

In the Forno-Albigna, among his innumerable exploits, none were greater than the double traverse of Torrione del Ferro's eastern arête, alone with Herr Rütter, a twenty-hour new expedition at the age of seventy-four!

In the Silvrettas, we recollect the double traverse of the Gross-Litzner and Gross-Seehorn, while in the Dolomites stands out the N. face of the Fünffingerspitze, or actual second ascent of the mountain.

Yet with all his dash, with all his almost matchless skill, there was no more careful climber. He was master of the mountain as he was of his party. The great peaks' hidden dangers were as an open book, easily read, to him. No risk, humanly to be avoided, was run by him. He led his party to victory, never towards defeat, far less disaster.

'Since 1874 I have had the luck to climb every summer and winter in my beloved mountains, and never once in all these fifty years, has a serious mishap occurred. No search parties have had to be called upon, and, although I have traversed many difficult glaciers, I have never had both feet in a crevasse! Now I am seventy-two years old and perhaps twilight is approaching.'

So wrote Christian Klucker to me more than four years ago. That 'twilight' never approached: alone, as he had lived, save for countless friends and admirers, his unconquerable spirit met the end he would have desired. For the rest—let it stand as the epitaph of a great, of a deathless, Mountaineer.

E. L. S.

[Other portraits of Christian Klucker will be found in 'A.J.' 35, 262 and 37, 142.]

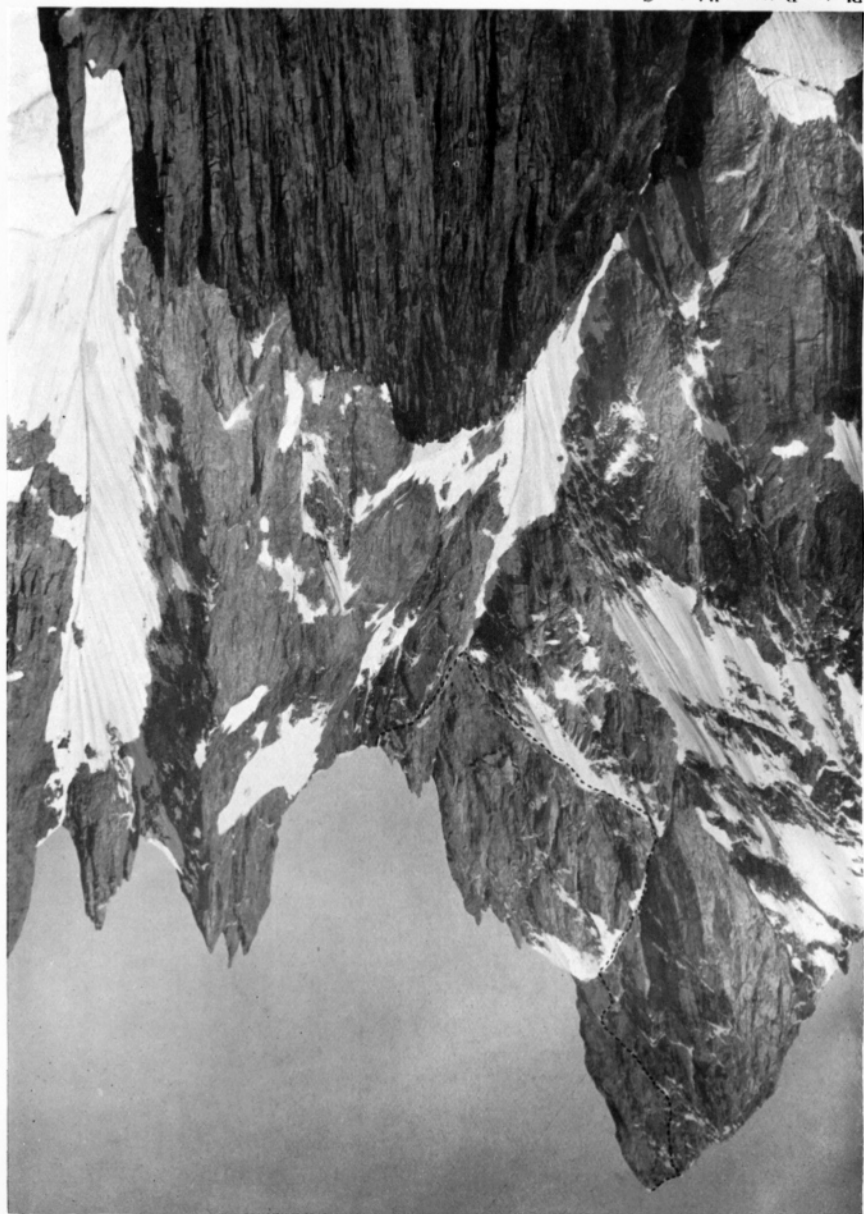
NEW EXPEDITIONS, 1928 (1927).

