After a night at the base the weather broke. However, we felt no fears for mountains, and crossed the pass of Dunderan Gulu (14,120 ft.) in rain and cloud. We descended on the other side into the valley of the E. Liddar river, and camped at a place called Tanin, 5000 ft. below our pass. It poured with rain all night ; we woke up in the morning with water dripping on us through the tents. The task of striking tents that morning was a decidedly wet and muddy one—not that we minded what happened. Three hours' marching in drenching rain saw us wet, smiling, and bearded, back in Pahlgam.

Two days later a rift in the clouds afforded us a glimpse of Kolahoi, and we could see that everything above 14,200 ft. was covered with deep fresh snow.

A word about expense ; on this occasion my total expenses, including everything for the three weeks' holiday, were under Rs. 250 = £17. There are, of course, no guides in the Himalaya, which makes the sport all the more satisfactory and, incidentally, cheaper.

Mount Olympus.

By W. T. ELMSLIE.

(This ascent was described in a paper read before the Alpine Club, March 1, 1927, by C. M. Sleeman.)

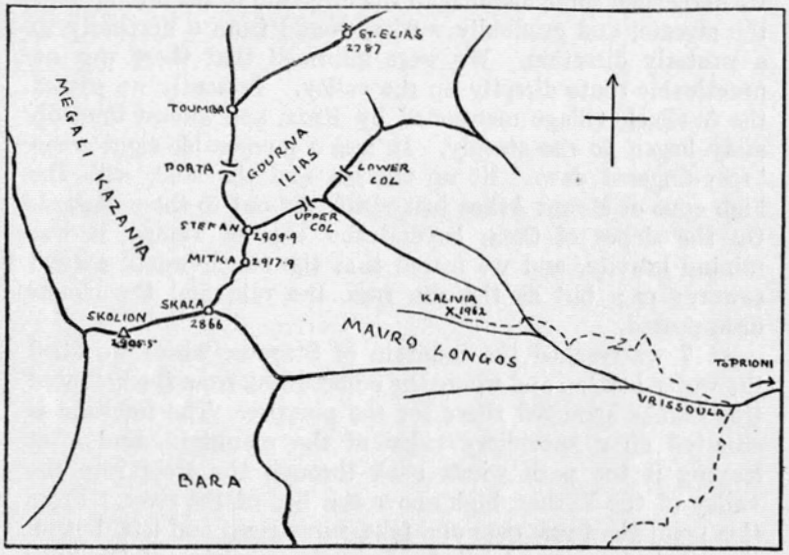
IN the early afternoon of September 1, 1926, we found ourselves at the station of Litokhoron, after a journey of five hours from Salonika. Our party, which consisted of C. M. Sleeman, A. E. Storr, L. A. Ellwood, and myself, had reached that city from Sofia by way of the summit of Musalla (2984 m., the highest summit in the Balkan Peninsula), the interesting monastery of Rila, and the valley of the Struma.[1] Our next objective was the summit of Mount Olympus, now hidden in dense white clouds.

From the station, which is situated on the very shores of the Aegean Sea, we had expected a trying walk in the heat of the day to the village of Litokhoron ; for we had learnt from Marcel Kurz's excellent monograph on Olympus that a mule track only led to the miserable village, and that no mules

[1] The railway marked in the ' Times Atlas ' between the Petrich line and Vetrèn does not exist.

were ordinarily available at the station. To our amazement, however, we found there no fewer than three motor buses. During the last few years Litokhoron has become a great health resort, especially for the tubercular; accommodation is found for the visitors in the houses of the villagers, and at the monastery higher up the valley.

Having bumped our way up to the village, we made ourselves at home in the restaurant, under branches of trees spread to give shade to the patrons of the establishment.



Immediately in front of us a deep valley opened between high limestone cliffs; and far up this valley the mists still hid the highest summits of Olympus. Between us and the sea was a long gradual slope, consisting of stones and sand, here and there covered with brushwood. In either direction this stony waste stretched for some distance between the mountain and the sea.

