

and on the ice traverse none but the smallest fragments fell past us. We succeeded in obtaining practically perfect conditions, although fortune had certainly not dealt kindly with us in compelling us in such a season as 1911 to wait nearly a fortnight before we were enabled to carry out our project.

Thus ended this expedition, memorable to those who took part in it. I wish to lay stress on the fact that its successful issue is entirely due, first to Jean Maitre's masterly judgment, a judgment in my experience unsurpassed as regards snow and ice work, and secondly to Heinrich Fux's fine step-cutting performance, and to his brilliant leading up the very difficult rocks of the final rib.

ANCIENT FACTS AND MODERN FICTION : THE WEST WING
OF THE BERNINA.

By E. L. STRUTT.

THIS paper is suggested by a number of untoward circumstances, but to the influence of certain distinguished Italian friends its origin is principally due. There are many among the more responsible Italian climbers and topographers who deplore, not less than we of other nationality, both the current denials of well-authenticated ascents and the confusion of nomenclature which the recent issue of the C.A.I. *Guida*, Part iii., as well as certain other publications, have done so much to both perpetuate and augment.

No offence is intended towards the many well-known Italian and Swiss mountaineers who now frequent the district which the chief Alpine authority has christened the 'West Wing of the Bernina,' which is known in this country as the 'Bregaglia Group,' in Switzerland as 'Das Thal Bergell,' and in Italy as the 'Albigna-Disgrazia' district.

These notes, so far as they concern themselves with mountaineering, are mostly a re-statement of facts which were twenty years ago universally accepted, but on which modern scepticism and perhaps an almost pardonable jealousy and rivalry have contrived to throw doubt and, in some cases, absolute denial. It is desirable that these ancient facts should be upheld, and the authorities on the district *must* strive to uphold them.

The first three subjoined 'notes' refer to matters of this kind and form the *raison d'être* of this communication; Note 3, however, leads naturally on to the vexed question of nomenclature, and advantage has been taken of the opportunity to discuss certain of the names which appear for the first time in the *Guida*.

While the writer must unreservedly accept some of these names, and has every intention of adopting them in any future article on the district, strong grounds can be adduced against others, most of which can never, for reasons which will appear, receive universal recognition. The notes which form the latter portion of this paper are not penned in a spirit of carping criticism; rather is the writer buoyed up with the faint hope that they may influence the nomenclature adopted in the forthcoming Swiss guide-book to this portion of the Alps. There is always a danger that, the Italians having so much *Italianized* the frontier ridge and even its northern slopes, the Swiss may go to the opposite extreme, being no whit less patriotic than their southern neighbours. We English, however, acting on strictly neutral grounds and with equal affection for both sides, can give our impartial views as to which names seem most suitable to the peaks and passes which some of us love beyond all others. If this article should in any way help towards an universal nomenclature the writer's satisfaction will be complete.

1. PUNTA RASICA, 3320 m., new edition, 3330 m., older edition, *S. map*; 3328 m., *I. map*; 3307 m., *Lurani* (3320 m. = 10,893 ft.).

This mountain is a very remarkable one and its ascent is among the most interesting in the district.

It may be said to have two summits, the N.W. peak (*c.* 3300 m.), not named, measured, or even indicated on any map, and the S.E. peak, alone officially recognised and measured, as above.

The two peaks are connected by a long knife-edge of serrated granite forming a deep depression between them. This truly terrifying arête has never been traversed in its entirety, but the depression was reached on the occasion of the first ascent of the N.W. peak by a descent of its S.E. arête, and from this gap the Forno glacier was on the same occasion reached direct, the entire descent being effected by a series of 'pitons' and spare ropes. ('A.J.' xxv. 556-7.)

The N.W. peak consists of two faces, N.E. and S.W., of smooth perpendicular granitic slabs, both unclimbed, and of

two arêtes, N.W. (by which the only ascent was accomplished) and S.E. (referred to above), both sharp and serrated to an almost inconceivable extent.

First ascent, which has not been repeated, September 30, 1910. Herren K. Steiner and R. Lejeune.

The S.E. peak consists of three faces, N.E., S.W., and S.E., of exceedingly steep, smooth slabs, and three arêtes, N.W. (unclimbed), S.E., and S.W. (unclimbed). The S.E. and S.W. arêtes unite at a point, a kind of false top, just S.E. of the summit. The actual summit is a strange monolith, some 75-100 ft. high, resembling a knife-blade with the edge bearing S.E. A geologist would probably be of opinion that the original true summit, the point of junction of the three ridges, has long fallen in ruin into the abyss surrounding the mountain.

The history of the Punta Rasica is quite clearly recorded and goes back as far as 1891 ; it is outlined as follows :—

(a) *By the S.E. arête.* June 27, 1892. Herr Anton von Rydzewsky* with Christian Klucker of Sils and Mansueto Barbaria of Cortina d'Ampezzo, Tyrol, not Italy (!), as the *Guida*, p. 140, quaintly puts it.

(b) *By the N.E. face.* September 1, 1898. Messrs. E. J. Garwood and Benjamin Wainwright with Roman Imboden of St. Niklaus and Augustin Clalüna of Val Bregaglia.