Mont Blanc Group.

AIGUILLE NOIRE DE PÉTÉRET, 3780 m. = 12,402 ft. By the N.E. face. August 7, 1928. Signor G. A. Rivetti, with Adolphe Rey and Alphonse Chenoz.

At 02.45 we left the Gamba Hut. After crossing the bergschrund by the Glacier du Châtelet, which was all hard frozen snow and ice, we reached the Col dell' Innominata at 04.25. At 04.50, after having roped, we rushed as quickly as possible down the couloir leading to the Glacier du Fresnay. At 05.45 we reached the other side of the glacier just under the Dames Anglaises. Having discarded the idea of going up towards the Central Col and traversing afterwards towards the South Col, we thought that, given the early hour (05.50), it would not be too dangerous, from

Photo. Bottega d'Arte, Courmayeur.
AIGUILLE NOIRE de PÉTERET, N. face, showing 1928 route.



falling stones, to go up the couloir leading to the South Col.¹ After some not too difficult slabs, at 06.55 we reached the col to the left, N., of the little knob on one side of it. We then considered whether it were possible to go up straight to the N. shoulder of the Aiguille Noire. The result of our study was against this plan, and we had, therefore, to try and find another way. This was clearly indicated by a broad ribbon of hard ice, which, after having crossed the large couloir on the Brenva side, extends very nearly as far as the E. shoulder.

At 08.00 a start was made. From the col we went down about 35 ft., and afterwards, going further to our right, we went over a sort of ridge dividing in two parts the great couloir leading down towards the Brenva Glacier. Using the spare rope for about 15 ft., we descended a little gully, and afterwards, still descending, always keeping to the right, another 60 ft., again using a doubled rope. Afterwards we traversed horizontally along a rib of rocks for about 75 ft., attaining at the end the other side of the big couloir. From the above-mentioned ridge we had descended in all about 120 ft.

Adolphe Rey, who led during the whole climb, with that ability which has now no need to be demonstrated, cut steps in the ice of the large couloir, and I held the rope while Chenoz kept an eye above, where one now began to hear stones flying down. With the good steps cut by Adolphe Rey we quickly got on to the other side, and at 08.30 were on the right bank of the couloir. As quickly as possible we climbed up slabs leading us on to the large ice-ribbon mentioned above. The sun was already high and stones began to fly down either towards the N. or the S. couloirs of the Dames Anglaises. Other stones went over us, passing whistling over our heads, and dropping on to the glacier below. Our comparative safety was due to the fact that the side of the mountain is so steep that the stones, hitting the wall well above us, ricocheted in semicircles above our heads only to plunge far below on to the glacier.

There was only one thing for us to do: we had to hurry and at the same time be very careful. Everything was rotten under our feet and, before finding a good handhold, three or four had to be discarded. Rey, with the only axe we had with us, cut steps in black ice. We moved one at a time, while the others paid attention to the rope. This traverse lasted from 08.30 till 10.30. At a certain spot during this traverse we saw a rope-ring marking the beginning of the retreat of a party which had attempted the climb some years ago.²

At 10.30 we were all united in the gap under the N. shoulder. Rey was anxious about this point and kept repeating 'Il faut aller voir,' although he was quite sure it *must* go; otherwise the descent would not be a comfortable affair.

¹ See illustration, *A.J.* 40, facing 65.

² (?) July 31, 1927 (*A.J.* 40, 181-182).

He entered a small crack and climbed it. We had to give Rey the whole length of the rope and then, working hard with our arms, we also got up it. We then again paid out the whole rope to Rey, and finally at 11.50 emerged out of this terrible crack, finding ourselves just above the N. shoulder. Having at last found a place safe from falling stones, we stopped 20 mins. to have a little food and rest, and then started again.

Our route now zigzagged up the side of the mountain along narrow ribs of rock, slabs, and small cracks connecting the rock-ribs. We first went a little to the left, then to the right, and then along other ribs, bearing always towards the right; then again towards the left, thus traversing diagonally nearly the whole N.-N.E. face. There was now less danger of falling stones, the rocks being a little firmer as the mountain above us is composed of large slabs. At about 200 ft. from the E. ridge, we went straight up. Rey did not let us take a breather. As soon as he saw that we were safe, he started again and went up always towards the right. We were now obliged to give him the full length of the rope. When we reached him he started again. We saw him disappear at the back of some hole in the rocks and after a few seconds heard him shout, 'C'est fini; nous y sommes.'

