

corde jusqu'auprès du glacier du Gorner, où le danger finissait, tandis que le principal guide Pierre Taugwalder sondait la neige à chaque pas que nous faisons, ou taillait des marches dans la glace avec la hâche. Nous étions de retour à l'Hôtel du Riffel à 6 heures du soir.²¹

July 15, 1860.—C. H. PILKINGTON, New Coll., Oxford, W. L. EDWARD, R. W. HEAD, J. A. HUDSON, R. M. STEPHENSON, H. M. BULLER, and Colonel ROBERTSON.²²

July 16, 1860.—CHARLES D. ROBERTSON, with MATTHÄUS and STEPHAN ZUM TAUGWALD.

July 26, 1860.—Sir T. FOWELL BUXTON, EDWARD N. BUXTON, and GURNEY LEATHAM, with MATTHÄUS and STEPHAN ZUM TAUGWALD, and MICHEL PAYOT of Chamonix.

August 8, 1860.—H. C. NORRIS, C. M. STYLE, and R. MACDONALD, with ANTOINE RITZ and FRANZ and JOSEPH LOCHMATTER.

August 13, 1860.²³—J. E. MILLARD, DAVID PITCAIRN, Magdalen Coll., Oxford, and J. K. STONE of Harvard College, U.S.A.

August 15, 1860.—W. E. FORSTER, with CHRISTIAN ALMER and ANTOINE RITZ.

August 24, 1860.—Mr. SALMOND, H. SALMOND, R.N., W. SALMOND, R.E., Cumberland.—Went up Monte Rosa on the 24th. Left the Riffel Hotel at 5.45 A.M., back again at 5.45 P.M. Splendid view. Mathé zum Taugwald is a good guide, and Louis zum Taugwald a very good porter.

August 27, 1860.—T. G. BONNEY and J. C. HAWKSHAW, with CROZ of Chamonix.

September 4, 1860.—WYNDHAM GIBBES and HENRY FREDERICK AMEDBOZ, with PETER PERREN, ANTOINE RITZ, and MORITZ PERREN.

September 9, 1860.—ARTHUR VON OETTINGEN and SAMUEL BRANDRAM, with STEPHAN ZUM TAUGWALD, PETER TAUGWALDER fils, and JEAN CARRIER.

THE EARLY ATTEMPTS ON MONTE ROSA FROM THE
ZERMATT SIDE.

THE Club is again indebted to the indefatigable industry of Mr. Montagnier in all matters of Alpine history. He has now rendered available, by the courtesy of Dr. Alexander Seiler, records of the middle of last century, which have an important bearing on the subject of this paper, and are in fact responsible for it.

²¹ M. Thioly published a narrative of this expedition entitled *Zermatt et l'Ascension du Mont-Rose par F. T.* 8vo., pp. 34. 4 illustrations. Geneva, 1860.

²² Possibly the same person as the next entry.

²³ Date doubtful. Cf. *P.P.G.* II. 379.

It was formerly ¹ held that (1) Johann Madutz and Matthäus zum Taugwald—guides of Professor Ulrich on August 12, 1848—and (2) the brothers Schlagintweit, with their guides Peter Taugwalder, Peter Inderbinnen, and Hans Joseph zum Taugwald, on August 22, 1851, reached, from the Silbersattel, the Ostspitze—as the slightly lower E. summit of Monte Rosa is called.

By about 1891 ² a third still lower point on the summit ridge, still more to the E., was distinguished, and named the Grenzgißfel, from its presumed position on the frontier ridge. There has been considerable confusion over this name, which has not infrequently been applied to the Ostspitze,³ notably by the Siegfried map.

Later authorities ⁴ have held that the point ascended by the two parties named was not the Ostspitze, but the point they call the Grenzgißfel.

The measurements of the summits—the second made lately by M. Hans Dübi of the Federal Survey, a worthy son of our honorary member—are for—

1. The Dufourspitze, 4638 m.
2. The Ostspitze, 4632·8 m.⁵

¹ *Ueber Eis und Schnee*, original edition (1870), ii. 21 and 26; *Modern Mountaineering*, pp. 31 and 33; *Zermatt Pocket-Book*, p. 48; *A.J.* ix. 109.