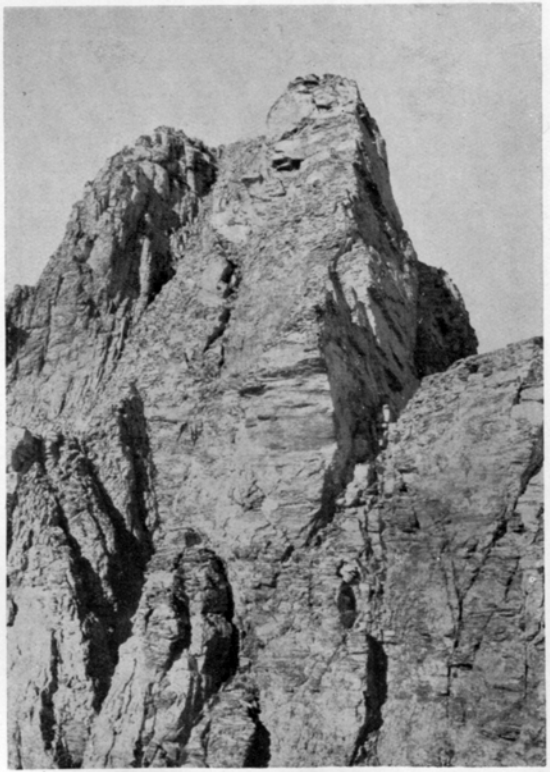
We spent the evening in making arrangements for the next day. A muleteer was secured to convey us and our baggage up to the 'Kalivia' whence the ascent is usually made from this side. It was decided that he should return the same day, and we agreed to pay him about £1 for his services, two mules being provided. He spoke fair English, having been in

America ; and we found him quite satisfactory. His name is Nick Jurgouras. We spent the night in a primitive, but spotlessly clean house, belonging to one of his friends. We were advised to send for Kristo Kakalos, the guide who accompanied Baud-Bovy and Boissonnas, as well as Kurz and most other parties, to the summit ; but we preferred to make the attempt alone.

The stars were still shining when we set out next morning at 5 o'clock. The track followed was anything but direct ; we descended some distance in the direction of the sea, crossed the stream, and gradually worked round from a northerly to a westerly direction. We were informed that there was no practicable route directly up the valley. Presently we passed the Wallack village mentioned by Kurz, and almost immediately began to rise steeply. It was a memorable sight when 'rosy-fingered dawn' lit up the sea and the land, with the high cone of Mount Athos just visible far out to the eastward. On the slopes of Ossa, beyond the Vale of Tempe, it was raining heavily, and we feared that the storm would extend towards us ; but as the sun rose, the rain and the clouds disappeared.

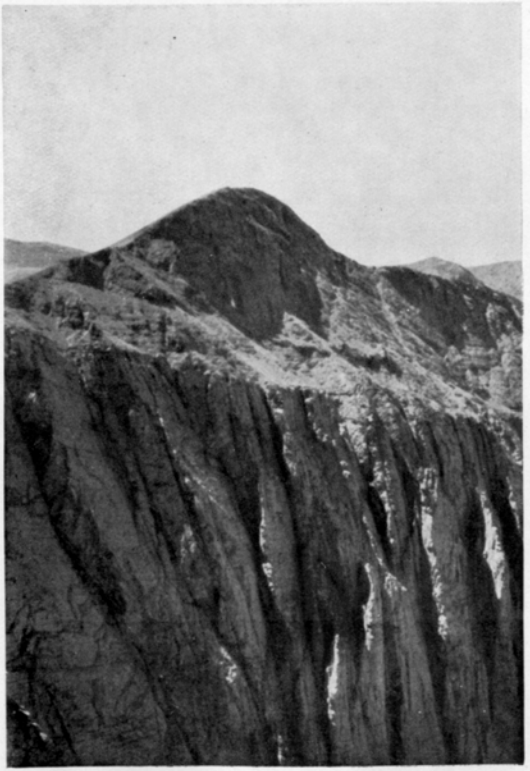
At 7 we reached the fountain of Stavros, where we filled the water-bottles, and where the mules drank from the hollowed tree trunks arranged there for the purpose. The fountain is situated on a subsidiary ridge of the mountain, and after leaving it the path winds back through the trees into the valley of the Vythos, high above the bed of the river. From this point the track rises and falls, turns right and left, but on the whole keeps on fairly level, in the direction of Olympus itself. The summit, known as Mitka, and the Throne of Zeus, or Stefan, are two fine craggy heights which rise above everything else. To their left is a rocky ridge, which after rising slightly to the point called Skala, falls away into the high plateau of Bara.

Those heights bounded our view up the valley. Behind us the stream made its way through a rather fine gorge, beyond which the sea appeared. The sides of the valley were steep and well-wooded, with occasional limestone crags on the slopes. Far below us to the left was the stream ; and presently we came into sight of the red roofs and white walls of the monastery of St. Dionysius, down among the pine trees in the bed of the valley. Whilst we were breakfasting beside the track our muleteer plucked some stalks of a plant about eight inches high, with green leaves and yellow flowers, and informed us



