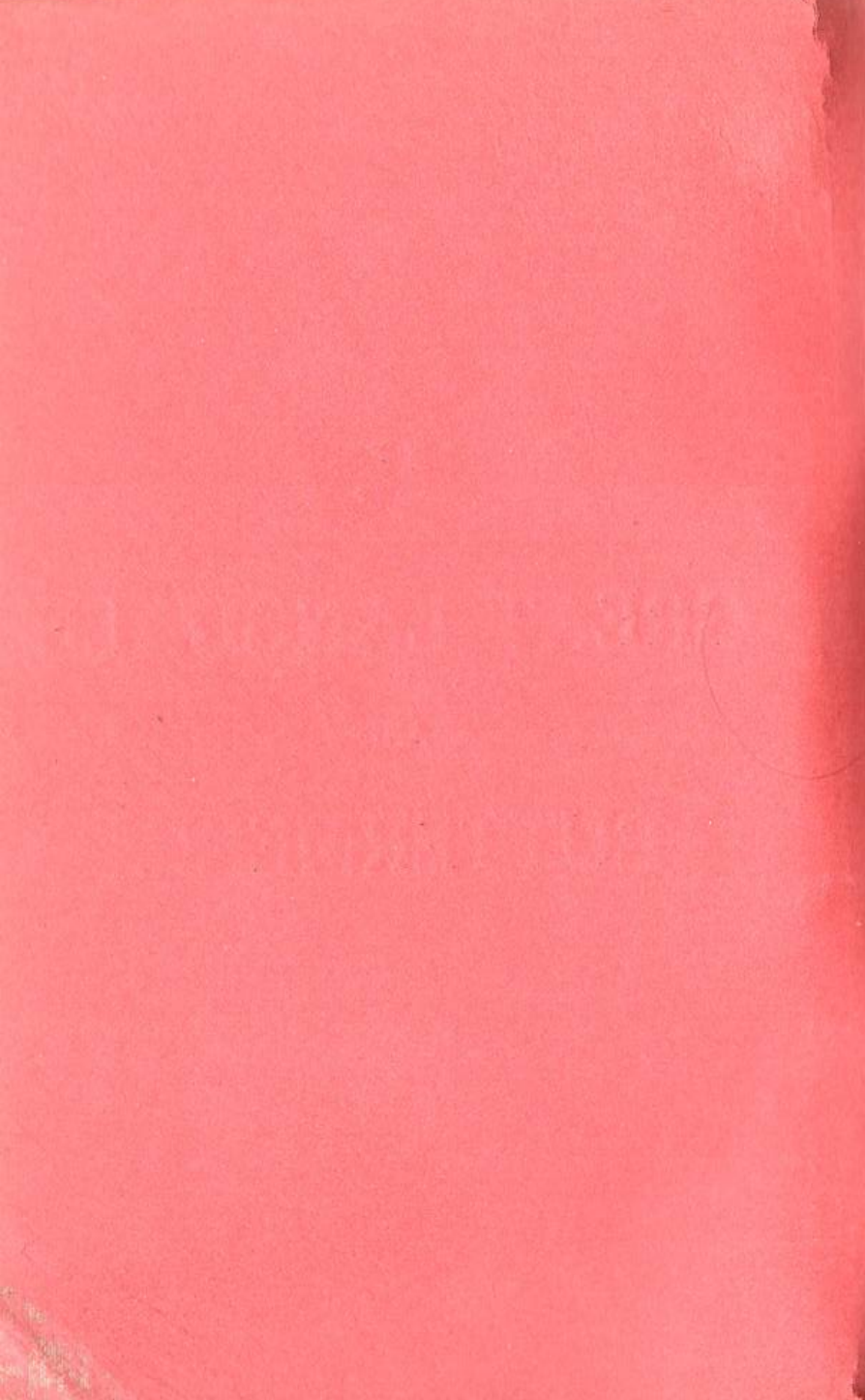


V.

GREAT LANGDALE

AND

BUTTERMERE.



CRAGS FOR CLIMBING
IN AND AROUND
GREAT LANGDALE

BY

GEORGE BASTERFIELD,

AND

ROCK CLIMBING IN
BUTTERMERE

BY

A. R. THOMSON.

A CLIMBERS' GUIDE.

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PREFACE.

In introducing this, the fifth and last volume in the Fell and Rock Climbing Club's Guide to the rock-climbing of the English Lake District, I should like as a climber to express my personal appreciation of the magnificent work done by the authors of the various sections, and as an editor to testify to the helpful and courteous treatment I have always received at their hands.

A high standard was set by G. S. Bower both in a climbing and literary sense from the start. H. M. Kelly's Pillar has been hailed as a model of accurate and concise treatment. C. F. Holland brought charm and lucidity of mind to his work on Scawfell. H. S. Gross could only have achieved his task of describing Gable on the eve of his departure for New Zealand by singular tenacity of purpose and climbing ability. Since his return he has given valuable assistance with the historical portion of the present volume. To A. R. Thomson belongs the honour and credit of two essays which, if they do not deal with the most important areas, involve problems of description and concentration of no mean order. Lastly comes G. Basterfield to prove that the possibilities of original yet happy treatment were not exhausted. To them, and their photographers and diagram makers, too many for individual mention, the thanks of the Club and of all climbers are due.

R. S. T. CHORLEY, Hon. Editor.

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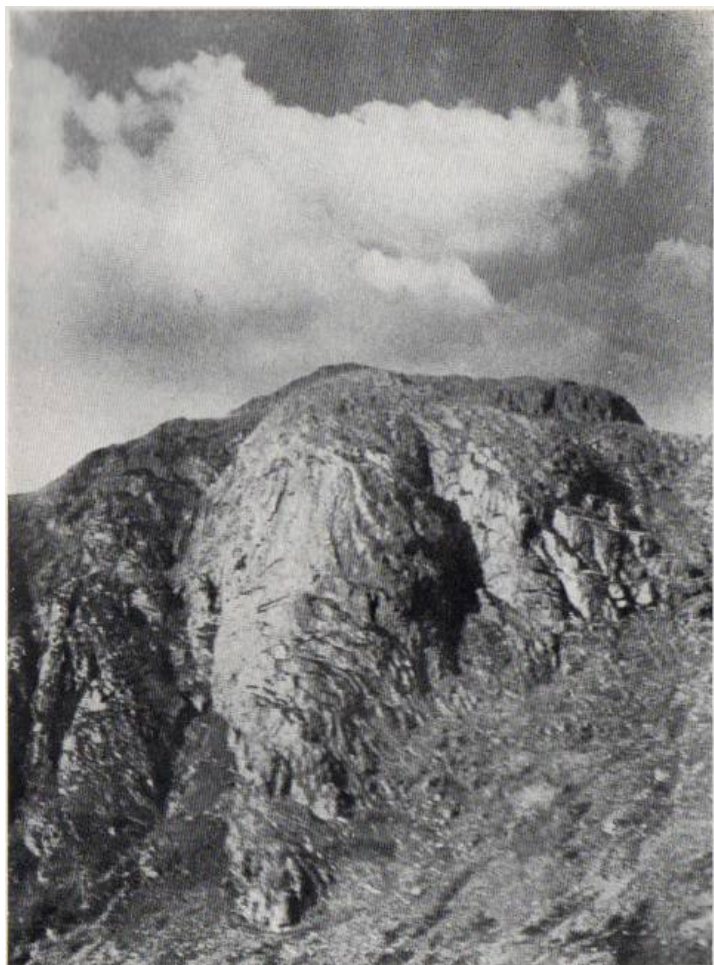


Photo by

GIMMER CRAG.
Telephoto from the Band.

J. P. Taylor.

CRAGS FOR CLIMBING IN AND AROUND GREAT LANGDALE.

BY GEORGE BASTERFIELD.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The best thanks of the Club are due to Mr. J. P. Taylor, of Barrow, for his presentation of so many beautiful photographs, costing, as they have, so much time, energy, and expense.

Also to others our thanks are due in the persons of Mr. C. Wood, for photographs ; J. R. Tyson, who has accompanied me on all excursions and rendered very valuable assistance ; G. S. Bower, for his very substantial contribution ; and J. Wray, for his description of Bowfell Buttress and photographs.

In other cases where I have not been able to inspect the climbs personally, I have made use of published records, for which I should like to make acknowledgment here.

INTRODUCTION.

The evolution of Great Langdale as a classic climbing centre has been comparatively slow, that is, if the early recorded visits to Pavey Ark are to be counted as a beginning. During the last quarter of a century Langdale has, however, taken its proper place in the front rank. Substantial progress seems to count from the time when a few good men turned aside for a scramble, and in so doing discovered the now famous Gimmer. It is hoped that this valley will further be strengthened as a climbing centre by further developments contemplated, even at the risk of putting this guide out of date, which is, in itself, a very laudable and praiseworthy ideal.

ACCOMMODATION.

Accommodation is provided within an hour or two of the most important crags—Pavey Ark and Gimmer Crag—and for those who grind not nor hanker for greater heights, climbs and problems offer good sport within ten minutes of the breakfast rooms.

REGARDING HISTORY.

The history of crags and cragsmen about Great Langdale, if gathered from the many existing records would, in itself, justify a separate publication.

I feel that, with regard to the history of this valley and its environs, the wayside flowers in their scattered nooks and corners give a greater joy than if I plucked them ruthlessly and attempted a clumsy bouquet.

A list of first ascents will, I hope, be appended to this guide when it is published separately. This contribution, along with the rock records we endeavour to describe will perhaps serve as a sufficient history for the essential need in this guide.

APPROACHES.

The main and only open avenue to the Great Langdale is from the south east. Entering from the Ambleside road, at Skelwith, the broken waters of the falls and the prettiness of Elterwater, anon silver and gold through the intervening foliage, bring joy to the heart of the town dweller.

Later, the sudden and inspiring view of the towering Pikes at the head of the vale, tends to a vigorous acceleration of bus, bike, or boot, as the case may be ; all three modes of movement are well accommodated right along to Middle Fell, about opposite the foot of Blea Tarn Pass.

One may tumble into the valley over the many heights on all sides, or over the several passes. Blea Tarn Pass leads in from the Coniston and Eskdale district, Esk Hause from the Wasdale area, and Stake Pass from the Borrowdale. Whichever way is chosen by the visitor, given good visibility, the scenery to be witnessed is superb and ever varying.

The average climber possesses an æsthetic sense, and I would suggest that our valley can satisfy not only the athletic desires, but can also appease the hunger for beauty. Material heights have a way of dissolving into the ethereal, that is when the climber is not actually on the move up a face.

Socially, in their favourite haunts, climbers may be termed democratic aristocrats, for while they attain to proud and

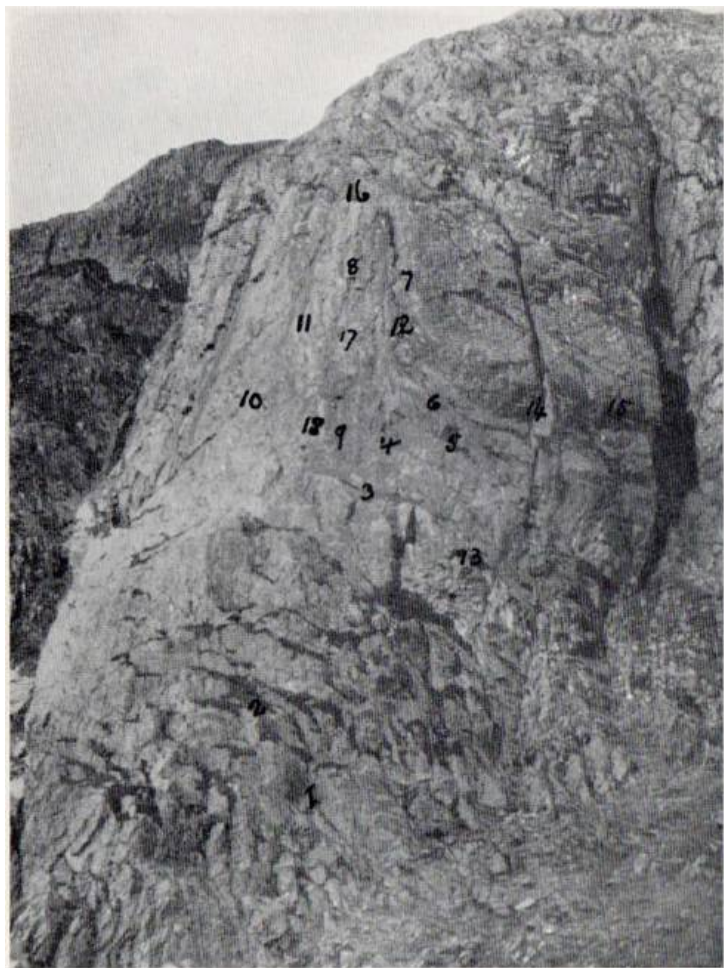


Photo by

J. P. Taylor.

POINTS OF INTEREST ON GIMMER CRAG.

MARK

- 1 Luncheon Shelf
- 2 Bilberry Chute
- 3 Ash Tree Ledge
- 4 Thomson's Ledge
- 5 Amen Corner
- 6 Gangway on "B"
- 7 rows Nest
- 8 Overhang on "C"
- 9 Forty foot corner on "A"

MARK

- 10 Traverse on "D"
- 11 Lichen Chimney on "A"
- 12 Green Chimney on "B"
- 13 The Bracket on 'Bracket & Slab'
- 14 Severe crack on 'Bracket & Slab'
- 15 The 'Piano' Pitch on 'Chimney'
- 16 The finishing balcony |Buttress
- 17 Lyons Crawl
- 18 Oliverson's Variation

lofty heights, they at the same time are usually to be found "on the rocks." So let us to our rocks!

APPROACHES TO GIMMER.

From New Dungeon Ghyll Hotel follow the tourist path leading to the Pikes, direction north west. Keep to the path right up to the highest level front fell. Arrive at an old sheepfold, then strike an indefinite trod bearing ahead, slightly to the left; drop over the rising ground in front, and cross the scree to the grassy shelf at the foot of Bilberry Chute on Gimmer itself, about 100 feet from the base. This grass shelf is a good kick off to the brief alphabet on the western face.

The approach from Old Dungeon Ghyll Hotel or Middle Fell is by a diagonal track up the fell in a north westerly direction. Keep fairly low until Gimmer is sighted above (this to avoid gullies and outcrops), then make for the rock gradually uphill. An interesting alternative, if time allows, is to climb Middle Fell Buttress, then continue to ascend direct till the Pikes path is reached, which is then followed as in the first case.

GIMMER.

"Out on the broken hill,"

"Upread, clean on the sky."

Gimmer is an elongated pillar, an outcrop leaning, apparently, against the high breast of the mountain. Commencing at the base in an easy broken incline, the rock gradually assumes the smooth vertical towards the summit. Its silhouetted western face describes a beauty line when viewed from either side, up or down the valley. In texture it is a dull red sort of granite; this is weathered to a pleasing light grey. This surface is ideal for progress, providing good friction for rubber when dry, and reasonable grip for maleable nails, when wet, on most of the courses.

Out of a solid, not to say fluid experience of Lakeland rock during the last twenty years, I feel safe in suggesting that Gimmer stands out unique, as a climbing rock, in the sense that it provides the maximum exposure with the minimum of risk or danger. The average climber can attain to a splendid isolation, can experience that exhilarating exposure

so much desired and sought for, in reasonable comfort and safety, by a judicious use of the means provided by the rock for safe climbing.

From the fell beneath, viewing it as a whole, the rock wears a defiant and impossible aspect. Viewing it in detail, the means to progress are not always obvious, yet the confidence of the climber is rarely, if ever, betrayed, if prepared to progress steadily. The grips, mostly, are conveniently spaced, incut, and comforting, though not always grateful from the point of view of size. Belays, while not obtrusive, are very effective, and are to be found practically on all stances.

The writer would advise careful attention to belays, for, apart from Amen Corner, Gimmer holds out no saving interception to the unfortunate climber who has once lost contact.

The many courses honeycombed about the west and south faces indicate the good favour in which the rock is held. Almost every square foot is commissioned for ascent, descent, traverse, or variation.

Unlike many of our crags, great or small, Gimmer seldom depresses with gloom. Its countenance, south and west, is frank and open, receiving the full benefit of the sun, also the brunt of the storm. Gullies are packed away in the rear and utilized for the purpose of draining the fells above, thus Gimmer sheds only its own tears, after the manner of the Napes, and is soon dry for climbing after the storm. This deviation of superfluous storm water would, perhaps, account for the well preserved and almost unbroken face, preventing a too rapid denudation.

“ The Boat ” crag on Kirkfell, adopts the same system of drainage ; there again the rock has an almost unbroken front.

The North West face of Gimmer is of a different character again to the two faces described ; here there is a great broadside of lofty crag, heavily overhung in places near the summit, split up by gullies and cracks. This latter section is now receiving attention, and already there are courses completed and others contemplated.

