

those interested in glacier movement and the action of snow and ice. The activity is so marked that the results thereof are more apparent than in many other Alpine regions, and these, so far, have been very little observed and recorded. Finally, I should like to say that in the event of any member contemplating a visit to the colony, I shall be glad to give all the assistance in my power to further the success of his venture. This offer is made in the earnest hope that some member of the Alpine Club will find himself able to accept it.

AN ATTEMPT ON KOLAHOI.

By ERNEST F. NEVE.

THE clouds which drift over the plains of India towards Kashmir are first arrested by the Pir Panjal range. After a greater or smaller fall of snow or rain, according to the time of year, they cross the Valley of Kashmir, and are again arrested by the northern chain of mountains which forms the second line of defence against snow or rain to the dry upland deserts of Little Tibet. The result is a line of snowfields and glaciers, from which a series of summits arise, partly mantled by snow and partly consisting of steep faces of rock, the cracks and fissures of which are streaked with white. The ranges to the north of Kashmir can be conveniently grouped for descriptive purposes according to the rivers by which they are drained. The slopes of one group ultimately contribute all their surplus water to the river Jhelum, in the Valley of Kashmir. This group may therefore be considered as most intimately connected with the valley. And of its higher peaks Kolahoi is one of the best known. Viewed from the S.W. its northern peak appears almost the shape of a sugar-loaf; and sometimes, when its snow is brown and dirty, it looks like a goat's horn. Seen from the E. or W., the shape is that of a pyramid, two of the three sides of which are well seen from the N. From some points of view its resemblance to the Matterhorn is very marked.

The natural approach to Kolahoi is up the Liddar valley, a favourite resort of Kashmir tourists. Leaving the river Jhelum at Islamabad, the path skirts the north-west side of a great plateau, with raised beaches and glacier-ground sands, and following up the left bank of the Liddar passes within two miles of the famous temple of Martand, dating probably from the fifth century A.D., built of large stone blocks beautifully fitted together and on one of the most commanding

sites in the world. Two marches, mostly through rice fields, but for the last few miles through a fringe of forest of *Pinus excelsa*, bring us to Pahalgam, a health resort and popular summer camping-ground, 7,200 ft. above sea level. Here the Liddar River receives from the north-east a large tributary, the Tanin River, which comes down from Shisha Nag, a league-long glacier lake, on the well-known pilgrim route to the Hindu sacred cave of Amarnath. From above the camping-ground at Pahalgam on the E. a good view can be obtained of the southern peak of Kolahoi, which is about ten miles away as the crow flies. Crossing the Tanin stream just above Pahalgam, and following up its right bank for two miles, we come to a small torrent plunging down the mountain-side on the traveller's left. Crossing and then following this, we leave the Tanin valley, and climb straight up the hill-side for 3,000 ft., until we reach the top of the ridge. The outlook at this point is very grand. In front, its southern aspect boldly-facing us, stands Kolahoi, with its glacier-worn knolls piled one above another and surmounted by dazzling snow-fields, from which the S. peak rears its head. Looking backwards the whole of the Liddar valley lies at our feet, and in the dim distance it can be seen debouching into the Jhelum valley, behind which again are the white and glistening slopes of the Pir Panjal range. Between us and Kolahoi lies a narrow valley. Into this we descend for 1,000 ft., and following up the left bank of the Armiung stream for two miles camp on the green sward, all amongst the driftwood *débris*, deposited by winter avalanches, and just under a mass of moraine boulders, scattered about between which we find several specimens of the exquisite blue poppy (*Meconopsis aculeata*).

We were now on ground familiar from a previous year's exploration. There was, however, so much snow that year (1900) that we were compelled to make our final camping-ground at Armiung, a herdsman's summer settlement two miles further down. As a result of this we were only able to cross the Har Nag pass at the head of the Armiung valley, and laboriously push up slopes of soft snow to a ridge 14,200 ft. high and about 2,500 ft. below the summit of the twin S. peaks. We obtained, however, an interesting view of the N. peak, and were able to form an opinion as to the best line for future attacks. Both in 1900 and 1901 the party consisted of the Rev. C. E. Barton, myself, and twelve porters.