² Conway's *Eastern Pennine Guide*, p. 52; *A.J.* xv. 493 seq.

³ In the new *Walliser-Führer*, or *Guide to the Eastern Pennine Alps*, lately published by the S.A.C., under Dr. Dübi's able editorship, M. Jacot-Guillarmod's sketch, on p. 92, following the Siegfried map, marks Grenzgißfel 4634 m., in the position of the Ostspitze, which is unmentioned. The Grenzgißfel of Conway and of *Alpine Studies* is the hump on the arête, farther to the left or E. and directly under the o in Dufour. There is a similar transposition in the sketches on pp. 102-3. These sketches show that the name Grenzgißfel in either position is a misnomer, and tend to bear out my contention expressed further on in this paper that it were well to recognise only the Ost- and Dufourspitze as worthy of names on the E.-W. spur of the main chain of the Monte Rosa—on which they stand.

⁴ *Alpine Studies* (1912), pp. 224-9; *A.J.* xvi. 45-7 (a very interesting note by that keenest of veterans, the Rev. F. T. Wethered), and xxiii. 489-90; *Ueber Eis und Schnee*, 2nd edit. pp. 84-5; Conway's *Eastern Pennine Guide*, p. 56.

⁵ M. Hans Dübi's measurement was taken from the summit of the Dufourspitze and must be of the Ostspitze, i.e. Grenzgißfel of the Siegfried map and of the *Walliser-Führer*, as the latter would mask points farther E.

3. The Grenzgipfel, or point X of 'Alpine Studies,' appears to be unmeasured.

These later authorities agree that (3) the brothers Edmund, J. Grenville, and Christopher Smyth, with their guides Ulrich Lauener, Matthäus zum Taugwald, Johann zum Taugwald, and Simon Zybach, on September 1, 1854, and (4) E. S. Kennedy, with Matthäus and Johann zum Taugwald, and B. Leir, on September 11, 1854, did actually reach the summit of the Ostspitze, both likewise from the Silbersattel.

The grounds for this later opinion, as to the point reached by Ulrich's guides and the Schlagintweit party, are, shortly :

1. That from the Silbersattel it is held that the Ostspitze and the Dufourspitze cannot both be seen, whereas the Ostspitze and the now so-called Grenzgipfel can.

2. That the Schlagintweits' measurements gave the difference in altitude between the point they ascended and the higher point to the W. as 7.1 m., which is held to correspond rather to the difference in altitude of the so-called Grenzgipfel and of the Ostspitze than of the latter and of the Dufourspitze.

3. That the appearance or shape of the top of the summit gained agreed rather with that of the so-called Grenzgipfel.

4. That both parties stated that from the summit gained they looked straight down on Macugnaga,* which would apply rather to the view from the so-called Grenzgipfel than from the Ostspitze.

* Ulrich's words, recording what his guides told him, are : 'Gegen Osten [from the summit gained] ist der Absturz nach Macugnaga gegen die 8000 Fuss' (*Berg- und Gletscher-Fahrten*, p. 262). ('On the E. the steep fall to Macugnaga is in the neighbourhood of 8000 feet.')

It is worthy of note that in his *Seitenthäler*, published nine years earlier, he says that he himself from the Silbersattel was prevented by mist from looking down towards Macugnaga, and that the guides could tell him little of the view.

The Schlagintweits, recounting their own observations, say : 'Das Thal von Macugnaga, unmittelbar am Fusse des steilen Abfalles des Monte Rosa gelegen gewährt einen überraschenden Anblick; man erkennt dort sehr hübsch die Häuser, Bäume und Culturen.' ('The valley of Macugnaga, situated immediately at the foot of the steep slope of the Monte Rosa, presents an astounding aspect; one recognises there very well the houses, trees, and cultivated land.')

Kennedy also mentions seeing the Anza river from the summit gained by him.