(c) *By the S. face.*

(i.) *By the S.E. slope of the S.W. arête.* Same date and party as (b) taken in the descent.

(ii.) *By the N.W. slope of the S.W. arête.* June 30, 1906. Signor Antonio Castelnuovo with Anselmo Fiorelli of San Martino (Masino), not Bartolo Sertori, as the 'Climbers' Guide,' p. 133, has it.

Variation, rather more N. than (ii.). 1907 (?). Signori Angelo Rossini, E. Moraschini, and E. Castelli.

The S.E. arête has also been reached from the S. without going quite as far as the Colle della Rasica, August 20, 1909. Signori Romano and Antonio Balabio, Gaetano Scotti, and Mario de Benedetti.

All these routes unite at the S.E. base of the final pinnacle, which is then climbed by its sharp S.E. edge.

* The *Journal de Genève* of August 29 announces the death on August 25, near Dresden, of this distinguished veteran Russian climber, at the age of seventy-seven.



Archivio, S.U.C.A.I.

CLIMBING THE FINAL PINNACLE OF
PUNTA RASICA.



Archivio S.U.C.A.I.

Swan Electric Engraving Co., Ltd.

PUNTA RASICA AND WESTERN TORRONE.

These routes have mostly been duly recorded, in some cases almost *ad nauseam*; nevertheless route (a), or the first ascent of the mountain, is actually denied by the guides, inhabitants, and irresponsible visitors of Val Masino, while route (c) (i.), being ignored, naturally could never have taken place. According to the guide Anselmo Fiorelli, the first ascent of the mountain was accomplished by himself in 1906 with that fine and adventurous climber the late Signor Castelnuovo. The following 'proofs' were given to the writer this year by Fiorelli:—

- (1) In 1906 (thus 14 years after Klucker's ascent) Rydzewsky's card was not to be found on the summit.
- (2) The final pinnacle is inaccessible without throwing up the rope.
- (3) *Klucker* was not capable of climbing anything so difficult!

Statements such as these are too absurd to contradict, especially when made by a single uneducated and irresponsible peasant, but when they are upheld and maintained by all the inhabitants of the valley and by three well-known Italian mountaineers whom the writer had the pleasure of meeting this summer in the Allievi hut, they must be summarily disposed of.

Klucker's ascent of 1892 is recorded at length in 'S.A.C.J.' xxix. pp. 146-150; *Alpina*, 1894, p. 93; Tanner, *Forno-Albigna-Bondasca*, p. 78; Studer, iii., 1899, pp. 221-2; 'R.M.', 1894, p. 395; 'Climbers' Guide,' Bernina I., pp. 131-2. The *Guida*, p. 178, appears to be very sceptical.

Feeling that these accounts were, in spite of their length and detail, insufficient to convince the good people of Masino, I wrote to my friend Christian Klucker and have received from him the following characteristically lucid and most interesting account of the first ascent, which I give *in toto*, literally translated from the original German.

'FEXTAL: July 24, 1913.

'As to the denial of Herr von Rydzewsky's first ascent of the Punta Rasica by the respective inhabitants and guides of San Martino, it would be as well to let these people think what they like. It is useless fighting against ignorance and wilful want of knowledge. Did not the well-known guide Sertori assert in 1906 to one of my most trusted "Herren" that we had never been up the Ago di Sciora in 1893? In 1911 I met Sertori while descending the Albigna glen and taxed him with this statement; he first denied having made

it, then said that he had mistaken another man "for the famous Klucker" and that this man (the late A. Clalüna) had failed to climb the Ago!

'Now to the story of the Rasica. Professor Schulz of Leipzig in the early eighties first drew my attention to this extraordinary rock tooth, and told me of his proposal to christen it by its present name. In those days the general nomenclature was non-existent or very scarce throughout the frontier ridge. In the Torrone "ridge" there were named alone Torrone Orientale and Torrone Occidentale. We decided on "Punta Rasica" for the point (now) 3320 m.* and "Torrone Centrale" for the point 3299 m.

'When visiting the Forno hut in 1891 with Herr and Frau Tauscher-Geduly and Herr Alexander Rzewuski, I proposed to them to try to attain the then untraversed Colle della Rasica and thence make an attempt on the Punta itself. On July 27 (*not* 26, as it appears in vol. xxvii. of the "S.A.C.J.") we duly reached the col, but owing to the indisposition of Frau Tauscher-Geduly were unable to proceed further as a party. However, I continued alone over the S.E. arête and attained a steep snow patch on its N. slope, whence I could overlook and study the rest of the route as far as the actual summit pinnacle. On returning to the col there could, of course, be no further attempt on the peak for that day, and we descended.

'During the same summer (August 30, 1891), the Colle della Rasica was attained by Messrs. E. Kingscote, E. J. Garwood, and C. C. Branch with Martin Schocher and Anton Rauch, while accomplishing the second ascent of the Torrone Occidentale by a new route, also from the Forno side.