In 1901 there was much less snow, and we were able to

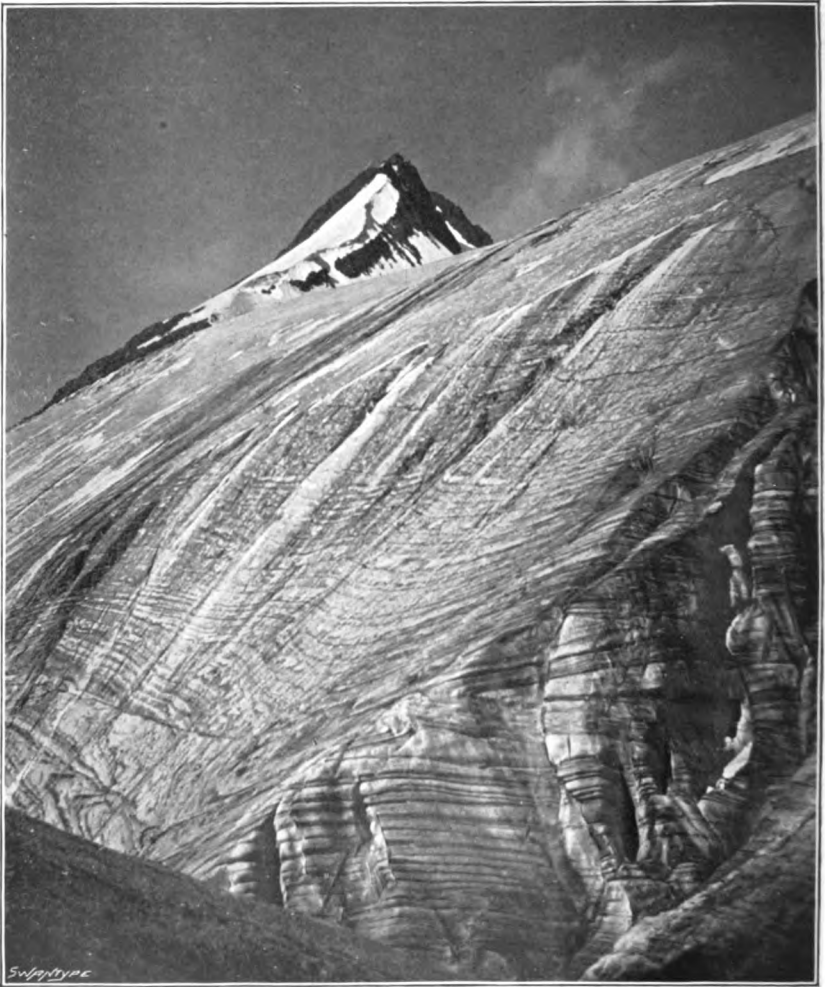


Photo by C. E. Barton.

[Swan Electric Engraving Co.]

EASTERN ICEFALL OF KOLAHOI AND SOUTHERN PEAK.

pitch our final camp two stages further up. Following up the Armiung River we climbed a steep terminal moraine half a mile beyond camp, and, leaving the last birch-trees behind, we followed up the narrow valley. Colonies of marmots occupied the boulder-covered slopes on either side, and their sentries piped out a shrill warning cry as we passed. The ground was carpeted with edelweiss, purple astragalus, and other alpine flowers. Here and there were dark green clumps of juniper, on which we were dependent for firewood for the next few days. An ascent of 1,500 ft., steep at the end, brought us to the top of the Har Nag pass, height 12,500 ft. Down below us on the other side lay a beautiful little blue glacier lake, while to the west the south peak was gleaming in the sunshine. Descending 300 ft., and crossing the steep slopes above the lake, which was beneath us on our right, we pitched our next camp at the foot of the grass-covered moraine slope which banks up the lake at the northern end. Kolahoi now lay to the W., and on the E. side of the Har Nag valley lay an interesting snow-capped cliff-sided peak, Rajdain, 15,389 ft. This was climbed in the autumn of 1901 by a party consisting of Dr. Arthur Neve, the Bishop of Lahore, and the Rev. Foss Westcott. From Rajdain a splendid view can be obtained of Kolahoi. The view in the accompanying illustration is taken from a point more than 2,000 ft. above the Har Nag lake and about 1,000 ft. below the summit of Rajdain. In it we observe the pyramidal north peak, the notched southern peak to the left, the sweep of snowfield, terminating towards its N.E. side in séracs, and breaking abruptly off into a steep ice wall on its eastern border.

The next day we cut down all loads to under their previous size and ascended 2,000 ft., pitching two shelter tents on the north-eastern arête, just above the séracs of the N.E. glacier and a short distance below the great icefall.

Here we spent the night. The weather was unsettled, and it snowed several times during the afternoon and evening. We were most fortunate in having brilliant weather next day, and started off along a steep snow slope, which required step-cutting. The actual climbing party consisted of our two selves and two porters. We were roped the whole day. After a gradual ascent of an hour and a half we reached the foot of the icefall. From this point a near and striking view of the S. peak in profile was obtained. Later in the year Dr. A. Neve succeeded in getting on to the snow slopes of this peak, and, with more time at his disposal, thinks an ascent might

have been accomplished. Cutting our way up the icefall, we reached the great snow-field. There were very few crevasses, and we were able to make almost a bee-line for the N. peak, leaving, as we did so, a magnificent bergschrund, quite encircling the N.W. side of the S. peak, on our left. At one place the ice cliffs must have been 80 ft. high.

