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 7 × 4; pp. xvi, 467: frontispiece.
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NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1911.

Graian Alps.

CIMA OUEST DE VALEILLE (3362 m. = 11,027 ft.).—August 11, 1911. Messrs. R. L. G. Irving, G. H. L. Mallory, and H. E. G. Tyndale traversed this peak in the course of a climb along the main ridge between the S. Col des Sengies and the Ondezana.

Left Cogné at midnight and ascended Valeille to the level snow-field of Glacier de Valeille. Crossed this to foot of snow couloir leading up to S. Col des Sengies. Very soon after sunrise stones fall in this couloir. (I had special opportunities of judging, as when we reached the col I discovered my rucksack had been left down below, so I had to descend and reascend the whole couloir.) The rocks on the right (descending) are easy for a long way and enable a safe route to be taken.

The ridge was followed over what is *now* called the Cima Ouest de Valeille to the Pta. Scatiglion. This latter point is the Pte. de Valeille of the (1893) 'Climbers' Guide' map; the later contour map of the district (1908) has altered this to Pta. Scatiglion.

The first part of the ridge is difficult, particularly a short over-

hanging pitch of red rock near the col. Three hours after leaving the col we reached a gap almost on a level with the Ciardonei glacier. From this gap the climbing is easier up to the Pta. Scatiglion and still easier from this point to the Ondezana, which was reached a little before 2 o'clock. Descending the short S.W. ridge to the Teleccio glacier we crossed the latter to the rocks below and rather E. of the Col Monei. Cogne was reached via the Monei glacier and the Valnontey. Time about 20 hours, of which 5 (?) were spent in halts.

The topography of these peaks at the head of the Valeille is puzzling owing to the change of names in the new map. The Ondezana seems to be so obviously one isolated peak and the ridge leading to it on the east so level that I cannot account for any such name as 'East peak of the Ondezana' which I have seen referred to. The Pta. Scatiglion, though the meeting-point of several ridges, is not a prominent point and it is a pity for the map-makers the Ondezana was not put in its place.

Except at the Col des Sengies the part of the ridge we traversed would be difficult to reach from the Valeille glacier without great risk, but a delightful traverse of the Ondezana and Pta. Scatiglion could be made from the Teleccio to the Ciardonei glaciers involving no serious difficulties at all, and occupying less than 3 hours. From the latter glacier I expect it would be a long walk to reach a comfortable bed.

R. L. G. IRVING.

Pennines.

LA SENGLA, N. SUMMIT (3702 m. = 12,142 ft.) FROM THE COL DE LA REUSE D'AROLLA (OR COL D'OREN).

Leaving Arolla on June 27, 1911, at 1.50 A.M., Mr. A. Stuart Jenkins, with Jean Bournissen of Hérémece and Jean Gaudin of Evolène, reached the Col de la Reuse d'Arolla or Col d'Oren (3242 m.) at 8.30 A.M.

The sharp ridge running N.E.—S.W. was followed with a fair amount of difficulty (rock not very sound) to a first, snow-capped, minor summit (about 2 hours from col). From thence the ridge was continued in a direction N.—S. to the summit of the Sengla (2 P.M.).

The last hour's climb was over difficult slabs. The party descended by the same route, using an extra rope on two occasions to gain time. The Col de la Reuse d'Arolla was reached at 6 P.M.

Much time could be saved on this schedule as the conditions of the mountain were very bad (much snow and *verglas* on rocks). A good estimate would be : from col to summit $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 hours, and a little less for the descent.

This climb, a little too far from Arolla, will best be made by starting from Prarayé. The Italian slope, leading in about 4 hours to the

Col de la Reuse d'Arolla, rises rather steeply from the Combe d'Oren, but seems quickly ascended and does not afford the drudgery of a long tramp over snowfields. As to the sport on the rocks, it is excellent. The N. peak of the Sengla is well worth a visit. It is the highest and most imposing mountain in the Valpellina district, and, in difficulty, can be compared to the good Arolla climbs.

