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REVIEWS.

ALPINE JOURNAL. August, 1904.

EDGAR FOA deals with the Silvretta group, J. W. Wyatt with rock climbs at Arolla, J. H. Wigner with Suanetia, and S. C. Thompson with the first ascent of Mount Fay, while G. Broke and A. Cust discuss questions of somewhat minute topography near Binn, and the Otemma Glacier respectively. There is also an account of the annual exhibition of photographs, held at the Club Rooms, a list of additions to the fine library of the Club, and the usual notes of Alpine news. It is an interesting number, and to the interest of it our own members, among them Andrews, Foa, Steele, Wyatt and Wigner, contribute a noticeably large share. *Post hoc*, and, partly perhaps, *propter hoc*, we find a large space given to climbs either undertaken without guides, or in districts much affected by guideless climbers. In the Caucasus four of our men (Longstaff, Rolleston, Rickmers and Wigner) not all in one party, worked most successfully without guides, while Wyatt and Andrews at Arolla, and Foa in the Silvretta group, were studying districts specially dear to the unguided. It is pleasing to observe that even in the lordly Caucasus, Wigner maintained the *prestige* of our little home-climbs by telling his friends, at the foot of a certain wet and difficult chimney, "we should think nothing of such a trifle in the Lake District."

Mr. Broke's title, "Two Unimportant but Perplexing Passes," raises in the mind a question which is also "unimportant but perplexing." Does it not imply either that an important pass is usually perplexing, or that a perplexing pass is usually important? and should we not rather expect the exact opposite, and that the simpler the pass the more

important it would be, seeing that as soon as a pass perplexes to more than a very moderate extent, it becomes not merely unimportant, but absolutely useless? In this paper, however, the reference is perhaps not so much to the ordinary traveller as to the laborious and conscientious topographer. It leaves on the mind of a stranger to the Binnenthal a general impression that if you go exactly right, it can only be by a fluke, and that if you go absolutely wrong, it really doesn't matter a bit.

Among the exhibitors of photographs many of our men are highly praised. Wyatt, Steele, Andrews, Longstaff, O. K. Williamson, Nettleton and W. J. Williams all appeared to advantage. The printing of this *Journal* is as usual carefully done, and errors are wonderfully rare, considering the large number of proper names involved, but Steele is unfortunate in having two in his short note of an interesting mule journey along the Pyrenean chain. Marcadan should be Marcadaou, and Boncharo disguises the well-known Boucharo.

SCOTTISH MOUNTAINEERING CLUB JOURNAL. No. 42,
September, 1903.

THIS is an excellent number of over 70 pages. It contains a capital article on the Central Cairngorms (Ben Muich Dhui, Cairngorm, etc.) by Mr. W. Garden of Aberdeen; completing another group in the S. M. C. Guide Book. A chatty article on "The Motor in Mountaineering," by Dr. Inglis Clark, and interesting notes on the Club's visit to Skye in the snow of Easter, 1903, together with some very effective photographic illustrations of the Coolins and Buchaille Etive, make up a very good number.

SCOTTISH MOUNTAINEERING CLUB JOURNAL. No. 43,
January, 1904.

SURELY a record for a mountaineering Club Journal published at a shilling, containing as it does over 90 pages of letterpress, five good photographic illustrations, a map of Arran, and a sketch of the routes up Lochnagar! The leading article is an

encyclopædic one on Arran, by Mr. F. S. Goggs, and if any of our members should be visiting that delightful island, they could not do better than to put this number in their pocket. A new climb on "The Cliffs of Corrie Arder" is described by Mr. H. Raeburn, and the S. M. C. Guide Book is advanced a stage by an exhaustive section on Lochnagar.

CAIRNGORM CLUB JOURNAL. No. 22, January, 1904.

THE first article in this number is by our member, Mr. Ernest A. Baker, on "Two Excursions in Wester Ross," and describes a series of fights against the elements in that far corner of Scotland. The remaining seven articles are of rather more local interest, and do not call for especial notice here.