'At 7 A.M. on June 22, 1892, Barbara and I with Herr von Rydzewsky were once more standing on the Colle della Rasica. Wind, snow, and horrible weather generally, prevented us attempting the ascent of the Punta. Five days later, on June 27, we reached the col at 7.15 A.M. and halted for 20 minutes. We then commenced the ascent of the peak. At first to the left, S., then along the crest of the S.E. arête itself for about 20 minutes, then on the N. slope to the steep snow patch, where I told you I had turned back the previous year; partly traversing and turning this rather to the N.W. we came to a second snow patch. After traversing this we

* Up to the 1906 'revision,' the Siegfried map gave the height of the peak as 3330 m.—E. L. S. (cf. *ante*).

climbed straight up over steep rocks and found ourselves about 9 A.M. on the main ridge at the S.E. base of the final pinnacle, which towered some 30 metres above us. The S.E. edge of the pinnacle is sharp as a knife, and overhangs so much at its base that a man by himself could not climb it without support. Acting on Barbara's proposal we tried for some time to throw our rope, to which we had secured a stone, up to where the sharp edge formed a minute notch some 20 metres above us. We succeeded at length in our attempt and thoroughly secured the rope; I see, however, on consulting my old notes, that when climbing this 20 metres of vertical crest I only used the rope held in my left hand for the very lowest bit, and soon found it safer to climb without it. The rock edge is so sharp that one can comfortably grip it between one's knees, which much assists this bad bit of the ascent.

'The remaining short bit of the ascent we accomplished without special difficulty. The summit provides a small nook ("Nische") facing the E. side, which affords comfortable rest for three persons. The whole tooth is much scarred by electrical discharges, and we found many traces of thunderbolts ("Blitzgranaten"). One glance over the W. slope of the peak convinced me that an ascent or descent was possible there. The steep slabby face is split by many steep cracks, so that, by turning the various smooth projections by narrow ledges and steep crannies, the base of the final pinnacle could be reached with comparative ease. You will recollect, of course, that the subsequent Italian ascents have been made over this face.

'The descent we accomplished by the same route. At 9.35 A.M. we left the summit, *after depositing a small box containing our names*,* and in 1 hour, or more correctly 50 minutes, attained the Colle della Rasica, the Forno hut being reached in 1 hour more. The difficulties of this ascent are all concentrated in the final pinnacle, and although the bergschrund and N. ice slope of the col can give much trouble, I cannot consider that the remainder of the ascent is really difficult. A full account of this ascent is given by Herr von Rydzewsky in "S.A.C.J." vol. xxix.'

Perhaps the most humorous incident connected with the Fiorelli denial of this ascent is the fact that the 1906 ascent of the Rasica by Castelnovo was the *very first* mountain

* The italics are mine.—E. L. S.

expedition ever accomplished by the said Anselmo Fiorelli! This worthy man, no longer in the flush of youth, a cart-driver by profession, was secured quite by accident for the ascent by Castelnuovo. Delighted with his prowess and unabashed at his then utter inexperience, he contradicted and still contradicts the ascent by one of the very greatest mountaineers the Alps can ever see! The Val Masino guides are fine rock climbers, but nothing more; * Anselmo Fiorelli is by no means the best of them. As well compare Mack to Napoleon as a Masino guide to Klucker. It is only fair to add, however, that Signor Castelnuovo wrote some most unfortunate remarks concerning the 1892 ascent in the Allievi Hut visitors' book, and that these remarks, doubtless, still strengthen Fiorelli's ridiculous attitude.

The second ascent and first traverse of the same peak by Messrs. Wainewright and Garwood, led by that brilliant young guide the late Roman Imboden, is generally quite ignored, and although the *Guida*, p. 179, makes allusion to the ascent, and Herr Tanner, p. 62, hints at it, the subsequent new and terribly difficult descent accomplished by the party is not mentioned by the *Guida*, in spite of the 'Climbers' Guide' full account. A mere mention of the descent provokes ribald laughter at San Martino. Why? Again, because the Val Masino guides and several amateur parties have vainly attempted to ascend by this route! Any visitor to the Baths of Masino can read for himself the thrilling account written by the party in the hotel book.

Here is a slightly condensed version :—

‘September 2, 1893.

‘Messrs. Edmund Garwood and Benjamin Wainewright, with Roman Imboden of St. Nikolas and Augustin Clalüna of Maloja (*sic*), arrived here (Baths) this morning.

‘On September 1 we left the Forno hut and crossed the head of the Forno glacier to the couloir leading up to the col to the W. of the Torrone Occidentale, which separates the peak from a point on the ridge to the W., which we understand was ascended by Monsieur Rydzewsky with the guide Christian Klucker of Sils, and called by them Punta della Rasica. This point, marked 3307 m. in the map accompanying Count

* Fiorelli was present on the occasion (1907) of the first ascent of the highest point of the Dames anglaises; it appears doubtful whether he or Castelnuovo was the actual leader—both discarded an essential portion of their clothing for the final *mauvais pas*!

Lurani's pamphlet *Le Montagne di Val Masino*, and 3330 m. on sheet 523 of the Swiss survey, is conspicuous from the Forno hut owing to the detached and precipitous appearance of its final 30 ft. (? metres, E. L. S.) which rise from the main ridge and alone entitle it to be considered as a separate peak.

