also led his party up the Breithorn from the Schwarzthor, and the Eiger from the Bergli. In 1886 he accomplished the Viescherhorn by the Zäsenberg arête; in 1888 he created an important and *safe* variation of the S.E. face route of Piz Roseg, and was leader in the ascent of the Dent d'Hérens by the S.E. face and E. arête; in 1892 he stormed Piz Morteratsch by an unrecorded route, the N.E. arête; and in 1907 made the only ascent of the Pic Sans Nom (Dauphiné) from the Col du Pelvoux. Perhaps his strangest expedition during these years was his ascent of the Weisshorn (in 1883 with Mr. Harold Topham) from *Interlaken*! The entire distance was accomplished on foot.

It is very difficult to say in which particular branch of his craft he most excelled. He may safely be declared to have invented—in Switzerland at any rate—the modern method of descending difficult rocks by using the doubled spare rope. His icemanship was remarkable and was perhaps best displayed when leading through an intricate and unknown ice fall. He was a quick and finished step-cutter, but on very steep slopes he possessed the extraordinary faculty of walking up without any visible means of support for the foot, a power which some of his friends occasionally found rather perplexing to themselves. No guide ever showed a keener sense of humour or more thoroughly enjoyed the ridiculous side of life. He looked after his employers' comfort as carefully in the valley or hotel as on the mountain side.

Pollinger's appearance is too well known for lengthy description. Well over 6 feet in height, his splendid physique and handsome kindly face always attracted attention; to the day of his death his thick brown hair and beard showed never a streak of grey. His voice was not the least charming feature of a great and noble personality. He lived and died the very personification of a Christian gentleman.

His skill has descended in its fullest measure to his three eldest sons, and will in due course doubtless be handed down to his younger children, when it comes to their turn to follow in their great father's footsteps. The most famous and best 'school' of modern guides, the Pollinger-Lochmatter family, was founded by Alois, and will always remain an unsurpassed and unsurpassable standard for Switzerland and the Alps.

Let the rising generation of Alpine guides ever look back to the honoured memory of Alois Pollinger as a glorious example of all that is best and noblest in their difficult profession.

W. M. B.
E. L. S.

THE ALPINE CLUB ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION IN 1910.

THE collection of photographs exhibited at the Club, in May, contained many excellent specimens of Alpine art, and quite maintained the high standard of former exhibitions. The telephotographs,

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indeed, showed a decided advance, both in definition and in pictorial effect, although the want of a near foreground must still be regarded as a drawback.

Most of the exhibits naturally dealt with scenes in the Swiss Alps: the mountains to which the photographers seem to have paid most attention—after the Matterhorn—being Mont Blanc, the Dent Blanche, the Tour Noire and Mont Dolent. Mr. N. S. Done's view of the latter peaks was very fine, while Mr. R. O. P. Paddison was especially fortunate in the mist effect which he had secured on the Tour Noire.

Mr. Alfred Holmes exhibited some beautiful views of mountain mists, but perhaps his most striking picture, seen with the afternoon sun shining full on it, was the Grand Combin, its snowfields being well rendered by the pearly-grey tone of the print.

Dr. Williamson showed an excellent view of the Weissmies and Portiengrat from the Laquinhorn; and Dr. Swan's telephotos of the Jungfrau from the Männlichen, and the storm on the Roseg glacier, were both fine atmospheric records, although the shadows in the former seemed somewhat too dark.

In his 'Glimpse at the Matterhorn,' Mr. E. D. Murray had caught one of those curious resemblances which occasionally startle us in the Alps—the shape of the rock in the foreground being the image of the distant peak. His view outside the Bergli Hut was also very striking. Two other interesting bits of detail were Mr. C. F. Bennett's 'On the Rocher Whymper, Grandes Jorasses,' and Mr. E. T. Busk's 'On the Gorner Glacier.'

Most of the views, however, were panoramic, Mr. W. T. Lister's view from the Bortelhorn being one of rare beauty; while Mr. C. T. Holland's 'Pennine Giants' was also very fine.

