

must always be a very long expedition, and the night before camp should be made at the foot of the actual arête on the further side of the great plateau. Our first attempt, if the weather had not broken, would undoubtedly have been successful; and if we had been able to put off the second for a week, to clear the rocks of the new snow, I feel pretty confident we should have succeeded here also. New Zealand offers a wonderful field to anyone who can afford time to wait for fine weather, the uncertainty of the latter being the greatest drawback to success.

#### THE ALPINE CLUB PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION OF 1903.

THE first impression of a visitor to the recent exhibition was that the number of exhibits was smaller than of recent years. This impression, however, was hardly correct.

No doubt the actual surface space of wall covered was smaller, but the number of exhibits was well up to the average. The real explanation of the apparent diminution is due to the reduced size of the pictures, the enlargements now being generally smaller than was the case some years back. This is certainly an improvement. In quality too the exhibition was well above the average. Of the 132 exhibits there was hardly one which had not some interest and distinctive merit of its own, though of course these varied to a considerable degree.

It is customary to mention the ladies' exhibits first, and we were much pleased to see some very good work from them. In the sub-Alpine section the most noticeable picture was 'The Castle of Valeria and Church of St. Catherine,' by Miss Ella A. Corry. Of views in the higher Alps the two exhibits of Miss G. E. Benham of the Grand Combin from two different points were effective and harmonious. Miss Ethel Blandy's 'Tour Ronde from the Route to the Aiguille du Midi' was most pleasing. The three pictures of Miss Evelyn A. Arkle of 'The Düssistock from the Maderanerthal,' 'The Düssistock from the Hüfi Glacier,' and 'The Tödi from the Hüfi Glacier' were excellently printed from good, firm negatives, and were obviously the work of one who knows and understands mountains from a climber's point of view. Be it here said, in parenthesis, that, generally speaking, the treatment of a mountain picture by a climber and the treatment by a non-climber are quite distinct and different. In some indefinable way the climber brings out the realities of the subject; the non-climber looks more for the purely artistic effects.

The series of pictures by the Hon. Mrs. C. Bruce, lent by Major the Hon. C. G. Bruce, and principally of the Kagan Valley district, were of great interest both geographically and artistically.

With regard to the general body of exhibitors there were several

noteworthy collections. The six pictures of Dr. Norman Collie and the two pictures of Mr. H. Woolley of scenes in the Rocky Mountains were extremely impressive in every way. Each picture brought vividly to the mind of the spectator the feeling of the loneliness and solitude which visitors to the 'Rockies' so often record. Well is that valley called 'Desolation Valley'! If any one of the series excelled the others, it was Mr. Woolley's 'Hungabee from Desolation Valley.'

Of an entirely different nature, but no less interesting, were the four pictures of Dr. Tempest Anderson in connection with the recent eruption of Mont Pelée, in Martinique. The members of the Alpine Club have learned to grapple with streams of frozen ice and snow, and falling stones too—cold ones, of course—but one really trembles to think of futuré mountaineering if a section of our future members specialise in volcanoes and exchange their glaciers and alpine surroundings for rivers of boiling mud and showers of red hot stones!

The pictures of mountain scenery in the Drakensberg, South Africa, exhibited by Mr. L. S. Amery, were careful and well finished. They were quite sufficient to show that excellent rock-climbing may be had in South Africa amid very picturesque scenery.

Mr. W. T. Lister, whose work, we think, we have not previously had the pleasure of seeing, sent five remarkably good pieces. Three telephotos, 'Mont Blanc from the Couvercle,' 'Mont Blanc from the Brévent,' and the 'Aiguille du Dru and Aiguille Verte,' were just exactly what telephotos should be, clear, well defined, and full of detail. The last-mentioned picture is a good example of how telephotography can be used for getting an accurate view of a mountain-face for climbing purposes, when no facilities exist to take an ordinary photograph. Mr. Lister's two ordinary photographs, 'The Aiguilles of Mont Blanc from the Col du Géant' and 'The Aiguille Verte and Aiguille du Dru from the Flégère,' were no less meritorious.

Mr. Sydney Spencer's pre-eminence in Alpine photography has long been acknowledged, and it is only necessary to say that his seven pictures each and all maintained his extraordinarily high standard of excellence. The three scenes of the Zinal Valley in winter were full of light. The picture of the face of the Pigne d'Arolla, taken from the lake by the Kurhaus at Arolla, reproduces most artistically the mingling of water, trees, and snow there seen. But of all probably the most pleasing was the view of Mont Blanc de Seilon from the Pas de Chèvres, mounted in a round frame.

Mr. H. Speyer sent six good examples. Two were of great excellence—'Mont Rosa from the Cima di Jazzi' and 'Evening Shadows from the Signalkuppe.' In the last-mentioned picture the lights and shadows, and the delicate treatment of the clouds rising over the ridge in the middle distance, were, we are inclined to think, as beautiful as anything in the Exhibition.

Professor Kennedy's six pictures showed his usual taste and care in exposure, but were certainly not up to the high standard of the

illustrations in 'Moore.' The fault probably lay with the printing, which could have been bolder with advantage.

Mr. Williamson's four exhibits were all clear and well defined pictures, and of great merit. Particularly noticeable was 'The Lower Peak of the Piz Roseg from the West Ridge,' evidently taken on the same occasion as Mr. A. W. Andrews's 'Piz Roseg, Engadine,' which of its kind was as good as any photograph exhibited, both in composition, light, and general technical requirements.