No reasons are given by the later authorities for the admission that the two 1854 parties actually reached the Ostspitze.

Now, what I think requires further consideration is the following :

1. (a) Ulrich was an experienced topographer, and when he again reached the Silbersattel in 1849 one of his companions was Gottlieb Studer ; so that Ulrich's observations—the fruit of two visits to the Silbersattel—may be taken as being supported by Studer.

(b) Ulrich, in 1848, reached the Silbersattel a bit away from the foot of the face leading to the summit arête of Monte Rosa—*i.e.* on the side of the Nordend ('Seithenthaler,' p. 69, lines 12 and 18). He gives the altitude of his station as 14,004 Paris feet.

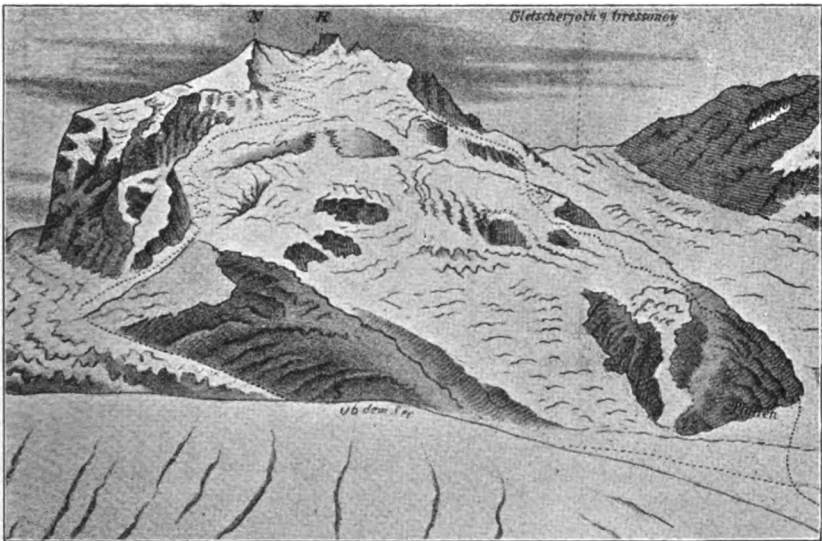
In 1849 he appears to have halted on the Silbersattel (which is quite a long ridge), even farther away from the foot of the above face—indeed, on the rise towards the Nordend ('Ich stand auf dem gegen das Nordend etwas ansteigenden Kamme' = 'I stood on the arête rising slightly towards the Nordend'); for he gives the altitude of his station as 14,081 Paris feet. Moreover, he could see the Zumsteinspitze and the Signal-Kuppe past the end of the above face, and so cannot have been close to its foot, which would have cut off the view.⁷ It has not hitherto been remarked that on one of his ascents to the Silbersattel his party followed a route close under the Nordend (see sketch taken from 'Berg- und Gletscher-Fahrten,' p. 251), and so had a continuous view of the whole summit ridge of Monte Rosa.

Thus, quite apart from Mr. Wethered's direct testimony ('A.J.' xvi. 46), that the Allerhöchste or Dufourspitze itself (and *a fortiori* the Ostspitze) 'is visible from névé, almost immediately at the base of the Ost Spitze, inasmuch as a man's hat was seen from the névé to be blown off his head whilst its wearer was on the Allerhöchste Spitze,' Ulrich's stations on the Silbersattel must be admitted to have allowed a full view of the whole summit-ridge, and it would seem difficult to contend that the

⁷ Dr. Dübi has had the kindness to give me Studer's original words, describing the situation, in his MS. *Bergreisen*, vol. viii. p. 107, preserved in the Library at Berne :

'Wand der höchsten Spitze noch 300 Fuss über uns, nicht als kulminirende Kante des Grates—sondern gleichsam als ein demselben quer aufgesetzter Felsenhut, dessen Rücken sich zu beiden Seiten in das tiefe Gletschergehänge versenkte. Zur linken der höchsten Spitze sahen wir noch die Signalkuppe hervortreten.'