We had still to climb a few steps, and at 14.10 were on the E. shoulder at a well-marked gap of white rocks about 100 ft. from the summit. Stopping about 40 mins. to rest and feed, we took off the rope and in 5 mins. reached the top.

I am very happy and very grateful to Rey for the success I owe to him. He had conquered the Aiguille Noire from the N., just as his father had been the first man on the top. Having also ascended the S. summit with his brother Henri, Adolphe can really claim the Aiguille Noire de Pétéret as a family mountain!

G. A. RIVETTI.

CALOTTE DE ROCHFORT, 3972 m. = 13,034 ft. By the S. face. August 11, 1928. Signor G. A. Rivetti, with Adolphe Rey and Alphonse Chenoz.

In the afternoon of August 10, I went up to the Grandes Jorasses Hut with my two guides, Adolphe Rey and Alphonse Chenoz of Courmayeur. From a very careful inspection from a distance of the face which descends from the Calotte de Rochfort to the Planpansière Glacier, we believed it possible to climb the Calotte direct by the rocks descending on to that glacier. I was also sure that Rey would do all he knew to succeed.

At 03.00 on August 11, we left the hut in perfect weather. We first followed the Col des Grandes Jorasses route. The glacier was in bad condition, and it was only at 05.30 that we reached the foot of the couloir leading to the Col des Grandes Jorasses. We crossed it quickly, and at 06.15 were on the (true) right of that couloir. We then climbed a little crack on the left, and, following that direction by some slabs and ribs of rock, in three-quarters of an hour reached



CALOTTE de ROCHEFORT, S. face.

the true left of the big couloir which divides the first big gendarme from the second of the Calotte de Rochefort. Stones were falling in the big couloir, so, instead of crossing it, we continued by the first marked arête until we reached a small platform situated at about the same level as the Col des Grandes Jorasses. We then climbed up, keeping a little on one side or the other of the ridge. We were in some places obliged to climb on each other's shoulders. At 09.15 we reached a very difficult crack with very few holds. Rey fixed two pitons, one of which I took away. Our route was now varied: for half an hour it was comparatively easy, but then followed one or two very difficult bits.

About 100 ft. before attaining the first gendarme we went towards the right, or Col des Grandes Jorasses side, and, by the ridge descending towards that col, reached, in a few minutes, the summit of the first gendarme. Keeping to the left, N., we climbed over the second gendarme, without too many difficulties, though the rocks were covered with *verglas*. From this second gendarme, keeping only a few feet from the ridge, and on the French slope, we went down to a little gap which divides it from the third gendarme. From the gap we descended for more than 15 ft. on black ice, and afterwards over a big block appearing to cut us off completely. After some very difficult climbing, the hardest of the whole expedition, we succeeded in passing it.

The Santi-Sigismondi party of August 13-14, 1910 ('R.M.' 1910, pp. 68-70), had come down from the third gendarme direct to the gap by means of a spare rope.

At 12.30, having scrambled over the third gendarme, always keeping on the French side, we reached the summit of the Calotte de Rochefort. Rocks were nearly always good, with good holds. Climb rather hard and very interesting.

At 13.20 we left the summit, reaching the Dôme de Rochefort at 14.20, the Aiguille de Rochefort at 16.00, the foot of the Aiguille du Géant at 18.00, and the Rifugio Torino at 19.30.

G. A. RIVETTI.

GRANDES JORASSES, 4205 m. = 13,797 ft. By the N.E. (Hirondelles) arête. August 10, 1927. Signori G. Gaia, F. Ravelli, S. Matteoda and G. A. Rivetti, with Adolphe Rey and Alphonse Chenoz.

On July 31, 1927, from the summit of the Aiguille de Leschaux, which we had just conquered by its N. ridge, we were looking with a keen desire at the ridge which, from the Col des Hirondelles, leads in a few big steps to the summit of the Grandes Jorasses. This ridge had occupied our minds for several years. With the purpose of taking photos and studying it, we had been several times to the Col des Hirondelles, to the Petites Jorasses, and to the Aiguille de Leschaux.

We asked our guides, Adolphe Rey and Alphonse Chenoz, to have

a try at once. They objected to the unfavourable condition of the mountain, and pointed out the failure of all our predecessors although led by some of the best guides. They insisted, saying that it was impossible to go up where the Young-Jones-Knubel-Croux party had had to make large use of spare ropes. But we insisted, and we must have found words which went to the hearts of our two brave sons of Courmayeur, since, still with some reticence, they declared themselves ready for the battle.