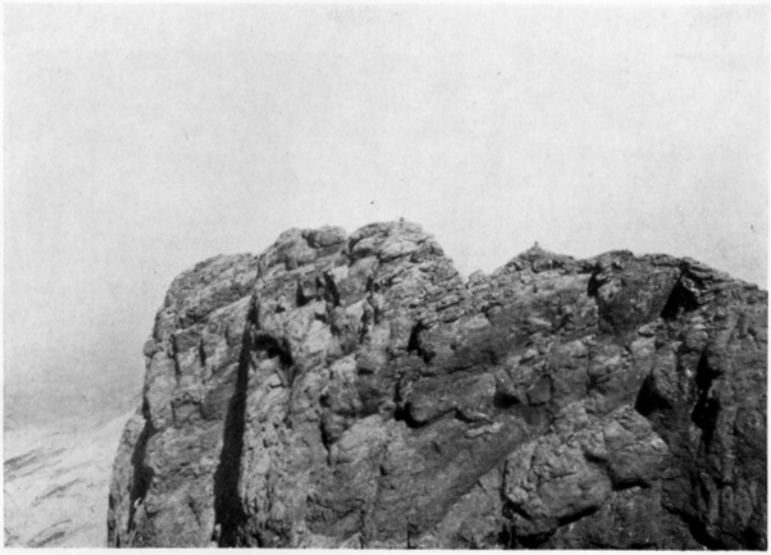
Phot. W. T. Elmslie.

MITKA
from N. Ridge.



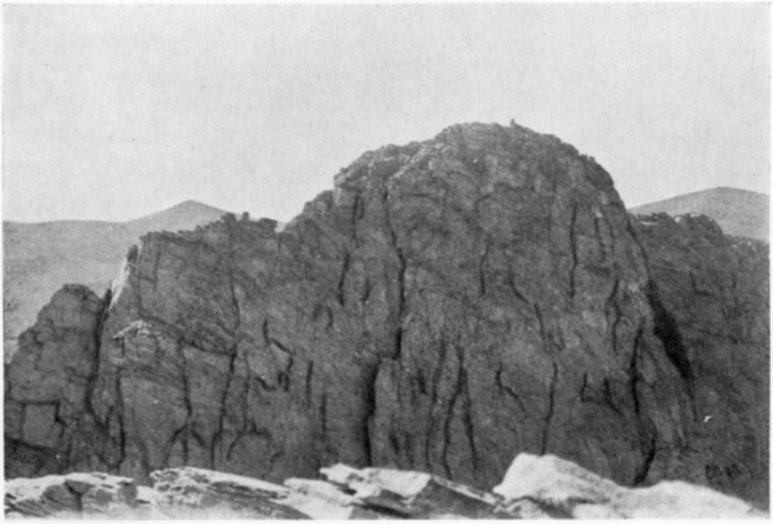
Phot. W. T. Elmslie.

SKOLION
from MITKA.



Phot. W. T. Elmslie.

THRONE OF ZEUS FROM MITKA.



Phot. W. T. Elmslie.

MITKA FROM THRONE OF ZEUS.

that the tea we had drunk at our night quarters was made of an infusion of this plant. The taste was peculiar, but not unpleasant.

The meal lasted but half an hour, and we continued along the track towards Prioni, where a sawmill is marked on the map. We reached it at 9.15, but found that nothing remained of the buildings save a small piece of wall, hardly even useful as a shelter from the wind for bivouackers. The wood is now apparently taken further down the mountain on mule-back, for we met several mules so laden.

At this point two or three valleys meet; and as mists had now descended on their flanking hills, the white crags rising from the trees were quite impressive. There was a trickle of water in one of the stream-beds, but the proximity of a large flock of goats had polluted it. These strong-smelling creatures, jet black, were eagerly munching ' pale green grass and nettle tops ' among the rocks, under the care of a filthy little urchin, whose ragged garments matched the goats in colour and in every other respect.

A short distance higher up, we left the track to descend into a fine gorge, where two or three streams of delicious ice-cold water gush out from the crags, and after uniting their forces fall down the gorge in a series of cascades, only to disappear again underground almost immediately. Here we found a picnic party from the monastery already established; they were accompanied by one of the monks, who wondered if we had any such water in England!

The mist on the upper crags, which flanked our valley, made it difficult for us to be sure of our whereabouts as we proceeded; but when we had passed two or three likely openings on our right, and began to rise up the left (south) flank, we were convinced that Nick was leading us astray. He was, however, so insistent that there was no mistake that we allowed him to lead on till we came to a clearing in the trees, when we saw our mountain away across the valley to the north. Close beside us were some rough huts; and these, insisted the muleteer, were our destination. Further enquiry elicited the information that ' Kalivia ' simply means ' huts,' so that he had naturally led us to this, the principal hutment on this side of the mountain. (The point which we had reached is marked 1360 on Kurz's map. Nick spoke of it as ' Vrissoula Kalivia.')