[This ascent at last clears up a question that has been pending since 1866. In 'A.J.' ii. 415 Mr. G. E. Foster mentions the ascent of a small peak called *La Sciossa* on the Federal Map, in about an hour from the summit of the *Col de la Reuse d'Arolla*. Conway's 'Central Pennine Alps' (1890) says that the peak referred to is *La Sengla*, on the strength, I imagine, of this peak's being the nearest to the col in question. There is a note on the subject in 'A.J.' xix. 370 by the late Mr. Arthur Cust, a great authority on this district. This, however, seems to complicate this particular point still further. In fact, complications seem the order of the day in connexion with this frontier ridge, as will be seen by a reference to a very vigorous article by Sir Martin Conway on 'Exhausted Districts' in 'A.J.' xv. (particularly pp. 261-2) as well as to the footnote by Mr. Cust in 'A.J.' xix. 370-1. The question of Mr. Foster's ascent is also referred to but not cleared up in 'Ueber Eis und Schnee,' 2nd edit. 1898, ii. 521-2.

Mr. Cust returns to the subject in a masterly paper accompanied by a sketch map in 'A.J.' xxii. pp. 216-20 called 'The Range South of the Otemma Glacier.' He concludes that the peak ascended by Mr. Foster was the Becca Labbie (3450 m. of the Valpellina map referred to below) immediately East of the Col d'Otemma. His article is a fine instance of the fascination of intricate Alpine topography.

Mr. Stuart Jenkins's present expedition now conclusively shows that *La Sengla* certainly cannot be ascended 'in about an hour' from the Col de la Reuse d'Arolla, and we are driven to the conclusion (possible, as Mr. Foster himself admits, 'A.J.' xix. 370) that the col reached in 1866 was not the Col de la Reuse d'Arolla. Mr. Foster was probably so far correct that he may have ascended *La Sciossa* or, as it is now named, *La Sciassa*. The question can be best studied by a reference to the monograph 'In Valpellina' by SS. E. Canzio, F. Mondini, and N. Vigna in 'Boll.C.A.I.' xxxii. 1899. This is one of those elaborate and splendidly illustrated papers for which the 'Bollettino' is famous, and which makes us keenly regret that its publication takes place at apparently ever-increasing intervals. The photograph of *La Sengla* on p. 131 taken from very near the Col de la Reuse d'Arolla shows Mr. Stuart Jenkins's route, which lies straight up the great rib seen in face (about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch from the right-hand lower corner) and over the snow summit to the top of the *Sengla Nord*. What Mr. Foster probably did was to reach the gap marked Col d'Otemma

on the illustration, 'Boll.' xxxii. opp. p. 104. The nomenclature of this monograph does not agree altogether with Conway's 'Central Pennine Alps' or with Ball's 'Western Alps' (Dr. Coolidge's edition), nor with the Siegfried map (the Col d'Otemma of Siegfried is the Colle Boetta of the new nomenclature). I have however followed it and the Carta della Valpellina 1,500,000, which accompanies the monograph. From this col he may have reached either the Oulie Cecca (3550 m.) or La Becca Labbie (3450 m.), neither of which presents any difficulties, although no times are available in current literature.

The Col d'Otemma (3321 m.) referred to above lies between the Oulie Cecca and the Becca Labbie, which adjoins La Sciassa and is the most obvious col seen from the Glacier d'Otemma. As Mr. Foster lays great stress on the view probably the Oulie Cecca was the point he did actually gain. The Dufour map, which was the one he is stated to have used ('A.J.' xix. 370), puts the name La Sciassa close to the Becca Labbie and the Oulie Cecca. There can be little doubt therefore that the difficulty has arisen through Mr. Foster's calling, in the absence of names on the Dufour map, the Col d'Otemma the Col de la Reuse d'Arolla.

The authors of the monograph in the 'Bollettino' above referred to are of opinion that Mr. Foster climbed the W. Becca d'Oren from the Col de la Reuse d'Arolla, but it seems to me the more likely that he should make a mistake about the name of a col to which no name is given on the map which he had than about the name of a peak which is named and shown in its approximately proper position, and which lies very close to and may have been taken to indicate either of the two summits mentioned above.

Mr. Stuart Jenkins remarks that the authors of the monograph point out that the height 3321 m. given in Conway and Bobba-Vaccarone for the Colle dell'Oulie Cecca which is the Col d'Otemma mentioned above is probably incorrect. Calculated from the contour lines of the Siegfried map the height works out about 3200 m. They also consider that the height on the Italian map of the Becca Labbie S.W. of La Sciassa 3321 m. is incorrect and should be about 3450 m.

