

P. 78. *Breitlawihorn*.—The ordinary route (Rte. 1) up this little peak gives only 15 min. easy climbing from the glacier, the whole time required from the Baltschiederjoch being about 1 hr. 40 min. Rte. 2, M. Gallet's, seems to consist in gaining, from the W., the long S. arête (not S. face) and following it.

P. 83. *Beich Pass*.—10,269 ft. is a misprint for 10,289 ft.

P. 148. *Mönch*, Rte. 4, by S.W. arête.—Mr. Claude Macdonald has informed me that he did not follow the ridge itself from the Jungfrauojoch. The object of his party was to reach the top of the mountain as soon as possible, with a view to descending to the Wengern Alp, and they therefore traversed on the snow below the top, avoiding the actual arête when it was practicable to do so. The only passage of the ridge is therefore Herr Fischer's, which took about 8 hrs., the conditions, however, being very unfavourable.

P. 152, line 6. The name should be *Bullock*.

SKEEING.—Mr. W. R. Rickmers invites members to visit the Feldberg (Black Forest) during the latter half of March and first half of April. He will then be glad to give them lessons (as an amateur) in the new system of Alpine skeeing, which enables a moderately active man to be safe on the most difficult ground after a few days' practice. No infringements of the most orthodox mountaineering rules need be feared. There is more snow than enough till the beginning of May, and plenty of rock-climbing can also be had.

There is a very comfortable large inn near the top (almost 5,000 ft.) and the terms are moderate (35s. to 42s. per week). This hotel can be reached from London in 36 hrs. Travellers leaving Victoria at night will find a through carriage in Flushing which lands them in Freiburg at 10 P.M. The return fare London-Freiburg *via* Flushing is 5*l.* (by the Hoek only 2s. less).

Five days running of practice are an ample allowance, and to obtain these at the top a holiday of nine days (or even eight) will suffice.

Please address W. R. Rickmers, Radolfzell (Baden), Germany.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Aconcagua and Tierra del Fuego: a Book of Climbing, Travel, and Exploration.

By Sir Martin Conway, President of the Alpine Club and Slade Professor of Fine Art in the University of Cambridge. Pp. xii + 252, with 27 illustrations and a map. (London: Cassell & Co. n.d.)

IN the later part of 1898 Sir Martin Conway halted, on his way back from the Bolivian Andes, first at Valparaiso to visit Aconcagua, and then at Punta Arenas, on the mainland side of the Magellan Strait, to see a little of the mountain scenery in Tierra del Fuego. So the present volume is practically a supplement to 'Climbing and Exploration in the Bolivian Andes,' already noticed in this 'Journal.*' On the first of these expeditions fortune stood his

* Vol. xx. p. 550.

friend. The time which he could spare was necessarily short. Aconcagua, as Messrs. FitzGerald and Vines had good reason to know, in its weather moods, is like the proverbial woman, *varium et mutabile*, but proved to be in a good temper at the right moment. No hitch occurred in the necessary arrangements, and the whole journey from Valparaiso to the summit and back was accomplished in ten days. The party—Conway and his two guides, Antoine Maquignaz and Louis Pellissier, both of Valtournanche—went by railway to Los Andes, and thence as near to the crest of the Andes as the mountain line would carry them. As there was more snow than is usual at the beginning of December the Cumbre Pass, by which they crossed with mules to the eastern side, proved to be rather laborious, but in due course they reached the Baños del Inca, familiar to readers of Mr. FitzGerald's 'Highest Andes.' Here, at a level of rather over 9,000 ft., the Horcones valley leads to the actual foot of Aconcagua, and on the night of December 4 Sir Martin Conway, with his two guides and one or two native porters, camped at the head of the valley. They climbed next day to FitzGerald's camp at 16,000 ft., and on the following one halted for the night at about 18,500 ft. The weather, though not without protest, remained fine, so next morning they started for the summit. The cold was intense, and Pellissier was so unwell that after struggling on for about four hours he was obliged to return, leaving Conway and Maquignaz to continue the expedition. The mountain offered no difficulties; the rope was nowhere needed till they reached the final arête. 'The ascent is a mere question of strength and endurance, physical and constitutional.' These were severely taxed. The diminished atmospheric pressure produced the usual lassitude; the long, incoherent slopes of small rock fragments were extremely fatiguing, but they pressed steadily on till about eight hours after quitting the camp they reached one of the rocky knobs on the rounded summit. Clouds were now gathering fast; the patience of the monarch of the Andes was evidently exhausted, so after a brief halt they hurried back. On arriving at the camp they found, to their consternation, that Pellissier's feet were badly frost-bitten. That determined them to lose no time in retreating. They packed at once and hurried downwards, arriving that evening at their base camp in the Horcones valley—a descent of 10,000 ft., much of it with baggage, in less than 6 hrs. From that point Pellissier could ride, but it was some weeks before he was again able to wear boots.

