resolution that the unfamiliarity shall disappear as soon as the end of the war allows us once more to see our beloved mountains. Such a resolution will never be regretted.

HEIGHTS OF PASSES CONNECTED WITH THE HIGH LEVEL ROUTE.

	Feet.
Col des Grands Montets	10,634
Col d'Argentière	11,549
Fenêtre de Saleinaz	10,709
Col du Chardonnet	10,909
Col de la Tour Noire	11,618
Col des Maisons Blanches	11,240
Col du Sonadon	11,447
Col d'Oren	10,637
Col de Chermontane	10,120
Col de Pièce	10,498
Col du Mt. Brûlé	10,925
Col du Mt. Rouge	10,962
Col de Seilon	10,660
Pas de Chèvres	9,354
Col de la Serpentine	11,634
Col de Breney	11,975
Col de Valpelline	11,687
Col de la Tête Blanche	11,811
Col d'Hérens	11,418
Tiefenmatten Joch	11,789
Col de Bertol	11,200

NOTES ON THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY EXPEDITION TO SPITSBERGEN.

BY N. E. ODELL.

THE expedition which went out this summer comprised two parties. The first party, under the leadership of the Rev. F. R. C. Jourdain, left England in May, and after visiting Bear Island proceeded up the W. coast of Spitsbergen, making studies of the fauna, flora, and geology. The second party left England on July 2, and after numerous shipping delays reached Spitsbergen on July 21. This party had its base at Klaas Billen Bay, at the head of Ice Fiord, in huts, the property of the Scottish Spitsbergen Syndicate, to which the expedition is deeply indebted for its kindly assistance and co-operation.

The original intention of the topographical section of the party had been to make a theodolite survey to connect up with the geodetic points in the interior of New Friesland, and be carried on to the eastern coast at Hinlopen Strait. In passing, it may be said that these geodetic points were fixed by the Russian party employed in the measurement of an arc of meridian in 1899–1901.

A start was made with the theodolite work, and some progress made with the survey up the Nordenskiold Glacier towards the great inland Snow Plateau. For the purposes of reconnaissance and establishing forward survey points, a party, consisting of Dr. T. G. Longstaff, R. W. Segnit, and the writer, made the traverse of Mount Terrier—altitude about 3600 ft.—believed to be a first ascent. Owing to the short time available for exploration inland consequent upon shipping difficulties necessitating our departure from Spitsbergen on August 25, and in addition the unfortunate illness of R. F. Stobart, we were obliged to modify our plans and decide on carrying forward a plane-table-photographic survey inland.

On August 7 the sledging party, consisting of R. A. Frazer, Longstaff, and the writer, left Klaas Billen Bay for the interior. The previously reconnoitred route was followed up the Nordenskiold Glacier. The combined work of carrying forward the survey and conveying all our stores and equipment up 10 miles of none too easy glacier proved a strenuous opening to the journey. Our first camp was made at the foot of Mount Terrier, and thence a way was made between Mount Terrier and Mount Ferrier up to the great Snow Plateau.

Here we made our second camp, at an altitude of about 3000 ft. to the E. of Terrier. Thenceforward we maintained a mean north-easterly direction—frequently having to steer by compass owing to mist—across the high undulating plateau of Garwoodland, till we struck the main range in this region running N.N.W. and S.S.E.

On ascending to a convenient col in this range, spread out before us and winding away to the N.E. was a large glacier with many tributaries. Camp was pitched on the col, and bad weather delayed the party here for three days. Running down this newly discovered glacier, we reached in about 8 miles a huge glacier confluence, with a large tributary flowing in from the N. A striking feature hereabouts also was a large rock nunatak rising out of the glacier, in aspect like a lion. The eastern coast at Hinlopen Strait was a bare 20 miles

distant, but bad visibility prevented our definitely sighting it. With the utmost reluctance the party was obliged to return, so as to be back at Klaas Billen Bay in time for the ship. At one point during the return journey a typical Arctic blizzard detained us for 2 days in our tent. But loss of time was made good by a forced march of 25 hours back to Klaas Billen Bay.

That the glacier system referred to is a new discovery appears from reference to the results of the Russian Arc-measuring Expedition. That expedition mapped the region around Mount Svanberg to the S., and also that around Mounts Chydenins and Tchernychew to the N.W. of this glacier system, but the area occupied by the latter is left blank on their map. The party proposes naming this glacier the 'Oxford Glacier.' Sir Martin Conway and Professor Garwood's route towards Chydenins in 1897 lay altogether to the W. of ours.

One important result of the expedition was the disproving of the term 'High Inland Ice' applied to this part of Eastern Spitsbergen. Actually, the region is not so much an ice-sheet of the Greenland variety (although the finding of 'erratics' high up on Mount Terrier shows that at one period the ice-level was far higher than now) as a névé resting on an undulating floor, the latter breaking through on the E. to form low ranges separating the many glaciers.

A good many geological specimens were collected, which it is hoped may throw light on the structure of Eastern Spitsbergen, but priority was given to topographical work at the expense of the geology.

A Traverse of the Dent Blanche and First Ascent of the Zinal Face of the Oberschallijoch.

By R. W. LLOYD.

[Read before the Alpine Club, May 3, 1921.]

IT has been suggested to me that before describing a new climb made last year, I should give a short account of an ascent made with Joseph Pollinger and Franz Imboden in 1910, a note of which appeared in 'A.J.' xxv. 452–3.

In 1910 I went direct to the Engadine, being joined by Joseph there. We were only two on the rope, as was our custom in that country, and had some very interesting climbing.