

Mont Blanc de Courmayeur

Mont Blanc.

Col de la Brenva.



Alfred Holmes, photo.

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THE BRENVIA FACE OF MONT BLANC. FROM THE
COL DE LA TOUR RONDE.

'It is to be hoped that any attempts that may be made will be under the control of competent mountaineers—otherwise fresh disasters similar to that in which five lives were lost seven years ago on Kangchenjunga may confidently be anticipated.'

No reader of this Journal needs reminding of Mr. Freshfield's book, 'Round Kangchenjunga,' and if that mountain is the first to be ascended among the giants it will be in a great measure due to the arduous pioneer work done by the author and recorded with such detail for the service of his successors.

VARIOUS EXPEDITIONS IN 1911.

MONT BLANC (4810 m. = 15,782 ft.) BY THE BRENUA.—For years Josef Pollinger and I have wished to climb Mont Blanc by this most fascinating route, and two years ago we made the ascent by the Tête Rousse in order to inspect it, but the weather and conditions generally were too unfavourable for the attempt.

This year after the traverse of the Herbetet, the Grand Paradis and the Grivola by the N. arête, we both concluded that snow with an East aspect ought to be in excellent condition. Accordingly we left Cogne early on July 8 for Courmayeur, where we arrived during the afternoon.

Our intention was to go to the Gîte next morning, but having had a week's continuous climbing, we decided to risk the weather and wait a day, meantime engaging Adolphe Rey as second guide.

On July 10 we left the Royal at 7.55 A.M., and arrived at the Gîte at 2.45 P.M. We had several long halts on account of the porters, who felt the heat very much. The actual going time was 5 hrs. 25 mins.

Joseph, Rey and I went on a little higher to get an idea of our route in the morning as we were contemplating a very early start. As is well known, the Gîte is a little rock promontory in the face of the glacier which falls very steeply all round. The view of the Aiguilles Noire and Blanche de Peuteret and the ridge to the summit of Mont Blanc in the setting sun is something to be remembered all one's life; in fact, I think it would be difficult to imagine a more perfect view on a brilliant summer evening; the harshness and ruggedness of the ridges to right and left toned down by the evening sun and the lovely softness of the Italian landscape in the distance.

At 6.30 I turned into my sleeping bag, and in a few minutes we were all settled for the night. As the evening drew on the scene was more and more beautiful. The gathering twilight, the brilliant heavens, the noise of the avalanches, the feeling of remoteness and the immensity of space were impressive in the extreme.

We started on our climb at 12.6 A.M. with a brilliant moon and starlit sky, and all the appearances of a perfect day before us.

On leaving the Gîte we crossed a small col on to the upper edge of the Brenva glacier, then bearing to the right climbed the small mountain in front of us traversing away to the right along its, in places, somewhat sharp snow ridge to a col. Here we turned sharp round and descended over easy and good snow on to the flat Brenva glacier above the lower ice fall and in a few minutes reached the foot of the Great Couloir. It was now 2.6 A.M., and as we had been travelling fast we halted a few minutes for a little food. The scene was most impressive, the full moon and brilliant stars lighting up the great arête of the Brenva towering above us, while the Great Couloir was all in shade. The feeling that at last our hopes of the great climb were to be realised filled us with enthusiasm.

At 2.15 A.M. we started to scramble over the débris at the foot of the couloir and advanced up it until almost below the end of the second rock spur on our left where it widens out. Just as we were about to turn out of the couloir down came some small bits of ice, one of which slightly damaged Joseph's head and others hit Rey and myself. A few minutes later, when we heard a few tons of ice descend, we congratulated ourselves on being well out of reach. We proceeded to cut back towards the rocks of the first spur [in the direction of point 5],* but always keeping upward until we passed very close under the snout of the hanging glacier; then, instead of continuing in the same direction so as to reach the rocks above mentioned, we cut up and round the glacier snout turning sharp to the right and reached at 4.45 A.M. the crest of the very narrow arête, but some two-thirds of the way along [this would be at about 9 of illustration]. It will thus be seen that our route to the main arête lay considerably to the right of the rocky spur [Nos. 3 to 8 of illustration], and that we struck the main arête considerably higher up than is, I am informed, usual. I do not recommend our variation, as even in the early morning, as I have mentioned, it may not be safe.