We decided, therefore, to go down to Courmayeur to get provisions and to go up, weather permitting, to the shelter of the C.A.A.I., situated on the left bank of the Frébouzie Glacier. Unfortunately, the weather got bad and we had to leave Courmayeur, but with the understanding that, as soon as the weather looked like clearing properly, the guides would let us know, and they would in the meantime go up themselves for a first exploration.

The weather began clearing only towards the evening of August 3, and as we could not go to Courmayeur until the evening of the 5th, the guides went, as previously arranged, for a preliminary look at the difficulties. They left at midnight on the 4th, but gained the Col des Hirondelles only towards midday of the 5th, on account of the fresh and soft snow which they found on the Frébouzie Glacier. They went up at once along the ridge, which they found in bad condition owing to the fresh snow, and reached, in a little over 2 hrs., the well-known V-shaped gap, which on its upper side is formed by the wall against which all previous attempts had been stopped. It consists of a great wall of rock, quite smooth, compact, and vertical, and it has at only one point a vague, small crack, slanting from right to left, about 60 ft. high. It is the same crack descended by the Young-Jones-Knubel-Croux party in August 1911.³ Rey was sure of not mistaking the place, as he had seen from the top of the E. branch of the V the iron pitons which the former party had used in fixing the rope for the descent. Rey and Chenoz crossed, on the Italian slope, the couloir of ice descending from the V-shaped gap, and came quickly to a sort of small platform at the foot of the wall. Adolphe Rey led up, as usual, while Chenoz, in a fairly safe position, paid out the rope; Rey got inside the crack and climbed like a fly, more by adherence to the rocks than by trying to find holds. He had a few holds on the left side of the crack, which is only a couple of feet deep, while on the right the face of the crack is quite smooth and more open. After about 18, very steep, feet he found on the left some quite small cracks in which he managed to insert his left hand, while the right could only be used to keep his balance, as on that side there are no holds. Further on, the crack got narrower, the right arm could be used, and, with the help of one's knees, it is possible to scramble up another 8 or 9 ft. At this spot Rey fixed an iron piton, allowing him to rest a moment, and, after

³ *A.J.* 25, 737-738; 26, 231-242, illustrated.

having passed the rope through its ring, Chenoz came up and got to where Rey was, Rey meanwhile starting again.

The crack at this point became quite vertical and Chenoz had to jam Rey close against the wall. Rey fixed another piton about 6 ft. above the first, and then, standing on this second piton, fixed a third a little higher, bidding Chenoz to go up to it before attacking the last overhanging bit. Only 10 to 12 ft. remained between him and Knubel's pitons, but it was the most difficult bit: the crack again becoming larger, while the last bit overhangs. Rey, with very delicate movements, arrived with his hands at about 5 to 6 ft. from Knubel's pitons. He went out first to the left and then, with a very awkward traverse, back to the right, then with a jump he contrived to reach the pitons. Chenoz joined him, and this, the most difficult problem, was solved.

It was late (about 4 P.M.), and the guides decided to come down. They fixed and left a rope hanging on Knubel's pitons, came down by it and, hurrying, reached La Vachey that night, arriving at Courmayeur the next morning.

On the evening of the 5th we joined them, heard the details of what they had done, and also that above the place they had reached there was a succession of big slabs and ribs of doubtful nature. More difficult than the rest looked a very large slab of red rock ending in the ridge. In any case, the only thing to do was to go there and see.

The next morning, August 6, we went as far as La Vachey, where we intended to lunch and then go up to the Frébouzie shelter. But suddenly the weather changed, and the storm went on until the afternoon of the 7th. We started and reached the shelter at 5 P.M. Next morning the weather looked much better, the snow began to disappear, and the guides went down again to La Vachey for provisions.

During their absence three climbers with two porters arrived at the shelter. Their object was exactly the same as ours, and after we had explained clearly to them why we were there and the great danger of being too many together on the mountain, they understood our point of view and our priority and only asked that one of them should accompany us. That is the reason why Signor Sergio Matteoda, whom we knew, came with us.

The guides came up, but it was only at 2.45 A.M. of the 10th that we could start off. The weather did not look very promising. We went up in silence at a good pace. Still unroped, we crossed the bergschrund under the col and went up to the rocks, passing by an old bivouac of some of our predecessors.

At 5.45 A.M., after a quarter of an hour's halt for food, we put on the rope, dividing into two parties: Rey, Rivetti, Gaia; Chenoz, Matteoda, Ravelli. The weather looked much better, and at 6 o'clock, when we attained the snow near the col, the first rays of the sun reached us.