Cold, as FitzGerald's expedition showed, is evidently one of the most formidable adversaries to the climber on Aconcagua, and probably on all very high mountains, so Conway gives some useful hints about camp equipment and clothing, especially foot-gear, for Pellissier's frost-bites probably were partly due to having omitted to put on a second pair of stockings. He followed nearly the same route as FitzGerald's party, and was equally impressed by the quantity of loose *débris* on Aconcagua. Though a volcanic mountain it seems to be mainly built up of lava beds, and every

trace of a scoria cone has disappeared from its summit. Conway picked up many small fragments of rock to illustrate the character of the slopes,* but only one of them showed traces of vesicles. There has evidently been a glacial epoch in this part of the Andes, for ancient moraines occur at the mouth of the Horcones valley, or more than 3,000 ft. below the foot of the present glacier, but the peak must have assumed its dominant outlines anterior to this. At the present time the *nieves penitentes* are the most curious phenomenon of the district, for they are restricted, so far as is known, to these Chilean Andes and the high volcanoes of Mexico. These are 'spires of snow, standing close together and sometimes arranged in rows,' which have been sculptured, as we learn from the author's careful study, by solar action out of beds of old avalanche snow, somewhat in the same fashion as earth pillars are made by rain.

The second mountain expedition aimed at the ascent of Mount Sarmiento (about 7,000 ft.), on the western side of and the highest summit in Tierra del Fuego. A steamer from Punta Arenas (Sandy Point) landed Conway and Maquignaz near the foot, and on the last day of the year they tried to climb it. But a violent storm, which converted midsummer into a good imitation of an Alpine winter, drove them back, after an interesting glacier expedition, from a height of about 4,000 ft., just before commencing the ascent of Sarmiento itself. The author, however, made some less difficult expeditions, and gives an interesting account of this extremity of the American continent, which will be very useful to climbers desirous of exploring this distant region, the scenery of which seems to be a blend of Spitsbergen and Norway. The book, it is almost needless to say, is as attractive as its predecessors, showing, like them, keen and accurate observation, with a felicitous power of picturesque description. It is, as the author tells us in the preface, 'the last of my own mountain explorations that I shall write.' We should read these words with regret, for in the ascent of Aconcagua we perceive no sign that the mountaineer's natural force is abating, did we not understand that the call to other fields of honourable and onerous labour will for some years forbid long absences from England.

Volcanic Studies in Many Lands; being Reproductions of Photographs by the Author of One Hundred Actual Objects, with Explanatory Notices. By Tempest Anderson, M.D., B.Sc.Lond., F.G.S., F.R.G.S., &c. (London: John Murray, 1903.) Pp. xxviii, 202. Plates cv.

In this volume Dr. Tempest Anderson proves what may be accomplished in the intervals of a busy professional life by keeping one end steadily in view. Some years ago he determined, as he was an adept with the camera, to vary his ordinary work by collecting studies of volcanic phenomena, and the outcome of his vacation rambles is this beautifully illustrated volume. The subject cannot be called inappropriate, for in the earth, as in man,

* They are described in the *Bolivian Andes*, pp. 379-383.

eruptions are outward symptoms of internal disorder, and the book might have been entitled 'Clinical Studies in Terrestrial Eczema.' The conditions under which the author worked have prevented him from visiting the great volcanic regions of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, so that the extinct craters of the Rocky Mountains and the recent outbursts in the West Indies indicate his longest journeys. But he has carried his camera to almost every important volcanic district in Europe, including Iceland, to Teneriffe, the Gran Canary, and the places just named. A short descriptive text accompanies each plate, calling attention to the special features illustrated; and in the preface the author gives fellow workers some valuable hints, founded on his own varied experience in photography.