We could now make out what must undoubtedly be the site of the Kalivia referred to by Kurz as a suitable starting place

for the ascent of the mountain ; it was considerably above our level, and high up a branch valley to our north. We decided at once that we must reach it ; for clearly the summit was almost, if not quite, unattainable from our present position in one day, owing to the wide detour that must be made through woods to gain the plateau of Bara, and so upwards. Our muleteer urged us to remain where we were, as we should be comfortable in these huts, whereas the Kalivia of Mavrolongos were in ruins, and there was no water to be had. This was rather serious ; but we observed a patch of snow in a gully not far away from the other site, so decided to push on thither. We filled our flasks at the tiny trickle which the woodmen had captured, and set off again at 1 o'clock.

Two hours later we reached our destination, after a stiff and warm ascent on a poor track that gave the mules trouble in places. The muleteer was paid off, snow was hacked from the hard patch in the gully a few hundred yards away and stored in one of the waterproofs, grass and twigs were gathered to form a floor to our sleeping-quarters, and large quantities of dry firewood were collected. We decided to keep our fresh water for the morrow, and turned the snow into tomato soup and tea. The sun had long since been hidden by the heights above us, and now the distant sea was disappearing in the shadows of evening. The air was distinctly cool, and we accordingly turned in.

Our hut, the Kalivia of Mavrolongos, also called by the muleteer Kazania, may once have been a cosy dwelling ; now it was indeed a ruin. A few logs still made an apology for low walls ; and the roof beam still supported a few planks. But one corner of the roof had entirely collapsed, one wall had entirely disappeared, and the rest of the building was extraordinarily well ventilated ! We lit a roaring fire in the middle of the small apartment, and did not find the smoke at all inconvenient, so easily did it find its way out through the many spaces in the roof.

Most of us at one time or another have pursued the sweet nymph Romance, only to find her ever just in front of us and out of reach, like the carrot dangled in front of the donkey. Occasionally we have thought to grasp her, only to find her slip through our fingers when we thought she was secure. But that night, high up on the very abode of the gods, which they were there to take by storm, four Englishmen caught and kept her. Never shall I forget the sight as I saw it from the corner where I lay ; the red glow of the fire, as it lit up the

rough logs and planks of our low hut; the sparks flying up in their thousands through the gaps in the roof above; the stars shining down through the branches of the tree above us; and the forms of my companions stretched out on the ground, save when one would rise to add a fresh log to the blaze. . . . The nymph was certainly there as I lay dozing; but when the faint light of dawn crept up from the sea, she had disappeared.

The fire had gone out, and the morning was chill. I remember nothing about breakfast, except that it was as miserable a meal as mountain breakfasts before sunrise invariably are; and it was only as we began to ascend the hillside that the stiffness and chill of the night were forgotten. We crossed a gully to our right, as we ascended, and worked up through woods and over steep scree-covered slabs, till at 7.15, after advancing for an hour and a half, we stood on the 'lower col,' Baud-Bovy's 'col of St. Elias,' which leads to the remarkable circular depression, called Gourna Ilias. To the right, from Porta to St. Elias, were for the most part grassy slopes; but to the left the Throne of Zeus rose in an immense unclimbable wall. This wall, level at its foot, was in the shape of a Norman arch above; the ridge on the right, or north, being probably unclimbable like the face, and certainly very long. We discovered later that the crag is composed of very friable limestone; so that the slabs and gendarmes on this ridge would be doubly formidable.

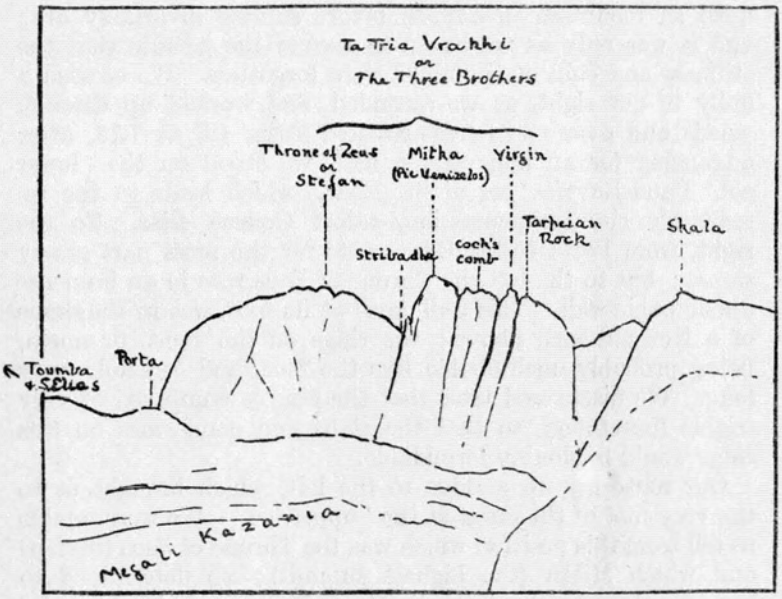
Our route lay up a ridge to the left, which brought us to the very foot of the crags at the 'upper col.' We were unable to tell from this position which was the Throne of Zeus (Stefan) and which Mitka (the highest summit); so determined to ascend a broad gully immediately before us. This was quite easy, though full of loose scree, and brought us on to the ridge at the gap (Stribadha) between Mitka and Stefan.