The arête is very narrow, and from below we could see the light through it in places. We advanced along it, sometimes on the top, sometimes with a foot on each side, till after twenty minutes it widened and merged into very steep snow slopes. We breakfasted at 5.5 on the little plateau at the foot of the snow slopes, well pleased with our progress. At 5.28 we started up the steep snow slopes, and at 6.55 reached the top rocks and rested for fifteen minutes. Less than ten minutes later we reached the top of the arête, which is exceedingly steep all the way after leaving the first knife edge but otherwise broad and not difficult.

* See illustration.

We quite thought, from what we had been told in Courmayeur, that our difficulties were over now, but this proved to be far from the case. At the top of the ridge on the left was a perpendicular ice wall which looked difficult to turn on the left but easier on the right, so we decided to try and get through the ice fall in this direction. Bearing round to the left, we came to a narrow overhanging ice couloir. This Rey proceeded to cut up, but found great difficulty where the ice overhung, owing to the couloir being too narrow for the full swing of the axe. Josef and I had to stand for over an hour while he cut away sufficient of the overhanging ice to make two or three safe steps. It was a difficult business for Rey and gave him a good deal of trouble, although there were not more than three or four bad steps and about eight or nine in all to cut.

Eventually Rey got on to the edge of the partly covered-in crevasse above, where we joined him, soon attaining the upper part of the ice fall when all difficulties were over, and at 9.15 A.M. we stood on the main arête of Mont Blanc.

We were all very tired, the long and fatiguing cutting and standing in the couloir at the end of a big climb having taken a good deal out of us. Having plenty of time we advanced slowly along the arête, and at 11.50 stood on the summit of Mont Blanc, having accomplished the finest and most interesting snow climb of our lives. We reached Chamonix at 6 P.M. (7 P.M. Italian time). The climb is a magnificent one and worthy of its reputation.

R. W. LLOYD.

MONT BLANC (4810 m. = 15,782 ft.) BY THE BRENVA ROUTE. Messieurs J. C. H. Runge and W. R. Caesar with Abraham Müller, Jr., and Gottfried Müller, of Kandersteg, August 5, 1911.

The Rifugio Torino was reached on August 4 about noon, and during the afternoon the two Müllers prospected the proposed route to the Col de la Tour Ronde for a practicable way over the bergschrund, which this season was not quite easy to negotiate. On August 5 we left the Rifugio Torino at 2.5 A.M., and gained the foot of the Col de la Tour Ronde at 3.40 A.M. A glorious dawn with peculiarly beautiful colouring cheered us as we strolled up the higher reaches of the Géant Glacier; the more so as the weather had been none too promising the previous afternoon, clouds blowing across Mont Blanc with only fitful glimpses of the mountain.

After crossing the bergschrund, rocks, which afford some pleasant though not difficult scrambling, led up the left bank of a narrow ice-gully to the top of the ridge, 4.25 A.M. The descent on the S. side is quite easy (bear well to the right to avoid crevasses on the glacier below). In twenty minutes the Brenva Glacier was gained, and a further fifteen minutes, nearly level walking across the glacier led to the foot of the Brenva ascent, 5 A.M. Time from the hut 2 hrs. 55 min. Here, as is frequently the case, a longer halt was

made than intended ; it was 5.45 A.M. before we had fed the inner man and put on crampons (1).* The crampons were very useful on this expedition. We ascended for a short distance over avalanche débris (2), then reached the well-known rock buttress on the left (3) by a very steep snow-slope, partly ice, entailing the cutting of about 100 steps (4). The top of the first stretch of rocks, which are not difficult, was gained at 7.30 A.M. (5) Here we took off the crampons ; halt, 5 min.