A volcano may be a simple or a complex phenomenon—a single cone forming a low hill, thrown up, perhaps, like Monte Nuovo, in the Bay of Naples, by only one outburst, or it may be a great mountain, such as Etna, built up, by successive eruptions during long ages, of piles of scoria and flows of lava, pierced by dykes and often studded by parasitic cones. Sometimes, as in the former case, it may be a mere cinder heap, or even little more than a bowl-like hollow made in the ground by an explosion; sometimes the volcanic energy vents itself in the discharge of great floods of lava and scarcely attempts to throw up cones. Some volcanoes, like Stromboli, are always at work; others, like the Soufrière of St. Vincent, indulge in long intervals of perfect rest; some are dying, ejecting only heated water, steam, and other vapours, or perhaps only some noxious gas, like Padjalan, in Java; some seem to be actually dead, and Nature's dissecting hand has even converted them into anatomical preparations.

The volume fitly opens with Vesuvius for it is not only a most typical volcano, but also the best known to Europeans. For centuries it seemed dead; then it suddenly woke up from its long sleep in the worst of tempers, destroying half its ancient crater ring and burying the hapless towns at its foot. We are introduced to phases of the eruption of 1898: the summit cone ejecting volumes of steam mingled with scoria, flows of lava descending under clouds of hot mist, and their surfaces stiffening into sluggy wrinkles or rough and ragged crusts. A glimpse into the crater on a quiet day serves to bring out its characteristic bedded structure. This also is admirably exhibited in photographs of Somma, the old crater ring, and of Astroni, where it is unusually regular. After a glance at Etna the author passes on to the Lipari Islands, introducing us to the restless Stromboli, the more intermittent Vulcano and the Forge of that deity, now cold and deserted, the famous pumice beds of the Campo Bianco, and the wave-worn crags of Basiluzzo. Auvergne contributes its picturesque groups of cones, some perfect, as when the last shot was fired, others carved into crag and ravine, and even into such a strange shape as the chapel-crowned pinnacle at Le Puy en Velay. He shows us also those singular lava mounds, like flattened batter puddings,

such as the Grand Sarcoui, the crater lake D'Issarlès, and wonderful examples of columnar basalt from Buron and Jaujac. The Gran Canary provides some good instances of small scoria cones, and on a large scale the instructive caldera of Banadana; Teneriffe, its summit peak and huge outer crater. Iceland supplies numerous illustrations of the phenomena of lava streams—their forms, their little blowholes or surface craters, their strange rifts, or Gjas, their caves formed by the local escape of still fluid material, and the ravines worn in those of ancient date, by meteoric agencies. Dr. Anderson traced the great lava floods, discharged in 1783, to their source on Skaptár Jökull, and illustrates them by a number of interesting photographs. Rhenish Prussia furnishes some admirable examples of columnar basalt, including the famous Käse-Keller near Bertrich, and one of its noted crater lakes. Oregon has supplied another, and that on a much vaster scale. The Yellowstone Park adds geysers and hot springs, and Idaho instances of floods of lava which, welling up through fissures, practically without explosive action, have buried vast plains beneath their unbroken sheets. Our own islands supply interesting examples of columnar basalt, dykes, and sills (or intrusive sheets) of lava, and a few illustrations of the recent West Indian eruptions close the volume. After seeing the steaming ash and mud streams from the Soufrière in St. Vincent, and Mont Pelé in wrathful mood at Martinique, with a devastated plantation from the one island and a ruined street in St. Pierre from the other, we can faintly realise the terrors of those awful days of May.

Some of the negatives have given better reproductions than others, but the general average is high; the text is clear and brief, for Dr. Anderson, as he states, desired to illustrate, not add to, the text-books already in existence. The book is an addition of permanent value to scientific literature; it will be welcome to both lovers of wild scenery and working geologists, and will be indispensable to teachers, on the well-known principle, 'Segnius irritant animos demissa per aures Quam quæ sunt oculis subjecta fidelibus.'

T. G. BONNEY.

Jahrbuch des Schweizer Alpenklub, vol. xxxvii. 1901-2.

In the preface the editor (Dr. H. Dübi) complains that the only papers on the special district (the Swiss side of Mt. Blanc) which have reached him are by French-speaking tourists, whilst he is aware that many German Alpinists made excursions there. More than seventy ascents, either new or by new routes, are chronicled in this volume, of which ten were by members of the Alpine Club.