The following note from Mr. J. H. Clapham also throws light on the point:

'Ball, p. 451, says it [La Sengla] can "be thence climbed in an hour." I have not other books by me. If they correct this, my note does not matter. If not, it may be of some use. The height from the col is just over 1500 ft. The ridge coming down to the col is narrow, jagged, and if climbable at all a long and slow route. We tried to find a way up by a rib on the face S. of this watershed ridge. The rib runs into the ridge, above the steepest parts of the latter, perhaps 500 ft. above the col. We gained

this point, after rather difficult climbing, in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour, going slowly. Above it the rock was certainly not easy for some distance and we came down for lack of time, as we had to get to Mauvoisin that night. . . . I doubt whether the climb up could have been done from the col under three hours, except by a quick party.'
J. P. F.]

Bernese Oberland.

JUNGFRAU (4166 m.=13,670 ft.), ascent of the N.E. Arête.—On July 30, 1911, Herr Albert Weber, A.A.-C.Z., with the young guide, H. Schlunegger of Wengen, left the Bergli hut at 1 A.M., and reached at 2.40 pt. 3560 above the Jungfrauoch. The weather was good and reliable. The baggage was cut down to a minimum, crampons being left behind.

The N.E. arête falls into three main divisions. The first part is from the Joch to pt. 3788 where the Schneehorn arête joins the N.E. arête. The remainder of the arête is divided into two nearly equal portions by a huge secondary summit, the lower portion appearing steeper and the upper portion more broken. The upper end of the arête is pt. 4060 on the so-called Hochfirn. Leaving the pt. 3560 at 3.10 A.M. an easy climb brought the party to the first great obvious step or pitch in the ridge which in less favourable years, when more snow and ice lie on the rocks than in 1911, may prove an insuperable difficulty. From the highest tooth of this step 50 ft. vertically overhead hung a rope sling, no doubt put there by the Meade-Fuhrer party when descending this arête. The only way lay obviously on the N. flank. Along the upper edge of the steep wall of black ice steps were cut for a distance of 20 metres, whilst the rocks above tended to press one outwards and made the traverse a most delicate operation. At the end of the 20 metres was a comparatively fair stand whence the ridge was regained by a very steep climb up good rocks. There followed several gendarmes with corresponding gaps. The climbing was not easy, but pt. 3788 was reached between 7 and 8 without any very great difficulties.

The second part of the ridge which now followed put the powers and determination of the party to an even greater test. The difficulties are considerably greater than before. The many deep gaps caused great delays. The ever-recurring gendarmes are in the lower 6 to 10 metres very steep and holdless. More than once the party despaired of reaching the summit before nightfall, and were on the point of retreating. But their determination to gain at least the big secondary summit and 'to have a look' drove them always forward. One particularly obstinate gendarme again forced them to a desperate traverse on the icy northern flank. At about noon they had won the secondary summit. Almost within reach appeared the rocky end pt. 4060 of the Hochfirn, but the way seemed hopeless. After eight hours' most strenuous climbing

it required great determination to go on in face of the almost certainty of having eventually to retreat. The difficulties of the retreat as well as the efforts of a competing party several hundred metres below, entangled in the séracs and crevasses of the Klein Silberhorn, were a great factor in spurring the party on. A veritable race commenced. First came some very sharp ice arêtes, then a renewal of the difficult climbing. In the third part of the arête which now followed are, in its upper portion, three great gendarmes. The attack on the first proved most difficult and only succeeded with much trouble and risk. What followed was very impressive but not correspondingly difficult, until the last Scharte was reached. The last pitch presented an abominably smooth-looking steep face. Any traverse was out of the question, and only a direct attack could possibly succeed. Nothing could stop the party now. It went better than expected and exactly at 3 P.M. they gained pt. 4060. A quarter of an hour later saw them on the highest point and at 7.30 the Bergli Hut once more sheltered two contented men. (XVI. Jahresbericht des A.A.-C. Zurich für 1911.)

Glarus Alps.

TÖDI-SANDGIPFEL (3434 m.=11,264 ft.), by the N. Arête, August 27, 1911, Herren K. Steiner and G. Miescher, both of the A.A.-C.Z.—The N. arête is divided into a lower stepped portion with two well-marked almost perpendicular pitches about 500 feet high and an upper jagged and apparently cut off bit. The lowest perpendicular step was turned on the right, but otherwise the arête was followed throughout. From the Fridolin's Hut the gap immediately at the foot of the first great pitch was reached. From here a slight descent to the W. and a nearly horizontal traverse of about 80 metres on a scree slope (danger from stones) led to the foot of a great smooth rock buttress projecting from the face of the wall of the arête. A steep couloir lying behind this buttress was gained by a short descent on the doubled rope. The couloir was followed without great difficulty until higher up the rather slabby slope led away slightly to the right in the direction of a small gap at the foot of the second great pitch in the arête. A steep chimney, smooth and overhanging at the top, leads to the gap. The chimney is at first followed and the main arête is finally gained about 10 metres below the gap by a steep climb out to the left up very steep but relatively good rocks. From the gap mount a few metres to the E. and up a steep crack, gain the foot of the great chimney which seams the great pitch for almost its whole height. Climb this chimney—very treacherous rock—with great difficulty to the almost level ridge above the great pitch (Stoneman). The next bit of arête ends in two angular towers which mask the Sandgipfel completely. Rather to the right of the arête is a well-marked, deep cut, stepped