'. . . Owing to the uncovered condition this year of the glacier at the foot of the couloir, in passing which much time was required, and the icy state of the couloir itself, we abandoned the couloir and took to the rocks at its foot immediately under the summit of our peak, and, mounting the face by means of ledges which offered no special difficulty, arrived on the arête immediately to the E. of the final tooth at 7.30 A.M. Here the weather, which had been threatening, broke on us in a severe storm of wind and snow, which continued, with short intervals, for the rest of the day. In consequence of this, after an inspection of the final monolith, some 25-30 ft. (? metres, E. L. S.) high, and after a delay of 1½ hour, it was decided to abandon its ascent, as the only route which appeared practicable, though certainly very difficult, lay on the Swiss side and fully exposed to the fury of the storm. . . . We therefore reluctantly turned our attention to the second part of our programme, viz. the descent on the Italian side.

' A preliminary survey showed that this could not be effected without considerable difficulty, an opinion which our subsequent experience more than justified.

' A few feet from the ridge the descent began by means of a narrow and vertical crack facing the *Torrone Occidentale*; after descending this for about 60 ft. and traversing a short distance across the face, a larger crack was entered which presented no insuperable difficulties to climbing until a large boulder was reached, conspicuous from above. Here the crack ended at a vertical slab, which, though somewhat broken at the lower part, descended for about 90 ft. before a safe platform was reached. As the first 20 ft. were absolutely smooth and vertical, it was decided to lower *Clalüna* to reconnoitre the route ahead, and on receiving a favourable report from him *Imboden* lowered the rest of his party and *impedimenta* to the platform below, retaining one ice axe (from which he had removed the head) to fix above as a support for the doubled rope to assist his descent, which he accomplished admirably until the easier rocks beneath were reached, and where the rope terminated. Here he endeavoured to free the rope from above, but being unable to do so (the rope having jammed) he reascended and, altering its position, recommenced

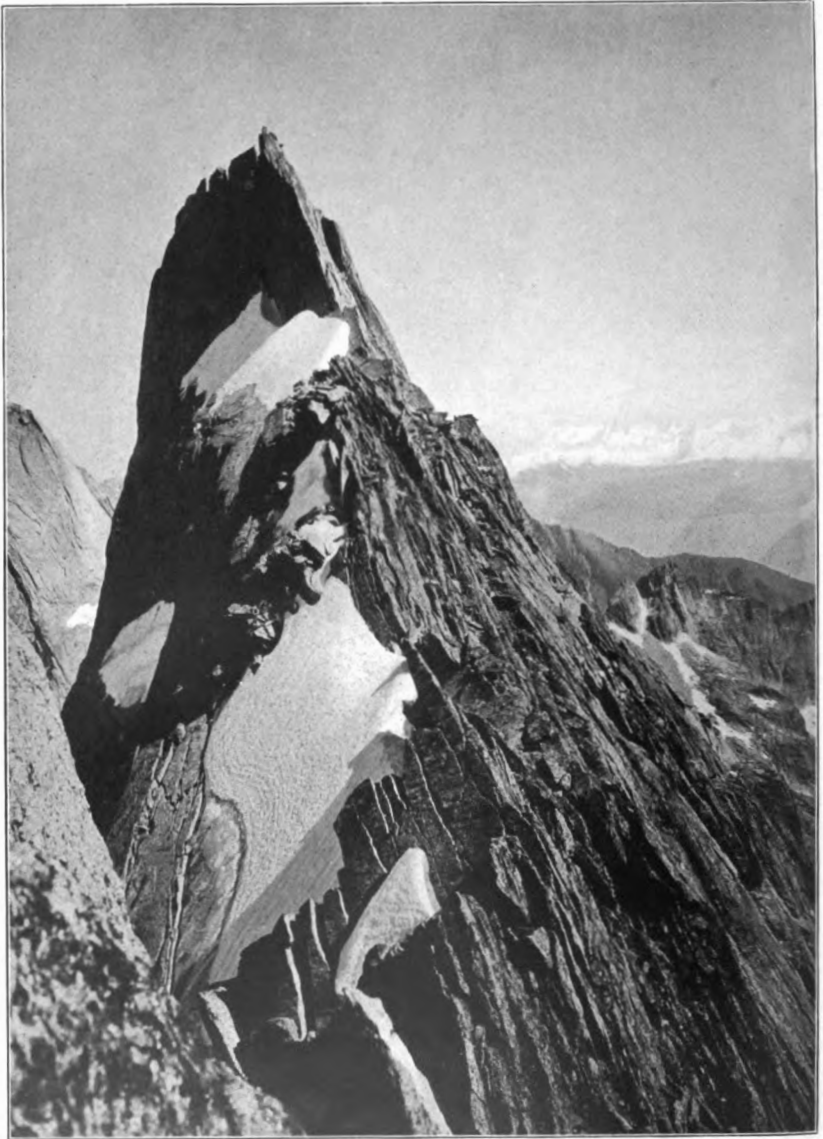
the descent over the vertical slab; but the exertion entailed by the re-ascent (entirely by the rope), combined with that of lowering the party, caused an attack of cramp in the fingers at this point, and for a moment he hung merely by holding the rope in his teeth,* as he did so shouting in a hoarse voice that he was falling. We were in the greatest alarm for his safety for several moments, till he managed to gain a crack where he could rest, our absolute inability to render him any assistance from below making the situation still more terrible. On recovering the use of his hands he accomplished the remainder of the descent in safety. This incident happily terminated, we found that a traverse must be made in the direction of the col, which was accomplished by a series of tiny cracks and joint (*sic*) faces in the granite, which on this Italian side of the range forms nearly vertical cliffs; in the most difficult of these we were obliged to leave a 40-ft. rope. Owing to the difficulties of the descent, darkness overtook us in the Alp above the Val Zocca, where we found shelter for the night under a rock.'