direct statement of a man of his experience that 'the peak is formed like an arête and has two equally high summits connected with each other by an ice-ridge,'⁸ the southern [the eastern is meant and is so given in 'Berg- und Gletscher-Fahrten,' i. 277] of which was reached by his two men, applies to the Ostspitze and the so-called Grenzspitze and not to the former and the Dufourspitze. Describing his 1849 journey, he uses even more definite language (p. 77): 'The highest peak extends from ESE. to WNW., a good $\frac{1}{4}$ hour, as an



ULRICH'S ROUTES TO THE SILBERSATTEL (FROM 'BERG- UND GLETSCHER-FAHRTEN').

arête, with two equally high summits connected by an ice-ridge.'

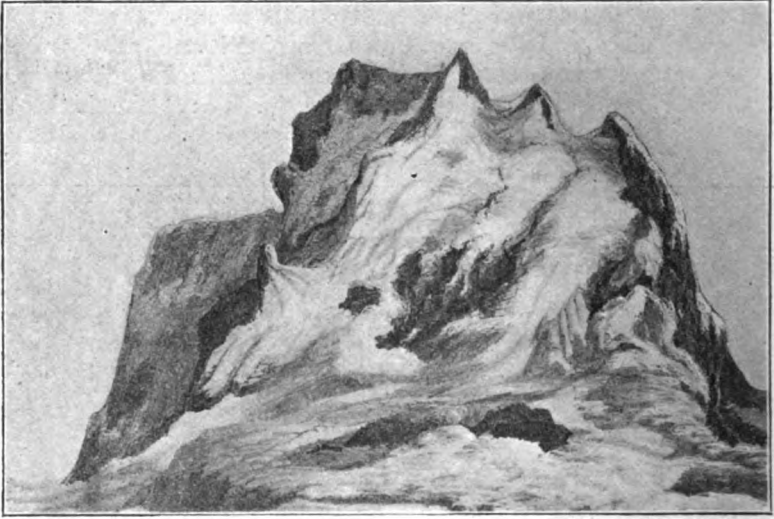
Moreover, a reference to the photograph from near the summit of the Nordend, given to me by my friend Professor Lampugnani, whose prowess whether as a soldier or as a mountaineer leaves

⁸ *Seitenthäler*, p. 70.

See *Swiss Travel and Swiss Guide-books*: 'I would speak of the two points [Ostspitze and Dufourspitze] as the horns at the two ends of a ridge rather than two teeth separated by a gap or chasm, for I could not discover the latter. It seemed to me that the difference in height between the two was almost imperceptible, as several other climbers also have thought.'

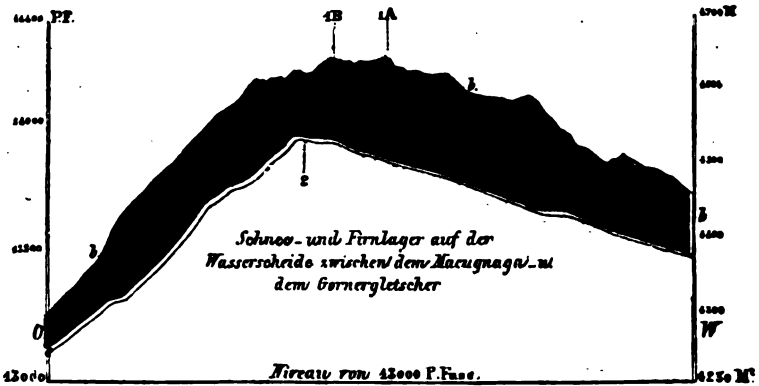
PLATE X., No. 1, FROM SCHLAGINTWEIT'S ATLAS.

Spitze B	Spitze A
71 m. niedriger.	4640 m.



DIE OBERSTE FEISENKUPPE DES MONTE ROSA.

PLATE IV., No. 5, FROM SCHLAGINTWEIT'S ATLAS.



FEISENKAMM DES HÖCHSTEN GIPFELS.

