

## NOTES.

OUR frontispiece shows the gate which was erected at the south end of the Derry road in the spring of 1930. It closes the road to wheeled traffic, apart from cycles, and means that climbers

OUR have now to walk three miles before reaching ILLUSTRATIONS. Derry Lodge. This is obviously a serious handicap in the ascent of Ben Macdhui and his neighbours.

We also reproduce in this issue two remarkable snow photographs taken in February of last year by Mr. J. Keiller Greig on a ski expedition on Mount Keen. The snow conditions at the time were ideal for ski-running, and some glorious days were enjoyed.

MR. J. R. CORBETT (who was referred to in No. 69, pp. 174-5, as having done a strenuous week-end from Bristol

THE THREE among the Lochnagar group) has now achieved THOUSANDERS. his ambition of climbing all the 3,000 feet hills in Scotland, including all the minor tops which exceed that height. He is the fourth climber to have done all the 3,000 feet mountains, and the second to do all the minor tops.

PROFESSOR W. J. WATSON, in a letter which appeared in *The Scotsman* of October 4, 1930, says:—Many years ago the native Gaelic form of Lochnagar was given me on good authority as Loch na Gàire. Here *gàire* is the genitive singular

LOCHNAGAR. of *gàir*, an outcry, roar, din; feminine in Irish Gaelic, though given as masculine in some dictionaries of Scottish Gaelic. Examples of its use are "*gàir na mara*," the roar of the sea; "*gàir chatha*," a battle shout; "*gàir chreag*," an echo, literally "cry of rocks." "*Na tonna geala gàireachta*" is "the white roaring waves." The meaning "loch of the roaring noise" well suits this high-lying lochan, described in the Ordnance Gazetteer as a gloomy tarn, overhung by precipices 1,200 feet high. The reference of *gàir* here is probably to the howling and shrieking of the winds. With regard to the old name of the mountain, it is to be noted that on our maps "*Meikle Pap*" (3,211 feet) is shown due east of the loch, quite apart from what is now marked as "*Lochnagar*." "*Meikle Pap*" is doubtless a translation of "*A' Chìoch Mhór*." Lochan an Eoin, which gives rise to the name Coire Lochan an Eoin, means "*Lochan of the Bird*" (not "*of the Birds*"), and when *eun*, a bird, is used thus, it regularly means "*the Bird par excellence*," i.e. the eagle.

THE Secretary of the Scottish Society for the Protection of Wild Birds drew attention last October to the fact that an osprey had been killed near Grantown-on-Spey by a stone thrown by "a worker." Two months later the Secretary of State for Scotland was asked in the House of Commons "if his attention has been called to the recent destruction of an osprey at Grantown-on-Spey, notwithstanding that the osprey is protected under the Bird Protection Order for the county of Moray; and whether any steps are being taken to prosecute the offender, so that the osprey, now extinct in Scotland, may be assured of protection and have an opportunity of being re-established." The Lord Advocate, who replied, said—"On September 26 last an osprey was found on the roadside in a wounded condition, and was killed by a carter with a stone. On examination it was found that it had been suffering from a broken wing and that the wound was gangrenous. Assuming that there was a breach of the law—which is far from clear—the case was obviously one which did not call for criminal prosecution." At the same time it is to be regretted that there are still people who, as Mr. Crosthwaite puts it, "can think of nothing better when they see a beautiful and striking bird than to kill it." The osprey had become extinct in Scotland for several years until Captain Knight introduced two pairs two years ago. The Grantown bird was no doubt one of these, or a descendant. It is to be hoped there are survivors who will get a chance to re-establish the breed.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### LOST AND FOUND.

[To the Editor of *The Cairngorm Club Journal*.]

SIR,—If the climber who on or shortly before September 11, 1929, left an old friend, viz., an "Eversharp" pencil, lying on the water-worn rocks of the Garbh Uisge Burn where it falls over the cliffs to Loch Avon, will apply to the writer, the pencil will be returned, if properly described, e.g., gold, silver, platinum, short, long, plain or chased. The finder is not an Aberdonian, merely a Scot!

Yours, etc.,

J. P. W.

c/o EDITOR,  
*The Cairngorm Club Journal*,  
 ABERDEEN, March 6, 1930.