Miss Venables showed some excellent views of the Jungfrau and Aletschhorn; and several interesting scenes in the Dauphiné were contributed by Miss King, whose view on the Hohstiegen, Saas Fee, was also very pleasing. 'A Poser,' by Mrs. Henrici, must have set cragsmen thinking.

Dr. Roger-Smith's photograph of the Matterhorn from the Zinal Rothhorn confirmed our opinion that the latter peak is the best view point in the neighbourhood of Zermatt.

The Eastern Alps were represented by Mr. E. A. Broome, who exhibited a pleasing sepia study of Antelao, with a foreground of flowers, and also a fine glimpse of the Tofana di Razes, standing up behind the pine trees. But, as usual, the cameras had been busiest in the Zermatt district.

A beautiful view of the Ober-Gabelhorn, flanked by the steep snow slope of the Trifthorn, was shown by Mr. S. G. Reid; and there were effective pictures of the Matterhorn and Dent d'Hérens from the Italian side by the Rev. James Dawson, besides a striking view of the Nord End of the Breithorn by Mr. E. de Quincey, and a pleasing study in brown of an Evening at the Montanvert by Mr. F. N. Trier.

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Mr. C. Lord dealt with lower heights, but for pictorial effect his 'Alpine Valley' was unsurpassed.

Some of the exhibitors had gone further afield, several having been drawn by the charms of the Canadian Rockies. Mr. Mumm gave some interesting views of Mount Robson—the Canadian Matterhorn; and several attractive views of the mountain, lake and forest scenery in the neighbourhood of Lake O'Hara were contributed by Mrs. Dixon and Miss Phyllis Dixon. Mr. Hastings also showed some interesting views of Mount Robson and the Moose Valley Glacier, but was at his best in his Swiss pictures of the Stein and Brenva glaciers.

The Himalayas were also well represented, Mr. D. W. Freshfield exhibiting some beautiful views of K. 2 in sun and shadow, close to which were Dr. Longstaff's Saltoro Spires and Saltoro Pass, striking bits of Himalayan rock and glacier scenery; while Mrs. Schuster's Gorge of the Indus and Nanga Parbat were also admirable.

The volcanic scenes in which Dr. Tempest Anderson delights attracted much attention, especially the crater of Kilauea, Hawaii, with the incandescent fountain and cracks in the moving lava crust, photographed by their own light; and he was equally successful in his 'O'Hara Camp' in the Canadian Rockies.

The Rev. H. E. Newton gave several examples of New Zealand mountain scenery, of which the Pérouse Glacier deserves special mention.

In most cases the photographs were printed in ordinary black and brown tones—the latter very effective for rocks but hardly suitable for snow and cloud. Green tones were adopted with effect by Mr. V. H. Gatty in his 'Sea of Summits' in the Pyrenees, and by the Rev. A. V. Valentine Richards in his 'Morning View over Italy,' and also by Mr. R. C. R. Nevill in his 'Dent Blanche from the Col de Bertol.' Some striking effects of forest and glacier scenery were also obtained in this way by the Rev. F. C. Bainbridge-Bell in his 'View on the Findelen Path,' and by Mr. E. J. Garwood in his 'Seracs on the Mer de Glace.' In other cases, there seemed to be a tendency to make the prints too dark.

Besides the enlargements, there were several beautifully coloured lantern slides of the Japanese Alps, exhibited by the Rev. Walter Weston, and an autochrome of the Matterhorn by Mr. E. de Quincey.

We do not remember seeing so many beautiful mist and cloud effects in any previous collection, and yet no want of sharpness was to be observed in these pictures. Indeed, one of the noticeable features of the exhibition was the detail to be seen in all the mountain views: showing that mountain photographers, at least, realise that it is better to rely for effect on a faithful reproduction of nature rather than to attempt to create an impression by throwing a view out of focus.

Altogether, Mr. Spencer and the Committee are to be congratulated on the success which has attended their labours.

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