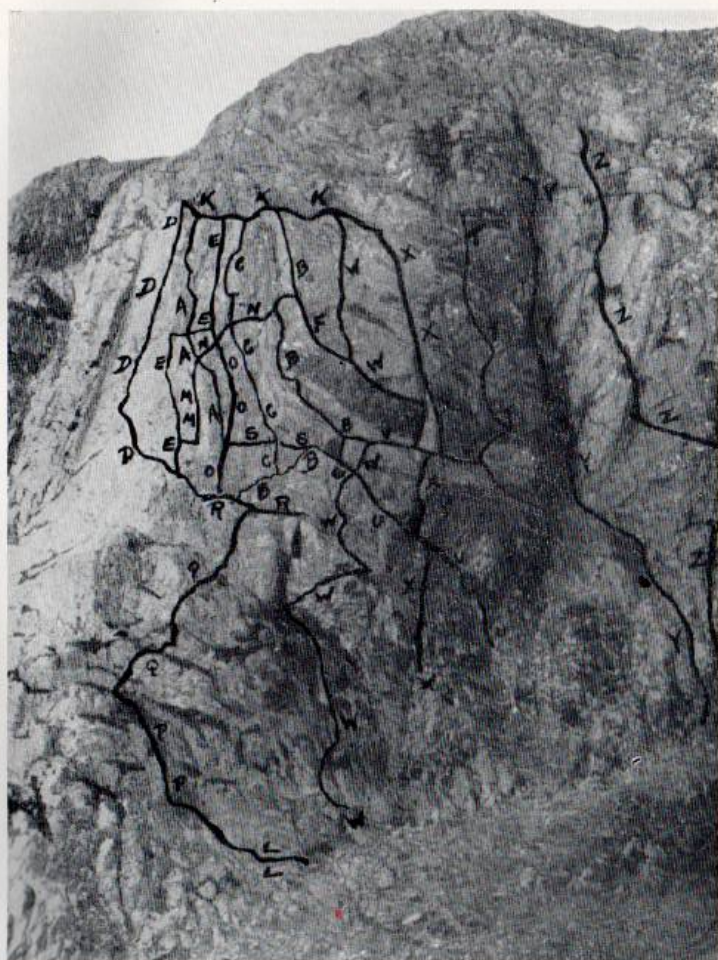


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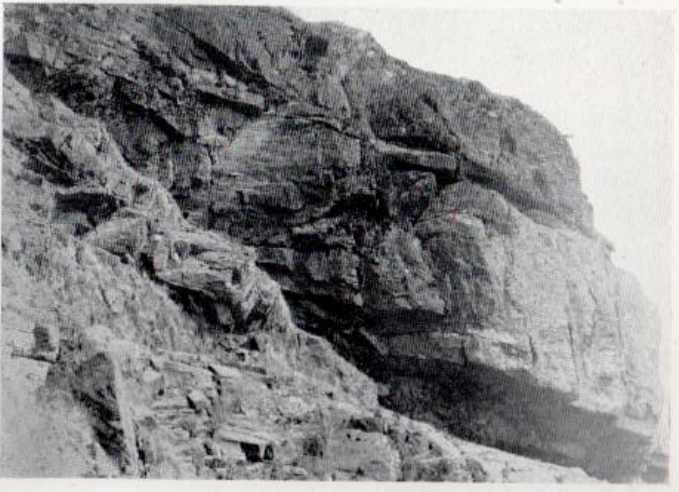
J. P. Taylor.

WEST AND SOUTH EAST FACES.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| MARK | MARK |
| A — A Climb | P — Bilberry Chute |
| B — B Climb | Q — Scrambling Approach |
| C — C Climb | R — Ash Tree Ledge |
| D — D Climb | S — Thomson's Ledge |
| E — E Climb or northern variation | T — Chimney Buttress |
| F — Handy Traverse to Crows Nest | U — Lower Traverse S.E. |
| K — Finishing Balcony | V — Higher Traverse S.E. |
| L — Luncheon Ledge | W — Bracket and Slab |
| M — Oliverson's Variation | X — Gimmer Chimney |
| N — Lyons Crawl | Y — Great Gully S.E. |
| O — Diphthong | Z — Main Wall S.E. Great Gully |

Photos by

SOUTH EAST FACE.



GIMMER CRAG.

S. E. CHIMNEY.



J. P. Taylor.

AIDS TO PROGRESS (Artificial).

Rope.—I would advise for all climbing a 100 foot rope for two climbers ; this gives a good 90 feet of " the all embracing trinity of strengths twixt thee and me." The management of a few extra feet of rope is negligible compared to the mental comfort, emergency convenience, and general safety gained by a liberal length. I would suggest to the novice, who is usually conspicuous by his meagre coil, and whose line lengthens with his experience, that he should be careful in this respect. Purchase a long rope to start with, learn to manage it well, for the proper management of the rope is a real " safety first " principle. Rope management is as vital to preservation of life as is skilful climbing ; the tendency is, at first, to concentrate only on the actual climbing, and to fall foul of a neglected rope. On Gimmer alone there are at least three or four courses that call for rope and more rope. Therefore for all these reasons, hug not the hangman's brief hemp, but carry always a 100 foot Langdale life line, and treat it as you would a real friend on the climbing.

Foot Gear.—Build up a solid apprenticeship in nails ; it will prove valuable when rocks are wet, greasy or iced. It is more pleasurable to adopt nails than to rubber round on easy, rough, or unwieldy rocks. When rocks are dry and in any degree difficult or severe, take to rubbers and sense the intense delight of ideal rock gymnastics.

Notes.—The terms right and left are used as when facing the rock.

Gimmer descriptions are not in order of severity, but in circus sequence with the rising and setting sun. A classification list is included at the end of the guide.

Severity does not always indicate a high technique, it may mean an isolation or the exposure of a long run-out.

GIMMER CLIMBS.

Main Wall Traverse (South East Gully).—Severe ; rubbers ; 250 feet.

This imposing steep wall is to the right looking up the broad gully. The course described takes in the whole length of the wall from the foot of the gully to the top.

Main Wall Climb 160' Int Severe (Direct route up right)
Start At an embedded rock at the foot of the wall a little below the obvious large detached flake hand edge

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1/55'. Climb st. up the steep wall on good holds to a bilberry shoot with an assortment of small belays.

Traversing right to left, other courses, no doubt, abound on this expanse of flat face, but the climber must inevitably traverse to keep to the wall, so that this would seem to be the longest and most interesting route possible.

The climb starts near an embedded rock at the foot of the wall, a little lower and to the right of a large semi-detached flake. Climb direct for 70 feet up the vertical wall to the top, and step over on to a bilberry stance; the last 20 feet of this wall calls for rubbers.

2/30'. A diagonal traverse to the left leads to an obvious stance

Step back on to the wall and traverse left, almost horizontally, about 50 feet, rising a little to a narrow stance and small running belay for thin rope. Now travel another 80 feet, along the more or less groovy wall, rising to the left and then more sharply upwards to a large bilberry shelf; good stance. Keep still to the left about 50 feet, and then up an easy broken wall. The rest is a scramble over and above the main wall proper.

3/35'. Step right & proceed directly up again to a good belay.

South East Gully.—Easy scramble.

This gully is used in dry weather for descent if time presses; it is a shorter route than to go round by the upper fell. The easiest way down is to enter at the top on the left, keep left till half-way down, then cross a grass shelf or bank and finish down the right side.

4/40'. Start slightly left, & then continue up, finishing by a pull-out on the left of a large loose block, or a scoop on its right.

Chimney Buttress (South East Face).—Severe; rubbers; 200 feet.

This climb starts out of the South East Gully, well up, about the level of Amen Corner. It commences with a short six foot crack immediately below an obvious square cut corner; then traverse to the left slightly upward for 35 feet to a belay. Now traverse upward again to the right for 35 feet to an old nest on a small ledge—there is no belay here, so the leader must continue alone before bringing up his second. Traverse again to the left about 8 feet, and rise to what is known as the "piano pitch." You may here execute an oratorio, or be satisfied by a short bar such as "rock of ages cleft for me"; it all depends on your form and ability. Step eventually over the rock keyboard, and proceed aloft bearing slightly to the right up the face to a large bilberry ledge; this pitch is severe, and means in all, a 90 feet run-out. The

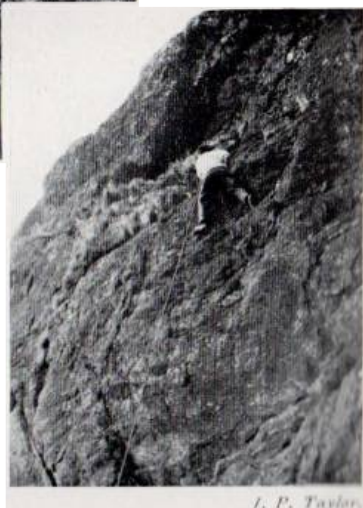


3—The Long Runout.

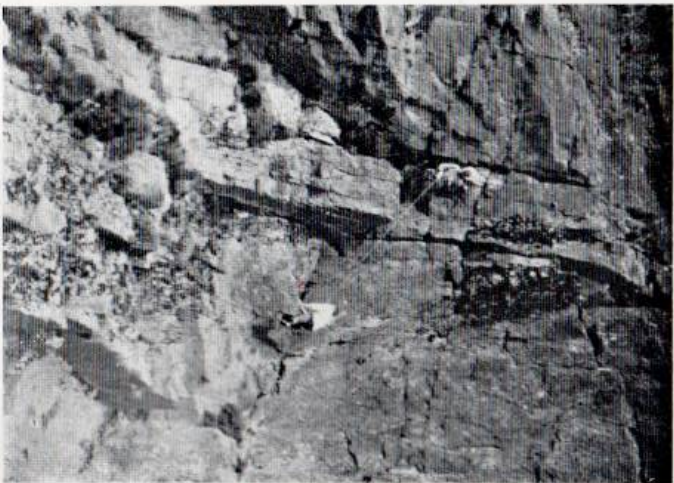


1—Playing the Piano

2—Stance Ahoy



J. P. Taylor



Photos by

(First Pitch).

SOUTH EAST LOWER TRAVERSE.



(Second Pitch).

J. P. Taylor.

last 80 feet go direct to the summit cairn upon an interesting, difficult face rock.

South East Lower Traverse.—Difficult ; rubbers preferable ; 90 feet.

This traverse provides an interesting short cut to the South East Chimney, and to the west face, via the famous Amen Corner.

Commence near the foot of South East Gully (small cairn) along a slight fault running gently upwards to a sheltered stance or sentry box, occupied by a juniper bush. This stance is the base of the chimney definite, forming the first vertical pitch ; from the start out of the gully to this point is about 55 feet. To continue the traverse mount the left wall of the chimney and proceed to the left, rising gently to Amen Corner, a distance of 35 feet.

There is a higher traverse which is useful for quick descent. Its commencement is the same as that of the Chimney Buttress climb, and continues beyond the South East Chimney, over the slabs to the Gangway on B, over Amen Corner. This higher traverse is difficult.

Glimmer Chimney (South East Face).—^{Very}Difficult ; mostly nails ; 250 feet.

Not an impressive climb in its detail, but it affords good sport on a wet day, climbed in boots. The climb follows a direct fault from the base to the upper face, where the Chimney proper develops.

Cairn at foot. First climb 50 feet of clumsy rocks to a stance. Swarm up a second 50 feet of broken slabby rocks, and finish on the right wall of the fault, (good stance). Now traverse five feet to the left and up a groove for 20 feet into a sentry box containing a juniper bush. Next climb the right edge of the Chimney for 25 feet, with a finishing hold on the left slab ; here find a small lie-back stance level with the top of Amen Corner. At this point avoid the crack immediately above—if in boots it is severe—and traverse to the right over grass for about 20 feet, to the main shaft of the Chimney. Start up the right wall, and finish over to the left on to a grass stance, a distance of 30 feet.

From this point to the finish the gradient is easy, the bed of the chimney being composed of broken slabs and grass tufts. The writer recommends the cleaner open finish up the right wall on the face, a distance of 70 feet.

Bracket and Slab (South East Face).—Severe ; rubbers ; 250 feet.

Starts a few feet above and round to the right of the luncheon ledge at the foot of Bilberry Chute.

First mount a small minaret of rock and step left to a small heather ledge ; then proceed up the centre of a slab to a bilberry ledge. Continue up the rocks on the right to a bilberry garden. If fruit is in season, gather handfuls while you may. Pass into a large rock corner. Rise to a rock ledge and traverse from left to right for about 30 feet ; negotiate the Bracket on the way. After the Bracket, ascend 10 feet to a belay. This is a most interesting pitch ; a very pleasing problem. Next proceed directly up indefinite rocks to the right for about 40 feet, leaving Amen Corner on your left. Find here about 20 feet of neat climbing to the slabs above Amen Corner. The next pitch is the left crack of the Chimney—severe, tortuous, and hard work for 25 feet to the bed of the upper chimney. From here step up and over to the left on to the face, and traverse upwards to a grass ledge 25 feet away ; then finish up 80 feet of easy rock direct to the summit cairn near the finish of B climb.

B Route (West Face).—Described by G. S. Bower. Moderately severe ; a classic corner ; leader needs 70 feet of rope.

A start is made 15 feet to the left of the large cairn on the right of the green bay tree, marking the finish of the introductory scramble above the Bilberry Chute.

Scrambling diagonally up to the right for 25 feet, the climber arrives at a commodious belvedere. This is grass covered on the right, below a four feet wall, the top of which (where stands the C Route cairn) is a slab sloping down easily to the right to the mounting block, at the foot of a crack.

This crack, which constitutes the second pitch of 18 feet, and leads to Thomson's Ledge, is rather awkward nearing the top, where the left hand hold is negligible, and a balanced rise must be made on the left foot until good hand holds are



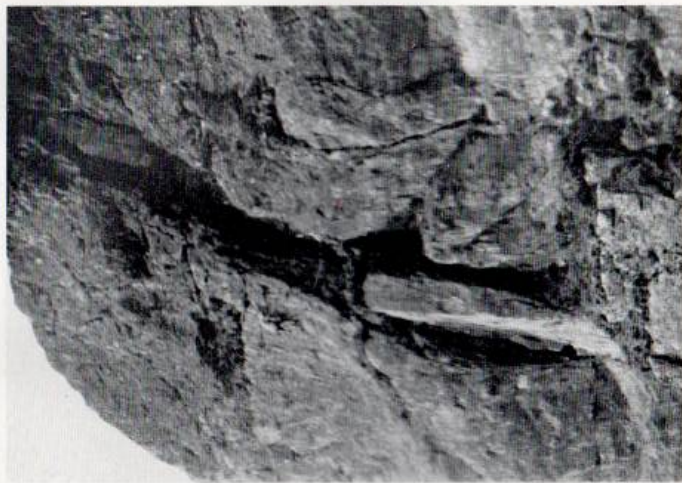
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The 'neat bit' up to the Gangway.

BRACKET AND SLAB.

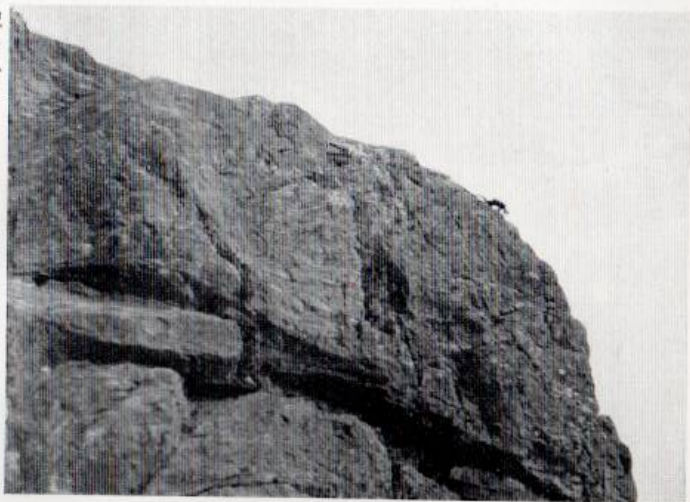
The Final Pitch.

J. P. Taylor.



Photos by

THE LAST PITCH OF "B."
(above the Crow's Nest.)



FROM THE CROW'S NEST TO S. E. CHIMNEY.

J. P. Taylor.



attained. A belay of unpretentious quality is to be had under the wall at the top. Moving round the corner to the right, the congregation assembles in Amen Corner, and secures itself to the juniper roots with which the floor is festooned. By adopting the lay-back posture, first facing right and then facing left, the top of the crack may be reached without undue loss of time. A strenuous pull lands the climber on the Gangway, with an excellent belay on the slab to the left. The devout second will sympathetically murmur "Amen" to any remarks let fall by his leader whilst struggling with this wall, eight cubits in stature. Climbing up the Gangway to the left for about 30 feet, one arrives at a good ledge at the foot of the so-called Green Chimney, with a belay on the right, near a loose stone. This cleft is really an indefinite crack, and, like the matrimonial state, is more difficult to enter than to remain in; for a 20 foot wall which must be climbed before the crack is attained, and is best started towards the left, constitutes the principal difficulty of the pitch.

At a height of 40 feet a traverse of about eight feet to the right leads to the Crow's Nest. The rope may be passed over a well designed knot near the chimney end of the traverse, and belays may be discovered in modest hiding in and about the right wall of this aerial coign.

The final pitch consists of 55 feet of easier open slabs, leaving the Crow's Nest on the right, passing the time of day with an unscrupulous looking bulky block, and then, bearing slightly to the left, finishing on a large rock ledge with sloping grass on the right, and decorated with a curiously square block. The more practically minded may seek out a belay concealed below on the left. Dour parties sometimes climb the "Green Chimney" to its top instead of taking the "Crow's Nest way." They discover that the fissure does not belie its name.

• **C Route (West Face).**—Severe; rubbers; 135 feet.

A very interesting climb, and as full of good things as a Christmas pudding. Starts abruptly; fresh air all the way to an abrupt finish.

