

## HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS.—III.

THE FÜHRERBÜCHER OF MATHÄUS ZUMTAUGWALD (1825–1872); JOHANN ZUMTAUGWALD (1826–1900); STEPHAN ZUMTAUGWALD (1833–1907).

THESE three books have been acquired by Mr. Henry F. Montagnier after long-continued search and presented to the Club.

From an historical point of view they are of supreme interest.<sup>1</sup> They are the earliest original documents of the kind dealing with the *ascent* of the great peaks of the Zermatt Valley as distinguished from the crossing of two or three passes leading out of that valley which up to then had satisfied the aspirations of the comparatively rare travellers. The three brothers lived long enough to see the little, hardly known, village become the greatest mountaineering centre of the Alps and to witness the development of high mountaineering into a passion of which the English mountaineer was for a long time the principal devotee. The Englishman who has once known the call of the great mountain will look upon these books with reverence. He will remember that the torn, stained pages record the impressions of men, the founders of this Club and still great names with us, fresh from the triumphs of new ascents, burning with the selfsame energy and enthusiasm that he also has known. He will not forget the pride of the young guide in his precious-care-for book, and he will venture to hope that the archives of the doyen of Alpine Clubs are not the most unsuitable place for the battered old volumes or that their owners would feel other than glad when their records rest safe in the reverent care of the successors of the men who first built up the great craft of Alpine guide.

The brothers came of a family long established at Zermatt which counted even priests and chaplains among its members (cf. 'P.P.G.' i. 197). Sons of a certain Hans Joseph Zumtaugwald, village shoemaker and occasional guide, they may be said to have been the earliest regular high-mountain guides in the Zermatt Valley. Their predecessors such as Peter Damatter, or Thamatter, as Ruden gives it, born 1788, Johann Brantschen, born 1794, and his brother Joseph, born 1801,

<sup>1</sup> 'Nothing can possibly be of greater interest than old Führerbücher. They are the very Bibles ("Biblia sacra") of the mountaineers.'—*The Rev. F. T. Wethered.*



**JOHANN**



**STEPHAN**



**MATTHÄUS**

**THE BROTHERS ZUMTAUGWALD FROM OLD PORTRAITS.**

scarcely attempted, independently, greater expeditions than the Weissthor, and were too old by the time the passion for high ascents developed to take a leading part.

Matthäus was born at Zermatt on February 10, 1825, and seems to have been an enterprising young fellow, for Professor Ulrich tells us that in August 1848 he found him and another young Zermatter, Stephan Binner, at Saas 'engaged on a journey of discovery,' having crossed the Weissthor to Macugnaga and the Moro to Saas, whence they accompanied Ulrich's party as volunteers, making on August 10 the first ascent of the Ulrichshorn and the first passage of the Ried Pass to St. Nicolas.

Ulrich must have thought well of him, for the next day we find the party, Ulrich, Johann Madutz, his regular guide, and Matthäus Zumtaugwald, bivouac 'in den Gadmen' below the Gornergrat, whence on August 12 they gained the Silbersattel. They ascended the snow wall of the face of the Monte Rosa, but on reaching the rocks Ulrich remained behind while the two men, 'armed with rope and hammer . . . in einer guten halben Stunde'—a very elastic period—reached the 'östliche Erhebung' of the summit ridge: which I consider can be nothing else than the second summit of the Monte Rosa, known formerly as the Ostspitze but now fixed by the Siegfried map with the totally inappropriate name of Grenzgipfel, since it is certainly not on the watershed between Italy and Switzerland. Matthäus was one of Wills's guides in 1852 ('Wanderings,' p. 190), but we know little more of him prior to the opening page of his book.

Issued by the Society of Guides of Zermatt, it bears the date July 4, 1858, and certifies him as 'I Klasse' and the date of his birth as February 10 [1825]. Bound up with the book are some pages from two older books, the first entry in which is dated August 25, 1852. It refers to a passage of the Weissthor to Macugnaga on that day and adds: 'He is known in Zermatt as the best guide over this difficult pass.' He crosses the pass again on August 29, and on September 2 we find the earliest English entry signed 'A. G. Day, John Muller,' also of the same pass.