- 1A. SPITZE A DES HÖCHSTEN GIPFELS.
- 1B. SPITZE B [REACHED BY THEIR PARTY].
- 2. FUSS DES FEISENKAMMS AM [SILBER] SATTEL.

nothing to choose between, at once shows that the difference in height of the two former is most noticeable, whereas the two latter appear practically of equal height as described by Ulrich, Schlagintweit, and others.

It is held ('Alpine Studies,' p. 225), for reasons not clear to me, that Schlagintweit's Plate X., No. 1 (reproduced), bears out the view that the two points seen from the Silbersattel, above you, are *not* the Dufourspitze and the Ostspitze. The illustration must speak for itself and beside it may be set the sketch

Grenzgipfel (Point X of 'Alpine Studies').

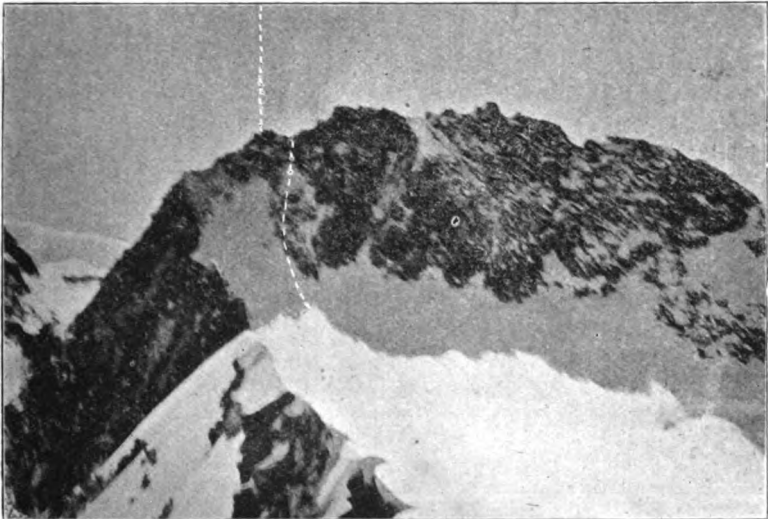


Photo.—G. Lampugnani.

THE SUMMIT RIDGE OF MONTE ROSA FROM THE NORDEND.

(Plate IV., No. 5, of their atlas), now reproduced, of the 'Felsenkamm,' showing the summit reached by them, in relation to the Dufourspitze. This sketch appears to have been hitherto overlooked by the later authorities, and certainly represents the Ostspitze and the Dufourspitze.⁹

2. The Schlagintweits' difference in altitude is scarcely more applicable to that of the so-called Grenzgipfel and Ostspitze

⁹ Schlagintweit's Plate VI. (view von der Rothen Kuppe) shows their route dotted—close under the Nordend. After leaving the Silbersattel it bends away to the right or W. and reaches the summit B very slightly to the W.

than to that of the latter and the Dufourspitze, being probably much too little for the first two and rather too much for the second two.

3. As to the shape of the summit reached by Ulrich's guides and the Schlagintweit party, their descriptions agree well enough, but they do not agree with my recollection of the summit of the so-called Grenzgifel, which I have marked on Professor Lampugnani's photograph, together with the

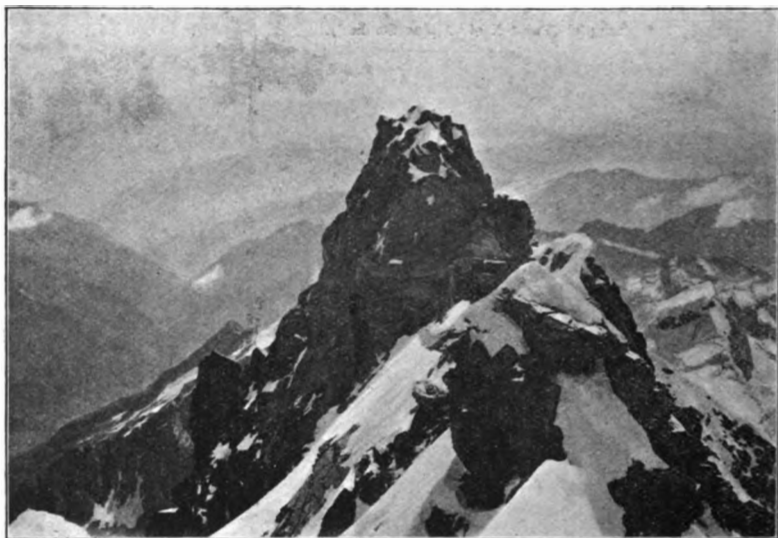


Photo.—Dr. Brun.