Start the same as B Route. Rise to the belvedere, and find the cairn at the foot of the wall to the left of the second pitch

of B route. Tackle the vertical scooped wall on the right side with a muscle-up. Having got away, bridge the scoop with the legs, compose yourself, and then proceed with about three movements up to Thomson's Ledge. This pitch is just 15 feet high, and is a good introduction to the climbing above. Thomson must have been a man with small feet to choose such a ledge; the best one can do is to stick one's heels against the small rock projections on the sloping floor, place the rope under and over, and beg your second to your side with a smile of confidence. The second may traverse left along the ledge to the broken sapling in the foot of "Forty Feet Corner" to belay the leader (not on the broken sapling), while ascending the second pitch, but distance discounts this, the only belay possible.

The second pitch consists of 35 feet of almost vertical rocks immediately above the first pitch. The get-away here is not easy. Proceed direct up a small groove, then slightly to the right to good grips, breathe deeply, and then continue up to the stance at the foot of Green Chimney on B Route, to be found by mounting the wall on the right. Bring up the second; then step back over the wall to the left, and climb steeply left to a horizontal fault known as "Lyon's Crawl"; again bring up the second on the good belay; the stance is small. Now rise again to the left to a small stance at the foot of a small groove, a distance of 25 feet from the foot of Green Chimney, and directly beneath the overhang en route above. The leader may bring his second to this stance, only a short distance (15 feet) before commencing the last long run out. There is a small point of rock over which the leader can belay himself while playing his second up these few feet. As the leader takes the first step up, the second can belay himself over the same point and pay out the rope while the leader ascends. Proceed directly up to the overhang, and find good final holds immediately under the ceiling at the back of the overhang; reach with the left hand outside, round to the left of the overhang, and find a side grip which can be used to pull out on to the open face. Continue now directly up a shallow groove, which is practically vertical for a few feet, bear slightly to the right, and find comfort on a small broken

flake—treat this flake with kindness ; its brief acquaintance is of a friendly nature, therefore tread lightly. The next few feet to the abrupt finish are exciting, but the climber will find no difficulty if he makes use of all that is offered for toes and fingers on each side and above. Arriving on the finishing balcony, the leader can play his second up this 60 foot pitch with comfort and safety, being directly above.

The practice of traversing from the overhang to the top of Lichen Chimney on A Route to bring up the second, is not recommended, although there is a good belay at this point, a second would "pendulum" badly if he failed at any point on the journey. If the second has received his first introduction to Gimmer over this course, and is feeling easier for having "got it over," he may, with more justification than the man who ascended Slab and Notch, write some post cards, for he may now untie and wend, as most men do.

- **A Route (West Face).—**Described by G. S. Bower. An amiable severe ; leader needs 70 feet of rope ; any footgear, or none.

As far as Thomson's Ledge the way is identical with that for B Route, but, arrived on this ledge, instead of going to the right into Amen Corner, a 33 foot traverse is made to the left to the foot of Forty Feet Corner, an obvious scoop with a belay at the bottom near a vandal-pruned shrub. The greatest difficulty is encountered about 25 feet up the corner. There is a guide pin at the top, and a splinter belay on the left of this at the finish of Oliverson's Variation.

Bearing upwards to the left easefully for 15 feet, the foot of the 38 foot Lichen Chimney is reached. Here is a good belay if one stands below it. The mis-named chimney is hard for a dozen feet, after which the holds improve. There is a belay of the first water about seven feet above the point of emergence. The party now scrambles up into the commodious rock paved corner just below on the right of the 25 foot final crack. Only the first few feet of this are awkward ; excellent holds are soon available, and there is no lack of safety gear at the top.

- 1 **Oliverson's Variation and Lyon's Crawl (West Face).—**Severe ; rubbers ; 70 feet and 55 feet respectively.

The two traverses merit severe grading on account of exposure ; they cross, in sequence, A, B and C Routes in an upward, left to right direction. Both sections provide delightful positions of exposure with comforting holds, and if followed through via Crow's Nest to the finish of B Route, give the stranger a fairly general idea of the West Face.

The Oliverson section introduces to A Route at the top of Forty Feet Corner. Lyon's Crawl stretches from the latter point to Green Chimney on B Route, just below the hand traverse leading round to Crow's Nest.

Oliverson's Traverse commences from Ash Tree Terrace or Ledge, a few feet to the left of the start of B Route. First climb easy rocks direct, about 25 feet to a good belay ; from here traverse horizontally right along the wall, about 20 feet, and then up a narrow crack with good holds to a stance on the left edge of Forty Feet Corner ; this stance is small, with a good belay overhead. The next 20 feet run up direct over the belay to the finish at the top of the corner ; a sitting belay is conveniently placed here to bring up the second safely. From this position Lyon's Crawl goes right and upwards along a jagged flake or crack, providing grateful holds, to a good belay between C Route and B Route, a distance of 25 feet. The final 30 feet consists of a gradually rising movement to the Green Chimney, level with the hand traverse, which is taken to "The Nest." Finish out to the summit of the rock on the last pitch of B Route.

Northern Variation of E Route (West Face).—Very severe ; rubbers ; 200 feet.

The lower half of this course was first discovered and used as a variation to A Route ; later, a distinct route was pursued right through to the finishing balcony. When the complete route was done for the first time it was thought that the whole course was new, and the title of E Route was given and recorded as such in the Club Journal.

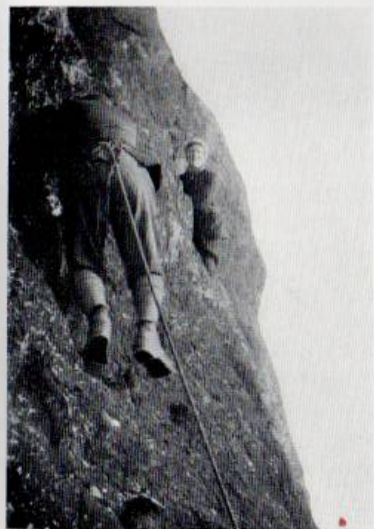
The lower half follows, more or less, the same line as the earlier variation, but the upper half is distinctly new, and follows a definite line, more severe and exposed than either C or A Route, which run up parallel on the right and left. The climb is involved in the western network, which it seems



FIRST PITCH, OLIVERSON'S.



FIRST PITCH, LYON'S CRAWL.



Photos by

FIRST PITCH, LYON'S CRAWL.



Cecil Wood.

GETTING INTO THE CROW'S NEST.

impossible to sort out on the diagram, yet, like all the routes on this face, it has its own distinct line and individuality. While courses may cross each other in places, the rock traversed and the problems dealt with on each course have a separate and distinctive character. When actually on the crag, climbers will experience no difficulty whatever in recognising the separate climbs if reference is made to the Guide.

The climb starts with the first pitch of Oliverson's Variation. After this 30 feet of easy rocks, there come directly above, 20 feet of flaky wall, which is climbed to a narrow shelf. Traverse the shelf to the left for 10 feet to an open corner with a flat-topped belay. Now traverse again to the left beyond the belay, to a thin crack running straight up the wall climb the crack for about 16 feet, then cross the wall to the right just below the bulge on the sky line, and arrive just below the Lichen Chimney on A Route. To do this traverse it is possible for the leader to bring up the second to a small foothold, and a fairly effective, though small belay in the crack. Cross the foot of Lichen Chimney to the right, and proceed immediately to the arête on the skyline between A and C Routes. The course then goes direct on the right edge of this, the most prominent nose of the crag. The left hand intermittently seeks aids to ascent on the bridge, all the way to the miniature flat-rock platform immediately to the left of the overhang on "C." On arrival at this point give thanks for past blessings, and pray for future favours. Now turn your face to the wall and gum up the last 30 feet to the balcony; the final 10 feet is the thinnest. The get-out is about midway between the finish of A and C.

The last 10 feet, the arête from the foot of Lichen Chimney, and the traverse from the crack to Lichen Chimney, are the very severe portions of the climb.

"Diphthong" (West Face).—Very severe; rubbers.

Recommended as the most direct route to the upper half of E. Route.

Starts from Ash Tree Ledge, immediately below Forty Feet Corner. The route goes direct to the beheaded sapling, thence bears a little to the right of the corner (steeply), and arrives

eventually, with an awkward movement, to the left at the foot of the arête between C and A. The whole course is very steep and tentative, and should only be climbed on a dry, windless day, when one is in perfect training, and with a pair of new nice-fitting rubbers.

Gimmer D (West Face).—**Very Severe** ; rubbers ; 120 feet.

Starting from the broad terrace about 20 feet to the left of Oliverson's Variation, easy rocks are followed for about 40 feet to a fruitful bilberry ledge, where serious climbing begins. Immediately above observe a crack, the bottom of which overhangs. To enter this crack, first ascend on the right, about 20 feet (belay about 10 feet up), then traverse left for 15 feet ; enter the fault and climb it (10 feet) to a bollard and a good stance. This entrance constitutes a delightful problem with a little risk, and when accomplished, gives one the feeling of having crossed the rubicon. Having brought up the second and bound him safely to the bollard, mount and finger-and-toe it up the forked lightning crack for 45 feet, concluding at the foot of the final crack-pitch on A. When climbing the pitch just described, take note that holds for the feet and hands may be found on the wall to the left and right near the top ; these supplementary holds are a great help at the right moment. The last pitch goes up to the left of A finish. First negotiate a pugnacious " push-off " corner, and finish directly above at a cairn some 15 feet above the finish of A.

Ash Tree Slabs (West Face).—**Severe** ; rubbers ; 130 feet.

This climb, while on the western face, commences on the North West side of the crag, a little higher up from the base than a great detached leaf of rock. Two small ash trees mark the starting point. Move off from the right hand corner, traverse diagonally to the extreme left edge, continue up to the left, and find a belay on the extreme left 50 feet above. Now follow, above, a broken arête or shallow scoop still up the left side ; this section inclines slightly to the right. Climb eventually to a grass ledge, and note the D crack well above. The author of this climb and the D crack climb suggests a combination of the two ; covering as they do, practically the whole length of the Western face, they prove a full course

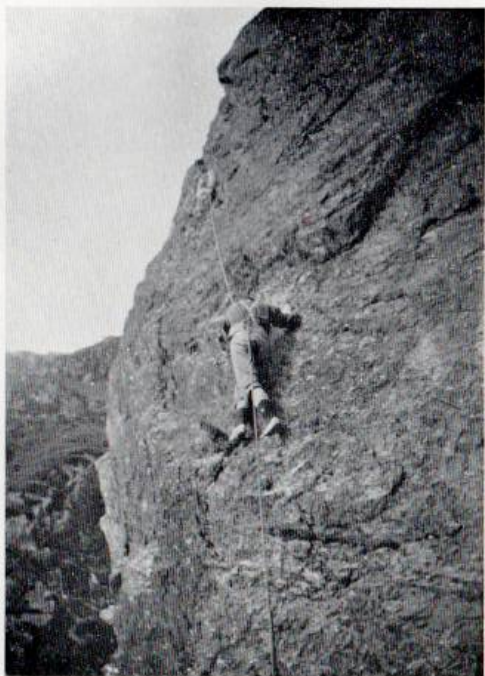


Photo by

E. O. Harland.

ASH TREE SLAB: GIMMER CRAG.

of soup, fish, meat, and "afters," with a cigarette or pipe on the balcony at the finish.

Herdwick Buttress (West Face).—^{Severe}~~Very difficult~~; rubbers; 100 feet.

An alternative to Ash Tree Slabs as a lead off to the upper face D climb. A typical F.G. course.

It starts up the right corner at the foot of Ash Tree Slabs. Climb up easy rock for 20 feet to the left edge of a slab that runs parallel to Ash Tree Slab; now round the corner and ascend the slab about 30 feet; move to the right on to the next slab, rise a few feet and find a belay.

The next and final pitch is up a steep wall, and is climbed between two very thin cracks, inclining rather to the left. This small pitch presents an impossible aspect, but yields interestingly on close investigation.

♣ **Juniper Buttress (North West Face).**—Described by G. S. Bower. Severe; varied; leader needs 60 feet of rope; rubbers.

The climb starts from the top of a little bilberry covered promontory on the right of Junipall Gully (facing North West), separating it from Pallid Slabs. A traverse is made to this promontory from the North Western Gully near a large boulder.

The first pitch of 45 feet lies up the broken slabs on the right of an ash tree, starting from a small block used as a belay, and following the easiest line to a very doubtful belay which it is advisable to augment by a tiny one to the right and a juniper root. These fittings are in a corner at the right hand end of a small ledge just below an impending mass, and where the ledge abuts against a slab on the right. Crossing this slab by suitable ledges low down, the leader ascends into the corner above, and mounts a pedestal on the right (no belay here). He then makes a very awkward move across a grassy chimney, the fingers alternating in a small horizontal split in a central block, and the clutching right hand then grasping a good flake on the other side of the chimney back. A further ascent of 12 feet on the broken arête on the right of the chimney leads, 40 feet from the previous belay, to a good, really good one. The broken arête is followed for about

20 feet, and then a traverse made across the foot of the more clearly defined chimney above, and up to a fine bollard on the left hand side of the chimney and just below a slabby wall. A 40 foot traverse to the left is now made across fruitful ledges, followed by slabs, with a gratifying finish on to a good ledge round the corner, the final pull across a short crack being facilitated by an underhold on a block. On the ledge is a cairn, and above it an Insurance Company's Class A belay. From it those lacking in pertinacity may traverse into the gully on the left. Climbers will, however, pull up from the belay and climb the 20 foot arête to the terminal cairn. Things to remember are an excellent pocket hold, high up on the left, and, for the final landing on the plane top, a small finger crack.

Pallid Slabs (North West Face).—Described by G. S. Bower. Severe ; rubbers ; leader needs 80 feet of rope.

This route invades the seclusion of the grey slabs on the right of the large North Western Gully, near its top. It is represented by the most northerly varicose vein on the Gimmer diagrams.

Pulling up from the right hand top edge of a juniper and bilberry adorned block (cairn at foot), an upward traverse of 60 feet is made across the slabs, about 10 feet below a series of little overhangs to a rock ledge overlooking the bottom of the small gully separating the climb from Juniper Buttress. A tiny belay, only suitable for line, may be descried about 12 feet above. The slabs now steepen considerably, but good incut holds promote ascent for some 35 to 40 feet to a point where incipient overhangs point to a grizzled mantleshef on the right, about shoulder high. Mounting on this, an invigorating stride is made to the left, and small ledges followed up to a large junipiferous and heathery ledge—"The Haven"—where, hidden beneath the profuse growth on the left of a small cairn, will be found an excellent rock belay, to which juniper roots may be added to taste. This point is about 50 feet above the previous belay. Starting from the lower left hand extremity of "The Haven," the leader ascends a succession of rocky steps to a damp corner 20 feet above, where a derisory thread belay is obtainable, to which an

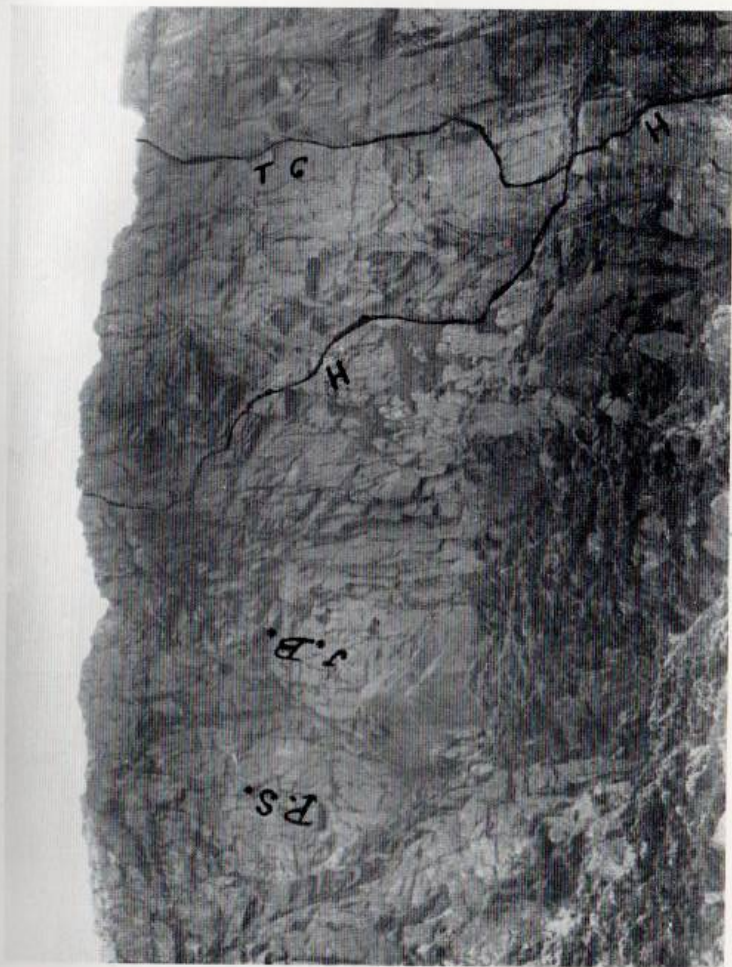


Photo by

THE NORTH WEST FACE OF GIMMER CRAG.

T. C. The Crack.
H. Hiatus.
J. B. Juniper Buttress.
P. S. Pallid Slabs.

P. J. Taylor.



Photos by

“HIATUS,”

The Lower Section of the 120 foot Crack (on the left).



“HIATUS,”

Slabs beneath the overhangs.

J. P. Taylor.

adhesive second may be brought as a safeguard for the next move on the right, which commences with a high step and continues up steep turf.