A narrow snow-ridge (5) led up to the second and longer stretch of rocks, which though not really difficult afford some nice scrambling, including an easy chimney of about 35 metres (6)—(7). At the top of these rocks (8) a bottle of Bouvier in the far-away Chamonix was offered as a prize for him who first 'eised' up again ; halt, 5 min. Up to this point Abraham had led, thence Gottfried led to the summit. We went the whole day two on a rope, Caesar with Abraham, Runge with Gottfried. Though it is not to be recommended it saves time, and having heard sundry reports as to the great length of the Brenva route we wished to make certain of avoiding a night out. This is our excuse. The arête now to be tackled (9) is rather steep and very narrow : we found it only partly ice, practically a snow arête, but the snow was soft and treacherous, requiring care. There was in places a small cornice overhanging to the right, followed by an ice-ridge stretching away nearly horizontally. This arête in its entire length is remarkable not only by reason of its exceeding narrowness, but because the drop on the right is sheer whilst on the left it is extremely steep. [This is the famous arête illustrated in 'A.J.' II., p. 369.] A strong cold wind was encountered, and it continued for the rest of the tour. The arête finally abuts against very steep snow and ice, leading higher up to rocks. We cut up these slopes and then, encountering difficult crevasses, bore away to the right and kept where possible to the rocks (11) which overhang the upper part of the glacier towards the Mont Maudit, higher up skirting them on their west side for a little distance, and then again taking to them (10 A.M.) (12). We were now above point 3921, Imfeld map ; a well-jolted aneroid registered approximately 13,000 ft. Actual going time from the Brenva glacier, 4 hrs. 5 min. Here a chilly forty minutes were consumed, also food and tobacco. It is a most impressive and magnificent spot, the scenery on a grand scale, perched as we were on a steep outcrop of rock—with little room to spare—on the one side a huge drop to the glacier separating us from the Mont Maudit, on the other steep slopes sinking far away below. The eye travelled beyond the immediate imposing surroundings over the huge expanse of glorious scenery, revealing peak after peak right to the Engadine, amongst them many old friends, or searched the S. horizon through the blue

* The numbers inserted in the text refer to the accompanying photograph.

haze of La Bella Italia. Time slipped by and the halt appeared all too short.

Towering straight above us was a huge ice-wall (14), which this year was the crucial point of the whole route; indeed under certain conditions it might prove an impasse. Two alternatives appeared to us to offer: either to bear to the left, in the direction of the ascent, cutting across and up the face of the great ice-wall, or bearing slightly round to the right, to ascend from a narrow gap (13) in the rocks, cutting up a wall of hard blue ice which was extremely steep. After inspection we decided for the latter as the shorter route, judging also that once up it there would be plain sailing. The height of this part of the wall we estimated at something over 100 ft. The first 20 ft. were perpendicular; Gottfried cut small footholds just sufficient to take the front spikes of the crampons, and very good handholds, and the rest of us just slung our axes and climbed up the whole way as if on rocks. It was a fine exhibition of icecraft on the part of the leading guide. Standing in a narrow gap (13), with the wind whistling through one's garments, paying out the rope and watching Gottfried cutting steps, or slowly following with fingers in icy handholds, is interesting but decidedly chilly work. The first 50 ft. or so, bearing slightly to the right, took about 20 min. rapid cutting. On the last part of the wall we bore back again to the left, and, surmounting the last difficulty, we emerged on to easy slopes which led to the highest séracs (15), which this year offered no difficulty. Leaving the actual Brenva Col far away on our right, we bore (16) S.W. towards the Petits Mulets. A cold tramp through powdery wind-driven snow whirling up and cutting our faces brought us to the summit of Mont Blanc at 1.30 P.M.—actual going time from the Brenva glacier, 6 hrs. 55 min.

It was far too cold to linger more than five minutes on the top, so we ran down to the Vallot hut. Chamonix was reached comfortably at 8.30 P.M., and Argentièrre at 10 P.M.

LES COURTES (3855 m. = 12,645 ft.), ASCENT FROM THE GLACIER D'ARGENTIÈRE AND TRAVERSE.—Dr. Richard Weitzenböck, Dr. Günter Freiherr von Saar and three companions (two ladies), July 23, 1911. Cf. 'Ö.A.Z.' 1912, p. 42.

A rocky rib falls direct from the summit towards the Argentièrre glacier. The upper part dives under the névé, while the lower third widens out into a great rocky triangle, seamed in the centre by a steep ice couloir. Leaving the hut on the Jardin d'Argentièrre at 2 A.M., the party made for the foot of the ice couloir mentioned, crossed the bergschrund, and followed the rocks of the left bank until the couloir could be comfortably crossed. E. of this they climbed steep, somewhat rotten, rocks interspersed with patches of ice, until they reached the crest of the ridge on the left. This was followed, becoming always sharper, without difficulty, but higher up several slabby steps gave trouble. At the foot of a striking

yellow tower they bore to the left towards a steep snow couloir, but as soon as possible regained the arête on the right. The arête now flattens and higher up disappears under the névé. It is however in range of a few patches of small stones higher up. The party advanced in constant danger of stones until they were able to gain a rather less exposed rib on the right, which they followed to the last steep ice slope. They cut up this, threatened by the summit-cornice, to the highest rocks, whence they gained the summit in a few steps (12.15 to 1.20).

