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The only existing map is stated to be the Kart over Tromsö 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

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crevasse some way above the 'knife-edge' because of a thunderstorm. After this the weather became quite good.

I am sorry not to have sent you this before but I just received Mr. Burr's letter to-day on my arrival here from South America.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN W. S. BRADY.

Pennines.

DUFOURSPITZE (4638 m. = 15,217 ft.), DESCENT OF THE E. FACE.—On September 1, 1911, Dr. Otto Stein of Düsseldorf, with the guides Heinrich and Alfred Burgener, reached the summit by the ordinary route at 9 A.M., traversed the ridge to the Grenzgipfel, and commenced at 10 A.M. the descent of the fairly difficult rocks of the E. ridge. At 4 P.M. they reached the lowest point of these rocks, and as stones, falling to the right and left in the couloirs, raked the bergschrund, they waited here till 6 P.M.

They descended the steep ice slope leading to the bergschrund with the utmost speed, using crampons, and with the aid of a spare rope attached to two heavy spikes driven into a crack in the rocks and which was finally left behind.

They crossed the bergschrund and descended the steep glacier, zigzagging a good deal to avoid the séracs.

Forced more and more in a N. direction towards the Couloir Marinelli, they reached its S. bank at 9.30 P.M., a good distance below the rocks of the Grenzgipfel, but still a good way up the ice slope.

At first they descended the couloir in good snow, but soon striking black ice and failing to find a better way amongst the séracs they decided to cut across the couloir to the rocks of the Nordend.

This took, by the light of a lantern, some five hours, and was a brilliant feat on the part of Heinrich Burgener, after the exhausting work of the day.

Just before reaching the rocks a deep ice gully had to be negotiated. This was done by sacrificing an ice-axe and letting themselves down by the rope.

They waited on the rocks till sunrise, and finally reached the Cabane Marinelli, 38 hours after leaving the Bétemps hut.

The party was hit by two or three stones in the Couloir Marinelli and again in crossing a couloir of the Nordend, but fortunately without any serious results.

Heinrich Burgener had been studying the conditions for some years past, and in view of the unusually fine weather the expedition was decided on.

(Communication through J. W. STEIN, Esq., A.C.)

[The descent of this face from below the upper bergschrund was made on July 21, 1885, by Herr Johann Strauss with the famous

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guide Christian Rangetiner of Kals. They were making the ascent of the Dufourspitze from this side, when, just below the bergschrund, a short distance from the rocks of the Grenzgipfel, a stone, the size of a man's head, coming from a great height, knocked Rangetiner out of his steps, breaking an arm and two ribs. Fortunately Herr Strauss, although at first dragged down, was able to bring the party to anchor without further damage. Rangetiner was however unable, in his wounded state, to stand the exertion of ascending, and the two were compelled to make their way down to the Jägerrücken in continual danger from falling stones. Rangetiner was killed with his whole party in the following year by the giving way of a cornice on the Glocknerwand.

A fitting parallel to Dr. Stein's voluntary descent of this face is Dr. Paul Güssfeldt's descent of the even more dangerous Couloir du Lion under the leadership of the late Alexander Burgener, father of Heinrich the leader and uncle of Alfred Burgener the other guide of Dr. Stein's adventure. J. P. F.]

ALPINE ACCIDENTS IN 1912.

On March 2 **Herr Heinrich Wildung,** in making the descent of the N. face of the **Säuling** (2047 m.) near Füssen, Bavarian Alps, with five friends, slipped on some steep snow and fell some 400 metres, being killed by contact with outcropping rocks.

On March 3 **Herr Gustav Streinz,** aged 22, with some friends, attempted the ascent of the Gross Venediger from the Kürsinger-Hütte. They were compelled by bad weather to turn round before reaching the summit and had just unroped after passing the crevassed part of the **Obersulzbachkees** when Streinz who was leading suddenly disappeared into a crevasse—about 3 feet wide and only lightly snowed over. The whole party was on skis. The body was not recovered till the 7th from a depth of over 60 feet, and it was obvious from the injuries that death must have been instantaneous.

On March 25 on the **Schneeberg** near Vienna occurred another ski accident involving the loss of **ten lives** including **Herr Aemilius Hacker,** a well-known Austrian mountaineer. The weather on the 24th was bad, but the morning of the 25th broke fine. Accordingly a party of nine men and one lady under Hacker's guidance started from the Hotel to ascend the Hochschneeberg. Soon mist and a fresh snowstorm came on. After several hours' hard work the party reached the Fischerhütte, but in attempting to descend the whole party broke down a cornice and were carried down the slope, which is described as only 100 yards long and ending in a level basin, and were suffocated in the masses of snow. The lady alone was lightly covered up and was got out alive. A very sympathetic notice of Herr Hacker from the pen of Mr. Rickmers appears in the

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