chimney which ends below in a slabby couloir. The foot of this chimney is gained without difficulty by a traverse on the W. flank of the arête. The lower smooth part of the chimney is overcome either direct (very hard—Kletterschuhe) or one climbs out to the left up a steep wall about 15 metres to a narrow ledge and along this a few metres to the right to a firm stone jutting out of the wall over which, well secured by the rope, one can get into the chimney. Forty metres up this, one reaches a small gap. Follow the continuation of the chimney which joins on here, always on or slightly to the W. of the edge of the arête, and so reach, with often very hard rock and ice work, the great ledge which, often interrupted, runs right across the N.W. face of the mountain.

Cross this ledge to the foot of the last, partly overhanging, great step in the arête, some 100 metres high. Reach a small gap in the arête by a rotten crack, descend about 3 metres on the other (N.E.) side, and traverse about 15 metres horizontally to the left towards a little Kanzel. From here one looks into a deep ice couloir or chimney (Eiskamin) which descends steeply on the E. of the arête and breaks off on the continuation of the above-mentioned great ledge in a smooth slab. A little crack from right to left leads into the ice-chimney which a few metres above the little Kanzel or shoulder ends vertically above an inclined slab. This slab is not directly accessible but can be reached from the right by roping down from behind a block detached from the wall. Get into the chimney by the partly over-hanging rotten crack and finally reach in exceedingly steep and tiring ice-steps the summit plateau (15 hrs. from the hut; 13 hrs. from the foot.) (XVI. Jahresbericht des A.A.-C.Z. 1911.)

BIFERTENSTOCK (3426 m.=11,237 ft.), by the E. arête, August 7, 1911, Herren W. A. Keller and A. Kübler.—Leaving the Puntaiglas Hut at 4 A.M. the summit was reached by way of the Upper Frisallücke and the S. arête at 7 A.M. Quitting the lower summit 3371 m. at 8 the E. ridge was followed to the very jagged bit between pts. 3371 and 3248. All the gendarmes were climbed—rock not always good—pt. 3248 was reached at 10. Then followed a number of fairly difficult gendarmes which were either climbed or traversed on the N. side immediately below the crest of the arête. The last pitch before the gap W. of pt. 3098 was turned partly by a long traverse on the N. face but lower down the arête itself was followed. The last great gendarme pt. 3098 was climbed direct by a crack and slabs of the N. face and up a short sharp arête. The party reached their tent S. of the Kistenstöckli at 1 P.M. (XVI. Jahresbericht des A.A.-C.Z. 1911.)

This is the first time the E. arête has been followed without making use of the so-called 'Bänder' which are well shown in the picture S.A.C. Jahrbuch XXXV. pp. 326-7. Mr. Mumm's interesting paper, 'The Bifertenstock and its neighbours,' in A.J. xxiii. 450 *seq.* also describes these Bänder.

BIFERTENSTOCK (3426 m.=11,237 ft.), by the N.W. and N. faces, July 7, 1911, Herren J. Munck and W. A. Keller.—Leaving the Fridolinshütte at 4 A.M., pt. 3063 was reached by Fynn's route (Jahresbericht A.A.-C.Z. 1906) at 9.30. They then proceeded to cut up the very difficult ice fall of the N. face. They gained the edge of the ice tongue and cutting across from left to right reached the E. edge of the ice-tongue which forms a sharp edge up which progress was rather better. The summit was reached at 4.20 P.M. after nearly six hours' continuous cutting—about 2200 steps. Very fine route but dangerous from stones. (XVI. Jahresbericht des A.A.-C.Z. für 1911.)

Arctic Norway.

IN 'A.J.' xxvi. pp. 84 *seq.*, attention was drawn to the expeditions carried out by Dr. Georg Künne and Herr Richard Pöttsch in the Tysfjord district.