Early in 1853—the date is not given—we find a note of 'excursions round Zermatt' and over the 'Cervin pass' bearing the signatures R. C. Heath, James Atkins and—Alfred Wills, London, who, though then only twenty-five years of age, was quite an Alpine veteran, as his Swiss travels commenced in 1846. In August 1854 Matthäus at last found

an Englishman keen to repeat the ascent of Monte Rosa. Mr. Bird's<sup>2</sup> short note, undated but between August 7 and 19—the dates of the preceding and following entries—is annexed. They got no further than the Silbersattel. A few days later the brothers Edmund, James Grenville and Christopher Smyth, fired by the majestic appearance of Monte Rosa from the Strahlhorn, renewed the attempt but got no further, if as far, change in the weather compelling retreat. Their guides were Ulrich Lauener and M. and J. Zumtaugwald.

On September 1 they were more fortunate and, leaving the Riffelhaus at 2 A.M., reached at noon the summit of the Ostspitze. Their guides were again Lauener, the two Zumtaugwald, and another unnamed. The record of this famous expedition is annexed, dated the same day. On September 6, 1854, Matthäus and Johann cross to Saas by the Adler, taking the Strahlhorn en route, their travellers being 'Fred<sup>k</sup> Townsend, Edward C. Stuart Cole,' who write: 'We found them attentive, careful and sagacious guides. Better guides cannot, we believe, be had in Zermatt.'

On September 11 we find Mr. E. S. Kennedy's note (reproduced) of his ascent of the Ostspitze. We know from 'Mont Blanc and Monte Rosa' by Hudson and Kennedy that on September 8 Kennedy, with the two Zumtaugwald and Albrecht, had got within 60 feet of the summit, which was however only attained by one of the guides—inferentially Johann Zumtaugwald. Success came three days later, when his companions were the two Zumtaugwald and one Benedict Leir, a Zermatt waiter.

He was followed on September 13 by E. L. Ames with Matthäus and Stephan Zumtaugwald. His note is reproduced and is interesting as giving the number of Matthäus's ascents—four—which would be in 1848, and with the Smyths, Kennedy and himself in 1854.

On July 31, 1855, the first ascent of the Dufourspitze itself was made by the new route from the W. by Charles Hudson, Grenville and Christopher Smyth, Birkbeck and Stevenson with Ulrich Lauener and 'three other guides from the neighbourhood of Zermatt.' They are not named and there is nothing in Matthäus's book to show that he was one of them.

Be that as it may, on August 18 we find a note signed by

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<sup>2</sup> His fuller account was reprinted in *A.J.* xxiii. 489-90. His 'Höchste Spitze' is the Ostspitze, and the reference is to the ascent of that peak by Madutz and Matthäus in 1848.

Charles W. St. John, 94th Regiment, certifying that he had that day made, with Matthäus Zumtaugwald and Joseph Brantschen, the ascent of Monte Rosa, from the summit of which he had seen the iron cross on the Zumstein Spitze. 'He was most skilful and active in assisting me over the difficulties near the summit.'

In July 1856 he accompanies 'Sigmund Porges' up the Monte Rosa and 'Henry Trower and William Longman of London' over the Théodule. In August he and Johann ascend the Monte Rosa with a M. Lavanne, and he crosses the Weissthor with 'W. E. Matthews,' Oxford.

On August 13, 1857, he acts as chief guide up Monte Rosa to Mr. Richard Forman and his daughter, Miss Emma C. Forman, the first lady to reach the summit; and a few days later we find the record of an ascent of the Cima di Jazzi and of Monte Rosa over the well-known signature, in pencil, 'R. W. E. Forster' of P.P.G. fame.

On September 17, 1858, Dr. Theodor Mannheim mentions 'my second ascent of Monte Rosa' with Matthäus and his brother Stephan. Matthäus's<sup>3</sup> enterprise is shown by an entry signed, on August 1, 1859, 'Joseph H. Fox, A.C.,' that he had 'accompanied me voluntarily over the Trift Pass.'

Ascents of Monte Rosa follow: on August 23, 1859, with J. Guthrie Smith; on July 16, 1860, with Chas. D. Robertson, Lt.-Col. R.E.; on July 26, 1860, with Sir T. Fowell Buxton and party; on August 24, 1860, with W. and H. Salmond; on August 10, 1861, with J. C. Kennedy.

In 1861 'Thomas Blanford, A.C.,' makes with him the ascent of Monte Rosa and crosses the Lysjoch, then new to Matthäus: 'his knowledge of the mountains and passes round Zermatt is complete.'