It is of course to be remembered that the actual summit of the Rasica was not reached, so this brilliant expedition remains something in the nature of a failure. So far as I know, till the publication of the 'Climbers' Guide' in 1910, no account of this expedition has appeared in print. Mr. Garwood kindly furnished me with a note in 1910. Several successful ascents were, I believe, made *previous* to 1906 by Klucker's original route, but I can find no trace of any record. There were also many Italian attempts—the *Guida*, p. 178, says over thirty.

2. CIMA DI CASTELLO, 3400 m., *S. map*; 3393 m., *I. map*; 3392 m., *Lurani*. (3400 m. = 11,155 ft.)

The ascent of this peak by the E. face direct from the Colle del Castello (or Colle Lurani) was accomplished on August 14, 1902, by Sir Claud Schuster, led by that very fine guide Heinrich Burgener of Eisten and A. Clalüna of Val Bregaglia. The ascent is duly chronicled and the detail given in the 'Climbers' Guide,' pp. 128-9, and is also vaguely reported in 'A.J.' xxiv. pp. 548-9; the *Guida* does not accept this route because all Italian attempts on this face have hitherto failed. Similarly the inhabitants of San Martino deny the authenticity of

* Mr. Robert Corry will recollect a similar performance by this wonderful guide during the passage of the bergschrund on the Täschrhorn, some few years later.—E. L. S.



Dr. A. Corti, photo

Swan Electric Engraving Co., Ltd.

PUNTA SERTORI (3,198 m.).

Klucker's 1893 route,* rather more to the N.W. ; they do not of course realize that Emile Rey was also present. One of my Italian (responsible) friends is my authority for this statement.

3. CIMA SANT' ANNA OR BADILET. 3169 m., *Lurani*. In spite of its very great topographical importance, this mountain possesses neither name, height, nor indication on the Siegfried or † Italian maps. (3169 m. = 10,397 ft.)

The following is its history ; no other ascents, so far as I can ascertain (August 1913), have ever been made.

(i.) *By the W. arête reached from the S.*

July 26, 1893. Count Francesco Lurani and Signor Carlo Magnaghi with Giovanni (? and Giulio) Fiorelli of San Martino.

(ii.) *By the W. arête reached from the N.*

June 12, 1899. Herr A. von Rydzewsky with Christian Klucker of Sils, and Angelo Dandrea of Cortina d'Ampezzo. Klucker informs me that, owing to the lateness of the hour, the party did not proceed further than the W. peak, or about half an hour from the summit.

Variation : More to the E. June 22, 1904. Herr H. A. Tanner with Christian Klucker ; the actual summit was first attained.

(iii.) *By the S. arête.*

August 11, 1909. Signori Romano Balabio and Gaetano Scotti.

Variation : By the S. arête attained from the E. August 3, 1911. Signori Antonio Balabio and A. Nava.

Regarding the first ascent of this peak, the following facts have not previously been published. Wishing to learn a few intricate topographical details concerning the district, I wrote to my esteemed master, the late Count Lurani. I render his (English) reply so far as this peak is concerned :—

'VIAREGGIO : June 15, 1909.

'Concerning my ascent of the Cima (*sic*) Sant' Anna (I availed myself, as regards the name, of the privilege to be

* The *Guida*, pp. 184-5, duly records and describes—wrongly—this route.

† To what portion of the landscape the figures 3182 m. refer is known only to the surveyor responsible for them. On the latest revision of the I. map, they are placed just N. of the Punta Torelli, 3132 m.

exercised by the first party, as did Payer with the Punta San Matteo*) with Carlo Magnaghi and Fiorelli, the weather was very bad, thick cloud and snow. We reached what we thought was the summit, but owing to mists failed to recognise that there is in the *immediate vicinity* another boulder 3 or 4 feet higher than the one we were on. This very slightly higher point was the one reached subsequently by Herr Tanner. We left our cards some 20 metres below the foot of the highest summit, where Tanner also found them.'

I venture to reproduce the photograph and sketch most kindly sent to me by Count Lurani. Christian Klucker confirms the locality of the cards almost to the very inch.

