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ALPINE NOTES.

'THE ALPINE GUIDE.'—Copies of Vol. I. of the new edition of this work, price 12*s.* net, and of 'Hints and Notes, Practical and Scientific, for Travellers in the Alps' (being a new edition of the General Introduction), price 3*s.*, can be obtained from all booksellers, or from Messrs. Stanford, Charing Cross.

THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE is now printed, and may be obtained, bound in cloth, on application to the Assistant Secretary, 23 Savile Row. Price 3*s.*; postage, 4*d.*

ALPINE CONGRESS.—The Congress of the Italian Alpine Club will take place this year from August 29 to September 6. It will be held at Aosta. Excursions will be made to Courmayeur, the Great St. Bernard, Prarayé, &c., and the Congress will conclude on September 6, at Giomein, Valtournanche.

TRAVELS IN NORWAY PUBLISHED IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.—Mr. C. W. Patchell, Trinity College, Glenalmond, N.B., would be very glad to hear from any one interested in the subject who could help him in completing a bibliography of travels in Norway published in Great Britain and Ireland. His list already contains about 240 titles, including some forty not given in Hr. Peltersen's 'Udlaendingers Reiser i Norge,' 1897.

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN NORWAY: LOFOTEN AND VESTERAALEN. *Himmeltind* (3,217 ft.), *W. Vaagö*.—Probably first ascent of highest summit.

On August 10, 1902, Messrs. H. S. Mundahl and T. G. Ouston left Rise about 11 A.M., striking W. to a col about 950 ft. and descending to the N. end of the Morkdalsvand and then ascending by the S.E. face of the *Himmeltind* to about 1,500 ft.; then by a conspicuous snow-filled gully to the summit ridge (about 2,800 ft.), which was followed first to a subordinate summit (3,120 ft.) on which a cairn was found, and then by a short snow arête and rocks to the true summit, which was reached at 8 P.M. Leaving the summit at 9 P.M. the camp was reached at 3 A.M.

Vaage Kallen (3,090 ft.).—Second ascent.

On August 13 the same party left Svolvær by boat at 1 P.M., and after a row of about 10 miles landed at 3.15 P.M. at a point due S. of the summit. Striking upwards to the N.W., they reached a col (1,400 ft.) between *Kallen* and its W.S.W. neighbour, and then ascended N.E. up a wide gully until the S.W. arête of the mountain was reached at about 2,550 ft. A way was then found up the S.E. face, and the summit was reached at 7.55 P.M.

Ræka (2,070 ft. aneroid), *Langö*.—First ascent.

This unique and legendary aiguille lies near the head of the Eidsfjord, close to which point the same party pitched their tent, and on August 18 started at 10 A.M. About noon a point on the N.W. face, some 1,050 ft. up, was reached, and nearly 5 hrs. were spent in unsuccessful attempts to enter a deep-cut central gully. Then, by traversing S.W. and ascending gradually, an ill-defined gully with an oblique and northerly bias was struck, by means of which the sharp summit ridge was reached at 8 P.M.

A previous attempt on the S.W. arête had proved unsuccessful, but furnished climbing of the highest interest.

Mendra (2,700 ft. aneroid), *E. Vaagö*. August 25.—First ascent.

The same party left Langstrand, on the Østnes Fjord, at 2 A.M. and rowed to the head of the fjord near Liland. Taking the road towards Higræffjord, and then ascending W. to about 650 ft., and N. of a prominent aiguille about 1,400 ft. high, they skirted a horse-shoe ridge enclosing Budalen and its contained lake, proceeding along the W. arête until it joined the final cliffs of the mountain, when a descent was made on to the S. face. This was traversed until a practicable gully was found leading to the summit ridge, the peak itself being gained at 10.45 A.M.

The descent was made straight down the S. face to the N. side of the lake. A full account of these expeditions will be found in the 'Alpine Journal' for May 1908, pp. 396-408.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Guide to Switzerland. Macmillan & Co. 1903. Price 5s. net.

OF making handbooks to 'Switzerland' there is no end. We are promised a new 'Murray,' we have long been promised a revised 'Alpine Guide,' and here meantime are Messrs. Macmillan coming forward with another candidate for the favour of tourists. The task of compiling 'Guides' has lately been rendered easier by the number of local handbooks, foreign or English, which relieve an editor of much personal research. But it is not every editor who has sufficient skill and experience to enable him to collate his own information with that conveyed from other literary sources, or derived from individual contributors, and to avoid the inconsistencies likely to arise from the very diverse standards of his authorities.

The volume before us is a well meant effort to meet the demand of the moderately educated and fairly intelligent tourist who is not, in Emerson's phrase, a mere 'harrier of scenery.' The nameless editors supply introductory chapters; the first furnishes, in highly condensed form, food for those who take interest in the political institutions of Switzerland; another gives a sketch of the physical features of glaciers. For practical hints on outfit the aid of a member of the 'Climbers' Club' has been secured.