The climbing is of similar character, but not so steep, up to the foot of the final crack, where, 40 feet above the moist corner, the belay of his dreams awaits the somewhat harassed leader. This 20 foot crack may be climbed in a variety of ways, the easiest being probably with the right arm in the rift. At the top is a good heather ledge with cairn, belay, and all the usual accessories.

The following few climbs are not in sequence ; they are a later addendum.

Gimmer Traverse.—Severe ; exposed ; rubbers.

This is only a semi-traverse that is described by M. de S. in the Climbers' Club Bulletin, of 1925. Owing to the development of Gimmer being so one-sided, it was not within the bounds of immediate possibility to complete a traverse of the whole crag. The course described girdles about 50 per cent. of the crag, and, as stated, covers very little virgin rock. It can be highly recommended as an exhilarating expedition. The route follows, in sequence, South East Lower Traverse, up Amen Corner, Gangway on B, Traverse C via overhang, to top of Lichen Chimney, on A, descend Chimney and reverse the traverse on E, moving left, then more or less descend a little beyond E start, and finish on Ash Tree Ledge.

Hiatus Route (North West Face).—Very severe ; very exposed ; rubbers.

This climb derives its name from the fact that there is still a portion unled. The whole course has been traversed under ice and snow condition, and will undoubtedly be led throughout by an expert in perfect training, when the summer comes again. While the moral help of the rope was given to the pioneers under the abnormal conditions, both felt the climb would be led when rocks were warm and dry. The climb starts out of the north west Gully (cairn) almost directly below "The Crack" (this crack is about 120 feet in length, vertical, rope climbed, but still unled). Hiatus starts with 25 feet of vertical wall to a belay. Next swing round to the right on the corner to a scoop, and finish on the arête, 45 feet up

from the belay. Now traverse left to a sharp pointed rock, then up a broken arête to a big belay, 30 feet. At this point enter the grass gully and proceed up to an ash tree. The climb now continues up the slabs above, just to the right. Mount to a point just below a series of overhangs, traverse left and up over two loose pieces of rock, with care (there is an escape just below the loose rocks to the left, also a belay). The leader is now en route (80 feet) to the finish over very exposed and severe slabs to the left, then upwards and again left, traversing delicately to a stance with a poor belay. A rest is taken here, and then the leader finishes up a short severe scoop immediately to the right of an obvious chimney (entered on the Juniper Climb). The climb has been led as far as the loose stones, and is just severe up to this point.

Junipall Gully (North West Face, Gimmer).

This gully goes through from the bed of North West Gully to the top of Gimmer face, and finishes a few yards from the top of South East Gully. It is convenient for the descent to North West Gully for Juniper Buttress, Hiatus, Pallid Slabs, or the Crack. It is just difficult, and consists mostly of stones, with one or two good rock pitches.

The route is obvious. For the Juniper Climb, traverse right above the bottom pitch. Pallid Slabs are on the left.

PAVEY ARK.

APPROACH.

The most convenient approach to Pavey Ark is to follow the track up the left side of Mill Gill, the overflow from Stickle Tarn, falling into Great Langdale. Rise to the Tarn and skirt round the western shore to the crag; the eastern side is usually too swampy for a short cut.

The crag faces south, and gets a full share of sunshine, which perhaps accounts for its taking on the aspect of a hanging garden at close quarters. It always appeals to me as an early Victorian sort of crag, with a home-made atmosphere about its unshapely formation. Antique tapestries are suggested to the imagination at sight. I close my eyes and I see, entering and issuing from the gloom of the gullies, strong and rigid men of nails, adorned with side whiskers and wearing

Rake End—
Chimney

Gwynne's
Chimney

Crescent—
Climb

Great—
Gully

Little—
Gully



J. P. Taylor.

D. A. ...

Photo by

deer-stalker caps, with their quaint peaks fore and aft. Undoubtedly these early pioneers of our craft left their marks on the rocks in more senses than one, and when I visit "Pavey" I am reminded of their fortitude and the high respect they had for the sport they bequeathed to our care.

The surface texture of the open rock is, generally, rough and coarse, and in this sense reminiscent of the Black Coolin.

The crag is ideal for newly nailed novices who may graduate, with supervision, in the gullies and chimneys before launching out on open and exposed faces of greater severity. There is much to be learned on Pavey Ark that is useful, and while there are problems by no means easy, there is also a certain amount of risk and hard work, as for instance in Rake End Chimney. There are at least two climbs on this crag that call for absence of moisture and a pair of rubbers; these are not recommended to the new entrants to the sport.

A series of grassy ledges, the whole forming a rake known as Jack's Rake, split the crag diagonally from right to left. Most of the climbs here described cross it in their course.

PAVEY ARK CLIMBS.

(Commencing at the Western end of the Crag.)

Little Gully.—Described by G. S. Bower. Leader needs 50 feet of rope; a good moderate; boots.

A flower strewn staircase of three steps leads in 75 feet to a grassy combe.

Passing up the vale of defunct sheep, where many a weathered fleece drapes the boulders, one arrives at the parting of the ways. The left branch is not recommended. The right branch consists of a series of jammed boulders, leading to a good belay on the left in 45 feet. The first block may be passed either by the waters on the right (most difficult), on the left, or under the block. The second is climbed frontally, and the third by an aerial aberration on the left. A terrace is crossed leading on the right to Jack's Rake. Continuing upwards, however, under a portcullis, the leader revels in the antiquities of the sport for 20 feet, when a belay is reached under another big block. The top of this and of the climb, 20 feet above, is reached by a zig in and a zag out.

Great Gully.—Difficult ; nails or rubbers ; 345 feet.

Lead off with 50 feet of easy gully rock to an easier angle. 120 feet of easy rock scramble to a cave below a big chockstone (belay). Proceed from here up a broken wall on the right, foothold on chockstone ; belay at the top of the block—a good 40 foot pitch. Now take easy rocks for 20 feet ; then 30 feet through or over the cave. The next pitch is a nice long one, 65 feet of water-washed slabs, interesting whether wet or dry: the “brant and slape.”

The final pitch is a three-way exit ; the scoop on the left is severe in boots, through the cave or up the grass ledges on the right is safer for the novice. The rest is an easy scramble to the summit, or escape over to the right and descend Jack's Rake.

Stony Buttress.—Described by G. S. Bower. Severe ; rubbers.

This buttress is that separating the Crescent Climb from Great Gully. It must not be confused with that separating Little and Great Gullies, than which it is incomparably more difficult. Until it has been cleaned down, the climb is best undertaken by small parties prepared to spend a lot of time in “gardening.” It should be climbed without boots, although perhaps not more difficult than A Route, Gimmer Crag.

A cairn marks the start over easy heathery slopes, but a second cairn marks the sudden advent of difficulty. The route is on the buttress crest to the left of the prominent groove, about level with the Crescent Traverse, and the easier part is reached after perhaps 80 feet of seemingly insecure ledges on the convex part of the buttress.

Crescent Traverse.—Moderate ; nails ; leisure ; 330 feet.

This climb is recommended for the summer time, and to climbing botanists. It is delightfully fragrant, and but for 50 feet of traverse, the whole route is redolent with the perfume of a wild riot of blossoming vegetation. One can pause frequently to inhale at leisure the sweet aroma and feast the eyes on the rich hues of this hanging garden of nature, a scene of rampant anarchy.

The climb starts some distance to the right of Great Gully, and proceeds up a very broken arête on the right hand side

of a shallow gully filled with vegetation. Continue up at intervals to a good belay on the wall above the start of the traverse—the distance from the foot to the level of the traverse is 180 feet. Now traverse the crescent groove along slabs to the extreme right, and find a good belay. From here climb 100 feet up overgrown slabs to Jack's Rake above. There is a good belay just over the Rake trod, on the wall.

Gwynne's Chimney.—Difficult; nails; 80 feet.

Usually taken in conjunction with the Crescent climb, as a compensating rock finish to the summit of the crag. The chimney is obvious, a little to the right of the finish of the Crescent climb. Climb direct, about 60 feet, to the "gun" (excellent belay), the last 15 feet previous to the "gun" being the most difficult. From the "gun," shoot up the right wall and finish direct. There is a breakaway on to the buttress to the right, some distance up the chimney, which gives an interesting variation for a finish.

Crescent Slabs.—Described by G. S. Bower. Severe; rubbers; leader 80 feet of rope.

The first pitch consists of an upward traverse to the left to a ledge under a holly tree, and with only a poor belay. This pitch is fairly difficult. A short steep wall is followed up to the tree, on the left, succeeded by easier sloping slabs up to a belay. Comparatively easy rocks are then followed up to a wide grassy ledge below the upper series of slabs. There is no adequate belay at this point. The route followed starts up a steep wall a few feet to the left of a large, unsafe looking block. The angle soon becomes easier, but the climbing continues to be absorbing until the east end of the Crescent is reached by way of a final scoop, after a run-out of probably over 70 feet.

The climb is the most "re-paying" on Pavey Ark, but can only be tackled with safety after a spell of dry weather, as the Crescent appears to form a reservoir.

Crescent Wall.—Description adapted from an account by M. de Selincourt, from "The Bulletin" of the Climbers' Club. Severe and exposed; rubbers; a recent discovery.

Starts about 50 feet to the east of the Crescent Climb; marked by a cairn.

This climb commences up easy rocks to a second cairn on a ledge. From here ascend the overhanging lip till it is possible to traverse to the left (20 feet) to a mossy wall of extreme severity. Ascend this wall direct; the angle is slightly easier after the first 25 feet (no belay). Next traverse 40 feet up to the right to a ledge just to the left of a tree. Now take an easy ascending traverse to a large ledge (40 feet). From a large flake on the right, climb on to a fine slab. up the wall at its left-hand corner, and straight on until the angle eases and large belays are found. The last 20 feet consists of fairly difficult climbing to a cairn on the Crescent Traverse.

Rake End Chimney.—Very difficult; nails; 230 feet.

This strenuous course rises near the foot of Jack's Rake, near the eastern end of the crag.

The initial 35 feet go up easy rock steps to the base of the chimney. The next portion is somewhat in the nature of a physic, to be taken before meals, consisting as it does of 45 feet of grunt and grind up to a welcome rock seat in the bed of the chimney, where one may play up a second in ease and comfort, and praise the pigs for the loan of a safety valve, even though it be unmusical. Now another 20 feet of grunt over a slabby chockstone (facing left). Here take a well-earned restful scramble of 70 feet up to an impressive cave, and climb to a window sill under a big chock (20 feet). Another 40 feet lead to a small cave at the top of the climb. Surmount the chock on the left, and finish with a scramble to the summit.

Benison's Chimney rises in a series of scoops from the big cleft at the easterly end of the Crag. There is about 200 feet of climbing, but the rock is exceedingly rotten, and much covered with vegetation rendering the climb dangerous and not to be recommended, particularly towards the top where the exposure is great.

Gibson's Chimney further up the cleft is sounder, but gives only 50 feet of climbing.

SCATTERED CLIMBS.

“**Harristickorner.**”—Difficult; nails or rubbers; 85 feet.

Situated on Harrison Stickle, on the extreme left corner of the western face, a short distance to the right of a brief,

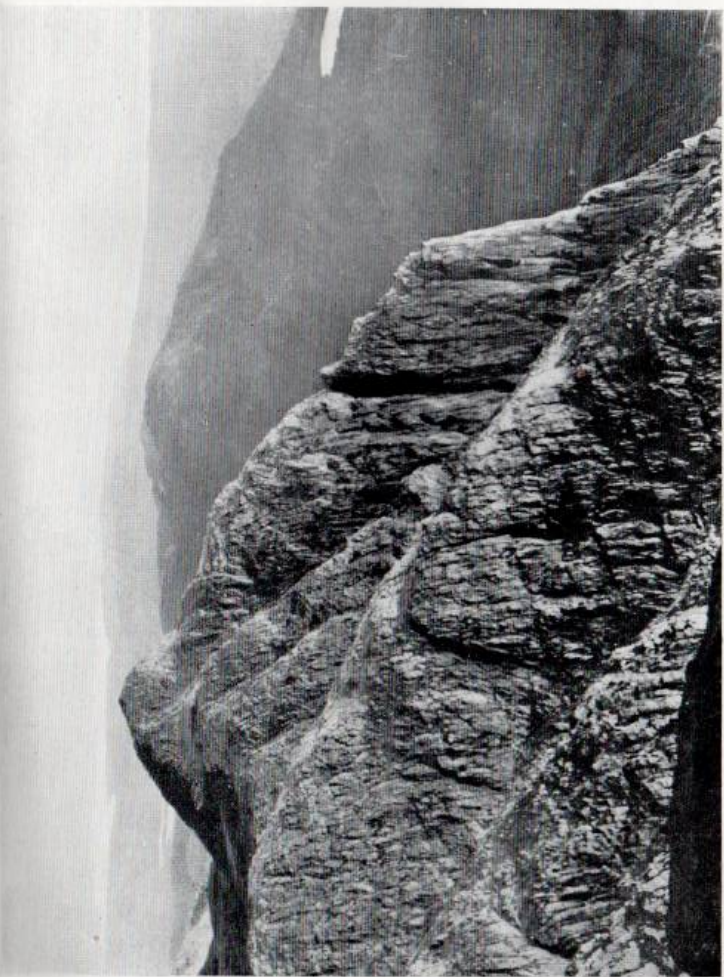


Photo by

NEAR AND DISTANT WATERS ;
from above Gimmer Crag.

J. P. Taylor.

hopeless looking crack just round to the north west. It can be located by the main waterfall, which is almost directly beneath, in Dungeon Ghyll. The climb is of the open air variety, brief and bright; it has one fault, a pretty generous one, and for this reason one is apt to step lightly and quickly where nature's battering ram has been at work.

Start off up a clean cut corner with good holds, but an awkward landing at the top (15 feet). Bring up the second, to belay the leader for the second pitch (the belay is just to the left). The leader now steps to the right on to the buttress with a good hold, and proceeds up a vertical wall for 30 feet to a stance and belay. Next he traverses 15 feet slightly upward, and then back to the left up a shallow mossy groove, to a small cairn on a grass terrace above (the finish).

There is a higher buttress which may afford a further 100 feet of climbing if the party desires to bag a peak as well as tick off a climb.

9 **Tarn Crag Buttress.**—Difficult; nails or rubbers; 110 feet.

This buttress will be found on the craggy pike rising just on the right of Mill Gill. It is seen on the skyline, in a direct line from the rear of the New Dungeon Ghyll Hotel. Follow the Gill track up either side, to a point just beneath the highest waterfall, and the buttress, which is the only clean piece of rock on the crag, will be found round on the front, facing Langdale.

The actual rock climbed is of very good quality, but the poor and broken character of the rock on all sides detracts from the immediate interesting contact.

A pointed boulder stands on end at the base of the climb. The start is at the cairn. The climber can easily choose the best rock, as he progresses up the nose line of the broken arête, bearing to the left a little towards the top (a finishing cairn).

There is a small stance about 45 feet up, fitted with a small belay to bring up the second man.

White Gill Chimney.—Severe; rubbers; 165 feet.

This climb should only be attempted in dry weather. The so-called chimney is little more than a crack, and there are two tests that call definitely for rubber friction.

Scout Crag. Zero Route. 110'. U.D. Starts just to R. of Route I.
Cairn.

1/40'.
A 20' wall
bisected by
a 6" ledge
followed by
20' of easier
rock to an
embedded
flake belay.

2/70'.
Cross over
slightly to
the left to
follow a
shallow groove
slanting to
the right.

Just below
a small
overhang about
half way up
the rock
requires care.

After 50'.
Easier angled
rocks lead
to a block
belay.

Commence from a cairn, up a corner, landing to the right on a grass terrace. Here a good belay block will be found. But some 20 feet above, in the crack of the semi-cave, is a small jammed stone, which seems to afford a good tie-on for a second, when the leader is taking the next pitch. The distance up to the belay block is 65 feet. Proceed up the cave a few feet, then take to the left wall, landing with toes on a narrow ledge sloping upward and outward (this is the first test) with only small holds for the hands. The position thus attained is tentative, but better holds are soon reached up the fault, running diagonally up the wall to a grass ledge, slightly to the left above. The leader will find a belay about 25 feet above to the left on this stance. In using this belay, allow sufficient rope for a stance at the foot of the grass ledge nearest the crack while bringing up the second. This pitch is about 50 feet in length. Finally climb the wall, a few feet from the chimney, direct for 15 feet, traverse into and ascend the chimney, 35 feet, to a nice abrupt finish. The second test is the traverse back into the chimney; the rest is less severe.

Scout Crag, Routes 1 and 2.—Difficult; nails or rubbers; 150 and 130 feet respectively.

Situated low down on the fell, to the right, beyond the base of White Gill, ten minutes walk from the New Hotel. Satisfying on a wet day in boots. A crag with a welcome face rounded at the top and crowned by a small tree.

Route 1. Start at a cairn; climb a small wall (belay). Then climb a mossy slab to the left; next a nose of rock bearing slightly to the right above, to a small grass stance just to the right of an overhang (30 feet). In the next 50 feet, traverse the first eight, then up the main arête to a finishing cairn; a very pleasant and open pitch. Scramble out the rest.

Route 2 is just to the left of Route 1 on a grass terrace. Start up a vertical bulging rock, and rise to the right of a small holly bush; a stance and belay will be found under an oak tree above (30 feet). Traverse 10 feet to the left, then ascend a steep rough wall to an easy angle above (50 feet). The final 30 feet is an easy run up the rounded slabs at the top where both climbs finish.



J. P. Taylor.

DEER FIELD.



Photos by

MIDDLEFELL BUTTRESS.