Under the circumstances, and considering the ludicrously small interval between the point reached and the actual summit, few can hesitate to grant *unreservedly* the honour of the first ascent to the gallant Milanese and his companions.†

The name Cima (or Punta) Sant' Anna, so far at least as Switzerland is concerned, now appears to be doomed. The name was given in 1893 by Lurani in honour of the Saint on whose festival day—July 26—the first ascent was made. The peak has always been known in Val Bregaglia as Badilet, while in Italy its very existence has been generally ignored, at all events prior to the appearance of the *Guida* in 1911.‡ 'Badilet' is the official name now adopted by the Topographical Bureau at Bern. Perhaps a new edition, very badly needed, of the Italian map will happily maintain the alternative name 'Sant' Anna,' more especially as a small tooth between point 3169 m. and Piz Badile has already (*Guida*, p. 235) been christened Badiletto.

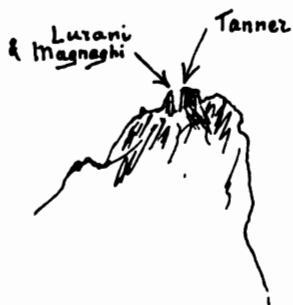
4. COLLE DELL' ALBIGNA, c. 3180 m., *Guida*.

This singularly appropriate name for the pass leading from the upper Albigna glacier to the Bondasca glacier was given in 1897 by its first conqueror, the late Signor Francesco Allievi. The *Guida* has now changed the name to Colle Allievi, although it is well known that the Siegfried surveyors bar 'personal' nomenclature. The pass lies entirely in Switzerland. Signor

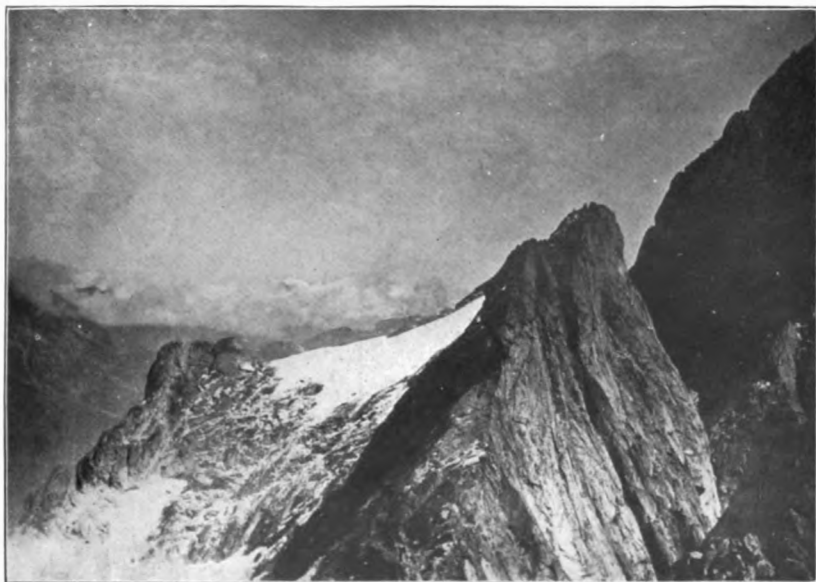
* Southern Ortler Group.—E. L. S.

† The actual or E. summit of the Punta Sertori, 3198 m., *Lurani*, was reached only on July 20, 1913, by Signori Aldo Bonacossa and Carl Prochownick, but have not Sertori and Gugelloni for thirteen long years borne the honours of its first conquest?

‡ The mountain, then not named, received due recognition in 1882 from Lurani; *vide* his map and plates 10 and 11.



SUMMIT OF CIMA SANT' ANNA.
(*Drawn by Count Lurani.*)



Count Lurani, photo.

Swan Electric Engraving Co., Ltd.

CIMA SANT' ANNA [BADILET] FROM THE PUNTA TORELLI.

Allievi's great services to mountaineering are recorded by the construction of the Club hut bearing his name.

Allievi thus describes, in the Masino visitors' book, the reason for the name Colle dell' Albigna: ' . . . a tale colle—*sincato vergine*—*propingo di dare il nome di "Colle dell' Albigna," osservando che esso non porta alcun nome neppure sulle più recenti carte Svizzere. . . .*' Further comment is needless. Colle Allievi must disappear.

5. COLLE LURANI. c. 3200 m., *Guida*.

This name may well be allowed to stand as an *alternative* appellation for the now well-known Colle del Castello, more especially as the S. slope of the pass is Italian. Whatever name be officially adopted for this col, Lurani's will live for ever in the mountains of Masino.

6. PUNTA FRANCESCO. 3307 m. (=10,850 ft.), *Lurani*.

* This name, besides being 'personal,' is perhaps the most unsuitable of all that have recently been given. My lamented friend Dr. Romano Balabio informed me in 1909 that he had named the peak in memory of his father, who 'has no connection whatever with its history.' No special name is required; the point, although important, is merely the E. peak of Piz Cengalo.