From the summit they followed the snow ridge W. to the gap before a great unclimbable tower (Tour des Courtes, 3813 m.), at the foot of which they descended to the S. by steep loose rocks to the névé. They struck to the right across this névé, crossed a Geröll-arête to a second rib in the face, which was followed to its end. They then crossed the avalanche run (risky) to the right, jumped the bergschrund, and so reached the Glacier de Talèfre. Couvercle hut 6.10 P.M.

Pennines.

DENT BLANCHE (4364 m. = 14,318 ft.), ASCENT BY THE VIERESELSGRAT, DESCENT BY W. RIDGE.—Mr. L. W. Rolleston, with Josef Lochmatter and Albert Chanton, on September 6, 1911. Mountain in excellent condition, though with much loose rock on lower third of E. ridge. On the final E. ridge the cornices were small and in no way dangerous, and the ice, though steep and narrow in places, always permitted safe steps to be cut. On the W. ridge a little difficulty was experienced in finding the best route; the difficulties are turned by keeping to S. side of ridge, the N. side being touched once only at a point about half-hour above where the ridge is finally left (descending), but the ridge is not left for any greater distance than is necessary to turn the difficulties, and this distance is never considerable. The actual climbing was not very difficult.

Left Mountet at 2.40 A.M., summit 10.30 (halts about $\frac{3}{4}$ hr.), left summit 11.15, Ferpèche Glacier 4.30 P.M. (halts about $\frac{3}{4}$ hr.), Col d'Hérens 6.50, Zermatt 11.0 P.M. Total halts about 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours.

DENT BLANCHE (4364 m. = 14,318 ft.), TRAVERSE BY S. AND W. ARÊTES.—On September 1, 1911, the writer, with Julius zum Taugwald and Ferdinand Furrer, left the Schönbühl hut at 2 A.M. and reached the top of the Dent Blanche by the S. arête at 7.30. We began the descent by the W. (Ferpèche) arête at 9. At first we followed the ridge, which was quite bare of snow, the climbing being easy (about 50 min.). We turned the great gendarme to the left, but went too far to the left and had to cut across a broad couloir to get back upon the ridge (11.15). We then followed the ridge for about an hour, when we heard a shout below and saw a party of three climbing the face considerably to the left of the ridge.

Thinking they knew the way we left the ridge, and after a difficult traverse with more step-cutting reached a large tower standing prominently out from a subsidiary rib to the left (S.) of the main ridge (1 o'clock), the other party having a short time previously passed over the same spot. We shouted to ask them the way, and they pointed straight down and warned us to beware of stones. After a halt of half an hour we started down the rib, experiencing some fairly difficult climbing on alabs. When we got near the bottom of the rocks we looked in vain for any tracks left by the other party. The steep snow slopes on both sides of our rib were covered with stone marks and we were faced with the two alternatives: (a) of risking a somewhat perilous descent to the bergschrund, which however looked quite close, or (b) climbing back on to the ridge (a long business), hoping to find a better way off it further down.

It was a very hot day and we decided on the former course. We went as fast as possible, but took half an hour to reach the bergschrund owing to several deep avalanche troughs which were invisible from above. One of these was at least eight feet deep. Steps too had to be cut in places. We jumped the bergschrund without difficulty at 3 o'clock and had seen nothing fall, though the slope was littered with *débris*. After a further halt and some trouble with the *séracs* on the glacier, we reached the Abricolla Alp at 5.45.

EDMUND G. OLIVER.