Middle Fell Buttress.—Difficult ; nails or rubbers ; 205 feet. Situated immediately behind and directly above the Old Hotel. This climb serves as an interesting route to the higher fell, for parties on the way to Gimmer staying in this part of the dale. It climbs up the buttress front, near the left edge.

Commence at the lowest section with a very good pitch of 50 feet, and land on a grassy bank. The second section is an easy buttress pitch of 30 feet, which takes the party to a second grassy bank. The third section goes up the left (extreme) edge for 60 feet to a belay ; then another 30 feet to a third grassy bank ; finishing at a large boulder. Walk up this bank to the right, and find a cairn. The fourth section goes up a broken wall to a belay ; after this, finish with a rock scramble. The party may unrope here, and continuing direct will eventually strike the track leading to the Pikes, which is the line of least resistance to Gimmer.

Pike o' Stickle Gully.—Impressive ; nails ; noisy.

Keep well together all the way, move as one man, and on reaching the top pitch line up and encourage the leader ; if he fails give him a " friendly shoulder."

Gibson Knott.—Taken from the Journal, No. 18. Difficult ; nails ; two climbs.

This crag is situated on the right hand side of Far Easedale, a little further on than the stepping stones, and is about 400 feet above the valley.

(1) Near the right hand corner, easy scrambling up heather and rocks (which can be avoided on the left) lead to a terrace, above which is a steep wall about 40 feet in height. This wall is climbed on good holds for 30 feet, when it becomes necessary to bear to the left, to a small chimney, which can be surmounted on the left. Next come 80 to 90 feet of very moderate climbing to the summit. The middle section is very steep and very difficult.

(2) Near the left hand corner is a steep chimney, 40 feet high. Take the left wall to a stance. A nasty, mossy slab, about 20 feet in height, is then climbed to a terrace, which is followed to the left until a few feet of easy climbing and an awkward traverse to the right round a corner, lead into a chimney six

feet high, which is climbed. An easy zig-zag route is now made up the rocks above to the finish.

Deer Bield Chimney.—Severe; nails or rubbers; 200 feet.

Deer Bield is about an hour's easy walk from Grasmere, a fine prominent cliff on the left as one walks up Far Easdale.

There is a central buttress, which looks as though it would "go" if explored closely. On either side of this buttress runs a crack; it is the one on the right that is here described.

A short scramble to a grass ledge brings the party to the foot of the chimney. Climb up into the chimney bottom, which is roofed in by jammed boulders. The first problem is to work out and back, over these boulders, and to do this is by no means easy under wet conditions. The third pitch is also peculiar in that the climber can best conquer it by bridging the chimney with back and feet, clear of the pitch, and on reaching a height clear above the level top of the pitch by shuffling in, in a sitting position—the stones are quite safe at this point.

The fourth pitch is also full of peculiar interest, consisting of three or four large slabs or stones jammed together between the walls. This problem is workable without a friendly shoulder, and can be managed with comparative ease if tackled in a certain direction. This direction is left to the discretion of the climber, and it will prove interesting to the party to look on as each member endeavours, in his own particular way, to solve this manipulation. 50 feet of rope is needed for this final pitch of the chimney section. Here the climbing varies, and looks pretty hopeless, and in fact proved insurmountable the day of our wet introduction. From this point the climb goes up to the right, passing a small but tenacious ash tree offering a friendly arm. Directly overhead is a huge overhanging block wedged up with loose looking stones (these stones were reported to be quite firm on the first visit (1908) but the writer would advise caution in handling them to-day). This obstacle is passed on the right, and the leader wriggles out of sight up to a snug sentry-box. Here in the left wall of a V-shaped grassy gully a twisted tree trunk is used to belay the leader during the next 30 feet up the gully. From this point take to a crack in the left wall, which provides excellent



Photo by

BLEA RIGG.

J. P. Taylor.

climbing for 20 feet, ending with a swing round on to a sloping ledge of fair dimensions. Another 20 feet of scrambling and the climb finishes at the top of the crag. The climb needs care all through.

The "sentry-box" is the foot of a narrow chimney which is also climbed. It leads on to a small ridge, whence the ordinary finish is joined by means of a short crack, an interesting variation. The crack is severe. From the sloping platform at the top of the crack, strong men may expend themselves on a long razor-edged hand traverse, which runs up obliquely on the right.

Blea Rigg Climb.—Difficult ; nails.

Blea Rigg lies almost in the direct line from Easedale Tarn to Pavey Ark, twenty minutes walk from the hut. About mid-way across the face is seen a dark corner, flanked by a steep buttress, and directly beneath, a small cairn marks the start of the climb.

Fifty feet of easy scrambling up turf-covered ledges lead to a rounded block separated from the main mass by a narrow crack. A few feet higher a belay is reached in the dark corner. A traverse is made across the wall of the buttress, out to a small ledge, whence a long pull up on good handholds enables one to swing round the corner on to the ridge. Then follow a trying 20 feet up the exposed face of the buttress on holds which become smaller as one ascends, until a good stance is gained on a flat ledge, where the second can join the leader. Careful climbing for another 10 feet leads to a grassy depression, from which the top of the crag is easily reached ; or the ridge may be followed throughout to the summit. This climb makes a pleasant break in the journey to Pavey Ark from Grasmere.

Helm Crag, Holly Tree Crack.—This short but very difficult climb is situated on a prominent precipice 100 yards behind the quarry, reached by following the ordinary Helm Crag track from Easedale, and starts in a triangular recess filled by a tree about in the middle of the base.

(1) A steep obtuse crack with a small tree in the middle leads to a rocky platform (50 feet).

- (2) Climb up and through the holly tree which grows in the crack ahead, beyond which the exit is obvious. 40 feet. (Beware of rotten branches).

There are quite a few problem rocks and miniature outcrops on the low fell about the foot of White Gill, which give good sport for practice climbing. On the way to the waterfall (Dungeon Ghyll) just previous to the last gate, there is a very good boulder set in the bed of the stream, that offers difficult and severe slipper work for any after dinner unspent energy.

Bowfell Buttress.—Described by J. Wray. Approach from the south east by "The Band."

An indefinite track runs from the top of the Band along the foot of the line of crag facing Langdale to Flat Crag, which are unmistakable, and then drops a little over a band of scree to Bowfell Buttress. Some people prefer to walk up the bottom of the valley, and then climb abruptly up green tongue, but the Band route is recommended as the easiest line of ascent.

Bowfell Buttress Climb.—Very difficult; nails or rubbers; 260 feet.

Commence at the foot of the crag (slightly to the left) with 45 feet of easy rocks to a good belay. Find here a 12 foot chimney which is climbed, then traverse 20 feet to the right to a crack about 12 feet high; climb this crack and continue above for 40 feet to a good belay—a very interesting pitch. The route for the next 30 feet is obvious (good belay). From the belay traverse for 6 feet across a slab to the left, and continue for a distance of 18 feet to a belay. From here climb easy rocks, 25 feet, to a belay. Another 40 feet of easy gully pitch lands the climber at a good belay, and a 20 foot scramble to a cairn finishes the climb. The climb is pleasing, satisfying, and variable; an ideal difficult when rocks are wet, but good weather and rubbers reduces the difficulty materially.

Right Hand Wall, Bowfell Buttress.—Severe (very); rubbers; 200 feet.

A spectacular wall climb, delicate, very exposed, and recommended only for the expert in perfect training on a warm, dry, windless day, in a pair of glove-fitting rubbers.

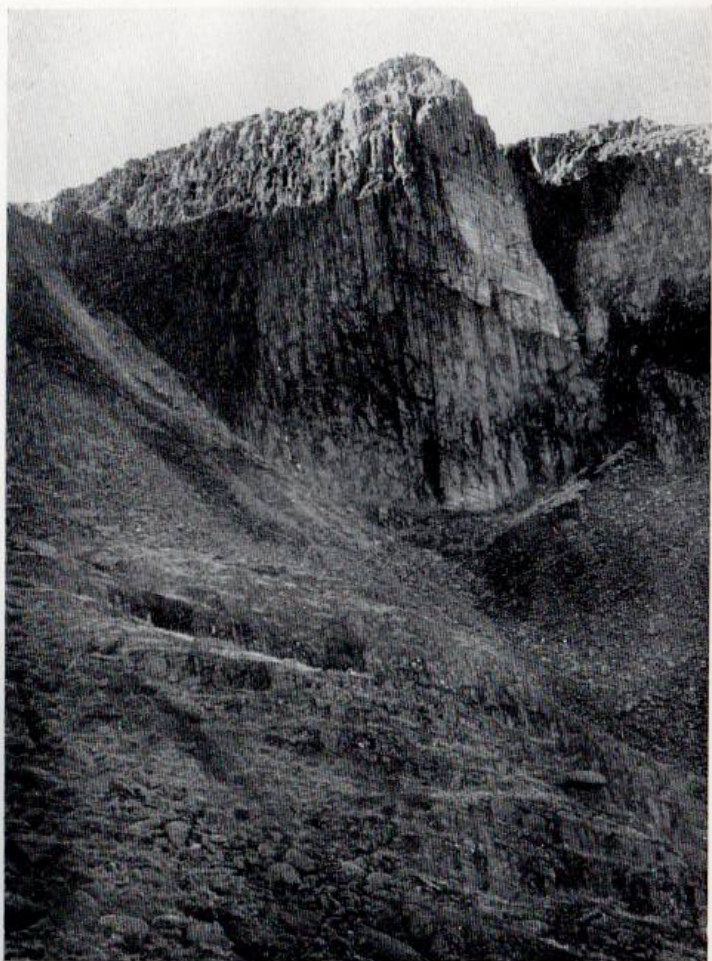
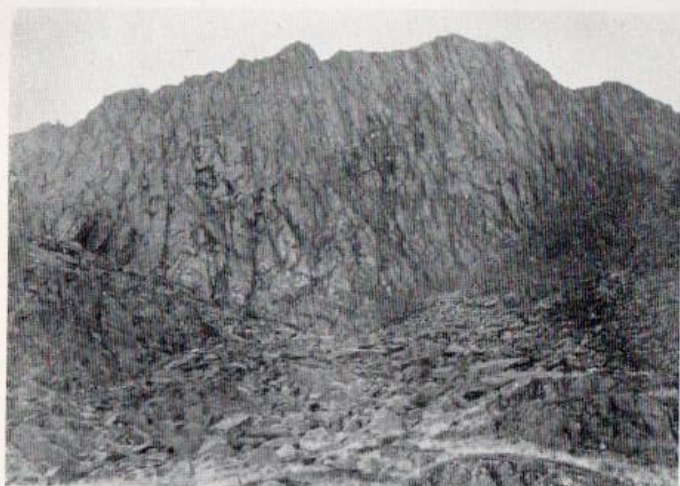


Photo by

BOWFELL BUTTRESS.

J. P. Taylor.



THE CRAG OF THE CAMBRIDGE CLIMB.



Photos by

THE BOWFELL LINKS.

J. P. Taylor.

Description taken from "Oxford and Cambridge Mountaineering" (1924), M. de Selincourt.

The climb is on the wall overlooking the gully on the right hand side as you face the buttress. It starts just above the only pitch of any magnitude in the gully, and may be reached (a) by ascending this, (b) by descending the gully, or (c) by climbing up the corner of the buttress, 80 feet, to a broad grass ledge, then up a fifteen foot pitch (difficult) to the left, and from thence a simple traverse in to the foot of the climb.

- (1) A steep grassy gully leads to a commodious platform (70 feet).
- (2) Traverse left to a small grass ledge, then upward and left to a second grass ledge and up a thin groove bearing to the right. Fifteen feet from a second ledge, the angle eases slightly, and a large belay on a good grass ledge is reached (70 feet).
- (3) Step along this ledge to the right, and ascend a crack, bearing to the left after about 10 feet. This leads to a broad grass ledge (which can be followed to the left to the cairn above the ordinary route). (40 feet).
- (4) A crack straight ahead leads to the top of low man (20 feet).

The Cambridge Climb, between Bowfell Buttress and Flat Crag.—Difficult ; nails.

The crag is much broken. The climbing is done on rough clumsy rock, and generally is rather artificial. The difficulty is to keep from trespassing on to the fell that flows in and about the pitches. The foot of the climb is cairned near a small spout of water coming off the crag.

Commence up 45 feet of slabs running up to the right—a good start with a good stance at the top. Proceed round an exposed corner (with good holds) to the right, and climb grassy ledges to a belay (30 feet). Next traverse left, over a steep slab and grass ledge, and climb a small chimney topped by loose stones ; this pitch needs much care. The next pitch is a sort of chute with rough walls at a strenuous angle, finishing almost at the vertical ; step slowly, and wrestle not, for easy conquest. Above this some grass, then the left branch of a chimney is climbed with a difficult finish (avoid easy exit on the right). Find a cairn on a large grass platform.

Drop down to the right to a rake ; straight ahead is another open chimney. Keep to the right of the right-hand buttress of the chimney, and enter a chimney from a steep corner, and at the top of the chimney find a second cairn. From here one may indulge oneself to the summit in a more or less free-lance style, over varying problems of a scrambling character.

Flat Crag Clim.—Severe ; rubbers ; 130 feet.

Cairn at the foot of the crag, and arrow scratched on the slabs, indicate a climb that I am not able to find in written record.

The course is practically direct up smooth chippy, uncertain slabs. We followed these slabs for about 75 feet to the top, and then finished out on broken rocks, another 50 feet to the low edge of the great flatness above. The rock is treacherous, friable, and not to be recommended for climbing.

The Neckband. ^{new}Difficult ; nails or rubbers ; 220 feet.

Situated on the outcrop just beneath the summit of The Band, on the north east side facing Rosset Ghyll. A cairn marks the start. The climb runs up the right hand slabby edge of the crag, all through to the finish. It seems to be the only feasible route on the crag ; all through it is on sound and pleasing rock, offering some neat problems. The route is so obvious that a detailed description would seem to be superfluous—keep to the good rock all the way, on the extreme right hand edge of the buttress. This climb is well worth a visit.

Gladstone Knotts.—Described by J. R. Tyson. Not highly recommended.

The crags lie about 400 yards from the head of Crinkle Gill, on the left going up, and face east. The first chimney to the right of a scree shoot, at the base of the crag, has an easy branch gully not worth mentioning.

First Chimney.—Difficult.

Climb up the left wall (rotten rock) to the first chockstone, then use both walls past the second chockstone to a good stance a distance of 35 feet in all. Next climb up the rib forming the left wall, then bridge and proceed up slabs on the right to a stance with a good belay. 20 feet of good rock. Next use both sides of the chimney to a good stance, 15 feet.



J. P. Taylor.

THE UPPER REACHES OF GREAT LANGDALE.

Photo by

For the next 12 feet use the chockstone at the top by holding either side ; this is difficult, but can be avoided to the right. The next 15 feet consist of broken rocks, pasture, wild leeks, and other vegetables. To finish, climb the rib in the centre, or the scoop on either side.

Second Chimney.—The first 25 feet consist of vegetation, with an occasional sight of rock ; only moderate. Continue for a further 30 feet of vegetation, using the sides of the chimney ; rather difficult. Climb now to the right of the rib, and use the edge, then over the rib to good stance in the cave under the chockstone ; very difficult. For the next 30 feet avoid the filthy moisture by traversing the left wall and up a rib, 30 feet, to the top ; this section is only moderate, and is the only good rock on the climb.

Third Chimney.—Not a climb, a garden.

Fourth Chimney.—Very deep, black, and conspicuous. Climb 25 feet up the right wall and chockstones to a cave, which is very wet and mossy (difficult). The next 30 feet of climbing is either up the left wall on small holds, or back and knee work. Loose stones and sods at the finish, with a window pitch, are very difficult and wet. The final 35 feet consist first of a 12 foot chockstone (moderate) ; some pasture ; and an 8 foot moderate pitch to a scrambling finish.

Fifth Chimney.—15 yards to the right of the fourth.

This starts with 20 feet of easy rocks and grass to the foot of the chimney. Then follow 30 feet of moderate climbing to a cave (no belay). A variation start goes up a rock trough leading to the cave ; this is moderate climbing, but cuts out the grass and loose rock at the start. After this come 15 feet of back and knee work, facing right—the rock is very wet and rotten (difficult).

Oak Howe Needle.—Difficult ; nails or rubbers ; 70 feet.

The easiest line of approach is to cross the bridge over the main stream about opposite the New Hotel, Dungeon Ghyll, pass through the farm at the foot of Lingmoor, turn left, and keep low until the prominent corner of that fell is reached, on which the needle is situated ; then take the short ascent abruptly.

The main rock is very severely quarried by the weather, its two faces being exposed to north and east respectively. Disintegration is also very materially assisted by much drainage. The main rock is not an independent outcrop, but merely an overhanging face of the fell proper ; the needle is a detached tower or pillar that has resisted the elements thus far. An irregular, sharp cut, crack runs up the Langdale front for 40 feet, then another 10 feet completes a difficult climb. It can be climbed on the rear left hand corner also (30 feet, moderate). There are, I believe, other variations which go to fill up an off day, but the writer would suggest that, from a climbing point of view, the rock is of small interest, and while one may be curiously interested by an introduction, acquaintance is very rarely renewed.

Bowfell Links.—Concussion helmets.

Approach by the Band or up the left side of Hell Ghyll to Three Tarns. The Links are just above the tarns on the Eskdale side of Bowfell.

Practically all the pitches, apart from the three final cracks, are composed of wedged chocks in the gullies. The beds of the gullies are choked with innumerable stones, ready to pour over at the slightest touch.