From the col, the first part of the ridge looks like a triangular face with the uppermost part of it composed by some sort of pinnacle forming the apex of the base of the famous V-shaped gap. In the centre of the triangle there was a snow couloir which we left on our left, climbing some steep but not too difficult rocks by which we made about 300 ft. We then went a little to the left, steering towards the centre of the wall at the foot of a big and apparently impassable step. Rey then went more towards the right, on a very steep slab with few holds, and we attained the ridge on the French slope. We doubled back towards the Italian slope, clambering up a steep ice couloir which, from the summit of the V, falls towards the Frébouzie Glacier. Above us is the E. face of the Grandes Jorasses. It is made up of big red slabs merging into the ridge. A little above us hung the rope left by Rey, as described previously. Rey cut steps in very hard ice for several rope-lengths. This was made a little easier by the remains of the steps cut by him 4 days before.

Afterwards we gained the opposite side, composed entirely of steep rocks covered with ice, and thence attained the little platform at the foot of the *mauvais pas*. With the help of the rope left by him, Rey was soon at the top and one after the other we all followed. Each of us had to make great efforts to arrive at the top, and our admiration for Rey, our great silent little man, who got up by his own skill alone, is really enormous.

At 10.30 we were all over this difficulty and stopped for food. We then kept to the left by some rock-ribs covered with snow, and then arrived at the famous big red slab mentioned mistrustfully by Rey. He went on keeping horizontally to the left, making use of a small crack in which it was difficult to introduce more than the tips of his fingers. He then reached a small patch of snow after about 60 ft. without too great difficulty. Rey tried a steep and narrow icy couloir, but had to give it up and come down again. Having left his sack, he crawled down on to the slab and tried it direct. He succeeded with great difficulty and ability, reaching a small platform. After this, the rocks were covered with ice and Rey had to clear the whole of it away. Finally, at 12.45 he hacked through the small corniche and through the gash we all passed over and looked down on to the N. face.

We then followed the crest of the ridge until the end. The difficulties diminished, fortunately, because the rocks were much covered with snow and ice.

We were tired, physically and morally, as the battle had already lasted nearly 12 hrs., but we were not allowed to stop. It was 2 P.M. and the summit was still at some distance. The sun had left us and the weather was doubtful. We went up the last 100 m. as quickly as possible. We felt that the summit was near, victory in sight, and, the gradient easing off, we finally reached the snow at the top.

Our conquest was principally due to our Courmayeur men, more

particularly to Adolphe Rey. To them is the credit of our success. We are proud of having contributed, modestly, to this victory, which, given the fact that we all are Italians, can really be called an 'Italian' victory.

G. GAIA.

F. RAVELLI.

G. A. RIVETTI.

AIGUILLE SANS NOM (*Pointe Croux*), 4023 m. = 13,197 ft., *Vallot*. By the N.W. face. July 9, 1928. The guides Armand Charlet and Camille Dévouassoud. From a bivouac on the left lateral moraine of the Nant Blanc Glacier, *ca.* 2700 m. (dep. 03.00), steer towards the N. base of the Aiguille du Dru, turning numerous crevasses, to the bergschrund at foot of couloir descending from depression between *Pic sans Nom* and Grand Dru (Col des Drus, *Vallot*), 04.00. Cross the great schrund and cut up the very steep snow and ice gully averaging 57° ; higher up bear diagonally to the left, S., by a kind of secondary gully, steering towards a great ledge by which access to the hanging glacier on N. face of Aiguille Verte appears obtainable. Climb difficult rocks and two chimneys to the ledge, attained under the Col des Drus, 07.00. Continue bearing diagonally to the left towards the hanging glacier, following the said ledge. The ledge is broken by many awkward steps. You can finally attain the hanging glacier, *either* by traversing a little icy gully, *or* by apparently broken rocks presenting, however, great difficulties. The party mounted erroneously by these rocks and only a 15 m. *rappel* and a swing across holdless slabs finally brought them to the glacier. This glacier, mostly ice, proved excessively steep; taking advantage of a few projecting rocks, party attained a small platform (1 hr. 10 mins.).¹ Still bearing very gradually to the left, difficult rocks are climbed to a kind of smooth rib forming the margin of an ice gully set at a startling angle. The party had intended to cross the gully, but this latter is so terribly raked by stone-fall that nothing was left except the direct climb, straight up, to the *Pointe Croux*. Over perpendicular rocks, highly glazed, almost holdless slabs, and finally by a vertical, narrow and smooth chimney, standing on each other's shoulders with nothing but 'ice axe' holds, access obtained to a tiny snow patch, where a short halt was made, 16.00.

