



## PREFACE.

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FOR some years past I have, as an enthusiastic lover of the Alps, and member of the Alpine Club, gone every year to Switzerland on a holiday of high mountaineering. After my return, I have selected that one (or more) of my ascents which had struck me most strongly, and have tried to depict the scenery I had seen ; to describe the adventures I had met with ; and to express the feelings which contact with the Alps so strongly excites. Those Alps are not only poetical in themselves, but are (sometimes) the cause of poetry in others. My essays were, in all cases, printed ; the majority found acceptance in magazines, and one or two were included in my "Studies and Romances," and "Philip Mannington." The whole are now collected into the present