In the special district M. Julien Gallet describes an ascent of Mt. Dolent, M. H. Correvon writes of the Swiss Val Ferret, Dr. F. Mauler of the Aiguille de Javelle. Out of the special district Herr F. Reichert describes the ascent of the Nord End from Macugnaga. This was the fourth ascent, and the first without guides. After being detained by bad weather a whole day in the Marinelli hut he started with his friend Herr Dord at 1 A.M. on August 17. The

summit was reached at 9.30 P.M. After 45 min. rest they determined to descend to the Bétemps hut. After a short time the leader having to hold the lantern with his teeth while he cut steps lost hold of it, and they were forced to return and bivouac at 4,500 m (14,764 ft.), whence, starting at 4 A.M., Zermatt was reached at 2 P.M. Herr Hans Koenig (Bern) made a number of excursions in the Gauli group.

On July 27, 1901, the friends A. Ludwig and E. Imhof ascended the Piz Frisal (3,295 m.=10,810 ft.) by a new route. This was the second ascent. The next day they ascended the Biferten Stock by a new route. The most difficult part was the passage from the Frisal glacier to the small glacier lying between the two peaks, and from this they made direct for the point 3,371 m. (11,060 ft.). The ascent made from the N. side by Herr J. Brunner, with the guides H. and P. Elmer, on August 10, 1876, they say, was one of the most daring tours ever made. From the picture (p. 81) the ascent seems quite impossible. The two friends, after bivouacking at the foot of the Puntaiglas glacier, descended to Trons and Disentis. They agree in thinking that a Club hut is needed at the point where they bivouacked. Herr E. Egloff contributes the first part of a series of tours in the Säntis district. The most remarkable were amongst the Kreuzberge, a row of rocky pinnacles almost immediately above Sax, in the Rheinthal. He ascended Nos. 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, of which 7 was the most difficult. Nos. 1, 5, and 6 seem inaccessible. More than twenty tours are described.

Dr. W. Schibler on May 6, 1901, started with several friends from Nicolosi (760 m.=2,296 ft.), $8\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Catania, to ascend Etna (3,279 m.=10,757 ft.). The start was only made at 5 P.M., far too late, and the Casa Aetnaea (3,000 m.=9,843 ft.) was only reached at midnight. The night was miserably cold. At 3 A.M. on a stormy morning only two of the party started. The mephitic vapours compelled them to circumvent the cone, and the smoke made the crater invisible. After sunrise, however, the view was very grand, and the shadow of the mountain wonderful. Each bed in the dimly cold 'casa' cost 5 lire, each guide 10 and each mule 8 lire. The cost to each tourist from Nicolosi was 35 lire.

Herr Walter Flender, with his friend Herr Anz, made a very interesting tour in Corsica between May 5 and June 11, 1901. They worked from S. to N., and on the whole found good accommodation. Their most difficult ascent was the Mte. d'Oro, where a 'gendarme' could not be turned, but had to be assailed directly by a crack, in which one had to hold fast whilst the others climbed over him. The N. part of the island is now clear of brigands, but about twenty-five remain in the S. half, where there is still much shelter in the dense underwood. They only saw one for a moment in a wood, but on describing him to the people at the inn learned that he was one of the most redoubtable.

Dr. F. A. Morel, Dr. M. Lugeon, and Herr E. Muret issue their 22nd report on glaciers. There is still great doubt about the advance and retreat of glaciers. In 1892 eighteen were observed,

of which nine were certainly advancing; in 1901 eighty-seven were observed, of which only one was certainly advancing. There is a second article by Herr F. W. Sprecher (Piz Sol) on ground avalanches. All those observed were in the Kalfseuserthal, with the exception of one in the Sarotlathal, near the Zimba Spitze. The Rev. W. A. B. Coolidge contributes an article on the old names of Mt. Blanc, the Col du Géant, &c. He quotes more than eighty authorities, reaching as far back as the eleventh century, and the article must have involved great research. It is illustrated by two coloured pictures of the neighbourhood of Chamounix, from paintings of 1777 and 1780.

Dr. Kursteiner compares and criticises the Alpine accidents of the ten years 1891-1900. The editor recounts the accidents of the past year.