OBERMOMINGHORN (3968 m. = 13,015 ft.).—The Obermominghorn is a peak which suffers from rather undeserved neglect with climbers at Zermatt. The rock-climbing on it is excellent, and, taken together with the passage of the Hohlicht Glacier, there are few expeditions which combine more variety and charm. Mr. L. W. Rolleston and myself, with Josef Lochmatter and Melchior Kohler, had a day on the peak in August last. We left the Mountet Inn at 3, taking the usual route up the Rothhorn by the Zinal arête. Before reaching the point marked 4065 on the Federal map, a traverse almost on a level took us to the foot of the Ober-Moming rocks; from there to the summit is a shortish climb of about half an hour over steep but good rocks. The descent to the Col de Moming, which we reached in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours from the summit, is an excellent scramble. A rapid descent takes one to the Hohlicht Firn, and from there we descended the ice-fall, eventually emerging on the right bank after considerable difficulties. The ice was probably last year rather more broken up than usual: be that as it may, the work for an hour was sufficiently exciting to please most people, and Josef at times cheerfully remarked that we should sleep the night on the glacier. He proved however to be wrong for once. We took off the rope at 12.50, and reached Täsch two hours afterwards. Without doubt, it is possible to avoid all the

difficulties by a traverse to the right from a high level, but the route down the ice-fall is much the most direct and satisfactory.

H. C. BOWEN.

TÄSCHHORN (4498 m. = 14,758 ft.) BY THE TEUFELSGRAT AND TRAVERSE TO DOM (4554 m. = 14,942 ft.)—On September 5, Miss M. T. Meyer, with Gabriel Lochmatter and his nephew Johann Perren as porter, left the regular sleeping place on the Weingarten Glacier at 4 A.M. Miss Meyer writes: 'The Teufelsgrat was, I should think, much easier than it often is, though its rocks have an unpleasant tendency to come off in one's hand.' The top of the Täschhorn was reached at 11.30. The party then descended to the Domjoch and followed the arête to the summit of the Dom (4.20 P.M.), finding the rocks distinctly better than those of the Teufelsgrat. The whole ridge was unusually free from ice and snow except near the Domjoch.

The Festi hut was reached at 7 P.M. and Randa at 10.30 P.M.

MONT VÉLAN (3765 m. = 12,353 ft.) by W.N.W. arête.—On August 11, 1911, the writer with Dr. R. G. Rows, and the guides Alexander Tännler and Heinrich Fuhrer of Innertkirchen, left the Cantine de Proz at 5 A.M. and climbed up the grassy slopes to the Glacier de Proz. After walking up the centre of the glacier for some way we turned N., and made for the base of a large snow couloir just N. of figure 8 in point 3185 on Swiss map, and having negotiated the bergschrund crossed obliquely to the decidedly rotten rocks on the left of the couloir. The couloir lies between the third and fourth teeth of the Dents de Proz, and from the saddle between them we climbed the fourth tooth, composed of red, very rotten rock. We kept mostly to the arête, but occasionally traversed to the right, and descended to the foot of the fifth and final tooth. This is composed of a black shaly rock in extremely bad condition. It was therefore decided to traverse across the W. face of the mountain to a well-marked rock couloir in the situation of figure 3649 on Swiss map. This traverse gave half an hour of interesting and difficult climbing. The rock was of the rotten shaly description, so that we could rarely find points to belay the rope. Just before we reached the couloir the character of the rock changed and the vertical ascent was over granite, with excellent hand and foot holds, and half an hour's thoroughly interesting climbing brought us once more to the ridge, which is here quite narrow and runs N. and S., at right angles to the original arête we were climbing. We kept along this ridge till we came to a sudden dip, on the far side of which stood a large gendarme; this we negotiated by an interesting traverse on its left, which led to a much corniced snow arête, then more easy rock and another sharp snow arête to the point marked 3680 on the Swiss map, the end of the W.S.W. arête by which the usual ascent is made. From here we walked up the broad snow plateau to the top of the Vélan. We descended

by the much crevassed Glacier de Valsorey. We had intended to cross the Col des Chamois, but found that to reach this would entail much step-cutting in ice at an uncomfortably steep angle, so retraced our steps, and ascending some 500 feet of glacier crossed the ridge by an unnamed col to the S.E., and descended past the Chalet de By, reaching Ollomont at 9.15 P.M. On the edge of a crevasse close to the top of Mont Vélán we found a very perfect specimen of the *Convolvulus Hawk Moth* (*Sphinx Convolvuli*), evidently only quite recently dead.

HUGH ROGER-SMITH.

[This expedition is a variation of the route described 'A.J.' xix. 62, when the arête was attained at a rather lower point. Cf. also the splendid article on the Mont Vélán by Signor Agostino Ferrari in 'Boll. C.A.I.' xl. The illustration on p. 146 shows the face in question.]