My friend Mr. H. T. Mennell will recognise the following:

'We have been up the Cima di Jazzi and over the Théodule

<sup>3</sup> His brother Johann crossed this pass with Hinchliff and Zacharie Cachat about August 25, 1857, and was reported to have crossed it with Mr. K. A. Chapman of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Cachat probably in 1855 or 1856. We unfortunately know extremely little of Mr. Chapman's expeditions. He appears to have been one of the most enterprising men of his day. (See also *Mont Blanc and Monte Rosa*, by Hudson and Kennedy, p. 130, and *Ueber Eis und Schnee*, 2nd edit. vol. ii. 116, and *P.P.G.* i. 130, 195-6.)

with Matthäus zum Taugwald, and like him very much. We are hoping to meet him again.

‘ H. T. MENNELL.

‘ R. S. WATSON.

‘ Newcastle.

‘ *Sept.* 1861.’

In 1862 Matthäus makes what was undoubtedly the greatest expedition of his life—the first passage of the Sesiajoch. The note is reproduced. He was the ‘old Tugs’ of Moore’s narrative. Where Almer led there was of course not much scope for the second guide. The same year he rejoins his old patron, the Rev. J. G. Smyth. They cross to the Valpelline by the Z’Mutt and Zardesan glaciers and to Evolena by the Col de Collon. A few days later ‘W. E. Hall, A.C., K. E. Digby’ cross with him the Col d’Hérens and the Col des Bouquetins; finally with W. E. Hall and J. A. Hudson the Col du Géant is crossed on August 24 and the ascent of Mont Blanc made on August 26. ‘He is a most efficient guide and his cheerfulness and good humour make him a pleasant companion.’

In 1863 he accompanied Mr. Thomas Whitwell and Christian Lauener over the Weissthor, up Monte Rosa and over the High-Level route, but ‘an attempt on Mont Blanc from the Géant [is] frustrated by bad weather.’ Another ascent of Monte Rosa is recorded in 1863 and three in 1864, the second of which is signed ‘C. F. Foster, A.C., G. E. Foster, A.C.’

On August 30, 1864, Mr. James Sheil, A.C., records an ascent of the Dom with M. and J. Zumtaugwald. ‘This was his first ascent to the highest point of the Dom . . . but he seemed to know the way thoroughly.’

There is an interesting entry dated ‘15 juillet 1865,’ signed ‘Ch. Lory, C. M. Briquet, Ch. Meüsel.’ They went by a variation of the High-Level route from Bourg St. Pierre to Zermatt, viz. from the ‘chalets de Valsorey par le Col de Maison rouge, le sommet de la Grafenaire [*sic*], le glacier de Corbassière et le Col des Pauvres à Giétroz,’ thence via Chanrion and the Col de la Reuse d’Arolla to Prerayen and over the Cols de Collon, du Mont Brûlé et de Valpelline to Zermatt. They also ascended the Dom.

M. Briquet still survives at a great age, but is, I hear with much regret, totally blind. If he gets to know of this he may be glad to hear that he is not forgotten by Englishmen who knew of his many expeditions in days now long ago.

In 1866 is an entry of a passage of the Alphubel pass signed

‘Francis Balfour, July 3, 1866,’ doubtless Professor Balfour, killed on the Aiguille Blanche.

The book ends with an ascent of Monte Rosa on August 12, 1867.

Apart from the entries in his Führerbuch, there is little to be said about Matthäus. He seems to have given up guiding and built the little Hôtel de la Poste, but died in 1872 soon after it was open, the consequence of a blow on the head received in a fight at Berne which completely upset his mental balance and from which he never recovered. His son of the same Christian name is an ex-trooper in the Second Regiment of U.S. Cavalry.

It is not pretended that Matthäus was in any sense a great guide. Men of his stamp in the early 'sixties were completely overshadowed by the great Oberländers, men of much the same age, Almer, the Laueners, Melchior and Jakob Anderegg, the two Chamoniards Jean Baptiste and Michel Croz, and Jean Joseph Maquignaz and Jean Antoine Carrel of Val Tournanche, all of whom were then in the heyday of their strength; while in his own village Peter Taugwalder the elder showed enterprise and insight, joined to great executive ability, which placed him only little below the greatest guides of the day.