Amongst the lesser communications are some interesting tours. Mlle. Eugénie Rochat, with Jules Veillon, on August 1, 1898, from the Chanrion hut traversed the Ruinette, both the ascent and descent being by new routes and by no means free from danger. On September 21, 1901, with Jos. and Aloys Truffer, she made the second ascent of the Brunegghorn by the E. ridge. In the summer of 1901 numerous tours were made in the group of the Engelhörner (Urbachthal). The Urbachthaler Engelhorn was only accessible by a single 'Kehle,' and the approach to this was by a ledge often not more than 2 in. wide. Herr Alb. Weber on July 19, 1901, made the first ascent of the Gelmerhorn (2,606 m. = 8,550 ft.). His friend, having no 'Kletterschuhe,' climbed in his stockings. The modern young Alpinists purposely choose the most difficult routes, and laugh at the dangers described in the tours of fifty years ago. 'Kletterschuhe' have done much to facilitate rock-climbing.

Of forty notices of books all but two are by the editor. These are both noticed by Dr. Krumbein, and are rather remarkable: (1) By Alf. Steinitzer (captain in Bavarian army) on the importance of sugar as a strengthening food; when used it even saves the necessity of training; hard walks may be undertaken at once. (2) By Professor D. A. Stutzer (Königsberg) on the especial value of sugar for the climber. Fatigue is more easily borne, and sooner overcome, whereas alcohol gives only a temporary fillip, which does not last. The former of these is referred to in the 'Alpine Journal' (vol. xxi. p. 198).

The insurance offices decline to insure against accidents when guides are not taken, and the Central Committee decline to take any further action in the matter. After the numerous complaints about the lower Matterhorn hut it was intended to rebuild it, to be ready against the season of 1902; but, owing to difficulties with Zermatt, the matter has dropped. It is suggested that it would be a good plan if individual sections would undertake the charge of a hut, as in the D.Ö.A.V., where huts are often built and kept up by separate sections. A man and his wife are put in as host and hostess, and not unfrequently by good management, when the hut

is nicely arranged and not too difficult of access, a fair profit is made.

The number of guides insured and the amount of insurance are both increased. The fortune of the Club at end of 1900 was 38,292 fcs. (1,528*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*), at the end of 1901, 49,008 fcs. (1,960*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*), the increase being largely due to a special bequest.

In the attached 'Mappe' is a fine coloured panorama from the Finsteraarhorn, by Herr S. Simon. J. S.

Aus dem Hochgebirge. Von Dr. Hermann Wolterstorff. 8vo, pp. xii, 212. (Magdeburg: Selbstverlag. Leipzig: Reisland. 1902. M. 7.)

This book is composed of sixteen articles, reprinted from various journals, describing expeditions made some years ago by the author. The most interesting is an account of the passage of the old Weissthor Pass from Macugnaga to Zermatt in 1884. Other articles describe ascents of the Matterhorn, Zinal Rothhorn, Jungfrau, Monte Rosa, and other minor peaks by the ordinary routes; and two others give accounts of expeditions in the Tarentaise and a journey through part of Dauphiné.

The author nearly ended his mountaineering career at the age of 23 on the way from the Great St. Bernard to the Swiss Val Ferret. He intended to cross the Col de Fenêtre, but lost his way in the mist and met with an accident, of which he tells the story, so that others may learn a lesson from his experiences.

The book is well illustrated with sixteen large plates and forty-six smaller ones. Some of the former are from excellent photographs by Signor V. Sella, and three from drawings by Mr. E. T. Compton. A. E. F.

Mont Blanc through the Stereoscope. By M. S. Emery. 8vo, pp. 174; map. (London, 3 Heddon Street, W.: Underwood & Underwood. 1902.)

This is a small portion (containing twenty-three stereographs) of a large series of views issued by Messrs. Underwood according to a novel plan that is sure to prove of considerable value educationally. The views are arranged by districts, in cases suitable for standing on library shelves. In each case is a small volume, giving a short account of the views, and a map on which is indicated, by a number corresponding with the number on the stereograph, the spot from which the view is taken and the distant range of each view. With these data before him the student is enabled to make a very complete geographical study of the district. The views in the Mont Blanc set are carefully taken to illustrate the range from various points of view, and are most interesting and pleasant to look at, though the printing ought to be better. The price of the set is 17*s.* 6*d.*, or with a stereoscope, 23*s.* The Oberland (21*s.*), Zermatt (10*s.* 6*d.*), the Yosemite (18*s.*) are among the sets at present obtainable; and each year new districts are being included in the series.