Dr. Künne has now published in the 'Ö.A.Z.' 1912, pp. 197–202 and pp. 213 *seq.* full particulars of his travels, with a sketch map. Dr. Kurd Endell and Dr. Wilhelm Martin have also now published in the 'Ö.A.Z.' 1912, pp. 74–78, 93–98, 109–118, full descriptions of their explorations in the Lyngenfjord district. Attention was drawn to these in 'A.J.' xxvi. p. 85. Their paper is very well illustrated and contains also a useful sketch map.

The bibliography with which their paper concludes is, for facility of reference, printed below.

1874. Beskrivelse af Tromsø Amt. Udgivet af den geografiske Opmaling. Kristiania, 1874. S. 1–156.

1889. O. Vorweg. Aus Lyngen. Norske Turistforenings Aarbok 1889. S. 41–53. Mit Kartenskizze.

1891. O. Vorweg. Eine Erstlingsbesteigung in der Kjostindergruppe. Zeitschr. d. D.u.Ö.A.-V. 1891. S. 375–381.

1896. I. Caspari. Turistruter paa Lyngenhavoen og tilgraensende fjeldpartier i Tromsø Amt. Norske Turistforenings Aarbok. 1896. S. 39–60.

1899. I. Caspari. Nogle nye fjeldbestigninger og Fjeldovergange paa Lyngenhavoen. Norske Turistforenings Aarbok. 1899. S. 44–61.

1899. W. C. Slingsby. Mountaineering in Arctic Norway. Alpine Journal, xix. 1899. S. 414–437.

1899. G. Hastings. The Lyngen district. Alpine Journal, xix. 1899. S. 356–363 und S. 611–615.

1899. Mrs. Main (Aubrey le Blond). Lyngenfjord district. Alpine Journal, xix. 1899. S. 257–261 und Sörfjord district. S. 615–620.

1900. E. L. Strutt, C. V. Rawlence und L. C. Rawlence. Alpine Journal, xx. 1900. S. 47–48.

1907. K. S. Klingenberg. Fra Tromsø. Norske Turistforenings Aarbok. S. 99–104.

1908. Mrs. Main (Aubrey le Blond). *Mountaineering in the land of the Midnight Sun*. T. Fisher Unwin. 1908. (Well illustrated.) S. 1-308.

1908. O. D. Tauern. *Fjeldture i Tromsø Amt*. Norske Turistforenings Aarbok. 1908. S. 31-38.

1908. M. und J. Folsvik. (Turenbericht.) Norske Turistforenings Aarbok 1909. S. 209/210.

1910. Chr. B. Heimbeck. *Omkring 69°5'*. Norske Turistforenings Aarbok 1910. S. 131-137.

1911. K. Endell. (Turenbericht.) *Ö.A.-Z.*, Nr. 847. S. 362-364.

1911. W. Martin. (Turenbericht.) *Jahresbericht des Akad. Alpenvereins*, Berlin, 1911.

The only existing map is stated to be the *Kart over Tromsø Amt*, scale 1 : 200,000 which however shows none of the Glaciers.

VARIOUS EXPEDITIONS IN 1911.

Mont Blanc Group.

MONT BLANC (4810 m. = 15,782 ft.) BY THE BRENVA.—Reverting to my *résumé* in 'A. J.' xxvi. pp. 171-176, Mr. John W. S. Brady of Baltimore, U.S.A., has been good enough to send me the following particulars of his ascent of August 2, 1911, which is accordingly the thirteenth by this route.

LISBON, 2nd July 1912.

Dear CAPTAIN FARRAR,—I have just had forwarded to me a letter from Mr. Allston Burr who asked me to let you know about my Brenva expedition last year. . . . My guide was Christian Kaufmann, Canadian guide, of Grindelwald. . . . A young porter, Alexis Croux, who was ignorant of the route, accompanied us. We left Courmayeur at 10 o'clock and arrived at the gîte about four in the afternoon. We left the sleeping place at one o'clock the next morning, Wednesday, August 2, and crossed the glacier above without difficulty. Before the 'knife-edge' we met with some rather hard blue ice, but the 'knife-edge' itself was covered with deep soft snow. Above this we (that is, the guide who did the work alone) were aided by the traces of Mr. Burr's steps made the Friday before, which saved us time in finding the right direction. The slope was mixed snow and ice and as soon as convenient we took to the rocks (as much as was possible). The ice cliff was in good condition. We arrived at the summit hut about 3 o'clock P.M., and went down to les Bossons station in time to get the train for Chamonix about 8 o'clock P.M. The weather was a little doubtful soon after sunrise, and about 9 o'clock A.M. we spent an hour in a