30 miles W. of the Cairo and Alexandrian Railway.

The eighteenth Report on glacier movements is made by MM. Forel, Lugeon, and Muret. This is illustrated by a map, on which the glaciers coloured red are advancing; those coloured black have recently passed from advance to retreat; and uncoloured glaciers (by far the largest number) are retreating.

The annual meeting of the Club was held at La Chaux de Fonds on September 4-6, 1897. M. Emile Courvoisier (president of the section), in his address, gave some interesting particulars about the town. The first watch was made there in 1679. In the year 1896 no less than 387,000 watches were made here. The entire Swiss export of watches in that year amounted to 95,000,000 francs, of which La Chaux de Fonds claimed 60,000,000 francs. The first climber was Célestin Nicolet, who settled there to practise as a doctor. He became intimate with both Agassiz and Desor. The latter, when at Bern, found Agassiz in want of a secretary, and obtained the post, becoming afterwards the friend and fellow-worker of his employer. The names of these three persons are engraved on the N. side of the rock, which obtained the name of the Hôtel des Neuchâtelois.

Herr W. Schibler (Davos) describes the Upper Alpine flora of Davos. This is an interesting article which would deserve a longer notice. No less than 209 species have been observed above 2,600 m. (8,530 ft.), and of these five have been seen above 3,250 m. (10,663 ft.), but only separately and at distant intervals. He thinks the thickening and the extra hairiness of leaves at great heights is meant, not to protect from cold, but to prevent loss of moisture.

Dr. E. Bosshard (Winterthur) writes on the electrical appearance called St. Elmo's fire, and describes a specially fine display which was seen on August 19, 1897, at the Muttsee Hut (2,483 m. = 8,146 ft.), on the way to the Kisten Pass. He also experienced a display of it on the Roththalgrat, when his party was compelled to abandon an ascent of the Jungfrau. He thinks there is always danger attending these manifestations, especially when on ridges or exposed points, and that the only thing to be done is to get away from such places as speedily as possible. The Col de Tracuit (3,252 m. = 10,670 ft.) is seldom traversed. It was first crossed in 1859 by the late J. J. Weilenmann alone. Herr Pfarrer E. Babler, of Thierachern, describes a passage of it made by him on August 4, 1897, from Zinal to Gruben. Starting at 3 A.M., the

pass was reached at 9 A.M. The descent was more difficult, and 4 hrs. were occupied in clearing the glacier.

Herr Rudolf Kummer-Krayer (Bern) recommends a much neglected district between the valleys of Tavetsch and Piora, especially the Piz Rondadura and Piz Blas.

Herr Hermann Hopf (Bern) contributes a number of interesting extracts from the old 'Fremdenbuch' of the Grimsel Hospice between 1840 and 1845, including notices from many distinguished explorers.

At the end of 1897 the credit balance of the Club was 28,005 fcs. (1,120*l.*), showing an increase of 11,544 fcs. (461*l.*) This was largely due to the 'Jahrbuch,' which, after showing a loss of 1,066 fcs. in 1894, showed in 1895 a profit of 861 fcs., and in 1897 a profit of no less than 3,526 fcs. The committee complains of the tendency of the sections to throw all expenses upon the central fund. Thus, no section can be found to undertake the charge of the Bétemps Hut. Many of the huts seem to be in bad condition. Including the four old ones the number is now fifty-two. The Matterhorn Hut is to be repaired and enlarged. The Hüfi Hut must be rebuilt. This the Section Pilatus has undertaken with a subvention of 100*l.* from the central 'cassa.' The Weissshorn Hut has disappeared. A new hut has been erected on the Col de Bertol. This will serve for many more excursions than the Stockje Hut, which could only be used for two passes and two peaks. The Concordia Hut has been replaced by a 'Pavillon Auberge.'

The Schamella Hut (Scesaplana) is also to be replaced by a 'Pavillon-Hôtel' a little lower down. In the new building a 'salle' to hold twelve persons is to be reserved for the S.A.C.

The Tschierva Hut is to be built, to which the Club contribute 3,000 fcs. (120*l.*). A hut is also to be built on the Altenoren Alp (opened last September).

At the end of 1897 352 guides were insured for 1,155,000 fcs. (46,200*l.*), to which the Club contribute an annual payment of 5,775 fcs. (231*l.*). The Canton Tessin has undertaken to issue a separate 'Annuario,' to which the S.A.C. will contribute 150 fcs. (6*l.*) a year.

The number of members at the end of 1897 was 5,197, showing an increase of 205.

In the folding case attached to the volume are a view of the Libyan desert, showing two of the Natron lakes, a panorama from the Torrenthorn, and the map of the Club district for 1898-9. This is a very beautiful work. There is also a pamphlet with views of all the Swiss Club huts, fifty-two in number.—J. S.

New Climbs in Norway. By C. E. Oppenheim. With illustrations by A. D. McCormick. (London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1898.)