American Alpine Club. Constitution, By-Laws, List of Members. 8vo. 1902.

This new Club has been started with Professor C. E. Fay, who is also an honorary member of the Alpine Club, as President. The

objects are 'the scientific exploration and study of the higher mountain elevations and of the regions lying within or about the Arctic and Antarctic Circles; the cultivation of the mountain craft; the promotion and dissemination of knowledge regarding the regions above indicated;' and a candidate for membership must show that he has done work assisting some one or all of those objects. Among the founders are E. S. Balch, H. G. Bryant, C. E. Fay, A. Heilprin, J. LeConte, John Muir, Commander Peary, Miss Annie S. Peck, H. F. Reid, I. C. Russell, G. and W. Vaux, Dr. and Mrs. Workman; so that the Club should have a prosperous and useful career before it.

Second Strings. By A. D. Godley. 8vo. (London: Methuen. 1902.) 2s. 6d. nett.

Ueber den Firnen. Unter den Sternen. Gedichte von Anton Renk. 8vo, pp. 201. (Linz, etc.: Oesterreich. Verlagsanstalt. 1902.)

Liederbüchlein für Alpenfreunde. Herausgegeben von Dr. C. Arnold. 3. Aufl. 8vo, pp. 206. (Innsbruck: Edlinger. 1902.) M. 1.

'Second Strings' is a little volume of clever verse. The following lines from the poem called 'Switzerland' (the one alpine poem in the book) will give an idea of the quality:—

Place me somewhere in the Valais, 'mid the mountains west of Binn,
West of Binn and east of Savoy, in a decent kind of inn,
With a peak or two for climbing, and a glacier to explore,—
Any mountain will content me, though they've all been climbed before—
Yes! I care not any more
Though they've all been done before,
And the names they keep in bottles may be numbered by the score!

Though you grow so very fat
That you climb the Gorner Grat,
Or perhaps the Little Scheideck,—and are rather proud of that:
Yet I hope that till you die
You will annually sigh
For a vision of the Valais with the coming of July.

Herr Renk writes verse that is full of the expression of keen feeling for the joys of mountaineering. For instance, in 'Erst-
ersteigung':—

Wo vor mir noch keiner war
Steh' ich stolz und frei,
Und mir scheint, ich träume gar,
Dass ich König sei.

* * * * *
Horch! der Weltentwicklungssang:
Wie Gefahr auch prunkt,
Held ist, wer der Welt errang
Einen Gipfelpunkt!

Or again in another piece:

Auf durch wilde Felsenklüfte,
Wo nur mehr die Gemse geht! . . .
Höhensehnsucht . . . Höhensehnsucht.—
Jeder Schritt wird zum Gebet.

From various Alpine Club and other publications Dr. Arnold

has collected an excellent set of songs suitable for singing at the social gatherings of the sections of German-speaking Alpine Clubs and for reading by members of others. We quote from only two here. For sentiment this :—

Nichts glücklicher's auf Erden ist
 Als so ein flotter Hochtourist;
 Der sitzt auf seinen Felsenthron
 Viel stolzer als ein Königssohn.

And for expression of the true inwardness of the enjoyment of an Alpine Club meeting this :—

Und kehrt von der Hochtour der Wand'rer,
 An alpinen Erfahrungen schwer,
 Wo erzählt er da, was er erlebt hat,
 Wo bekommt er die Zuhörer her?
 Erzählen muss er doch können
 Von den Bergen so hoch und so hehr—
 Wie bedenklich und schwindlig der Grat dort,
 Wie die Aufstieg so hart und so schwer!
 Wie so wild und zerklüftet der Gletscher,
 Bis zum Hals in den Schnee sank man ein!
 Es renommirt sich am besten
 Ja nur in dem Alpenverein.

La Photographie Artistique en Montagne. Par Antoine Mazel. 8vo, pp. xii, 184; plates. (Paris: Mendel. [1902].) Fr. 6.

To be much recommended for literary style, enthusiasm, and practical advice. In a clever, humorous preface the author supports the thesis that the results of photography may sometimes belong to art. This suggestion others will resolutely deny, even though the plates chosen in this case go far (despite poor printing) to be a successful devil's advocate for the author's claim—a claim, however, that he is not prepared to fight for. M. Mazel is right in saying, with delightful Rousseau-like arrogance, that many good books have been written on photography, but none so good as this.