Generally speaking, while there have been thoroughly competent guides in Zermatt itself, not one has stood out by himself or could be said to equal the best men of the day, so that the conquest of nearly all the great summits in the neighbourhood fell to be made by guides from other parts.

Still, Matthäus was a competent and trustworthy guide, careful of the lives of his travellers and of his own—a good comrade, an agreeable companion.

The second brother, Johann Zumtaugwald, was born on January 4, 1826. His book dates only from July 1858, and it is a very remarkable instance of the share taken by English travellers in the exploration of the Alps that from 1858 to 1883 it contains only nine entries not in the English language.

We know, however, that he had acted as guide previously, for he accompanied Ulrich's party in 1849 when they reached the Silbersattel (Seitenthäler, p. 72). Other expeditions are referred to in footnote 3.

In Mr. Whymper's notice of him attached to the third edition of the 'Guide to Zermatt,' from which the portrait taken by Mr. Whymper in 1898, by the kind permission of

Mr. John Murray is reproduced, it is stated that he had made the ascent of Monte Rosa in 1855, from which one may infer he was one of the party of July 31 on the first ascent of the Dufourspitze, or he may refer to his ascent of Monte Rosa with Mr. R. Walters and Mr. C. Blomfield in 1856 recorded in Hinchliff's 'Summer Months,' p. 101, when 'a promising-



*Photo : E. Whymper.]*

*[By kind permission of Mr. John Murray.*

JOHANN ZUMTAUGWALD IN 1898.

looking young fellow,' Peter Perren, later well known as a good guide, makes his début. In 'P.P.G.' i. 195-6 he is also stated to have attempted the ascent of the Dom from Saas with Mr. K. A. Chapman in 1856. We may conclude, therefore, that he was of a very enterprising disposition.

The first entry is of an ascent of Monte Rosa with H. J. and H. G. H. Norman, July 16, 1858, and then follows :

'Johann zum Taugwald accompanied me in an attempt to ascend the Dom de Mischabel. We nearly reached the summit but were driven back by bad weather. I was perfectly satisfied with his care and efficiency as a guide.

'EDW<sup>d</sup> CAYLEY,  
'England.

'July, 1858.'

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This is the earliest attempt we know of on the Randa side of the Dom, and doubtless the knowledge then gained enabled Johann to lead the Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies to the summit a couple of months later.

That same year passages of the Triftjoch twice, the Col du Torrent and the Col d'Evolena, as the Col d'Hérens was then sometimes called, are recorded, and 'John Ormsby, Wm. R. Bruce' cross the Weissthor to Macugnaga.

Mr. Llewelyn Davies' note is reproduced and needs no comment.

An ascent of Monte Rosa and a passage of the Adler by 'Robert Burn, Trinity Coll. Cambridge, Charles A. Prescott, Trin. Coll. Camb.,' are recorded on August 17, 1859, followed by another ascent of Monte Rosa on August 22 signed 'Frederic W. Farrar,' Trinity College, Cambridge, subsequently the well-known Dean of Canterbury.

Two well-known names, 'L. Stephen, Rob. Liveing,' follow. I hope the sight of his note of nearly sixty years ago may recall to our veteran member Dr. Liveing many pleasant days.

In 1860 there are records of passages of the Weissthor to Mattmark by—

'K. Prescott }  
T. J. Prout } Oxford';

of the Adler by T. Fowell Buxton, E. N. Buxton, and G. Leatham; of the 'Col de Lyskam' to Gressoney and back by the Schwarzthor, and of an ascent of the Dom by 'E. B. Prest, J. L. Probert,' both members of the Club; of an ascent of the Breithorn by Kenelm E. Digby and three friends; of an ascent of Monte Rosa by an American climber, as rare then as now, Dr. Luther Parks, Jr., of Boston, U.S.

The first entry of 1861 bears the well-known signature of A. W. Moore, followed almost immediately by a note signed by the name of A. Adams Reilly, equally famous in this Club. Both are reproduced.

Other expeditions in 1861 were the Adler by—

'J. W. Clark } Trin. Coll.  
David Powell } Cambridge';

Monte Rosa by G. G. Bollinger of Vevey; Monte Rosa, the Adler, and the Alphubeljoch by John Campbell and E. Harvey; the Adler by J. R. King, Merton College, Oxford; Monte Rosa by Edward B. Bright and — Wilbraham.