Commencing from the South end overlooking Three Tarns, the following climbs may be ascended :—

- (1) A short chimney starts fairly high on the right of an open gully (moderate).
- (2) The same gully (left side) with a 35 foot vertical pitch over chockstones (moderate).
- (3) A series of 4 chocks, in all 100 feet (moderate).
- (4) The right hand branch of an open gully ; a grooved wall of about 40 feet (difficult).
- (5) The left hand branch of the same gully ; a vertical pitch crowned by an overhanging chockstone, with a 40 foot finish on the right wall (very difficult).
- (6) A chockstone pitch in a scree gully ; ascend on the right wall (very difficult).

Now pass by an all scree gully.

- (7) A scree gully with overhanging chockstone, 15 feet (difficult).

- (8) A grass and scree gully with a 20 foot window pitch (moderate).
 (9) A broad scree gully with 10 feet of easy rocks.
 (10) 35 feet of scoop and a crack on a buttress (moderate).
 (11) A 45 foot semi-chimney or crack, with a pull over on to a square, flat-topped overhang; then up the right wall (difficult).
 (12) A final crack of 40 feet (severe).

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Note.—The various climbs on the Bowfell Links and Gladstone Knott have not been graded in the above list, but an indication as to the severity of each will be found in the text. The grading represents the personal opinion of the writer as reflected in his own experience, and in arriving at his estimates he has taken into account exposure, problematic progress, the presence or not of a severe detail, and the quality, texture, and general character of the rock.

ROCK CLIMBING IN BUTTERMERE.

BY A. R. THOMSON.

INTRODUCTION.

Buttermere as a climbing centre is distinguished by its wet gullies. These contain, besides water, much loose material, and must all be approached with caution. Since Oppenheimer's "Heart of Lakeland," written about sixteen years ago, the only great discovery has been the possibilities of increased climbing in Birkness Coombe. In wet weather, indeed in all weathers, it claims first attention. There only are to be found the face climbs on good hard rock, which give satisfaction to the modern climber.

Starting on the north side of the valley, and working round to the south, the first climbs that claim attention are the **Dove Crag Gullies**. These are reached by leaving the main Cockermouth-to-Buttermere road at Lanthwaite Green, six miles from Cockermouth, and following the beck between Whiteside and Grassmoor for a good hour. A steep ascent is then made up the side of Grassmoor for 20 minutes, and a rock face appears in sight. It is at least 400 feet in height, and contains three conspicuous gullies. That on the left has, at its base, a chimney pronounced quite unclimbable, and it has therefore received no attention; that in the centre may possibly have been climbed by the late John Robinson. Very unpleasant grass leads to a conspicuous chimney. On the right may be noticed a curious spiral gully. This, after scrambling over unpleasant screes, begins with a staircase 30 feet high. A loose, slightly overhanging pitch follows, about 15 feet high. The third pitch begins with a groove, and ends with a remarkably steep chimney about 20 feet in height. An attempt on this failed, as did also an assault on the wall to the left. The leader had eventually to traverse the slabs at the foot of the pitch, and round an awkward corner. It was then possible, when a short descent had been made, to turn the buttress and enter the gully again above

the pitch. The rest of the party were assisted up the left hand wall. The pitch might be made to go direct by a first class leader, but dry rocks and rubber shoes would be essential. Above these follows a series of very moderate pitches not requiring detailed mention.

Grassmoor Gullies.—The gully nearest Lorton begins with scrambling and short pitches until the "Holly Tree Pitch" is reached. Here it is necessary to climb on the right wall for 15 feet until a traverse can be made to the top of the pitch. The next real difficulty is a short chimney which can be backed up. One then arrives at a recess where a branch goes off to the left containing a short pitch. Ahead is a steep wall 40 feet high, which is difficult but can be easily evaded on the left. The rest of the gully is of little interest.

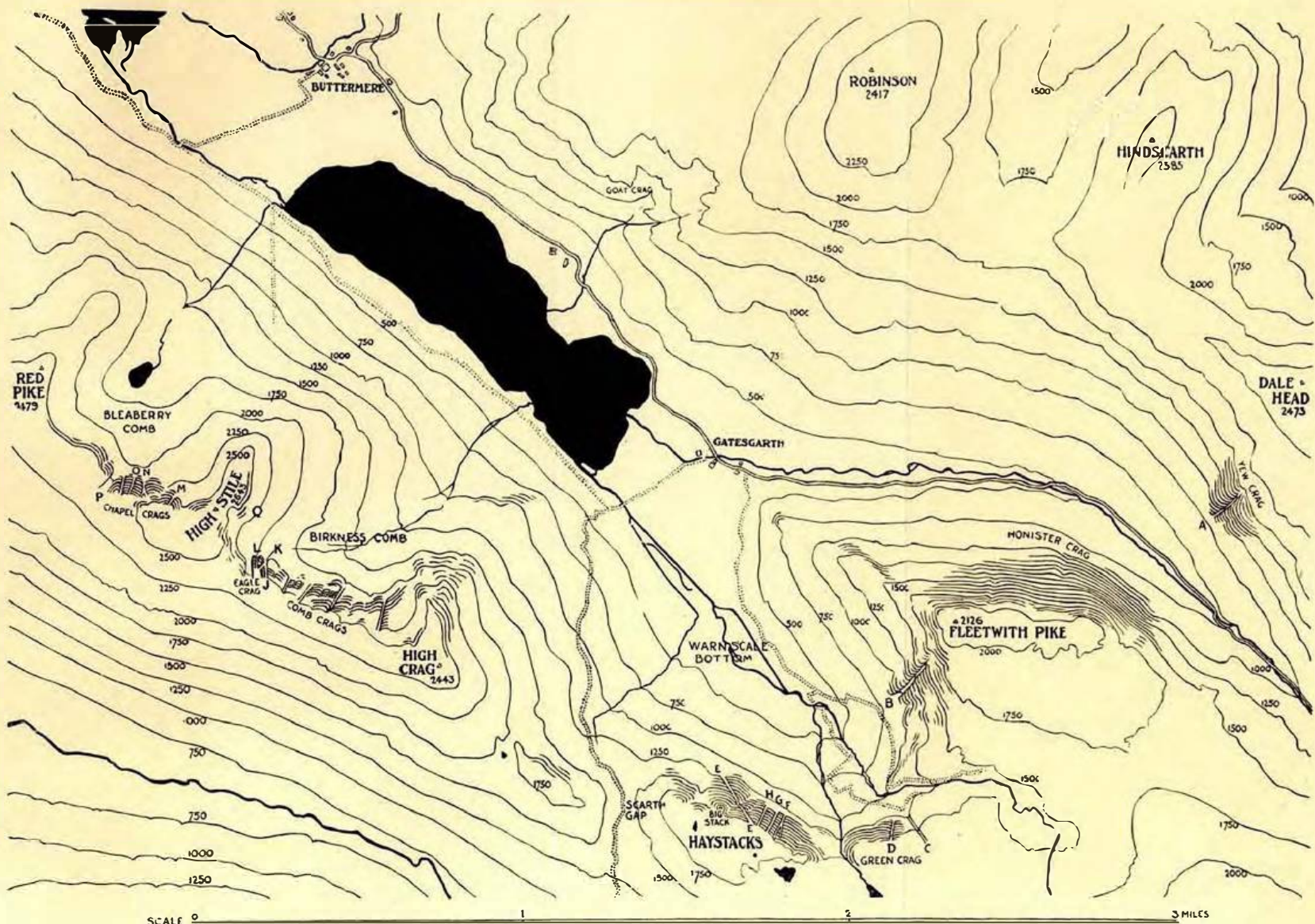
Grassmoor Gully, Buttermere side, begins with an easy pitch, then follows an interesting chimney 35 feet high, with good handholds on the left wall. Above this is a short but very steep pitch not more than 15 feet high. It is usual to leave the gully here, but the conscientious climber will find other little problems which give some amusement.

Robinson, Goat Crag.—Take the Buttermere-Honister road for about a mile from Buttermere, then, opposite Hasness, turn left and keep up the stream bed where one or two passages can be taken or avoided at will. Higher up, three water-courses converge. That on the right is an uncompromising waterfall. In the central gully, almost at its foot, is a smooth chimney which may be climbed by "back and knee" methods and, though short, is somewhat difficult. Then ensue a number of short, steep and earthy pitches of no particular interest. The gully on the left, called "West Gully," contains a series of sloping pitches; the angle is not steep, and the holds are therefore just about adequate. The route taken will vary with the amount of water coming down. The scenery is remarkably fine, the climbing, as a whole is rather poor.

Charter Chimney.—This chimney is on Yew Crag, on the left side of Honister Pass, left of the well known Yew Crag Gully, and easily seen from Gatesgarth. Difficult; about 60 feet of rope required. A scramble up grass leads to a steep chimney

MAP OF BUTTERMERE VALLEY SHOWING PRINCIPAL CLIMBS.

Drawn by L. J. Oppenheimer for No. 5 of the Journal.



A—Yew Crag Gully.
 B—Fleetwith Gully.
 C—Green Crag Gully.
 D—Toreador Gully.

E—Stack Rake.
 F—The Y Gully.
 G—Warn Ghyll.
 H—Stack Ghyll.

J—Birkness Gully.
 K—Birkness Chimney.
 L—Birkness Central Chimney.
 M—The Black Chimney.

N—Chapel Crag Central Gully.
 O—Bleaberry Chimney.
 P—Scree Shoot leading to Pillar.
 Q—Mitre and neighbouring Climbs.

with holds on the left wall. Above there are two pitches, the latter of which is difficult.

Yew Crag Gully.—Difficult ; 100 feet of rope.

First pitch, about 60 feet high. After easier work below, the wall on the right is climbed for 20 feet or so by very friable holds, and then an awkward ascent made over a smooth chockstone. After surmounting one or two obstacles, the big pitch comes into view. It has probably never been climbed quite direct, and this ought not to be attempted, as the rock is dangerously loose. An easy traverse can be made on the right and the gully entered higher up. It is also possible to ascend on the left up a very steep and heather-covered slab. A chimney is then climbed and a traverse made to the right into the gully. After this comes a rock wall about 25 feet high, then an easy chimney followed by smooth slabs, another wet chimney with a projecting capstone, and finally a number of little problems until the gully vanishes in the fell side.

On the Honister road, directly below the gully, will be noticed a spire-like boulder. The side that faces the road is extremely steep, but holds are good. The other side is more inclined but very smooth. There are at least half a dozen routes. Other boulders round about give interesting problems.

The many pitched gully on Honister Crag has been climbed once or twice, but should be left severely alone.

Fleetwith Gully.—Severe if both long pitches are taken direct. Moderate if they are turned on the left and right respectively. 80 feet of rope required. Just beyond Gatesgarth Farm, after passing through a gate, a cart track is followed to the right into Warnscale. The left hand track is taken for half-an-hour or so, and then a slanting course is made up the fell side to the gully whose leading feature is the large cave pitch some distance up. After two easy pitches, a slanting chimney is entered, the upper portion of which is very difficult, so that when about 20 feet up, a traverse is often made to the left among heather and rocks for 20 feet, followed by an ascent for 20 feet where vegetation must be treated with care. The chimney taken direct is about 40 feet in height. There are two short pitches, and then a steep chimney leads directly under the huge capstone. When this is reached a short but severe ascent must

be made on the right hand wall over the stone. A very good route can be made on the left hand wall; it is severe, and exposed, and entails an 80 foot run out. It is just outside the gully, and ends with a heather ledge and a rowan tree. From here it is possible to climb direct by a difficult slab, or on the left, by a moderate arête, or to return to the gully by an easy traverse. This pitch can be avoided. A steep wall on the right may be ascended for 20 feet without much difficulty if the assistance of a convenient tree be invoked. From the stance at the top a short traverse enables one to avoid all difficulty and enter the gully again. There are still several short pitches; one is surmounted by ledges on the right, where a little rather skilful balancing is required; another, if the dominating chockstone is tackled, is very strenuous, but this is easily avoided on the left hand side.

Green Crag Gully.—300 feet in height; contains half a dozen pitches, all of moderate difficulty. To reach this gully take the right hand branch of the track up Warnscale. Green Crag is the last crag on the right, and separated from the Haystacks, which is lower. It contains—

1. Nearest to the top of the pass, "Green Crag Gully."
 2. Lower down, "Toreador Gully."
- (1) 1st pitch. Easy staircase, 25 feet high, climbed on the left.
- 2nd pitch. Easy staircase about 20 feet high.
- 3rd pitch. A wall about 10 feet high is ascended, and a dark and narrow cleft entered which gives out in a cave higher up.
- Two short pitches of no particular difficulty are then ascended by the left wall.
- The 6th and last pitch is too steep and wet to be climbed direct. The left side of the gully is ascended for about 20 feet, then a traverse is made to the right for at least 15 feet. This is quite easy, but requires care. A final short and simple ascent up the bed of the gully completes the climb.

The 70 foot pitch mentioned by previous explorers now appears to be non-existent. The through route at the 3rd pitch was probably discovered by R. W. Hall.

Toreador Gully.—Severe; 100 foot rope required.

1st pitch, 20 feet high. An awkward chimney, square cut and devoid of holds. After a scree walk—

2nd pitch, 80 feet high. A steep chimney is climbed by backing up methods facing right for about 65 feet. The gully then widens out to a semi-circular wall. Here, after a little climbing, it is advisable to face left, and an awkward twist must be made to do so. Small footholds on the left wall must be used, and the right elbow can eventually be placed on the top of the pitch, which is completed with a struggle. One or two short obstacles must be surmounted to complete the climb, which can be left at the top of the big pitch.

Haystacks.—A steep face composed of heather and rocks, 400-500 feet in height. Starting from the Buttermere end, reached by the Scarf Gap track, is first noticed the rake or passage which slants across the face in an upward direction. This is of no interest to the rock climber. Proceeding along the base of the crags, will be noticed three gullies. These are (a) Stack Ghyll, (b) Warn Ghyll, and (c) Y Gully. To take the last named furthest away from Buttermere.

(a) **Y Gully.**—Its ascent was attempted long ago, but abandoned owing to bad rock.

(b) **Warn Ghyll.**—The following description is given in the Journal, Vol. 2, page 109. Severe; 100 foot rope needed. The gully is 400 feet in height.

1st pitch. A vertical chimney 25 feet in height, with a chockstone at the top which is difficult to surmount.

2nd and 3rd pitch easy to surmount.

4th pitch, 70-80 feet high. The lower part can be climbed "back and foot," then a traverse out on the right must be made and a traverse back to the left; very difficult and exposed. Above, the chimney goes well until the final pitch. It was necessary to avoid this by a steep rib composed of rock and heather, and the cliff top was eventually reached by an awkward little chimney.

This place is **best avoided**. On the second ascent an accident took place owing to loose rock.

Stack Ghyll.—Severe if top and bottom pitches are climbed without aid. Otherwise very difficult. 100 foot rope.

1st pitch. An inner chimney is climbed until it is possible to obtain a stance just below the boulder that crowns the pitch. The rope can be threaded through this, and an ice axe or a loop of rope will aid in overcoming the passage of the chockstone.

2nd pitch. An ascent behind jammed boulders. A series of short chimneys follow. A scree walk and then—

3rd pitch, a wet inner chimney, involving 30-40 feet of back and knee work.

4th pitch. Another ascent up a wall of rock which cuts into the gully.

5th pitch. A final wall of rock with a cave pitch on the right. This can be turned by exposed rocks on the left.

High Crag is situate behind Gatesgarth Farm. After following the Scarf Gap track for 100 yards, a straight course is made up to and over a wall. Very steep rocks are ahead which, at one or two places, may offer possibilities to a very expert party.

Gatesgarth Chimney, High Crag.—Difficult ; 80 foot rope. To reach this chimney continue, after crossing the wall, in the direction of Birkness Coombe for a short distance, then make a slanting course up heathery ledges. The chimney is on the left of a wide gully, and in the middle of the crag. A short crack is ascended by its left wall to the summit. Then another rock wall on the right is ascended. From here a turf staircase leads to the base of the chimney. This is very steep, but convenient holds and cracks can be found on either side, and after 30 feet, a good stance is arrived at above the first chockstone. A scramble is made along the bed of the gully for 40 feet, and then a short chockstone pitch ascended, the walls on either side of which are very smooth. Further progress can be made by an easy sloping crack straight ahead, but it is usual to make a difficult ascent up a 20 foot slab on the right. A good foothold for the right foot and small fingerholds for the left hand enable a good hold for the right hand to be reached, and a ledge is attained with no belay, but with a good stance. A groove on the left is then climbed for 30 feet to easy ground.



Western—
Buttress

Central—
Gully

Eastern—
Buttress

Birkness—
Chimney

Birkness—
Gully

Geoffrey Hastings.

EAGLE CRAG, BIRKNES COMBE.

Photo by

Epaulette Ridge.—From the top of the last climb a downward heathery traverse to the right leads to the Epaulette ; very difficult if taken direct ; 60 foot rope required. A well scratched crack on the left side enables the ridge to be attained. To follow this direct is a very difficult task in boots, but easier in rubbers. The final problem is awkward, and to avoid it a traverse may be made to the left, and a crack ascended.

Sheepbone Buttress.—From Buttermere village will be noticed a curious green rake sloping up the side of High Crag. At a height of about 500 feet from the bed of Birkness Coombe is situated this Buttress, on the right side of the rake.