Rocks are now slightly easier, till a great rock bastion, overhanging on the right, W., and completely glazed on the left, E., seems to block any further progress. This bastion is finally conquered by a little crack, several swings on a *rappel* fixed in minute notches, with more exposed and holdless rocks, nearly 200 ft. of rope being employed, 18.00. Next by short ice slopes and more glazed rocks,

¹ At this spot, or approximately, MM. de Ségogne and Lagarde, who had been following independently, very rightly abandoned the expedition.

the main ridge is attained by hacking through the great corniche close to the summit of Pointe Croux, reached at 19.15.

The party continued to the Aiguille Verte, 20.00, descended by the 'Whymper' couloir to the bergschrund, 21.30, attaining the Couvercle at 23.00 hrs.

The expedition must be considered, on Armand Charlet's own confession, as thoroughly unjustifiable on account of its excessive danger and difficulty.

(From *Alpinisme*, No. 13, pp. 1-9, illustrated.)

Pennines.

FLETSCHHORN, 4001 m. = 13,128 ft. Point 3928 m. reached by the E. face. July 27, 1928. Count A. and Countess E. Bonacossa. From a bivouac on the right moraine of the Bodmer Glacier (4 hrs. from Simplon village), mount that easy glacier to the base of the great rock rib commencing at about 2970 m. and joining the Breitlaubgrat at a spot where the latter becomes snowy. The rib is not difficult but the rocks are unpleasantly rotten, tremendous stone-falls occurring all day down the great gully farther to the S. The rib is climbed to the summit of the Fletschhorn (*ca.* 6 hrs.).

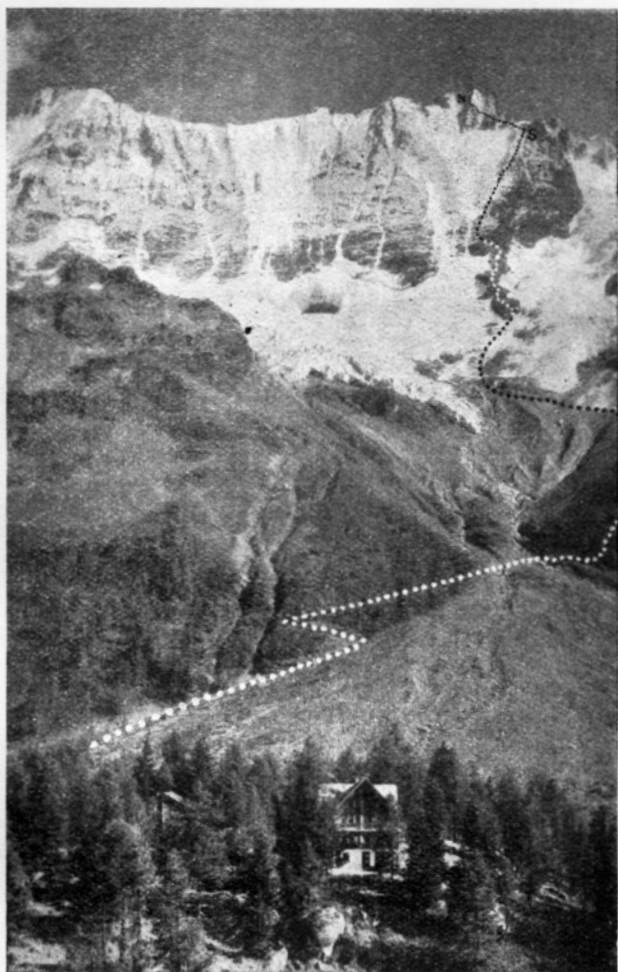
Once achieved, this route deserves no further attention.

A. B.

Bernese Oberland.

BREITLAUIHORN, 3663 m. = 12,019 ft. By the N.W. face. July 26, 1928. MM. Daniel Chervet and Marcel Etienne. From the Fafleralp (dep. 03.10) take the Lötschenlücke route, but soon after the Gletscheralp cross the Lonza and mount the E. bank of the great deposits brought down by the Innerer Lauibach. This torrent is crossed and the great moraine between the Innerer and Aeusserer Lauibach is attained *via* the Augstkumme. At about a height of 2300 m., débris are traversed to the left, N.E., to attain the Lauibach Glacier straight below point 2669 m., *S. map* (04.50-05.00 hrs.). Point 2669 m. reached at 05.50. A rocky ridge, rising from this point, is bounded to the N.E. by a great ice slope at least 3000 ft. high, the angle of which, steadily increasing, attains 57° in the last 1000 ft. By a couloir to the right, S., and a traverse to the left the crest of the rocky ridge is attained, 06.10-06.30. Numerous traces of falling stones. Now by easy rotten rocks to a rocky notch at about 2940 m. (cairn constructed, 07.10), where the arête splays out into a red granite cliff. A ledge leads to the E. bank of the cliff, and progress continues, close to the ice, up steep but very firm rocks. A second notch is attained beyond which the rocks become rotten again till they change to white granite and improve. A shoulder is reached at a height of about 3400 m. (09.15); here the face merges into a snowy ridge bending distinctly to the left, N., and separated from the Breitlauhorn itself by a deep couloir plunging downwards to the W. The ridge is followed over two very sound

pinnacles; from the second of these the ridge now bends to the right, and, becoming hard ice, loses itself at the base of the nearly



Photo, E. Gyger.]