7. FERRO ORIENTALE V. PIZ QUALIVO. 3221 m., *S. map*; 3207 m., *I. map*; 3198 m., *Lurani*. (3198 m. = 10,493 ft.)

I am quite in favour of maintaining the old Lurani name of 'Ferro Orientale' as opposed to 'Piz Qualivo,' suggested by Herr Tanner and adopted by us in the 'Climbers' Guide.' Nevertheless, throughout Val Masino this appears to be the one peak (except Monte Disgrazia!), E. of Piz Cengalo, of whose name the natives are quite certain, and they unanimously call it *Punta Qualido*. The *Guida* names it Ferro Orientale on p. 200, but *Punta di Qualido* on p. 149; however the whole of its Part iii. requires very careful re-editing.

8. TORRIONE DEL FERRO. 3174 m., *S. map*; 3178 m., *I. map*; 3238 m., *Lurani*. (3238 m. = 10,624 ft.)

This ingenious name, suggested (? in 1911) by Lurani and adopted by the *Guida*, is in every way admirable, and should supersede all others.

* Of course, the names Punte 'Sertori' and 'Alessandra' for points on the frontier ridge are objectionable, but as no official map is ever likely to name such insignificant teeth, they may perhaps be allowed to stand. The pseudonym 'Forcella Klucker' for the Colle del Badile has never come into use.

I may here mention that, but for our failure to find a suitable name—which *had* to contain the word 'Ferro' in some form—for the then nameless point 3174 m. (*S. map*), or 3238 m. (*Lurani*), the nomenclature adopted by the *Guida*, 1911, would also have been selected for the 'Climbers' Guide,' 1910. It appeared to us necessary to keep the *sequence* of 'Ferro' peaks unbroken, hence it was determined to name the point 3174 m. (*S. map*), or 3238 m. (*Lurani*), 'Ferro Orientale'; while the most eastern peak—the old Ferro Orientale of *Lurani*—was christened 'Piz Qualivo,' as suggested by Tanner in 1906. It most unfortunately never occurred to us to consult Count *Lurani*; Dr. Romano Balabio informed me early in 1910 that he had adopted the same nomenclature (for the Ferro peaks) as the 'Climbers' Guide'; this was, however, overruled by Signor Brasca. (Cf. 'R.M.' 1912, pp. 170-1.)

9. POINT 3218 m., *I. map*; 3223 m., *Lurani*. (3223 m. = 10,574 ft.)

This peak was not named till the publication of the 'Climbers' Guide,' when the name Pizzo di Bondo was chosen for it by us. The peak is next to the Bondo pass and overlooks the village of Bondo. The *Guida* suppresses the name '. . . però lo Strutt non fu il primo salitore . . . *' and because it might be mistaken for *Cima della Bondasca*! † So also doubtless may 'Torrione' del Ferro be mistaken for the pass or one or other of the 'Torrone' peaks (that this *has* actually occurred, see *Alpina*, 1913, p. 146). Granting that 'Pizzo di Bondo' might have been improved on, what can be said of 'Cima del Passo,' which supplants it? Such a name means nothing on geographical or any other grounds (*Guida*, p. 223; 'R.M.' 1912, p. 176). When, however, the *Guida's* 1 : 40,000 map names the glacier surrounding its S. base Vedretta *Camerozzo* (!) we may be thankful that things are no worse.

10. The name COLLE MASINO, c. 2900 m., *Guida*, for the easy ridge—not a pass at all—between the points 3207 m.

* Cf. E. peak, 3307 m. (*Lurani*), of Piz Cengalo. The first ascent was made in 1875 by Count Tommaso de Cambray-Digny, but Balabio named it Punta Francesco after his ascent of 1909! See *ante*.

† The name very appropriately given to the W. peak of the Ferro Centrale (3293 m., *S. map*) by Colonel L. Held in 1876. The name still survives on the Siegfried map, but has locally fallen into disuse.

and 3081 m., *I. map*, is futile. No name is needed,* but no worse name than the present could be imagined; the 'pass' has nothing to do with 'Masino'; it leads to San Martino.

While on the subject of the Ferro peaks, perhaps I may be allowed to answer a few points raised by Signor Luigi Brasca's brilliant monograph, 'Pizzi del Ferro,' in 'R.M.' 1912, pp. 169-176 and 203-5; I accept unhesitatingly the heights suggested by him for unmeasured points. Claude Wilson's definition, 'a group really simple in construction though unjustly regarded as intricate and obscure,' is perfectly correct; the Government surveyors, both Swiss and Italian, are alone responsible for the confusion. I also now consider the Brasca-Balabio definition of the Ferro Centrale as consisting 'of two peaks with an "Anticima" further W.' to be clearer and less ambiguous than mine; the great Grindelwald master was of the same opinion as Signor Brasca, but allowed himself to be overruled by me. The point of articulation of the Ferro-Sciора watershed is 'close to' (just W. of) the E. peak of the Ferro Centrale, and *not* at the W. (and highest) peak. The said snowy watershed, to begin with broad and flattish, first bends N.W., then back again in a great curve to the N.E.—thus describing the segment of a circle—before abutting at its lowest point (Colle dell' Albigna) against the base of the S. arête of the Sciора di dentro, some 600 yards distant from its commencement. The 'Climbers' Guide' is correct in all 'Ferro' detail, although *now* no longer up-to-date, save probably as to 'heights,' which the writer had no means, beyond eyesight, of measuring. The author has been three separate times (1908, 1909, and 1913) on the three peaks (or, more correctly now, the two peaks and the 'anticima') of the Ferro Centrale, as well as along the Ferro-Sciора watershed to the summit of the Sciора di dentro, when the party of five persons were (June 9, 1913) unanimous as to the exact position of this watershed, as opposed to Signor Brasca's contention. It is not a geographical or geological necessity for a secondary ridge to merge with a main ridge exactly at the highest point of the said main ridge, nevertheless the 'highest snows' of a glacier usually descend from the highest snow point overlooking that glacier. Thus the 'highest snows'