- (1) After following up the right side of this buttress for 60-70 yards, there will be noticed a pinnacle with a gully on its South side. A narrow ridge forms the right wall of this gully. It may be 70 or 80 feet in height, and is very difficult. Leader requires 60 feet of rope. Recourse may be had to the grass covered slabs on its right, which are not easily attained.
- (2) Ascending the green rake on the left side of the buttress for a few feet, a short traverse enables one to attain a grassy platform. A crack lies straight ahead, and is followed till immediately above a large gully ; here bear up the slabs to the left, and follow the ridge forming the gully's left hand wall to the summit. Leader requires 40 feet of rope. The climb is moderate.

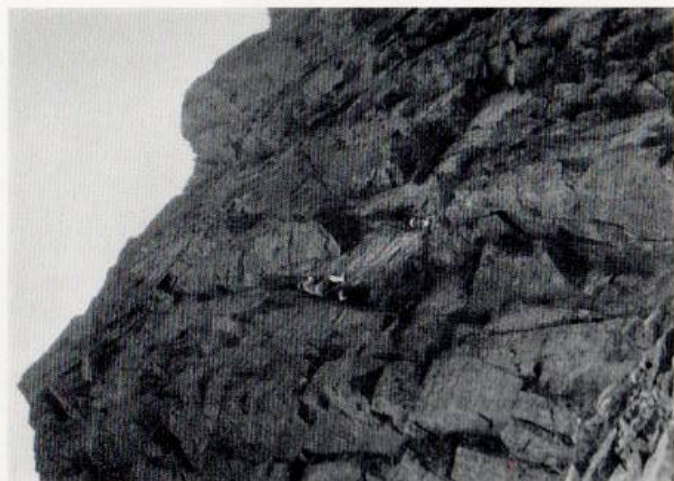
BIRKNES COOMBE.

Eagle Crag is at the south end of Birkness Coombe, and directly faces one when approaching from Buttermere. To reach it from Buttermere village, the fields behind the Fish Hotel are crossed, and also the bridge. A turn to the left is then made, and a cart track followed for nearly half an hour. A slanting course is then made upwards and round the shoulder of High Stile. The walk takes altogether about an hour and a half. A conspicuous chimney—The Central Chimney—cuts the crag from base to summit. On its left, slanting from left to right, and at a higher level, is Birkness Chimney. To the left again, in the angle, so to speak, is Birkness Gully.

Birkness Gully.—150 feet or so in height, steep, and entailing some hard work in its lower reaches ; very exposed at its exit. 80 foot rope required. Three steep cave pitches follow one another, and the exit in each case is on the right hand side. It is then necessary to step out on to a large jammed boulder (belay in the cave), thence a long narrow ledge is reached and traversed outwards until the whole depth of the gully seems immediately below. Then progress is made upwards, and the climb completed by means of an anvil shaped boulder.

Birkness Chimney.—Severe middle pitch, 80 foot rope. An approach is made to this climb from near the foot of Birkness Gully. The steep grassy angle and the 20 foot chimney mentioned in the original account will probably be overlooked, and nothing but grassy scrambling need be undertaken until the 3rd pitch, a wet and sloping chimney, is encountered. This is a little awkward, and may also be easily turned on the right. Then follows a choice between a 25 foot chimney and a very steep wall of rock, with good holds. A short crack is the next problem, and afterwards comes a pitch well known for its severity. The right wall is smooth, the left contains almost holdless grooves, and the chockstone above overhangs. The pitch is only about 20 feet in height, and its difficulties can be diminished if the leader receives a shoulder. Two short pitches above complete the climb.

Eagle Crag, Eastern Buttress.—This flanks Birkness Chimney on the right. 200 feet high, very difficult. Nearly 200 feet of pleasant scrambling alongside the chimney leads to a grass terrace and a cairn. From this, easy rocks followed diagonally to the left, bring one to a good stance and a belay (40 feet). A difficult 30 foot groove almost directly above is now taken, and some easy rocks followed to a belay at the foot of a big open corner (60 feet). Well to the left of the groove is a well scratched crack used as an alternative to one of the pitches in the chimney. An easy traverse, 20 feet to the right, leads to a splendid rock platform in an overhanging recess (good belay). From the platform one moves to the far wall of a Y groove, and then goes straight up a grassy corner. Loose rocks hereabouts need care. An exit is made from the corner on the left, and a ledge reached with a spiky



R. E. W. Fritchard.
HARROW BUTTRESS,
Second Pitch.



MITRE BUTTRESS,
Direct Route.

belay in an indefinite crack a few feet to the left. The final wall is climbed by this crack. 10 feet above the landing is a tremendous belay.

Central Gully, Eagle Crag.—This climb was led by Mr. A. H. Binns about the year 1918. He was seconded by Mr. H. Raeburn. A difficult traverse had to be made about the centre of the gully. Full details are not available.

Eagle Crag, West Route.—260 feet; very difficult. This apparently new climb lies approximately on the steep West Buttress of Eagle Crag. It follows an interesting and varied course that represents the line of least resistance, and contains some first rate situations. The route starts a few feet to the right of the arête, and leads straight up the wall on the right of a thin crack. At the start the rock seems to be unreliable, but actually it is sound, though all holds should be tested. After about 40 feet it is necessary to surmount a block on the left by an entertaining movement. After this, the crack becomes a chimney which is ascended to a ledge on the right hand wall. At this level a small jammed stone gives a wobbly, though apparently sound belay (80 feet). The face above the stance is now climbed, and soon leads to a grass ledge. Thence some easy scrambling leads to a beautifully situated terrace on the left, with a pinnacle for belay (50 feet). By moving back slightly to the right, one is enabled to climb straight up for about 20 feet, landing on a sort of mantelshelf. Now ensues a series of grassy ledges that lead to a grassy terrace that traverses all this part of the crag (50 feet). The terrace here divides, one part sloping to the right, the other keeping horizontal. The latter is followed to a corner distinctly reminiscent, as regards the situation, of that on the "Gordon and Craig" route, overlooking Great Gully. An interesting and rather difficult crack in the angle is now climbed and easy rocks taken to the right to a bollard (40 feet). One does not climb the wide corner above, but finds an unexpected finish up a short awkward crack round the corner to the right.

Away to the right of Eagle Crag is a Scree Gully, bounded on its right by broken rocks. Keeping along the base of these, a Scree Gully will be found to the left of which is a

sharp ridge called the "**Barndoor**," a somewhat sensational climb of moderate difficulty. Grassy rocks are followed for about 30 feet on the left; an ascent is then made for a few feet, and a passage over the ridge and round to a detached flake on the right hand side. From here the ridge is regained by a traverse to the left across a slab. Easy rocks now lead to a stance with a belay. The next pitch is a steep slab split by a crack, into which the right boot should be inserted as high as possible. The level and narrow ledge by which the main mass of the mountain is joined, finishes the climb.

High up in the corner between this climb and the rocks next described, is a short buttress called the "**Mole**." The angle is easy, but the climb in boots presents considerable difficulty.

We have now arrived at the west side of Birkness Coombe, and the rocks high up on the breast of High Stile—"Grey Craggs"—require a general description. A stiff pull up screes leads to them from the bed of the Coombe. The rock face to the left is called "Mitre Buttress," from its shape. This is divided by a gully on the right from a buttress starting at a lower level, and called the "Harrow Buttress." Continuing round this buttress, and ascending up screes, another buttress is reached, divided by a gully sloping from right to left from the Harrow Buttress. It contains the "Slabs Climb," etc. Away further to the right and higher, is another buttress (subsidiary) with an arête climb (Bishop's Arête). Above the "Slabs Buttress" is another line of cliff on the left hand side of which is the "Oxford and Cambridge Climb," easily reached from the top of the Mitre or the Slabs climbs. Further to the right, and on the same rocks, is a short chimney, and to the right again is another short chimney.

Harrow Buttress.—Introductory Climb. The ordinary route is rather difficult. 80 feet of rope will be sufficient.

- (1) A chimney with good holds. 30 feet.
- (2) Another chimney but harder. 30 feet.
- (3) A traverse to the left for 10 feet.
- (4) A steep scoop with poor holds. 25 feet.
- (5) Another scoop with an awkward step at the top. 35 feet.

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M Scree shoot
 leading to
 the Black
 Chimney

Photo by
 L. J. Oppenheimer,
 CHAPEL CRAGS FROM BLEABERRY TARN.

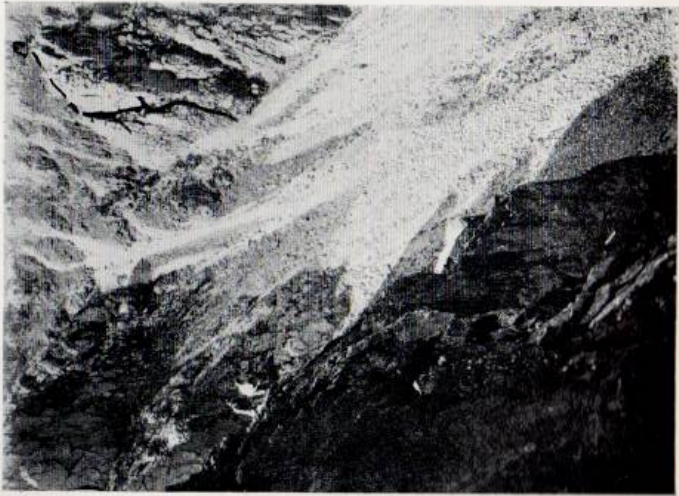


Photo by
 R. Mayson,
 A CRAG-FAST SHEEP ON EAGLE CRAG—BIRKNESS
 COMBE.

At the top of the second pitch a severe variation can be made by keeping up a crack with a slab on its left. This joins the original route at the top of the fourth pitch.

Mitre Buttress.—Continue to the left round the base of Harrow Buttress and on up the screes to the left of the Mitre rocks for a few yards. At an opening ascend a small chockstone pitch of 8 feet or so on to a grassy terrace, continue left up broken rocks to a large cave; traverse to the left here, and down a sloping ledge for 10 feet to its end, where good hand holds enable one to pull up to a broad ledge. An ascent is then made for a few feet up a steep wall and a chimney, about 35 feet high, follows, with excellent holds and divided into sections. Easy climbing enables one to reach the arête of the ridge which is followed to the end, and a descent made on to the fell behind by means of a small chimney. The climb is very moderate.

Mitre, Direct Route.—Very difficult and exposed, unsuitable for windy weather. Leader requires 60 feet of rope. Ascend between Harrow Buttress and the Mitre till the steep wall of the latter is within reach on your left.

- (1) 30 feet. Ascend the face of the buttress on good holds, rather awkwardly placed (belay).
- (2) Continue up the wall with small holds passing a mantelshelf and traverse to the left. You are now level with the cave on the ordinary route. 20 feet (belay).
- (3) 40 feet. Now comes a very steep and exposed wall on the right of the cave. Small but good holds.
- (4) 30 feet. An arête with large holds. Easy scrambling to the top follows, and to obtain more interesting work it is advisable to traverse to the left. An awkward crossing leads to a chimney of moderate difficulty.

The Slabs or Chockstone Buttress (so called from a detached rock on the face, and close to the Green Gully).—The climb is difficult and exposed; the leader will be the better for 60 feet of rope. To reach the climb keep up the screes to the right of Harrow Buttress, and into the gully which divides it from the climb to be described. Ascend an easy pitch in the gully, then traverse a few feet and ascend about 20 feet by easy rocks.

Make another traverse with an awkward step, and surmount a corner to a good stance with a belay.

- (2) A slab with excellent holds leads to another ledge with belay (20 feet).
- (3) 25 feet. A steep slab with good holds and a crack, leads to a very large ledge with belays.
- (4) 45 feet. Pass over a block and continue up a species of groove to the summit. This pitch bears a little to the left of those previously described.

Green Gully.—To the right of Chockstone Buttress. It contains two stiff little pitches, one of them a chimney with small holds—a grassy and dirty place altogether.

Chockstone Ridge.—On the right of Green Gully. The start of this is rather holdless, only 10 feet or so in height. It can be easily turned on the left. After some easy climbing, a gendarme has to be surmounted. Taking off from a block, a good hold can be found on the right hand side of the gendarme, and a traverse back made behind it. This pitch is somewhat difficult. Above this, by bearing to the right, a conspicuous chimney can be entered (about 40 feet high) in the buttress overhead. It contains plenty of holds. Still more to the right is the alternative of a steep arête which is exposed and difficult.

Bishop's Arête.—This is on the extreme right of the above climb, and at a higher level. It is a short buttress at right angles to the rocks on its left. Commence up a wall on the left of the arête for about 25 feet, to a good stance. After another short ascent it is necessary to traverse round the corner and ascend for about 20 feet a slab with few holds awkwardly placed. Eventually a recess on the right is reached, and a way is then made for about 30 feet up the arête, steep and exposed, but with plenty of holds. The climb is difficult, and requires a good leader. 80 feet of rope will suffice.

Oxford and Cambridge Buttress (called Summit Arête).—On the left side of the top rocks, and above the Mitre and Chockstone Climbs. Direct climb is severe; rubbers advisable. Leader will require 70 feet of rope.

- (1) 45 feet. Climb straight up (or from the right) to a belay which can be used to bisect this pitch (the stance here is bad). From this point a steep slab on the left is climbed to a large platform.
- (2) Easy rocks to where the arête steepens (belay).
- (3) 25 feet. A vertical crack on the left is climbed, with small holds to a ledge (belay).
- (4) 60 feet. A steep slab with few holds is ascended, and a standing position attained with difficulty below an overhang. Above this a fine hold, when found, enables the pull up to be made.

Alternative route on the left. Easy slabs are ascended for more than 40 feet. A short though difficult and steep ascent up a wall is then made, and after this an easy grassy ledge is traversed to the left, and the ascent is concluded by a groove of moderate difficulty. Except for the ascent of the wall, the climb is moderate.

Slabs Chimney.—Two pitches of moderate difficulty about 45 feet in height. A steep wall and crack are ascended, and the chimney entered. There are plenty of holds in the chimney, and backing up methods can be adopted.

King John's Chimney.—Moderate. Some distance to the right of Slabs Chimney. Contains two fairly easy pitches. The first is a wall 20 feet, the second a chimney 30 feet.

Bleaberry Coombe.—Chapel Craggs are reached by crossing the bridge behind Buttermere village. A turn is made to the left, and the cart track soon quitted, and a slanting path taken through the wood. This ends on the fell side, and one can then make straight for the tarn. An alternative is to ascend "Sour Milk Ghyll," which flows from the tarn, and in fine weather gives a little climbing.

Black Chimney is on the extreme left of the crags, a dark cleft well seen from the Buttermere Hotel.

- (1) 25 feet high. Ascent on the right wall, traversing slightly from right to left to the top of the pitch.
- (2) 25 feet high. A steep chimney is ascended for about 20 feet, and a difficult movement requiring strong arms enables the top of the chockstone to be gained. As

an alternative, an easy groove on the right hand side of the gully can be used.

Central Chimney.—Severe and rotten. Leader requires 50 feet of rope. A long scree slope leads to the first pitch, a moderate chimney 20 feet in height. The second pitch (perhaps 40 feet high) consists of an extremely difficult slab covered with moss. The finish is very severe, and the top guarded by loose stones. The place is best avoided.

Bleaberry Chimney.—Lies about half-way between the Central Chimney and the scree shoot at the west end of the crag. There is about 50 feet of indefinite scrambling up steep grass and rocks to a slight recess. Above follows a long chimney well defined and narrow. Stopping places can be found at intervals, and the various members of the party brought up. The last few feet are rather hard. Loose stones constitute a considerable risk. The climb is only one of moderate difficulty.

Chapel Crag Gully.—This was first climbed by a Fell and Rock party some twelve years ago, but the initial pitch was more or less avoided. The second pitch, 40 or 50 feet in height, was climbed without difficulty. An account of a second ascent made in August, 1925, is as follows—

“Difficult; leaders requires 60 feet rope. This is the next gully to the right of Bleaberry Chimney. The first pitch is a chimney 10 feet high, with a chock-stone, and is a struggle. The second pitch which we did not do, looked not difficult, but was covered with moss. We took a difficult 30 foot groove on the right, and traversed back into the gully. The last pitch consists of a rather difficult slab on the left. 50 feet.”

It seems possible that a certain amount of work might be done on the Chapel Crag Buttress.

Iron Stone Chimney, Melbreak.—Is on the side which faces Crummock Water. It is about a quarter of a mile north of the stone which juts out into the lake, and the output of stone from it, extending almost to the lake, identifies it. The climb begins with a small chimney, followed by a 40 foot slab. So far

Gatesgarth Chimney	198
Yew Crag Gully (including two bottom pitches, the second pitch taken on left)	195
Very Difficult—	
Mitre (direct)	203
Birkness Gully	200
Eagle Crag (Eastern Buttress)	200
Eagle Crag (Western Buttress)	201
Severe—	
Spiral Gully (Dove Crag)	193
Stack Ghyll	197
Fleetwith Gully (direct) or taking second pitch on left	195
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Chapel Crags Gully	206
Oxford and Cambridge (direct)	204
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Severe and dangerous from loose material—	
Warn Ghyll	197
Eagle Crag, Central Chimney	201

THE PILGRIM'S FIRST REVELATION.

As I walked through the wilderness of this world, I lighted on a certain place where was a den; and I laid me down in that place to sleep; and as I slept I dreamed a dream. I dreamed, and behold I saw a man clothed with rags, standing in a certain place, with his face from his own home, a book in his hand, and a great burden upon his back. I looked and saw him open the book and read therein; and as he read he wept and trembled; and not being able longer to contain, he brake out with a lamentable cry, saying, What shall I do?