It is in 1862 that we find the record of an attempt—unsuccessful though it was—on the Matterhorn that stamps Johann as a man of considerable daring and enterprise considering the

overwhelming impression which that mountain made on the climbers of that day. The note in pencil, fresh as though written yesterday, is reproduced as much as a memento of the writer, who is immortalised in Whymper's pages as the cheeriest of companions—typical, as we like to think, of the A.C. member of that day.

The tale has been told at greater length in 'Scrambles,' pp. 90–95 (5th edit.).

The same year are records of an ascent of Monte Rosa by John H. Edge and John Edge; of a passage of the Weissthor to Macugnaga by Walter J. Johnson, whence the return was made by the same way with three German travellers of Hamburg; of an ascent of the Cima and a passage of the Weissthor to Macugnaga by E. Latham; of an ascent of the Breithorn and a passage of the Weissthor to Saas signed 'Minto, Geo. S. Elliot, Melgund'; of a passage of the Weissthor by Mortimer J. Hunt and H. F. Makins; of the same, including an ascent of the Cima, by Spencer Chapman, who adds: 'I may safely say I never met a man who gave me more the idea of great coolness and presence of mind. He made the ascent of the Mischabel with my brother in '56 and he entirely satisfied him on that occasion.'

Johann's great expedition in 1862—probably his greatest—was however the first ascent of the Täschhorn with the Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies, Mr. J. W. Hayward, and his own brother Stephan. The note is reproduced.

In 1863 there is little of interest. He crosses six **cols en route** to Chamonix, including the Géant, with J. R. King, A.C., and James Riddell. 'Of the 6 passes mentioned 4 were new to him, but he was uniformly equal to his task . . . he is very good at glacier work. . . . Among the séracs of the Col du Géant . . . he acquitted himself admirably.'

A note of an ascent of Monte Rosa bears the signature of a still vigorous veteran—Mr. Frederic Harrison, Lincoln's Inn.

In 1864 he is employed by Mr. C. C. Tucker and Mr. T. H. Carson—who, I feel sure, will not mind seeing their entry of fifty-three years ago once more—and he makes with his old patrons, J. R. King and James Riddell, quite a series of good expeditions—the Col de Tanneverge, Mont Vélan, Cols du Sonadon, de Chermontane (descending the Vuibez icefall), the Triftjoch, the Dom and the Weissthor. His ascent of the Dom with his brother and Mr. James Sheil, A.C., has been mentioned already.

Mr. James Riddell returns in 1865, and with Mr. A. J. Baker they do the Col du Grand Cornier, the Weissthor to Macugnaga, and Monte Leone. 'He has always proved himself in every

way equal to circumstances and certainly challenges the position of a first-rate guide.'

In 1867 a note in very boyish writing records the ascent of the Breighthorn [*sic*] by one 'R. B. Heathcote,' subsequently and for nearly thirty years an honoured member of this Club; and there is an entry by Mr. Alvey Augustus Adie which will for a moment, I trust, brush away the present cares of his high office and call up memories of happy days.

In 1868 there is an entry bearing the signature of a prominent member of the Club, Charles Packe, of ascents of the Dom and Monte Rosa, and over the signature of a former P.A.C.. F. Craufurd Grove, of a passage of the Adler. The same year Henry Chester, killed soon afterwards on the Lyskamm, records ascents of Monte Rosa and the Breithorn and passages of the Weisssthor and Col d'Hérens.

In 1869 my old general, Lord Methuen—doubtless as active as ever in his command at Malta as he was in the South African days, when hardly had the first shot been fired in the morning than up cantered the general to the advance guard on a pony, the rider's feet seeming to touch the ground—records ascents of the Mettelhorn, Breithorn, and Monte Rosa.

There is little else until in 1875 we find the entry of a passage of the Lysjoch, and the book comes to an end with a passage of the Théodule in 1883.

Johann continued service in a small way until 1890 and died in 1900. That he was a thoroughly good man the book bears full testimony. I cannot do better than quote the Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies in 1858 ('P.P.G.' i. 196): 'Johann zum Taugwald, with whose experience and resources as a guide I was familiar, and whose honest simplicity and quiet good humour make him a very pleasant companion,' and Mr. C. C. Tucker's words in 1869: 'one of the steadiest guides at Zermatt and possessing perhaps greater *local* knowledge than any of his compatriots.' But his book shows that he could also find his bearings when travelling in new districts, and we may fairly class him as in the front rank of Zermatt guides of that day, while in his younger days he showed enterprise and daring that, given more opportunity, might have carried him far.