The view from here was most imposing. On the far side of the ridge the crags of both peaks were almost perpendicular, and fell in enormous precipices to the screes far away below. We noticed no single weak point in the defences on this side. Beyond were the almost equally impressive crags of Skolion, deeply furrowed, however, by numerous parallel gullies. And out beyond again, the valleys and hills of Thessaly.

We attempted first to climb the ridge on our left which led to Mitka, and ascended a considerable distance. The upper part of this ridge appeared to provide magnificent climbing, and a properly equipped party would find it a tough proposition, even if the rock proved sound. Unfortunately we had

with us only one short length of rope, for use in emergencies; and being unwilling to divide our forces, we retired from the attack.

The ascent of Stefan from the gap is very much more easy than it looks. As far as the first summit there is no difficulty at all; the slabs to be ascended are all at an easy angle, and the hands need only occasionally be used. Between the two summits the ridge becomes quite narrow; and some care is



The West Side of the Main Summits of Olympus

required at a steep little step where the rock is somewhat unsound. We stood on the summit at 9.40 and came to the conclusion that Zeus must not have required much room to move about! The names of Kristo Kakalos and Kurz were inscribed on a slab near the cairn which they built; but no signs were apparent of any other party having made the ascent.

Returning to the gap, we descended our gully again, traversed round the mountain a short distance towards the south, and ascended another wide couloir, which led almost to the actual summit of Mitka. The scree in this couloir was extremely loose, and when there are other parties in it the greatest care would have to be exercised to avoid an accident. Apart from

this its ascent is perfectly simple; and at 11.30 we stood on the highest point of Olympus, with not a cloud in the sky.

The view is, of course, very fine, and, on a really clear day must be magnificent. We could see as far south as Parnassus and the adjacent heights; but the crags of Olympus itself took most of our attention. The ridge from Mitka to Skala looked by no means quite easy, and we regretted that we had no time to try it; from Skala to the much higher Skolion the ridge was a simple walk. But the crags which fell in one unbroken semicircle on the western side, from Skolion right round to Stefan, were the most impressive part of the panorama and gave to the mountain a character quite its own.

We spent some time on the summit, and made a note of the various names inscribed on the rocks. We ourselves left cards in a tin, from which we first extracted the contents in the form of a delicious tongue; and, having refreshed ourselves in the cool breeze which blew from the west, and scorched ourselves in the sun which beat down upon us, once more entered the loose couloir, and descended to the upper col.

There was no difficulty in making our way along the ledges beneath the crags of Stefan, past Porta, below Toumba, and up the grass and boulders of St. Elias. This summit is crowned by a small shrine, surrounded by an enclosure like a sheepfold; and in the shrine climbers sometimes sleep. We found the names of some well-known British mountaineers. There is, of course, no water to be had, and no snow for a considerable distance. Yet the little dark building, with its roof of flat stones arranged in cantilever fashion, and its dirty ecclesiastical properties, would doubtless give very acceptable shelter to those who wished to be early on the dolomitic crags of the higher summits of the mountain.

Our supply of water was now done, and our throats were parched; so it was decided to try to reach the monastery before nightfall, instead of sleeping again at the Kalivia. We picked up our spare kit as we descended; hurried down the valley, by the way which we had followed the previous day; and at length reached the springs above Prioni, where we bathed, ate, and tried to quench our thirst.

It was dark when we left the main track to descend to the monastery; but we picked our way down through the trees till the welcome light of an open door in the monastery wall appeared before us. Entering, we wandered through a court-yard, and round a wooden gallery, unable to find any inhabitants. Presently we descried a light beneath a door, and

knocked. The room was full of tobacco smoke and a babel of voices. We asked if anyone could speak English. 'Guess you've hit on a British subject right here,' came a voice; and a native of Litokhoron, who had become naturalized as a Canadian but was now here on holiday, stretched out his hand.

We were taken to the principal guest-room, whose furniture consisted of dark cloth laid on bench-like divans, and an occasional dirty cushion of the same material; and were soon regaled by the monk whom we had met the previous day, with sardines, coffee, and water. As each glass was half drained the good man would empty the contents over the wooden floor—swish!—and fill up again for us. Meanwhile all the visitors came to look at us, and to talk through the medium of the Greco-Canadian. We were told how St. Dionysius tamed a bear, and with its assistance built the chapel of the monastery; how he cleared the mountain of bears; and how he caused a fountain to gush forth by striking a rock. Our informant admitted that he was a little sceptical on these matters, but added that they were very improving stories, and at least ought to be true.

