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EDITORIAL NOTES.

SEQUEL TO AN ALPINE ACCIDENT.—A correspondent writes :—“ At the end of December last the Swiss papers were full of an accident which occurred on the Col de la Guelaz. On December 28 three young men started from Barbarine, where they had spent the night, intending to pass by the Col and descend to Fins Hauts, a summer resort on the road to Chamonix from Vernayez. Soon after crossing the Col the leading pedestrian fell through a cornice of snow into a ravine, thus starting an avalanche. Supposing that he would be injured by his fall his friends instantly set off for assistance, and a search party was despatched. Eight of these brave men were in their turn carried away by an avalanche, but no one was lost. The following day 80 people went to search, and every day since December 28 parties have gone out hoping to find the body of the unfortunate young Swiss. On July 6 the *curé* of Salvan, a hamlet further down the valley, went to the Col some distance above the spot where the boy fell, and where no one had thought of looking on the night when he was lost. Passing near a large boulder he saw the handle of an ice axe protruding from the melting snow, and found that this was in the hand of the victim, who had evidently not been injured by his fall, and instead of going down the valley had gone up the Col, hoping to regain the path with which he was familiar, and, yielding to fatigue, had remained under the rock for shelter from a heavy snowstorm. In this position he was found, leaning his head on his arm. A service was held at his grave by his own pastor from Lausanne, attended by the *curés* of the district, who all did their utmost to comfort his parents, who lost an elder son last summer in the Gorner Gorge.”—(From the *Times*, 15th July.)

HOTEL FIRE IN SWITZERLAND.—The greater part of the Hôtel Reichenbach et des Alpes at Meiringen was destroyed by fire at three o'clock this morning. The visitors had no difficulty in effecting their escape. The service on the Alpes and Reichenbach Railway continues uninterrupted.—(From the *Times*, 8th July.)

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FOILED in their endeavour to disfigure the Pass of Aberglaslyn, the railway makers are now turning their attention to the Vale of Gwynant. The latest scheme is to carry an electric railway from Portmadoc to the foot of Snowdon on its south side, and although the promoters have undertaken to tunnel through the Pass of Aberglaslyn, a fresh storm of criticism has been aroused by the proposal to impound the waters of Llyn Llidau and Llyn Teyrn for the purpose of generating the electricity needed.

When the matter came before the House of Commons, Lord Balcarres, Mr. Bryce, and Mr. John Burns endeavoured to dissuade their fellow members from allowing the Dyli Falls to succumb to the same fate as the Falls of Foyers, but their eloquence was unsuccessful, and as it was believed that the railway would be abandoned if the water were not supplied at the head of the valley, the House sacrificed the mountain stream, and gave its consent to the conversion of Llyn Llidau into a reservoir.

When the Light Railways Bill was under discussion, the House of Commons inserted a provision that natural scenery was not to be injured by the construction of such lines, but we think the formation of an artificial dam across Cwm Dyli, and the interment of the Glaslyn River in pipes, may justly be considered as a wanton injury to one of the grandest pieces of natural scenery in the principality.

The inhabitants of Beddgelert are not unreasonable in their wish to have railway communication with the adjacent towns and villages, but surely this could be effected without allowing them to complete the disfigurement already so far advanced by the works at the copper mines.

REFERRING to the suggestion in the March number that a map or plan should be placed on the summit of Snowdon, the Committee has decided to give Five pounds toward the scheme, provided the whole amount required can be raised during the present year. The following donations have already been promised :—

The Club	£5 0 0
C. Sayle	1 0 0
G. B. Bryant	1 0 0
E. R. Turner	1 0 0

The total amount required will probably be about £40.

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SHOCKS OF EARTHQUAKE.—Canon Rawnsley writes from Crosthwaite Vicarage, Keswick, under date July 10:—"A well-defined shock of earthquake passed through the Keswick valley, apparently from south-west to north-east, yesterday afternoon, at 4'30 p.m., accompanied by a loud sound that seemed to some like thunder, to others like the passing of a heavy train. A second shock was felt at 1'30 a.m. this morning."—(From the *Times*, 15th July.)

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MR. C. E. MATHEWS, our late President, is preparing a paper on "Pen-y-Gwryd in the Days of the Owens," which will appear in our next issue. If any member should happen to have a sketch of the Inn before its enlargement, we shall be obliged if he will communicate with the Editor or with Mr. Mathews.