Stephan, the youngest of the three brothers, was born at Zermatt on July 8, 1833. He was intended for the priesthood and 'spent the greater part of the year at Brieg preparing to be a priest, and regularly returned to Zermatt for the summer months, to make hay whilst the touristical sun was shining' (J. Llewelyn Davies in 'P.P.G.' i. 197). His first *cure* was

that of Ulrichen, 1866–1877, previous to which time he had been simply a chaplain, and he died in 1907 as *curé* of Taesch.

His book extends only from 1858 to 1863, but Hinchliff tells us that he was one of their Monte Rosa guides in 1856, when ‘nothing but a tremendous effort of strength and firmness on the part of Stephan zum Taugwald saved the whole party from an accident which might have been serious’ (‘Summer Months,’ p. 138)—which would seem to show that, even if ‘he’s not made of the sort of stuff for a leader’ (J. F. Hardy in ‘P.P.G.’ ii. 384), Stephan was still a watchful and competent guide.

Professor Bonney mentions (‘A.J.’ xxxi. 18) making the passage of the Weissthor in 1858 and will remember that Stephan was one of his guides.

The entries in 1858 cover only passages of the Théodule and such like, but in 1860 he crosses the Adler with Colonel Chas. D. Robertson, R.E., ascends Monte Rosa with Sir T. Fowell Buxton, crosses the Weissthor twice, one of his employers adding ‘he also speaks English,’ gets as far as the Grands Mulets in an attempted ascent of Mont Blanc frustrated by bad weather, and with ‘Arthur von Oettingen aus Dorpat Livland’ he again ascends Monte Rosa.

In 1861 two ascents of Monte Rosa are recorded over the signatures John Robert Seeley—afterwards Sir J. R. Seeley the historian—and T. W. Jex Blake. ‘As a trusty, strong, well-educated and most willing guide he is most strongly to be recommended’ is the latter’s remark.

On August 19 he acted as guide to Dr. Francis Sibson, a member of the large party led by Hardy which made the first ascent of the Lyskamm.

In 1862 he again makes the ascent of Monte Rosa and acts as assistant to his brother Johann on the first ascent of the Täschhorn. A facsimile of the record of this expedition is to be found in ‘A.J.’ xxx. 328.

The book ends on September 13, 1863, with a note signed ‘Simpson Rostron, D. J. Abercromby,’ recording ascents of Monte Rosa and the Cima and passages of the Weissthor and Alphubel. The following year I believe the same travellers made the ascent of the Dom in Stephan’s company.

Many of us remember the stout burly figure of the *curé* who no doubt looked back on his mountaineering days as not, the worst of his life.

So end the records of good men in their generation to whose care and ability many an Englishman owed much.

J. P. FARRAR.

Mathews from Long Walk.  
has, with two other guides,  
conducted me to the plateau  
of Monte Rosa, at an elevation  
of more than 13,000 feet.  
He is a thoroughly capable  
strong man, the guide as well as  
one of the two or by his side  
who have a training in the  
actual Hochstet Spitze,  
of Monte Rosa.

S. D. Baird

We have much pleasure in  
adding our testimony to the above  
as to the efficiency of Mr. Torgans  
as a guide. He accompanied us  
to the summit of Monte Rosa  
& throughout the ascent (the  
last 300 ft. of which is extremely  
difficult & dangerous) he proved  
himself a thoroughly trustworthy  
& obliging guide.

Edmund  
James Grosvillars } Smyth  
Christopher }

Sept. 1st 1854.

Matthews gave Thompson  
accompanied me as guide  
to the high point in Monte  
Rosa. I cannot speak in  
too high terms of his atten-  
tion and of his experience  
in mountain climbing.  
To his kind assistance I  
am much indebted.

Sept 11. 1884

E. S. Kennedy

Univ. Coll. Camb.

On Sep<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> I ascended  
Monte Rosa with Matthews  
and Stephan gave Long-  
wood and have great  
pleasure in testifying to  
the activity and prudence  
displayed by both on the  
occasion. Matthews has  
been now 14 times to the  
highest point and is  
perfectly acquainted with  
the way

E. S. Ames

Univ. Coll. Camb.

