

THE ASCENT OF YLLIMANI.

THE following telegrams from Sir Martin Conway appeared in the 'Daily Chronicle' of September 13 and October 22, and are printed here with the permission of the Editor :—

'La Paz, Bolivia.

'On September 9 I reached the top of Yllimani, 22,500 ft. above sea-level. It took us five days from the highest point of cultivation. For three days we ascended a steep gully, a party of Indians carrying the baggage. On the fourth day, as we were in the middle of a difficult cliff, the Indians bolted. We hauled our tent up by ropes and camped in the snow field.

'The following morning I started off again at 2 o'clock (London time) up a glacier by moonlight. Then came a very difficult ascent of an intervening bank, then a long ice wall, which brought us up to a height of 21,000 ft. Here it was necessary to descend 500 ft. to a huge snow plateau, which involved a toilsome mile walk. From this point our path led up a snow ridge to the top of the mountain. The last hour the party suffered from great weakness, though we had no actual illness. The view from this height was astounding. The descent was made from the intervening peak, straight down a precipitous wall, back to La Paz.'

Attempts on Sorata.

'La Paz: October 20, 4.20 P.M.

'From September 19 to 23 Sir Martin Conway made a series of attempts to climb Mount Sorata.

'The attack began by dragging all the necessary supplies of food, fuel, instruments, &c., upon a sledge up a difficult glacier to the highest camp, 20,000 ft. above sea-level.

'At a height of 21,000 ft. the party was driven back by a snow storm; and the bad weather persisting Sir Martin Conway was forced to leave his camp upon the snow field.

'On October 9 he again returned, by the same route as before, to his highest camp.

'Next morning a start was made at 2 o'clock, and for three hours the party proceeded by the light of their lanterns up the glacier to the foot of the peak.

'Then followed two hours' difficult and exhausting work up perilously steep rotten snow, at the end of which time a point was reached just below the summit.

'Here, however, to their intense disappointment, an im-

passable crevasse stopped further progress, and rendered it absolutely impossible to complete the ascent.

'The highest point reached was well over 23,000 ft., and probably as much as 24,000.

'The ascent by this route being thus proved to be beyond the reach of success, Sir Martin Conway tried another way, but upon reaching a great height found the summit equally impossible of access.

'The temperature on these ascents was 2° F., or 30° of frost, and the party suffered considerably, both guides being frost-bitten.

'There being, so far as could be ascertained, no means of reaching the summit, Sir Martin Conway returned to the plain to prosecute a general survey and to carry out exploring work at a lower level.'

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN 1898.

[Contributors of 'New Expeditions' are requested to observe the following rules:—(1) To forward their accounts in the form in which they are to appear. (2) To prefix the name of the peak or pass from the best map, and the altitude both in metres and feet in a parenthesis after the name. (3) To give the date of the ascent, and the names of the party. (4) To give exact references to any previously published descriptions of allied routes to which they may have occasion to refer. (5) To write the description with the best existing map before them, and to quote the figures of any measured point their route may touch. (6) To use always the points of the compass instead of the misleading words 'right' and 'left.' (7) To record their 'times' exclusive of halts. (8) To make their descriptions as brief as possible consistently with the above considerations. (9) To write on one side of the paper only, leaving a large margin, and to begin a new sheet for each expedition.]

Mont Blanc District.

AIGUILLE DE TRÉLATÈTE.—On August 1 Messrs. E. J. Mazzuchi and Alfred Holmes, with César Ollier and a porter, found a new and quicker way down from the Trélatète. After descending by the ordinary route as far as the foot of the arête which comes down from the Central Summit to the Allée Blanche Glacier they turned S.W., and by easy snow slopes gained the top of the rocks which cut across the glacier from the Aiguille de l'Allée Blanche to the ice-fall at the base of the S. point of the Trélatète; they descended these rocks to the glacier below, then continuing S.W. they made for a prominent Col in the ridge between the Aiguilles du Glacier and d'Estellette, but, not liking the appearance of the couloir which led down to the Estellette glacier, they traversed the easy S.W. face of the Aiguille d'Estellette to an unnamed Col to the N. of it; here they joined the ordinary route. From the top to the Allée Blanche chalets took 3½ hr. walking.

AIGUILLE SANS NOM (3,989 m. = 13,088 ft.). *August 17.*—