THE OSTSPITZE OF MONTE ROSA, WITH VIEW OF VAL ANZASCA, FROM THE DUFOURSPITZE.

line of ascent from the Silbersattel followed by my party on Sept. 9, 1898.

It will be noted that we arrived on the arête at a point between the Ostspitze and the so-called Grenzgifel. We halted there ten minutes, and went in a couple of minutes to the slightly higher point on the left (E.), which, as the photograph shows, is not on the main frontier arête, and from whence I could not look direct down into the Macugnaga Valley. I accordingly concluded that if there was such a summit as the Grenzgifel, i.e. on the actual watershed, it 'is apparently a grey one'—i.e. a level, grey-coloured, flat shoulder to the E. and just below my position. My note is: 'Went to highest point on left, but

not to grey.¹⁰ It may well be doubted on an inspection of the photograph whether there actually exists on the summit ridge any point, reasonably claiming to be called a summit, which sends any of its water to the Val Anzasca.

Dr. Taylor is scarcely conscious of the existence of such a point ('A.J.' vi. 242); and Herr Becker, on his ascent from Macugnaga ('S.A.C.J.' xxxix. 80), walks right over it without any mention, as what he calls the Grenzgipfel is obviously the Ostspitze, since from its summit he saw three people on the Dufour summit, whereas the Ostspitze masks the Dufour to any point farther E. Dr. V. Wessely ('Zeitschrift D. und Oe.A.V.' xxxii.) is equally unconscious of the existence of any such point, for his 'Grenzgipfel' is also obviously the Ostspitze since the Dufourspitze 'in nächster Nähe vor uns als kühner Felsturm aufragt' (stands up immediately in front of us as a bold tower).

It may be well to get rid of this impostor of a Grenzgipfel and admit only the two old summits of Ost- and Dufourspitze.

4. As stated, even from the so-called Grenzgipfel, reached by me, there was no view *straight down* to Macugnaga. We know, moreover, that the slope on that side is far from being a 'precipice,' and has been many times ascended. The photograph of the view from the Dufourspitze towards Macugnaga shows that, even from this point, much can be seen of that valley, and it is obvious that much more must be visible from the Ostspitze, which is fully 100 yards farther in the same direction—*i.e.* to the E. and by so much the more favourably placed.

Now the later authorities admit that the Smyths and Kennedy actually attained the Ostspitze, and Grenville Smyth states distinctly that the point reached by his party was the same as that gained by Ulrich's guides and by the Schlagintweits' party.

It has not hitherto been remarked that Matthäus zum Taugwald, then aged twenty-three, was one of Ulrich's guides in 1848,

¹⁰ 'Left Silbersattel 4.50 P.M. [We had traversed the Nordend from the Marinelli hut.], took to rocks immediately to right of a slope of snow running up just on right of main ridge [the ridge leading from Silbersattel to main E. and W. summit arête] to some white rocks. Struck [main summit] arête close Grenzgipfel, 5.30-5.40. (Grenzgipfel is apparently a grey one.) We went to highest point on left [of where we struck summit arête], but not to grey. Ostgipfel, 5.50 (note of Henry Speyer and a bit of old wood, initials illegible). Top Dufour, 6.4.' (From my notebook, with additions in square brackets.)

and was also one of the Smyths' guides in 1854, and must have been the authority for Smyth's statement.