Bregaglia Group.

AGO DI SCIORA (c. 3201 m. = 10,502 ft.).—On August 5, 1911, I left the Allievi hut at about 4 A.M., with the guides Johann and Wilhelm Summermatter of Randa. We went to the Forcola di Sciora up the steep snow gully shown in the illustration on p. 209, 'Alpi Retiche Occidentali.' Here Johann and I put on *Kletterschuhe* (Wilhelm was not provided with a pair), and we started for the rock climb, leaving boots and ice axes on the col. We ascended S.W. for about 100 feet over easy rocks, and then traversed S. in a horizontal direction across the W. face of the Ago. The rocks for about half the distance across the face were very rotten, and had to be handled carefully. They were steep throughout, and one or two places were difficult. On the latter part of the traverse the rocks improved, and near the *Bocchetta* (i.e. the gap at the S. base of the final pinnacle) they were quite sound and afforded excellent climbing. When near the *Bocchetta* we ascended diagonally to the right instead of continuing to the *Bocchetta* itself, and struck the final portion of the route about 100 ft. above the gap. From this point to the summit is a short climb of about 40 min. (we lost time by missing the route in one place). The rocks on the final climb are excellent. We reached the summit at 9.45, but only stayed there 5 min.—to my regret—as Johann was nervous about a possible change in the weather. We descended into the gap (*Bocchetta*) and from there by the route of the original climbers (Route a, Strutt, p. 92) to the S.W. corner of the Ago Glacier. We went a short way down the glacier to some rocks, and waited there while Wilhelm went back to the Forcola to fetch the boots and ice axes. We then descended the Albigna Glacier and went down to Vicosoprano.

E. B. HARRIS.

Dolomites.

CAMPANILE DI VAL MONTANAIA (2171 m. = 7121 ft.).—This singular-looking rock needle stands in an isolated position in the centre

of Val Montanaia. *Vide* full-page illustration opposite p. 392, 'Zeitschrift,' 1905, and illustrations in 'Hochtourist,' vol. iii. 1911, also 'Le Dolomiti della Val Talagona,' and 'A.J.' xxv. p. 560. The new hut on the Pra di Toro, built by the Padua section of the C.A.I., has greatly facilitated climbing in this out-of-the-way district. It is about 4 hours from Pieve di Cadore. I went to the hut on September 11, 1911, with the guides Johann and Ferdinand Summermatter of Randa, and two ladies, with whom I had climbed at Cortina. On the 12th we left the hut at daybreak, and after $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours' walk, at first through pine woods and then up steep scree slopes to the Forcella Montanaia, followed by a descent into the Val Montanaia, we halted for a meal near the foot of the Campanile, and then walked round to the *Einstieg* on the S. side. One of the ladies remained here to photograph, while her sister made the climb. We roped two and two, Johann leading. The route goes up a chimney, then a traverse to the left over a rock face, small holds, then a longer chimney, followed by a traverse to the right, and then back to the left, up to a projecting rock (Kanzel). From here straight up a rock face, Cozzi Riss, with small holds for 12 or 15 feet, and then up easier rock to the celebrated traverse just below the big overhang. This traverse is about 30 feet to the left, along a narrow shelf; it is impressive, as the rock immediately below it overhangs considerably, nothing below being visible, but the actual going is not difficult. At the end of the traverse a crack leading upwards is reached; the lower part overhangs a bit and is rather hard—above the crack widens out and an easier slope leads to the broad upper platform (*ballatoio*). From here to the summit there is no particular difficulty. The summit is a small platform which falls away steeply in all directions. On the descent we came down by *Abseilen* from a point on the upper platform above the Kanzel to the Kanzel itself, some 40 or 50 feet, avoiding the overhanging crack, and the traverse and Cozzi Riss, and from thence descended to the *Einstieg* by our line of ascent. The ascent took $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours and the descent 1 hour 55 min. The rocks of this Campanile are inclined to be rotten in places. As far as I could judge no alternative line of ascent is likely to be discovered on this peak.

There are many other good climbs in this group, but we had no time to attempt any more. The hotel Marmarole at Calalzo near Pieve is very comfortable: the proprietors, the brothers Fanton and their sister, are keen climbers and have made many first ascents in the group.

E. B. HARRIS.