* Dr. Wilson suggests the name Cresta Qualivo-Albigna [cf. Cresta dell' Ago di Sciора, 'Climbers' Guide' p. 91, *Guida* p. 208, and the well-known Fuorcla Fex-Scerscen in the Central Bernina range].

of the Bondasca glacier flow unbroken from the highest peak of the Ferro Centrale.*

The dispute is really of the smallest importance and savours altogether of hair-splitting; the E. and W. peaks are barely 100 yards apart.

Signor Brasca, with the greatest respect, should not fall into the error of considering the upper Val Bregaglia to be part of Italy. The canton Tessin is also doubtless geographically Italian, and soon we shall be told that the Eastern Alps begin at the Col Ferret and are part of—*Germany!* Why are the new-old Romansch forms† Bacun, Cantun, Casnil, Päl, etc., in the 1906 revision of the Siegfried map, ignored? Yet the new form Murtaira *vice* Mortara is adopted by the *Guida*. Surely patriotism in nomenclature should not extend beyond the frontier ridge, and the Swiss may do what they like in Switzerland? Acting on this principle, 'peaklets' like Punte Klucker, Theobald, etc., etc., all in Switzerland, must automatically vanish.

The above 'notes' might be almost indefinitely extended, but would not only take up too much space, but also prove tedious reading; a few hints to show how much has been left untouched may, however, be given. One reads in very recent numbers of the 'Rivista Mensile,' probably much the best of all monthly Alpine periodicals, of the 'first traverse' of the 'Colle Masino,' every inch of which route had been accomplished, both in the ascent and descent, by Rydzewsky and Klucker in 1893 when making the first ascent of the Ferro Orientale (Piz Qualivo) from the N.; of the 'first ascent' of the point 3211 m., *I. map* (3204 m., *Lurani*), on the S.E. arête of Monte Sissone, which must have been traversed some fifty times previously; of the name 'Punta Baroni' given to this little pile of shale and débris; of a hopeless new name given by an Italian friend, who surely ought to have known better, to the lower S.W. summit (2958 m., *Lurani*) of the Corni Bruciati; also of a 'new' route up the said *Puntina*, on any part of which surely a child may run!

But was not Moore and Walker's first ascent of Piz Roseg

* Hence its special name, *Cima della Bondasca*. Cf. *ante*.

† It is curious to notice on the present S. map the form *Cime del Largo* still surviving for the peaks, while the ravine situated immediately to the N.W. is called *Vallun del Largo*.

denied in print, although subsequently gracefully and cordially acknowledged ?

Did not a Swiss climber publicly deny Kennedy and Stephen's first ascent of Monte Disgrazia, just because, being too exhausted to reach the summit himself, he must naturally conclude that the Englishmen failed too ? And did not the same climber have the effrontery to name the lower point he *did* manage * to reach after himself and proclaim it as the first ascent ? And does not the name by the irony of fate, although that climber had subsequently to eat his words, survive to this day ? And did Oswald Heer really climb Piz Palü in 1835 ? And have I irremediably offended my excellent and deeply respected Italian friends, some of whom have almost compelled me to inflict this paper ? Time alone can show, but I trust, remembering how prone to error we all are, they may yet forgive me if I have !

IN MEMORIAM.

TEMPEST ANDERSON, M.D., D.Sc.

By the death of Dr. Tempest Anderson on August 26 last, the Alpine Club lost one of its distinguished scientific members. Tempest Anderson had for many years devoted much time and attention to geological pursuits, especially to the study of volcanoes and seismic phenomena. His practical knowledge of this department of science was probably unsurpassed. At the time of his death he was on his way home after paying a long-purposed visit to the volcanoes of Java and the Philippines. An attack of enteric fever seized him in the Red Sea and quickly proved fatal. He was buried at Suez.

He had on various occasions previously had narrow escapes of losing his life when engaged in scientific travel. During a visit to Mexico for the Geological Congress in 1906, ptomaine poisoning caused him a severe illness ; and when, in company with Dr. Flett, on a mission from the Royal Society to Mount Pelée and the Soufrière, he only just escaped destruction from a sudden eruption of the former mountain. It is a pathetic ending to his busy life that, when at last time and opportunity were granted him to visit Java and the Philippines, and after he had secured a large number of those artistic and instructive photographs which have made his

* Kennedy's party, of course, passed *over* this point on their way to the summit ; the *Guida*, unconsciously, repeats the mistake (p. 252).