Next morning, after sleeping on the hard divans, we were up betimes. Ablutions were performed in a manner new to us. Outside on the wooden gallery was fixed a square board with a hole in the middle. The hands were placed above this aperture, and one of the monks poured water over them. It fell into the courtyard below. Having performed this ritual, and that of drinking Turkish coffee, we pushed on to the fountain of Stavros, where we had a real wash and a real meal. Thence down to Litokhoron, and by motor bus to the station, where we had two hours to wait for our train, and occupied them most delectably in the Aegean Sea.

In misty weather, and most days appear to be misty on the top, Olympus would present serious difficulties. We were extremely fortunate in having a clear day for our ascent. On the other four days when we were in sight of the mountain, there were clouds on the summit all day till sunset. Those who ascend the mountain should make sure of a good supply of water. The springs are very few and far between, and would hardly be found without assistance from the inhabitants. In some of the more sheltered gullies, and at the foot of the crags of Stefan, there was a little dirty snow; but on the upper rocks, as in Gourna Ilias, we found none at all. Firewood is plentiful at the level of the Kalivia; but those who desire to explore the upper crags more thoroughly would do better to sleep on St. Elias. Water, firewood, and blankets would have



Phot. W T. Elmslie.

APPROACHING PRIONI.



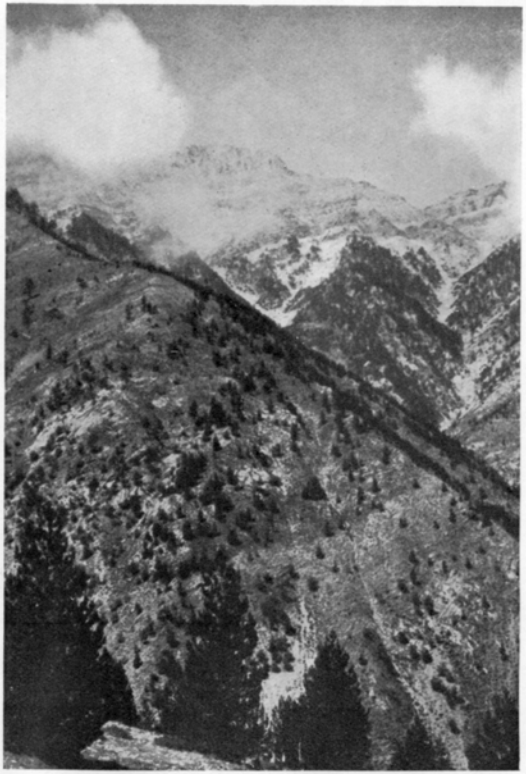
Phot. W. T. Elmslie.

SKALA AND THE VIRGIN
from MITKA.



Phot. W. T. Elmslie.

MONASTERY OF ST. DIONYSIUS.



Phot. W. T. Elmslie.

MOUNT OLYMPUS
from Vrissoula Kalivia.

to be brought. If mules can reach this point by way of Petrostrounga, there would be no difficulty in arranging this; but they could not proceed further than the Kalivia on the Mavrolongos route.

We saw no signs of brigands here. Our muleteer told us that there were none now, as several had been killed the previous year. But a few days later we read in a Salonika paper that a robber chief in the Verria district had been killed, and his head brought thither as a trophy; and Verria is close to Olympus, on the north-west.

The remainder of our expedition may be briefly summarized. After visiting the antiquities of Greece, and making the classical ascent of Parnassus, we travelled by way of Skoplje to Kačanik, for the ascent of Ljubeten. The height of this mountain is a vexed question, for it is given by various authorities as anything from 6400 to 10,010 ft. Actually, as we found by means of barometrical measurement, it rises to about 8090 ft. It was climbed without difficulty; but on the descent we had a rather exciting encounter with a party of armed brigands (since captured or killed), who fortunately decided that we were not worth their serious attention, and ultimately allowed us to pass.

Leave Litokhoron . . .	5 A.M.
Stavros Fountain . . .	6.55 to 7 A.M.
Prioni	9.10 to 9.20 A.M.
(Halt of ½ hr. for breakfast).	
Detour to waterfalls . .	9.35 to 9.45 A.M.
Vrissoula Kalivia . . .	12.30 to 1.05 P.M.
Mavrolongos Kalivia . .	3.15 P.M.
(Halts 10 mins.)	
Leave Kalivia . . .	5.40 A.M.
Lower col	7.15 A.M.
(Halts ¼ hr.)	
Upper col	7.45 A.M.
Stribadha	8.15 A.M.
Return to Stribadha . .	9.10 A.M.
Throne of Zeus . . .	9.40 to 10.05 A.M.
Stribadha	10.35 A.M.
Mitka	11.30 to 12.45 P.M.
Foot of couloir . . .	1.10 P.M.
St. Elias	1.55 to 2.45 P.M.
Kalivia	4.0 to 4.15 P.M.
Waterfalls	5.45 to 6.30 P.M.
Monastery	8.0 P.M.