BREITLAUIHORN, N.W. FACE.

N = 'Nose.'

S = 'Shoulder.'

vertical gully in the peak's final wall (10.30). An awkward traverse to the left by a narrow ledge and a very steep climb up smooth rocks lead to a minor arête appearing to fall directly from the summit (the true top is not visible from the Fafleralp). This arête is



Photo. Wehrli.

LÖTSCHENTHALER-BREITHORN and BREITLAUIHORN.

attained at a short, level, and snowy bit (the 'Nose'), 11.20, before plunging into the great ice slope. Finally, a steep scramble over the firm rocks of the arête leads to the watershed, 12.25, and the summit, 12.50.

Descent by the S. arête to the Baltschiederklause.

The line of ascent is almost straight up from the Fäfleralp. From the cairn at ca. 2940 m., difficulties are continuous and for the last 2 hrs. very great. Conditions and weather superb. No stones were seen to fall, but there were abundant traces. Route constitutes a splendid expedition only to be recommended in perfectly dry seasons. Although the sun does not shine on the N.W. face till about 14.00 hrs., a descent appears highly inadvisable. D. C.

[WETTERHORN, 3703 m. = 12,149 ft.] The SCHWARZWALDFIRN attained direct from the N. July 13, 1928. Herren Gottlieb Michel, Otto Brügger, and Emil Thöni. From the Hotel Schwarzwald-Alp, dep. 02.00, to point '0' (of the photograph), $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. Thence over complicated, rotten, but not difficult rocks as far as point '1.' Now, wearing *Kletterschuhen*, over very firm smooth slabs up to point '2,' 07.00. Part of route between points '1' and '2' very comparable to terrain from Ochsenenthal to Gernsenlücke [Engelhörner], although distinctly harder. Between points '2' and '3' are two high and vertical steps, both very difficult and fatiguing—quite first class. From point '3' an easy descent to the glacier. This glacier—*Schwarzwaldfirn*—is a chaos of crevasses and on its condition depends entirely the possibility or otherwise of the ascent. At point '4,' 17.00 hrs., party joined the route effected in 1920 by Herren Graber and Leuthold, *via* Dossen Hut—Upper Wellhornsattel and so to summit of Wetterhorn (see upper line in photograph).

From point '4' a bivouac would have been necessary had the summit been attempted; party accordingly descended by Lower Wellhornsattel to the Dossen Club Hut, 20.15.

This difficult route was rendered more arduous by having to haul up separately and frequently the heavy sacks, ice axes, and equipment of the party.

Herr Graber states that he left the Dossen Hut very early and that his party attained the summit of the Wetterhorn at 17.00. The difficulties were not serious after the bergschrund near point '4,' and certain *rappels* on a tower near point '6.' Point '5' is the main ridge or watershed. At the gap by point '6,' falls in the route coming from the Hühnergutz Glacier.

A considerable number of parties had tried to scale the Wetterhorn, N. face, in different places; all have failed. Herren Michel and Thöni, with Kaspar Roth, made the first attempt on the above described route in 1924; they reached point '2' in 8 hrs. and returned owing to want of time. In 1925 the same party, without Roth, reached a spot *above* point '2,' but returned owing to bad

