

Born in England, the author was brought up on his father's estate in the mountains of Salzburg, and he has chosen to tell the life story of Teufel, lord of all he surveys, from the time of his birth among the rocky fastnesses until he meets a noble death at the hands of the hunter. How skillfully this has been done the reader will easily discover, for here is the mountain world recreated, with its beast, bird and human inhabitants, presented simply and with sympathetic feeling. The illustrations are utterly charming.

J. M. T.

*"Ces Monts sublimes."* *Les Ecrivains a la Montagne*, by Claire-Eliane Engel and Charles Vallot. 8 vo.; 304 pages, with bibliography, index and 8 illustrations by Samivel. Paris: Librairie Delagrave (15 Rue Soufflot), 1936.

This volume is the second and concluding of the anthology reviewed in *A. A. J.*, ii, 309. The period covered in 1803-95, and fifty-four authors, French, English and German are represented. They are poets, historians, philosophers and geographers, writing at a time when contact with the mountains was expressed in terms of spiritual exaltation, a common characteristic which has led to the use of "sublime" in the title of the present volume. Although the descriptions are restricted to the mountains of western Europe, one meets the authors in diverse localities: Lamartine at Milly, near Macon; Gautier in the Spanish sierras; Hugo on the Rigi; Durier on the Brevent; Schrader at Gavarnie. For the Alpine historian, however, these literary extracts will be of less value than the numerous biographical sketches of the various writers. Samivel, as usual, has furnished impressive illustrations.

J. M. T.

*Les Batailles pour L'Himalaya*, by Claire-Eliane Engel. 8 vo.; vii + 157 pages, with 16 full-page illustrations, 3 outline maps, 2 diagrams and bibliography. Paris: Flammarion, 1936.

This is an historical rather than a geographical approach to the Himalaya, and covers the period 1783-1935, approximately corresponding with the time of the first ascent of Mont Blanc in the Alps down to the present. Following a brief topographical description of the range, the early travellers and first climbs are discussed, and then in order the major expeditions from the time

of Conway, Mummery and Freshfield to the attempts on Everest, Kangchenjunga and Nanga Parbat. It is unfortunate that the compiler neglected to credit the maps to Marcel Kurz, and the book is so marred by errors in altitudes and orthography that much of its value is lost. The future historian will have much to confuse him in reading these conflicting reviews: *A. J.*, 48, 379 and *Die Alpen*, xii, 354.

J. M. T.

*Guide de la Chaîne du Mont Blanc*, by Marcel Kurz. 12 mo.; 501 pages, with index and 56 diagrams. Fourth edition. Lausanne: Payot et Cie., 1935.

The fourth edition of this standard guide (*par pur piété filiale et pour perpétuer la tradition*) contains 978 routes in the Mont Blanc area. It is a book for mountaineers, not for acrobats. The bibliographic index begins with *A. A. J.* and ends with Zsigmondy, the whole work evidencing the devoted labor of the author. The cabanes and refuges are considered in a preliminary chapter, following which the subdivisions of the range are dealt with in detail: the massifs of Trient, Tour Noir, Aiguille Verte, Grandes Jorasses, Aiguilles de Chamonix, Mont Blanc and Trélatête. The diagrams, in simple line technique with numbered routes, admirably supplement the text.

J. M. T.

*The Playground of Europe*, by Leslie Stephen. 243 pages, 19 illustrations.

*My Climbs in the Alps and Caucasus*, by A. F. Mummery. 256 pages, 16 illustrations.

Blackwell's Mountaineering Library. Edited by H. E. G. Tyndale. Basil Blackwell, Oxford. The above published in 1936, 5 s. each (other volumes in preparation).

A feature of these re-issues is the introduction by G. Winthrop Young, placed in the preface of the "Playground." Mr. Young rightfully hails the revival of these mountaineering classics as timely in view of the general movement toward open-air holidays and rebellion against over-organized games and holidays which restrict the spirit of adventure. Mr. Young carves an appropriate niche of fame for each author: Leslie Stephen, for bridging the gap between earlier climbers who excused their interest on scientific or hygienic grounds and those who enjoyed the