Deutsche Alpenzeitung. Vols. i.–iii. 4to. (München: G. Lammer. 1901–2.)
Alpine Majestäten. Vol. ii. Folio. (München: Verlag d. Vereing. Kunst-anstalten. 1902.)

That a newspaper dealing with mountaineering, and yet unconnected with any Alpine club, should be published once a fortnight for two years, and show at the end evidence of increased support, is probably the fact that best indicates that the paper deserves support. The 'Deutsche Alpenzeitung' has been produced at a time when a great interest in the mountains of their own territories has been developed among the German-speaking peoples, and a demand for literature describing and illustrating the Eastern Alps has arisen. This new paper helps to satisfy the demand. It contains many good papers on climbing, on the history of mountaineering, descriptions of districts, and information on the doings of the Alpine clubs and their sections, the building and condition of huts, on new books, and the many other details that are asked for by the climber and the tourist. The illustrations are, perhaps, on the

whole the most interesting from the point of view of art of any that have appeared in Alpine periodicals. They are largely made from drawings, and those are in most cases strong, sometimes powerful, and effective. In pictures reproduced from photographs the standard is not so high, and both styles of illustration suffer from the unfortunate necessity of printing and publishing cheaply. The price is 60 Pfg. a part, or 10 M. for the half-yearly bound volume.

'Alpine Majestäten'! That must make Dr. Thomas Burnett turn in his grave; for in an angry mood in 1681 he wrote that mountains are 'disorderly, irregular, absurdly various, of a shapelessness that shows no beauty, art, or design;' and here there is in its second successful year an excellent series of views of those same 'shapeless, naked' hills, being largely bought by a generation that sees more majesty in the sacred earth than in the 'Telluris Theoria Sacra.' This publication fully merits the support it is receiving. We note with pleasure the appearance of a second volume, for of old it was the vicious habit of a paper of this kind to vanish silently away after a year or less. The views are nearly all in the Alps, but Scotland, Wales, and the Caucasus also come into this volume. The quality of the photographs is uneven, but on the whole the standard is high, and some, especially of the full-page views, are as good as can be. The price is very moderate; there are twelve parts at M. 1 a part.

The via Eastern Telegraph Social Code. 8vo, pp. 320. (London: Hutchinson. 1902.) 5s. nett.

This is likely to prove a very useful book for travellers, as code words are here provided for such phrases as usually occur in private telegrams, and 800 words are left at the end to be used for special phrases which any two correspondents may agree on. The cost of the book will soon be repaid to the user in the reduced cost of telegrams. For instance, the message, 'I cannot go to Bern, as arranged on July 25; unavoidably delayed till August 4,' can be sent as five words, 'Defluat Bern clathrorum colluvium claustrale;' and, as the arrangement throughout is alphabetical, the cipher can quickly be interpreted when received.

**Explorations in the Territory of Alaska, 1898. Copper River Exploring Expedition, 1899.* 8vo; maps, photographs. (Washington: Government Printing Office. 1899, 1900.)

The discovery of gold on the Yukon has greatly stimulated within the last few years the exploration of Alaska. Expeditions have been sent out by private subscription and under orders of the Geological Survey and of the War Departments of the United States. The last were sent more especially with a view to finding routes to the gold fields wholly within Alaskan territory, but they combined partly with the geological expeditions and did much other exploring work. As the territory has within it many high

* For full title see Additions to Library.

mountain ranges covered with snow and glaciers any report on it must afford interesting matter for the readers of the 'Alpine Journal.' The geological work is contained in the twentieth annual report, part vii., of the U.S. Geological Survey, a 4to. volume of 500 pages with many illustrations, which has already been referred to in the pages of this 'Journal' (vol. xx. p. 405). The reports of two of the War Department expeditions (officially known as Nos. 2 and 3) are contained in the two volumes named at the head of this article. The volume for 1900 contains more than a hundred photographs, mostly of mountains and glaciers. There still remains much to be explored, and mountaineering proper cannot be said yet to have been begun in Alaska, for the only mountaineering expeditions that have yet gone there have devoted attention exclusively to Mount St. Elias, whose summit is in British territory. Mount McKinley, in Alaska, which is said to be the highest summit of North America, is yet to be climbed.