One of the Schlagintweits' guides was Peter Taugwalder—then thirty-one years of age, afterwards famous for his share in the conquest of the Matterhorn, married to a first cousin of the young zum Taugwald—while one of the others was Hans Joseph zum Taugwald,¹¹ 1798–1855, the father of the young zum Taugwalds. They would certainly know exactly what their cousin and son had done in 1848.

Grenville Smyth states¹² that Matthäus zum Taugwald had ascended the Ostspitze four times, which would agree with his ascent in 1848, on September 1, 1854, with the Smyths, and on September 11, 1854, with E. S. Kennedy, and on September 13, 1854, with E. L. Ames.

These facts make it difficult to contest what was received by the Smyths as a correct statement.

The new information now furnished by Mr. Montagnier's researches, and a review of the facts previously known, would seem to warrant the conclusion that we are hardly justified in rejecting the claim made by Ulrich on behalf of his guides, Madutz and M. zum Taugwald, to have made the first ascent of the Ostspitze, even though he himself remained on the Silbersattel; still less are we entitled to reject the careful sketch and statement of the Schlagintweits, which, in my opinion, can be held to apply only to the Ostspitze.

The ascent of the Ostspitze from the Silbersattel was not again made until August 10, 1878, when Messrs. Penhall and Scriven, with Ferdinand Imseng and P. J. Truffer, and the Rev. F. T. Wethered, with Ulrich Almer and Franz Anthamatten of Saas, 'ascended the rocks to the main summit arête—with the Grenz Gipfel (Coolidge point X) on our left all the way up (*i.e.* towards the E.) and with the Ost Spitze at a very consider-

¹¹ He seems to have been quite an enterprising guide, as he crossed the Alt Weissthor alone with Adolf Schlagintweit in 1851. Further mention of him will be found in the notice of Mr. Coolidge's 'La Storia dei tre Weissthor' in this number.

¹² See *The Records of Attempts and Ascents, &c.*, in the present Journal. Mr. Ames makes the same statement in M. zum Taugwald's Führerbuch. Incidentally one may conclude that it was Johann zum Taugwald who completed the ascent on September 8, 1854, when Kennedy turned back. This Johann appears to have been more enterprising than his brother: witness his attempt on the Matterhorn recounted by Whymper (*Scrambles*, 5th edit. pp. 94–95). Neither of the brothers apparently ever ascended the Matterhorn.

able distance off on our right towards the W. and then we walked along the main summit arête to the Ost Spitze and then we traversed the Ost Spitze and soon afterwards the Dufourspitze¹³ (see also 'A.J.' ix. 108-9). Although the two parties reached the Dufourspitze at the same moment, the expedition was conceived and carried out quite independently of each other. Doubtless these expeditions followed the earlier line, which probably aimed at attaining the main summit arête at its nearest and lowest point, which lies to the E. of the Ostspitze. This was my line of ascent, and is the more obvious one.

Mr. Broome, it will be remembered, made, on August 30, 1904, the ascent of the Dufourspitze *direct* from the Silbersattel ('A.J.' xxii. 572).

J. P. FARRAR.

A photograph taken from the so-called Grenzgipfel (Point X of 'Alpine Studies') looking W. on to the Ostspitze and one of the Dufourspitze taken from the Ostspitze would be of much interest.

LIST OF THE TRAVELLERS AND GUIDES ENGAGED IN THE
EARLY ATTEMPTS ON, AND ASCENTS OF, MONTE ROSA
FROM THE ZERMATT SIDE, FROM 1847 TO 1856.

BY DR. DÜBI.

Point Attained.	Year.	Travellers.	Guides.
Silbersattel.	1847. Aug. 12.	V. Puiseux. E. Ordinaire (pp. 305-6).	112. ¹ Joh. Brantschen, b. 1794. 417. Joh. Jos. zum Taugwald, b. 1798 (or 352, a man of the same name b. 1806). 418. Mathias zum Taug- wald, b. 1825. 254. Joseph Moser, b. 1818.

¹³ From Mr. Wethered's letter to me of April 16, 1917.

¹ The numbers before the guides' names refer to Ruden's *Familien-Statistik der löblichen Pfarrei von Zermatt*.