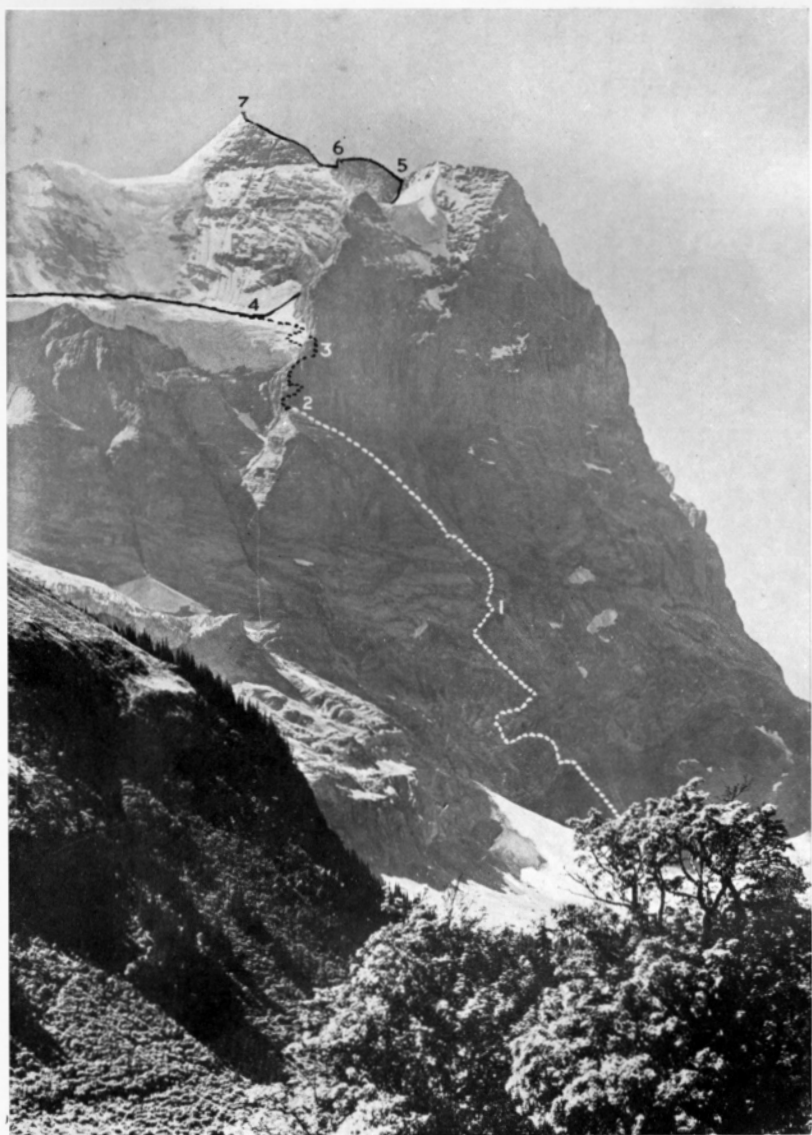


Photo. Brügger, A. G.

N. face of WETTERHORN.

Dotted line is 1928 route; continuous line is 1924 route.

weather; on this occasion the party bivouacked in a convenient 'cave' between points '1' and '2.'

The ascent to the Wetterhorn by this route (in one day) is perfectly feasible for a party already *knowing the way*. For others, Herr Michel considers the route too long. Moreover, the said route depends largely on the condition of the ice fall between points '3' and '4.'

(Communications from Herren Michel and Amstutz.)

Adula Alps.

RHEINWALDHORN, 3406 m. = 11,194 ft. (*S. map*). By the S. face. July 16, 17, 1928. Signori L. Binaghi, E. Piantanida and Count A. Bonacossa. On July 16, from the U.T.O.E. Club hut, party crossed the Passo Guarnaio (*ca.* 2600 m.) to the base of the S. face attained at about 2720 m. (2½ hrs.). The Cadabbi Glacier has shrunk far more than as shown on the map. First from right to left, then with many zig-zags, the first 1300 ft. of the face were climbed, very steep and bad rocks, rendered worse by débris of the great rock-slides of October, 1927 (2 hrs. 50 mins.). In threatening weather, party pulled out to the right, E., by débris-strewn ledges, attained the mountain's S.E. arête at about 3100 m. and went down to the Zapport Hut.

On July 17, returning to the spot whence the expedition had been abandoned, party easily attained centre of the S. face and by débris and easy rocks reached a first top (1 hr. 40 mins., very slow) and the summit (18 mins.).

This wall, the highest in Tessin, some 2300 ft., is not to be recommended. The lower part is occasionally raked by stone-fall and there is danger of rock-slides. Some steps are difficult.

A. B.

Bernina (W. Wing) Group.

Piz (MONTE DI) ZOCCA, 3175 m. = 10,418 ft. (*S. map*). By the S. face. September 6, 1928. Captain G. Zanelli and Count A. Bonacossa. From the Allievi Club hut by the new 'Roma' path ('A.J.' 40, 186), to the Zocca or Averta glen (20 mins.). Steer towards the Bocchetto di Zocca till near the foot of the gully leading to that gap, then bear to the right, E., and by easy slabs attain a ledge traversing the peak's S. face above the cliffs at its base. Take the *second* couloir by the rocks of its W. bank; mount said couloir to the top, then pass into another gully to the S.E. giving out into the S.W. arête between the false top and the great gendarme. Before arriving at the top of this couloir take a ledge to the right leading straight to the S.W. peak, whence by the N., Albigna slope, the summit is soon reached (6 hrs.).

An interesting and safe expedition, one rather hard slab; rocks usually good.

A. B.