La Montagne à travers les Ages. Tome i: Des Temps Antiques à la Fin du Dix-huitième Siècle. Par John Grand-Carteret. 4to, pp. 559; ill. (Grenoble: Falque et Perrin. 1903.) Fr. 40.

The study of man's mental attitude towards the greater elevations on the earth's surface must fascinate all those who take more than merely the sportsman's view of the recreation of mountaineering. For the study forms part of the larger study of man's method of viewing external nature and his relation to it. To some parts of nature he has become early accustomed and reconciled; but mankind in general can hardly yet be said to understand at all how he is related to the vast rock and ice wastes of the earth and its great mountain masses. It is difficult to see any progressive understanding of this mystery; for in old days the Hebrew poets, who could represent the mountains 'breaking forth into singing,' felt some of the meaning, and in present days there are still many respectable persons who, like Defoe, cannot see what hills may mean 'where there are not even coal-pits: barren and wild and of no use to man or beast.'

M. Grand-Carteret has here provided us with the first volume of a work which will help us in our study. It is a very large book, for the subject is large, an encyclopedia of facts, though in the form of a continuous narrative. No mention is made of the peoples of the East, of India, or of Palestine. By the omission of the Hebrew with his insight, the book begins with the unenlightening depressing views taken by the Greeks, and more especially by the Romans, as to mountains. They feared them, and this fear continued with little interruption in Europe till the eighteenth century, by which time men began to smile at rocky terrors, and find with Addison an 'agreeable horror' in the Alps. M. Grand-Carteret quotes largely from the original authorities (translating as he does so), interweaving the quotations with remarks and historical explanations of his own. On the whole the history thus laid

before us is a dreary one, until Haller appears to versify on Alpine beauty and Scheuchzer to join the fearful wonders of a past age with the mental fearlessness of a new. Immediately after them—and it is strange how soon the exact Saussure followed the believe-all Scheuchzer—comes the beginning of the modern time, when the peaks of the great mountains were first trodden on: and with the advent of this time the volume before us closes.

The book is very richly illustrated with pictures from drawings, paintings, etchings, &c., showing how the hills have been represented in art throughout the ages, and this is a very valuable part of the work. Portraits of persons famous in alpine literature appear—Vadian, Gesner, Scheuchzer, Paccard, and many others. The labour of collecting all this material must have been great, but M. Grand-Carteret is rewarded by producing a book which will have a permanent place in the literature of mountaineering.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ALPINE CLUB.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Hall on Monday evening, December 15, at 8.30, Sir Martin Conway, *President*, in the chair. Messrs. R. F. Backwell, R. W. Broadrick, R. L. G. Irving, L. D. Nicholson, J. A. Parker, R. K. Parr, W. A. Purton, A. C. Roberts, A. T. L. Rumbold, and R. B. Shipley were balloted for and elected members of the Club.

The PRESIDENT referred to the losses sustained in the past year, by the deaths of several members. Among these were Mr. Croft, a follower of George Barnard, who was one of the earliest draughtsmen to pay careful attention to the Alps. At one time his pictures were very popular, and he had painted several works of mountains of more than ordinary merit. Mr. F. C. Grove also had died. His memory would remain green as long as the 'Alpine Journal' was treasured among mountaineers. He was less known by the younger members, but older members would remember how his speeches were always looked forward to. As a climber he would probably be chiefly remembered for his traverse of the Matterhorn, which was among the first. The Club had also lost Mr. Maund, who was well known as a climber; Mr. Vernon, an energetic athlete, mountaineer, and cricketer; and Mr. Patch, who was much beloved by many and whose loss would be keenly felt by those who knew him.

On the motion of Mr. C. T. DENT, seconded by Mr. C. E. MATHEWS, the President (Sir Martin Conway) was unanimously re-elected.

On the motion of Dr. SAVAGE, seconded by Mr. TOPHAM, Mr. C. Hopkinson was unanimously elected a member of Committee, in place of Mr. Haskett-Smith, whose term of office expired.

On the motion of Mr. D. W. FRESHFIELD, seconded by Mr. WITHERS, Mr. G. W. Prothero was unanimously elected a member of Committee in place of Mr. Broome, whose term of office expired.