The N. peak looks very steep, but presents two snow-filled gullies. Water was tumbling down these, but, owing to the

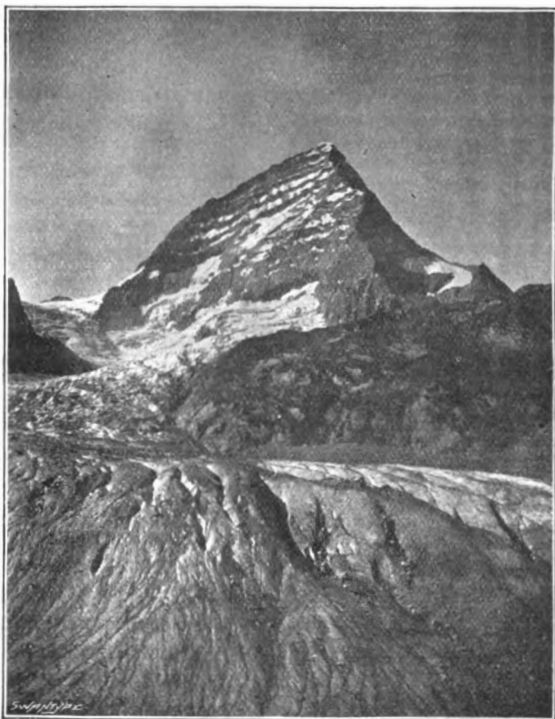


Photo. by C. E. Barton.

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KOLAHOI FROM THE NORTH.

warmth of the sun, there were no glazed rocks. Choosing the north-eastern of these couloirs, we found that the rocks, which are of trap formation, afforded the easiest route for the first 1,000 ft. We then crossed the snow from right to left. It was extremely steep, but fairly soft. Time now failed us, and we were compelled to retrace our steps, but not before we had fairly satisfied ourselves that the line adopted, if followed up, would probably lead to the summit. As far as



Photo by Dr. A. Neve.]

[Swan Electric Engraving Co.]

KOLAHOI FROM RAJDAIN.

THE NORTH PEAK IS TO THE RIGHT, AND THE NOTCHED SOUTH PEAK TO THE LEFT.

we could judge there were no greater rock difficulties than those already surmounted, while toward the summit the gradient appeared to become somewhat less. The point we reached was about 16,500 ft.; the summit is 17,827 ft. The S. peak appears to be about 1,000 ft. less. It is surprising that the difference is not greater, for the N. peak always appears to stand up alone and conspicuously separated from all others.

It is probable that Kolahoi could be climbed from the N. side as far as the preliminary ascent to the snowfield is concerned, although the difficulties would be greater. At the extreme head of the Liddar valley the peak towers up over a fine glacier. The ascent would be made up the W. side of this, crossing it above and getting on to the snowfield to the E. of the peak. From there the E. or S.E. face would have to be climbed, probably at the same place as that selected by us. The two faces of the pyramid—seen from the N. are absolutely impracticable, being almost perpendicular rocky walls.

IN MEMORIAM.

J. OAKLEY MAUND.

THE death of J. Oakley Maund, at the age of 56, removes from the ranks of the Alpine Club a striking personality and a member who at one time—some five-and-twenty years ago—was a very prominent mountaineer. Many who are familiar with the early history of the Club will recall that after the first enthusiasm there ensued a period of reaction, followed again by a revival destined to be permanent, and brought about mainly by the efforts of A. W. Moore when Honorary Secretary.

Among the group of men who contributed to this revival Maund was a conspicuous figure. His name occurs often in the 'New Expeditions' recorded in the 'Journal'; and the papers he read before the Club, though they may seem to some now *vieux jeu*, were graphic, humorous, and always of the right length. Of late years he was seldom seen at the Club meetings, and indeed I think the last Winter Dinner he attended was in 1889. He came then under protest, but spoke often afterwards of the extreme pleasure he experienced in meeting more old Alpine friends than he imagined he had. It is hard, however, to renew past associations when once interrupted, and he had many other interests in life. To most of those who now frequent the Club he was but little known.

As a mountaineer he was exceedingly careful and safe, never neglecting to conform thoroughly to any of the established rules, never aiming at what is unwisely called brilliancy, always ready to