This year I have made two excursions with Hans von Tangwald, who has captured the high opinion I previously held & have expressed of his merit as a guide. He took me up the Michael Dorn on the 11<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> the summit of which had not been before reached. We left Nanda at 2.10 a.m. arrived at the top at 11, and were at Nanda again at 4.20 On the 13<sup>th</sup> we attempted to pass directly to the Valpellina from Zermatt by the Eulea a Gb, but were prevented from finding the way by a thick mist, and descended direct to Eulea.

J. Newlyn Davies  
14<sup>th</sup> September 1858.

Johann von Tangwald has been our guide ~~over~~ <sup>up</sup> the Dorn (which had been only once before ascended) and up the Rynfischhorn (which had never before been ascended). He appeared to me to be perfectly well acquainted with the country, & to be a thoroughly trustworthy & useful guide & a pleasant companion.

L. Stappeler  
Rat Livingy

Zermatt

Sept 1858  
{ 1858 }

Johann Zorn Taugwald, (with  
Zacharie Cachat), accompanied  
me to a point within 150 feet of  
the summit of the Dysham, a  
point much higher than has  
been attained on any previous  
attempt. We should have  
reached the summit, but for  
a violent and freezing wind  
that prevailed. Taugwald  
behaved admirably during this  
very difficult expedition, and I  
have great pleasure in giving  
my testimony to his excellent  
qualities.

Lermatt.

8th July/61

All Moore

Matthias Zorn Taugwald, accompan-  
ing from here to Saas by the Adler Joch,  
to Alagna by the Gross, and Tunk, &  
from Alagna to the Riffel, by an entirely  
new Pass, nearly on the summit of  
the Parrot Spitz of Monte Rosa. We  
found him thoroughly efficient,  
and up to his work, which on the  
last named passage, was very ardu-  
ous and difficult.

Zermatt  
12th July/62.

Ant Moore.  
H. B. George



Johnnie Gunn Taugwald  
accompanied Mr E. D. D. and  
myself on the 7<sup>th</sup>  
and 8<sup>th</sup> inst: in an  
attempted ascent of the  
Matterhorn. He slept  
out on a col at the  
foot of the secondary  
ridge or peak, but  
our further progress  
was arrested by a terrific  
Ice Dr. Wind. Throughout  
the two days we had

every reason to be  
satisfied with Taugwald,  
who proved himself  
efficient and energetic.  
He cannot accompany us  
to-day in a renewed attempt  
owing to a fresh breaking  
out of an old wound in  
his leg.

R. J. Somers & Macdonald

Breuil,  
9<sup>th</sup> July, 1862

Johann Leon Jenzel accompanied me as guide over the Col de Dykann, the St Theodule, and to the summit of Monte Rosa from the Col de Dykann, we made an attempt to ascend the Dykann, and reached a point about half way up, when we were stopped by the state of the snow. I found him on all occasions an excellent and careful guide, and well acquainted with the Stöck Range.

A Adams Peckley. B. N. Co. Oxford.

Johann Jenzel accompanied us over the Col St Theodule - the Col de Val Pollera - up Monte Rosa as our headguide, and over the Weiss Thor to Macugnaga we have only to express ourselves entirely satisfied with the skill and energy he displays on all these occasions. When one of our party was taken ill on the ascent of Monte Rosa, nothing could exceed his kindness and care.

Macugnaga -

July 11. 1864.

C. C. Tucker.

J. H. Carson.

Johann von Taugwald was our guide,  
on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1862, in a first  
ascent of the Tschukhorn. He took  
the lead throughout & conducted us  
admirably. There was a good deal  
of work to be done in cutting steps  
up the steep slopes of hard snow,  
& some considerable difficulties to  
be surmounted upon the rocks, in  
dealing with which J. von T. more  
than sustained his high character  
for strength, energy, & activity.  
In addition to these qualities he is  
always amiable & a good tempered.

J. Cleveland Davies  
J. W. Hayward

Johann von Taugwald brought us  
over the Alphuberg today in 11 hours  
from Zermatt, including halts and an  
hour's detour to the summit of La Fardet  
du Col, south of the highest point of  
the pass. We came without a porter,  
both of us considering that functionary to  
be a useless, time-consuming encumbrance.  
Johann is a jolly good fellow, and  
came down the gullies in good style.  
I can conscientiously recommend him  
to all who want a good guide and an  
agreeable companion.

Alexander Agassiz  
of New York, U.S.A.

Saas, Sept 2, 1867.