Leave monastery . . .	6.10 A.M.
Join main track . . .	6.40 A.M.
Stavros Fountain . . .	7.40 to 9.0 A.M.
Litokhoron	10.15 A.M.

N.B.—A party unaccompanied by mules might reduce the times of our first day considerably.

Note I. Maps.

The sheet 'Sofiya' of the International 1 : 1,000,000 map, coloured for heights, is useful to give a general impression of the Balkan Peninsula north of Olympus.

For the rest, the Austrian 1 : 200,000 map is the best available, along with its British counterpart. The sheets required are for Musalla 'Džumaja,' for Olympus 'Larissa,' and for Ljubeten 'Skoplje.'

For Olympus, Marcel Kurz's splendid monograph 'Le Mont Olympe,' published by Victor Attinger, Paris and Neuchâtel, is almost indispensable. It contains a large scale, 1 : 20,000, map of the high summits.

[The Anglo–Franco–Serb 'War Zone' maps (1 : 50,000) constructed during the War, by the respective Survey Companies, are excellent in all respects. They comprise the line (W. to E.) : Pogradec–Struga–Monastir–Hill (so called) 1050-Sokol Heights–Nonti–Guevgueli–Bogdanci (Lake Doiran)–Beles Heights–Demirhissar–Seres–Neohori–Stavros, with a depth to the N. of about 5 miles and to the S. of 15–30 miles.

These maps include the Peristeri, Sokol, Beles and part of the Rhodope ranges, which, with Lakes Ohrida and Presba, contain the most interesting scenery in Macedonia and E. Albania.

The maps *might* be obtained at the War Office.—EDITOR.]

Note II. Exploration and Literature of Previous Ascents of Mt. Olympus.

The following is a brief summary of the exploration and ascents of Olympus :

W. M. Leake ('Travels in Northern Greece,' 1835, Vol. III. Ch. XXX.) gives much historical information about the lower grounds bordering Olympus.

D. Urquhart ('The Spirit of the East,' 1838, Vol. I. Ch. XXII.) gives a picturesque account of an ascent in July 1830 from the

Monastery of Sparmos of a summit which he calls St. Stephano. This may be Skolion or a spur of Skolion.

L. Heuzey ('Le Mont Olympe et l'Acharnanie,' Paris, 1860) describes an ascent which he made in the autumn of 1855 of a peak which he calls Itchouma (Kurz suggests Saraï). Afterwards he gained from Mavrolongos a point on the ridge of Gourna Ilias under the Throne of Zeus. Heuzey made a map of the mountain which is not characterised by accuracy. He distinguished three summits: Saint-Élie (N., which he thought the highest), Kaloghéros (central), and Itchouma (S.).

H. Barth ('Reise durch das Innere der Europaïschen Türkei,' Berlin, 1864) went in October 1862 from Kokkinoplos to the summit of Skolion, and thence to Porta and the top of Saint Elias. He described the chapel on the latter peak, and knew that he was not at the highest summit of the mountain. He descended by Bara to the Monastery of St. Dionysius and Litokhoron.

H. F. Tozer and T. M. Crowder ('Researches in the Highlands of Turkey,' 1869, by H. F. Tozer). In August 1865, starting from Katerini, they went to the Monastery of St. Dionysius and ascended St. Elias. Tozer gives an accurate account of his expedition. He noticed that the highest summit was to the south of the Throne of Zeus and described it as having 'the appearance of a regular aiguille.'

Probably several ascents of St. Elias were made in the years following Tozer's visit.

J. Cvijić ('Grundlinien der Geographie und Geologie von Mazedonien und Altserbien,' *Petermann's Mitteilungen*, Ergänzungsheft 162; Gotha, 1908) made geological visits to the mountain in 1904 and 1905. He describes the positions of the main summits, and says that 'to the South of St. Elias rise up three pyramids like the Drei Zinnen of Tirol.'

E. Richter ('Meine Erlebnisse in der Gefangenschaft am Olymp,' Leipzig, 1911, also S.A.C.J., lvii.) made three visits to Olympus, in 1909, 1910 and 1911, each time in May. In his first visit he went from the Monastery of St. Dionysius to Bara and then ascended Palimanastri alone and descended to Aghia Trias. In 1910 he went up Kafenio from Zmeos, over Bara and descended to St. Dionysius. In 1911, returning from an ascent of Flamboro, his party was attacked by brigands, two of his escort were killed, and he was carried off and kept prisoner until August.