It was exceedingly pleasing to see three pieces of work by Sir W. de W. Abney. One was unfortunately disfigured by some scratches. 'What One Sees at Coultets' enabled us to see how others see us. The effect of moonlight on a photographic plate was curiously shown in 'The Eiger by Moonlight,' as also in Mr. V. H. Gatty's 'Montana.' Instead of the soft, silvery effect traditionally assigned to this reflected light, the result of the exposure of a sensitive plate in bright moonlight is a picture of a very harsh and really unpleasing nature, however interesting it may otherwise be.

Mr. C. H. Wollaston's contribution consisted of two views well conceived and finely executed. The seven small views of the Mont Blanc Range sent by Mr. F. J. Salmon were good, but for a public exhibition too small. Any one would have been enlarged with advantage.

The large picture of 'The Castle of Valeria, Sion,' exhibited by Mr. C. Lord, and hung over the mantelpiece, was of great merit. The composition and the depth and details of the very difficult view were exactly right. Dr. Collie sent the only example of the work of Major the Hon. C. G. Bruce, 'A Lonely Mountain Land,' a view over countless barren ridges, desolate and drear. It was of remarkable excellence and poetic feeling.

The three pictures of Mr. H. Montague Murray were curiously different. The telephoto 'View from the Weisse Knott, Trafoi' was somewhat commonplace. The 'Tête Noire from Finshauts' was a purely artistic production, well conceived, and not without some dignity. 'The Jungfrau from the Männlichen' was, perhaps, one of the most remarkable pictures shown, the depth and distance being reproduced in an extraordinary way. It was, owing to the subject, a veritable *tour de force*, and it would be extremely interesting to know what niceties of technical treatment gave the impression of length to the long slope of grass running away from the spectator and the other more distant spaces. Of Mr. John Gunston's five exhibits all were pleasing, and 'The Mont Blanc from Plan Achat' particularly so, as was also 'Mont Blanc from the Buet,' by Mr. F. N. Ellis; Mr. J. P. Somers was, like Mr. S. Spencer, very successful in his 'Zinal Valley, Winter' and 'Winter Snow, Zinal.' Interesting work was also contributed by Messrs. T. A. Longstaff, Doncaster, Booth, F. J. Salmon, E. Desmond MacCarthy, K. W. Lloyd, J. Talbot (per Mr. C. E. Ashford), J. W. Wyatt, Lieut.-Col. J. C. Curtis (per Mr. H. Wagner), Dr. Deller (per Mr. D. A. Vesey), H. Hazell (per Mr. G. N. Ellis), C. E. Ashford, F. V. Schuster, and the Rev. H. J. Heard.

Mr. V. H. Gatty's 'Winter at Montana,' taken in sunlight, was more pleasing than his moonlight effect.

Mr. T. G. Ouston's 'Roeka' made a fine picture, but Mr. L. J. Steele's 'Lux ex Tenebris' somehow missed being a really fine production. It was to a certain extent spoilt by the mount. Somehow brown paper mounts seem to kill the photograph. In the same way Mr. S. W. Cooper's two good photographs of the Dauphiné Alps hardly appeared to their best advantage.

Last but not least of the photographs we must notice Mr. D. Northall-Laurie's 'Sunrise on the Glacier d'Orny.' This was his only exhibit, but it was of great excellence, and we hope to see it placed permanently in the Club rooms.

Mr. W. H. Gover showed forty-eight lantern slides of considerable strength.

For the first time, we believe, in the history of the exhibition coloured photographs, or rather, photographs taken by a colour process, were shown. Mr. E. Russell Clarke sent four examples. They were interesting as being small beginnings from which a great future will, we hope, grow, and as being developed by a process patented by himself. At present, however, the invention is evidently in an experimental stage.

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### THE ALPINE CLUB LIBRARY.

The following additions have been made in May and June:—

*New Books and New Editions. Presented by the Authors or Publishers.*

(Foreign works may be obtained through Mr. David Nutt, 57 Long Acre, London, W.C.)

**Anderson, Tempest.** Volcanic studies in many lands. Imp. 8vo. pp. xxviii, 202; plates. London, Murray, 1903

**Baedeker, Karl.** Switzerland. . . . 20th edition. 8vo, pp. xxxviii, 537; maps, etc. Leipzig and London, 1903

**Bibliotheca geographica,** herausgegeben v. d. Ges. f. Erdk. Berlin. Bearbeitet v. O. Baschin. Band viii, 1899. Berlin, Köhl, 1902

The latest volume of this important bibliography of geographical literature.

**Blodig, Dr. Karl.** Zur Erinnerung an Walther Flender. Als MS. gedruckt. 8vo. pp. viii, 168; plates. (Leipzig, Fischer u. Wittig) [1903]

Herr Flender was killed by falling into a crevasse while ski-ing on the Punta Gnifetti, 26th Feb., 1902. This memento is beautifully illustrated.

**Boehm, Dr. August.** Geschichte der Moränenkunde. Imp. 8vo. pp. viii, 334; plates. Abhandl. d. k. k. geogr. Ges. Wien, 3, 4. Wien, Lechner, 1901

A very elaborate treatise. Traces history of accounts of glaciers from Münster onwards. There are 650 entries in the 'Quellen-Verzeichniss.'

The four plates are reproduced from 18th-century drawings.

**Brabant, F. G.** The English Lakes. Sm. 8vo. pp. x, 379; maps, ill. London, Methuen, 1902. 4/ nett

The country is described lake by lake with its adjoining district. The book is in form somewhat of a guide-book. The illustrations are elegant.

**Cavilly, Georges de.** Huit jours en Savoie. ii<sup>e</sup> Congrès de l'Union des Sociétés photographiques de France, Session 1902. Roy. 8vo. pp. 82; plates. Paris, Mendel, 1903. Fr. 5

Descriptive text, well illustrated with numerous views.