JOHN BUNYAN.

OUTLYING CLIMBS.

ULLSWATER. The easterly side of the district is but badly furnished with climbs. The only serious courses so far discovered appear to be those on Dollywaggon Pike and Dove Crag. There are a number of outcrops of steep rock in the district, however, which though not of great height, might well repay investigation.

DOLLYWAGGON Tarn Crag, on the side of Dollywaggon **PIKE.** Pike, facing over Grisedale, contains two fair gullies. The rock in this neighbourhood, however, is not good, and requires care.

Dollywaggon Gully. Moderately difficult ; much loose stone and rotten rock.

A big stretch of scree is fed by four gullies, and the narrowest, steepest, and most easterly of these is the one to be climbed. The first pitch is an easy buttress about 35 feet high. Above this the climb proper commences. 20 feet of easy rock lead to a ledge. On the left an exceedingly steep crack with loose chockstone may be taken, or on the right a shallow scoop rising at an easier angle, which is the preferable route. Towards the top of the scoop a traverse is made back into the crack above the steepest portion, and requires care. A few feet higher up the crack a chockstone is reached which gives a firm belay. The remainder of the climb is a series of short boulder pitches, calling for care owing to the amount of loose scree which surmounts them. A chimney leads out on to the top of the crag. (From description by H. Westmorland).

Church Gully. This gully, 300 feet further to the east, is much the boldest feature of the crag, and is unmistakable by its big upper pitch, which cuts deeply into the face of the rock.

The climb can apparently be entered or left between the first and second pitches on the right side.

The first pitch is fairly hard, consisting of a wide chimney some 35 feet high, crowned by a big chockstone. There is a good deal of loose stuff above the chockstone.

The second pitch looks very difficult, but is much easier than it appears. From the "recess" the right wall of the gully should be faced till it is possible to sit on the capstone. The ascent into the "recess" is quite simple. From there the left wall should be faced, not the chockstone.

The Great Pitch may be climbed in one run out from the foot, 70 feet of rope being used. It is the hardest pitch of the climb. This section requires considerable care, but is not really hard. It is similar to "Brant and Slape," on Pavey Ark, but everything is covered with moss. A short distance below the chockstone, solid clean rock is encountered, with good holds and some small belays. The stance is, however, uncomfortable, and though threading operations under the chockstone are feasible, a strong leader will find it better to run right out. By utilising good footholds well out on the left, and then wedging the right leg into the crack between the capstone and the left wall of the gully, it is possible to rise slowly and strenuously, but securely. The landing is loose and unsatisfactory, but not so difficult.

The fourth and last pitch begins easily, but the final eight or ten feet, to the left of the chockstone, consists of a scramble up steep loose vegetation and rock. It is possible to traverse well out on the left wall by grassy ledges, and so fetch a compass back into the upper regions of the gully. (From descriptions by Horace Westmorland and W. T. Elmslie.)

DOVE CRAG. There is said to be good climbing on this crag. In particular a route has been made up the face about 100 feet to the right of an "inaccessible gully," but no particulars are on record, save that it is of Moss Ghyll difficulty, and that the route was cairned.

ARTHUR'S PIKE. About a mile from the Howtown Road; has some short but strenuous courses. The rocks are in two groups, the upper and more easterly containing two climbs.

**Mounsey's
Miracle.** 40 feet. The first 20 feet lie up a wall of broken rock. Above this lies a narrow cleft with smooth walls, which is difficult to enter, and even more difficult to climb when there.

**Higginson's
Chimney.** 80 feet. Is in two pitches, separated by a short scree slope. The upper part, which is deeply recessed and roofed by a large chockstone, gives good sport.

The lower rocks give longer courses, and contain two cracks which are both strenuous and difficult.

HARTER FELL This gully is well seen from the top of **(Mardale)**: Gatesgarth Pass, and is indeed visible from **Mardale Gully.** the Mardale Valley, sloping diagonally from left to right up the face of Harter Fell, and coming out near the top of the mountain.

The first pitch is a short chockstone pitch, easily climbed on the right. There follows a considerable stretch of scree, to a biggish pitch in three sections. The right wall slightly overhangs, and on the left is a long narrow slab, with a sloping chimney between the two. The first section of the pitch is overcome by wriggling up the not very difficult chimney to a good stance. Next a move is made up into the cave under the big chockstone, and a way is made up the crack between this block and the slab on the left, with considerable difficulty. Care should be taken of loose rock. The leader will probably elect to continue for a further six or eight feet up the third section of the pitch. The total height of this pitch is perhaps 70 feet, but the second man can ascend the first section (30 feet) before the leader passes the capstone. The last pitch is a short, but loose and somewhat holdless scramble up a scoop to the left of a large block.

The rock scenery is excellent, and the climb is quite a good difficult, marred by the friability of the rock in some places, and by the loose scree at the top of the pitches. (From description by W. T. Elmslie).

THIRLMERE : Easy scrambling on good rough rock will be found here. In particular from the southerly end of a curious grassy rake, which slants up the face from below the overhang, which forms such a marked feature of this crag, there starts a slanting groove which in its initial stages furnishes genuine climbing.

Iron Crag Gully. This crag is situated on the right hand side and almost at the head of the little valley of Shoulthwaite, which may be reached from the third milestone on the road from Keswick to Windermere. It is notorious for a long gully of the first ascent of which there is an exciting description in O. G. Jones' Rock Climbing in the English Lake District. From a climbing point of view the gully has little merit, being replete with vegetation, while the final 80 feet pitch, which is the *pièce de resistance*, is so remarkably rotten and loose that its ascent can hardly be regarded as justifiable.

The Benn. This little crag lies opposite Iron Crag, on the other side of the Ghyll. Three short climbs have been made, the first up a wall with an awkward traverse half-way up. The second, higher up, is a 100 feet wall. The third, to the left, begins with a chimney, and ends with an exposed traverse to the left.

Nab Crag. This crag lies on the northerly side of the valley of Wythburn Head, and offers good scrambling on sound rock. There is a well marked gully, which is worth climbing, but otherwise no definite courses seem to have been made.

NEWLANDS. Eel Crag, which rise above Newlands, are very impressive in appearance, but afford but little satisfactory climbing. Most of the rock is vegetation covered and loose; it is not sufficiently continuous for good courses.

Newland, Corner. The best rock is to be found at the southerly end, on the steep flat buttress which faces the pass from

Borrowdale to Newlands. A route has been made up this, which starts some 15 yards to the right of the foot of this buttress (cairn) below a series of narrow cracks.

After a movement to the left, scrambling for about 30 feet brings the leader to the foot of these cracks, which can be turned by an interesting traverse to the right, over a nose of rock (25 feet). The stance here is poor, but a belay can be obtained round a boulder at the top of a chimney. After climbing 10 feet on to a grassy ledge to the right, a horizontal traverse back to the left for about 15 feet leads to a corner under an overhang. About fifteen feet higher on the arête there will be found a fine belay.

From here the climb continues up an indefinite chimney until one is forced out to the right to a corner from which a short easy crack leads back to the arête (30 feet).

A scramble and a big gently sloping slab lead to a corner, and a fine chimney with a belay on the right. The chimney, which is very difficult, can be avoided by a traverse along the top of the slab and round a corner to a belay, after which a further 15 feet of steep rock bring an end to difficulties.

This climb, which is about 250 feet in length, is difficult.

LIST OF FIRST ASCENTS.—LANGDALE.

COMPILED BY H. S. GROSS.

- Circa. 1400 A.D.—Jack's Rake Jack.
R. Pendlebury between 1870-80.
- 1882—Great Gully, Pavey Ark W. P. Haskett-Smith.
- 1886, June—Little Gully, Pavey Ark.... W. P. Haskett-Smith.
- 1892, April—Gwynne's Chimney H. A. Gwynne and
W. P. Haskett-Smith had previous- party.
ly descended the Chimney.
Variation, March 18th, 1923. R. S. T. Chorley,
H. P. Cain.
W. G. Pape.
- 1897, April 20th—Bowfell Links, No. 4 C. R. B. Storry,
G. H. McKilburn,
J. W. Davies.
- 1897, Sept.—Bowfell Links, Nos. 5
and 6 C. R. B. Storry,
G. D. Abraham,
A. P. Abraham.
G. H. McKilburn.
- 1898, Oct. 1st—Rake End Chimney C. W. Barton.
- 1902, May 24th—Bowfell Buttress T. Shaw,
(The gully on the north side of the G. H. Craig,
Buttress was climbed by W. P. G. R. West,
Haskett-Smith in 1882.) C. Hargreaves,
L. J. Oppenheimer.
Variation by Chimney, Sept. 20th, T. H. Somervell,
1919. L. Somervell.

- 1902, Nov. 2nd—S. E. Chimney, Gimmer Crag
 (The first recorded climbing on Gimmer Crag is the ascent of the western gully by W. P. Haskett-Smith in 1882.) E. Rigby,
 J. Sandison,
 A. Thomson.
- 1902, Nov. 2nd—S.E. Lower Traverse Gimmer Crag. E. Rigby.
- 1903, April 7th—"A" Route, Gimmer Crag. E. Rigby,
 D. Leighton,
 J. Sandison.
- 1907, April—Crescent Climb F. Botterill,
 NOTE.—The Gully portion of this W. E. Palmer.
 climb was done by C. W. Barton,
 October 24th, 1899.
 Variation on Slabs, May 10th, 1913 S. W. Herford,
 C. W. Marshall.
 Variation of Start, Aug. 6th, 1909. S. H. Gordon,
 H. S. Liesching.
- 1907, May 26th—Oliverson's Variation, Gimmer. C. H. Oliverson,
 G. C. Turner,
 F. B. Kershaw.
- 1907, May 26th—Lyon's Crawl, Gimmer H. B. Lyon,
 J. Stables,
 A. Thomson.
- 1907, July 7th—" B " Route, Gimmer H. B. Lyon,
 J. Stables,
 A. Thomson.
- 1907, Sept. 22nd—Junipall (Raven) Gully, Gimmer. Fell and Rock Party,
 names not recorded.
- 1908, Oct.—Blea Rigg, Easedale.... G. C. Turner,
 J. Stables.

- 1919, May 31st—" D " Route, Gimmer G. S. Bower,
P. R. Masson.
- 1920, April 18th—Stony Buttress,
Pavey Ark. G. S. Bower,
A. W. Wakefield.
- 1920, June 19th—Crescent Slabs,
Pavey Ark. G. S. Bower,
A. W. Wakefield.
- 1920, June 20th—Ash Tree Slabs,
Gimmer. G. S. Bower,
A. W. Wakefield.
- 1921, Jan. 30th—" Harristickorner " G. S. Bower,
J. C. Appleyard.
- 1921, Mar. 20th—Main Wall Traverse G. S. Bower,
F. Graham.
- 1921, June 5th—Main Wall Traverse... A. Ackerley,
Route II. G. Ackerley.
- 1921, July 28th—Tarn Crag Buttress J. A. Garrick,
(Mill Gill). W. L. Tulip.
- 1922, June 8th—Juniper Buttress, C. F. Holland,
Gimmer A. S. Piggott,
Morley Wood.
- 1922, Sept. 6th—Cambridge Climb W. T. Elmslie,
(Bowfell). A. de St. C. Walsh.
- 1922, Oct.—Scout Crag (Routes 1 and 2) F. Graham.
- 1923, April 19th—Gladstone Knott W. T. Elmslie,
Chimney, No. 2. A. de St. Walsh.
- 1923, Aug. 8th—Bracket and Slab, H. B. Lyon,
Gimmer. J. Herbert.
1st Ascent including Chimney, 12th H. B. Lyon,
August, 1923. J. Herbert,
Miss M. M. Barker.
H. P. Cain,
J. B. Wilton.

- 1923, Aug. 10th—White Ghyll Chimney H. B. Lyon,
J. Herbert,
H. P. Cain.
- 1923, Sept. 3rd—Chimney Buttress, H. B. Lyon,
Gimmer. G. Ackerley,
J. Herbert.
- 1924, Aug. 11th—" E. " Route, Gimmer J. A. Wray,
G. Basterfield.
- 1924, Aug. 11th—Right Hand Wall, M. de Selincourt,
Bowfell. Miss B. Ritchie.
- 1924, Sept. 1st—The Neckband M. de Selincourt.
- 1924, Sept. 7th—Holly Tree Crack M. de Selincourt.
(Easedale).
- 1924—Crescent Wall, Pavey Ark M. de Selincourt.
- 1924—Gimmer Traverse M. de Selincourt.
- 1925, Mar. 18th—Herdwick Buttress, F. Graham.
Gimmer.
- 1925, April—Gibson Knott (Easedale) A. R. Thomson,
I. and II. A. Dibona.
- 1926, June 13th—Pallid Slabs, Gimmer G. S. Bower,
A. W. Wakefield,
H. V. Hughes.
- 1926, June 27th—Diphthong, Gimmer Morley Wood,
G. S. Bower,
A. B. Reynolds,
— Frischmann.
- 1927, July 10th—Hiatus Gimmer G. S. Bower,
A. B. Reynolds,
A. W. Wakefield,
G. G. Macphee.

1927. Aug. 15th—Gladstone's Finger (Gladstone Knott). W. T. Elmslie,
D. Duncan,
K. McKinley.
- 1927, Aug. 17th—Black Warrs, Pike o' Blisco. W. T. Elmslie and
Boy Scouts.

LIST OF FIRST ASCENTS.—BUTTERMERE.

COMPILED BY A. R. THOMSON.

- 1889—Green Crag Gully J. W. Robinson,
W. A. Wilson.
- 1893—Black Chimney, Birkness Coombe O. G. Jones,
J. W. Robinson.
- 1893—Central Chimney, Birkness Coombe. O. G. Jones,
J. W. Robinson,
W. A. Wilson.
- 1900, Dec. 31st—Stack Ghyll T. Shaw,
1st Pitch Direct, 6th April, 1901. L. J. Oppenheimer,
G. H. Craig.
- 1902—Green Crag Y Gully (partial) J. W. Robson,
A. Fox,
P. Spencer,
L. J. Oppenheimer.
- 1902—Fleetwith Gully G. T. Ewen,
P. S. Minor,
E. Broxap,
D. Thompson.
- 1903—Fleetwith Gully, 1st Direct Ascent. L. P. Scott,
P. Ryan.

- 1903, August—Birkness Chimney Dr. N. Sheldon,
L. J. Oppenheimer.
- 1903, Aug.—Birkness Gully.... Dr. N. Sheldon,
L. G. Oppenheimer.
- 1907, May 24th—Warn Ghyll F. Botterill,
L. J. Oppenheimer,
J. R. Scott,
T. Shaw,
A. Fox.
- 1908, Easter—Bleaberry Chimney W. P. Haskett-Smith
Eric Greenwood,
W. A. Brigg,
H. Scott-Tucker,
L. J. Oppenheimer.
- 1908, April 17th—Yew Crag Gully J. R. Scott,
J. W. Robson,
A. Fox,
G. R. West,
— Zimmern,
L. J. Oppenheimer.
- 1908, Aug. 2nd—Toreador Gully.... H. B. Lyon,
L. J. Oppenheimer,
E. Scantlebury.
A. R. Thomson.
- 1912—Mitre Ridge (Ordinary Route).... C. A. Elliott and party
Direct Route, July, 1915. A. C. Pigou and party
- 1912, June—Sheepbone Buttress C. A. Elliott and party
- 1912—Harrow Buttress H. Bishop,
W. A. Woodsend.

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- 1913, Sept.—Charter Chimney C. A. Werner and
party
- 1913—Gatesgarth Chimney.... G. W. Young and
party
- 1913—Epaulette Ridge G. W. Young and
party
- 1913, Aug. 11th—Slabs Climb, Chock- H. Bishop,
stone Buttress. W. A. Woodsend.
- 1913, Aug. 11th—Bishops' Arête.... H. Bishop,
W. A. Woodsend.
- 1913, Dec.—Barndoor Ridge A. C. Pigou and party
- 1914, April—Chockstone Ridge J. H. Clapham and
party
- 1914, Sept.—Oxford and Cambridge H. V. Reade.
Buttress.
- 1915—July—King John's Chimney A. C. Pigou and party
- 1915—Goat Crag, West Gully H. C. Jenkins,
R. W. Hall.
- 1918—Central Gully, Eagle Crag.... H. Binns,
H. Raeburn.
- 1922, Nov. 14th—Iron Stone Chimney, W. A. Wilson,
Mellbreak R. W. Hall.
- 1924, May 19th—Spiral Gully, Dove Dibona,
Crag. A. R. Thomson,
R. W. Hall.
- 1925, April 11th—West Buttress, A. S. Pigott,
Eagle Crag. F. Graham,
L. Henshaw.

1925, April 12th—East Buttress, Eagle Crag.	F. Graham, M. Wood, J. Hirst, J. F. Burton.
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OUTLYING CLIMBS.

LIST OF FIRST ASCENTS.

1896, June—Iron Crag Gully, Shoul- thwaite.	G. D. and A. P. Abraham, J. W. Robinson, F. W. Jackson.
1910—Dolly Waggon Gully	H. Westmorland, J. Mounsey.
1910, Sept. 23rd—Chock Gully, Dollywaggon	W. Westmorland, J. Mounsey.
1910, Oct. 3rd—Dove Crag, Patter- dale.	J. Mounsey, W. A. North, H. Westmorland.
1923, Whitsuntide—Newlands Corner	R. S. T. Chorley, E. F. Harland.
1926, June 30th—Mardale Gully, Harter Fell (Mardale).	W. T. Elmslie.

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