D. Baud-Bovy and F. Boissonnas ('Grèce Immortelle,' 1919, and *Geographical Journal*, lxvii, 'The Mountain Group of

Olympus : An Essay in Nomenclature '). On July 30, 1913, they went up St. Elias from Petrostrounga and descended to Prioni. On August 2, with Kristo Kakalos of Litokhoron, they ascended the highest summit of Olympus from probably the brèche on the N. side of Skala. They called the highest summit Pic Vénisélos.

A. E. Phoutrides and F. P. Farquhar (*Scribner's Magazine*, November 1915, ' With the Gods on Olympus ') made an ascent of Skolion from Aghia Trias in April 1914. They went on to Skala, but no further. Good photographs of the mountain under snow conditions are given in the magazine.[2]

In 1918 an aeroplane flight over the group was made by Lieut.-Colonel Wood, R.E., and Lieut.-Colonel Todd, R.A.F., and in June of the same year Major-General Sir William Rycroft[3] and Lieut. C. F. Meade ascended St. Elias from Litokhoron (' A.J.' **32,** 326–8).

In July 1919 Baud-Bovy and Boissonnas stayed a week in the neighbourhood of Kalogheros. On July 21 they made their second ascent of Mitka.

In August 1921 *Marcel Kurz* surveyed the whole range of Olympus with a photo-theodolite (' A.J.' **34,** 173). With Kakalos he made the complete traverse of the ridge from Skolion to the Throne of Zeus. This included the first ascents of La Vierge and the Throne of Zeus. In 1923 he published his monograph ' Le Mont Olympe,' which gives an exhaustive account of the history and exploration of the mountain. This book contains fine photographs and an excellent map of High Olympus (1 : 20,000), and also a general map of the district. The latter map is derived from the Larissa sheet of the Austrian 1 : 200,000 map of central Europe. It is not without inaccuracy,[4] as Kurz comments. For a review of ' Le Mont Olympe ' see ' A.J.' **36,** 170–2. The book is invaluable to all who make a visit to the mountain, and renders the ascent a matter of no particular difficulty.

The following are others who have ascended Mitka, but of whose ascents there is no published account to hand : Giorgio

---

[2] Mr. D. W. Freshfield's paper on Mount Olympus in the *Geographical Journal*, xlvii, pp. 293–7, should also be consulted, although Mr. Freshfield himself was unable to approach the mountain in 1904 owing to the presence of brigands.—EDITOR.

[3] (1861–1926). D.A. and Q.M.G., British Salonika Force.—EDITOR.

[4] And all members of the late British Salonika Force will agree.—EDITOR.

Kostandakos, July 20, 1920 (whose name Kurz found at the summit); F. K. Kuhn, Aug. 3, 1921; Winona Bailey, Seattle, U.S.A., Aug. 23, 1922; St. Kotsios, 1925; L. R. Frazeur, Chicago and Haliburton, N.Y., U.S.A. (no dates). The last five of these names, together with the words 'Pic Vénisélos,' we found inscribed on rocks at the summit. In 1923 Helmut Scheffel ('Eine antike Opferstätte auf dem Olymp,' *Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts Athenische Abteilung*, Band XXXXVII., 1922 (pub. 1924)) records an ascent to the summit for the purpose of archæological exploration. C. Jacot-Guillarmod (Bulletin de la Soc. Neuchâteloise de Geog., 1924) gives some account of the geology of the Olympus district.

C. M. Sleeman.

Ruwenzori.

By G. N. HUMPHREYS.

(Read before the Alpine Club, February 1, 1927.)

SINCE the expedition of H.R.H. the Duke of the Abruzzi in 1906 until last year no fresh ground had been covered in the Ruwenzori[1] range and no peak climbed. In 1926, however, two small expeditions to the range were able to break new ground.

The first expedition left Fort Portal on January 30, and returned, nine days overdue, on March 9; it was jointly undertaken by D. Stedman Davies, Uganda Civil Service, E. H. Armitage and the writer. By the date arranged for the start of the expedition there had been collected at Fort Portal seventy outfits, consisting each of sweater, vest, shorts and blanket; also fifty extra blankets and fifteen sets of boots and stockings. In addition to this, food for the Europeans had been collected ready packed in convenient loads, and arrangements had been made for loads of millet flour to be ready at Ibanda for the native members of the expedition. The porters engaged at Fort Portal were replaced at Ibanda by Bakonjo and Batoro porters, and the expedition set out from Ibanda the day after its arrival there.

From the start it was clear that the porters collected at

[1] See, in general, *A.J.* **23,** 386–92, with map facing 392.