From the name of Mr. Oppenheim's book one is apt to surmise that it deals with ascents in a new district, and there is consequently a feeling of disappointment at the outset when one finds the party using, as a centre, a large new hotel on one of the famous

driving roads, and it seems inconsistent to use such epithets as those in which the author indulges respecting other travellers for whose accommodation the hotel was originally built. In a country as large as Norway it is surely possible to keep out of the way of 'Demons,' and even in Søndmøre it is as easy to avoid one's fellow countrymen as it would be in Siberia, unless an hotel is an absolute necessity to the climber.

The vivid and picturesque descriptions of life at the new Øie come as a revelation to those who only knew the place when the little inn was connected, or rather separated, from Hellesylt by 'the worst road in Norway,' and when even local steamers never disturbed the deep waters of the Hjørundfjord; but the majestic coast scenery of the district is well worth the best of Mr. Oppenheim's descriptions, and it is on far too grand a scale to be spoiled, for the present, by the building of hotels, or the visits of liners.

The party must have had some splendid weather, and it is interesting to follow their boat over the glassy waters of the fjord as they start from their delightful headquarters, and to hear how they made their way breast deep through birch and alder, to the sæters, in a manner which is very typical of all mountaineering from sea level in Norway.

We do not see that there is much in the book which is likely to attract the non-climbing public, for Mr. Oppenheim has wisely omitted descriptions of sensational situations from his climbing records; and we fear that the public are apt to lose interest in the account of a climb, unless there is some possibility of a catastrophe to the party; whilst as yet the majority of Englishmen who travel in Norway are inclined to regard all mountaineering as an unprofitable waste of time and energy.

From the climber's point of view the book lacks interest, for it contains no information about the ascents of all the highest and most difficult mountains in the district which were climbed long ago, and there is so much extraneous matter to wade through before one comes to the description of new climbs, that it would be easier to turn up the concise accounts in the 'Alpine Journal' list of new expeditions than to hunt through 250 pages of a book without map or index.

The chapter headed 'We build our first four cairns,' loses too much of its point when one reads that three of the four cairns were erected in different places on the Vellesæterhorn, of which the two highest points were climbed in 1890, and the ascent of Raana by Mr. Hastings's route seems hardly to justify the space which is given to it.

The book is nicely bound and printed, and the illustrations add materially to its interest. Mr. McCormick's drawings are very typical of many parts of upland Norway, though they are too suggestive of dull weather. The frontispiece is a fine example of photographic reproduction; but, unfortunately, the illustrations, as a whole, are of little topographical value, and they even fail to bring back familiar outlines to the memories of those who know the hills.

It is difficult to understand why Mr. Oppenheim should go out of his way to use Norwegian words, and insert a note to say that 'it has not been thought necessary to insert the modified "o" in its native form,' for in that language 'ø' or 'ö' is a letter entirely distinct from the unmodified 'o,' and often alters the whole meaning of the word. For instance, in a footnote he explains that 'ol = ale.' This is incorrect, for 'ol' does not mean 'ale'; it means 'fourscore.' The fact that the book contains modified vowels (as in 'Rücksacs') makes their omission in the Norwegian all the more flagrant, and the author offers no apology for the omission of all diphthongs and the frequent use of 'o' for 'y.'

To the ordinary man who has wandered in Norway, many of the words so freely interjected are quite unintelligible, but when one seeks the aid of a dictionary the study becomes fascinating, and one finds that the 'fladbrod' which Mr. Oppenheim came to 'loathe,' was a 'flat spike,' and was, doubtless, indigestible; and the 'mosost,' which he found so refreshing, on account of its pungent taste, was doubtless a 'cheese compounded from lichen.'

Systematic mis-spelling is bad enough in the case of single words, which the reader can only attribute to the author; but it is obviously unfair to Mr. Randers to insert passages which purport to be quotations from his book which would be visibly incorrect to the most illiterate Norwegian. But the author treads on much more dangerous ground when he tries his hand at translation, for we take it that every one who has travelled in Norway knows that a 'landhandler' is not an 'hotel.' The word signifies the keeper of a country store, and his shop is usually the only place within many miles where the necessaries of life can be bought.

It is a pity that this first work on modern mountaineering in Norway has been treated so superficially, for there is little doubt that it is a subject which will some day be of general interest, and we hope, ere long, to see the work undertaken thoroughly by some one who is conversant with every part of the country where mountains have yet been explored.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ACCIDENT ON PIZ PALÜ.

To the Editor of the ALPINE JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—I send you an account which I have translated from the 'Mittheilungen des Deutschen und Oesterreichischen Alpenvereins' for October 15, of the fatal accident during a descent of the Piz Palü on September 1 last.

It is fitting that such a record should find a place in the pages of the 'Alpine Journal' for several reasons. In it is described an act of bravery on the part of one of the guides for which it would be hard to find a parallel in the annals of mountaineering.