At midnight we reached the Schafberg. Here we sat down for a short rest and, smoking a well-earned pipe, took in the overwhelming beauty of this winter night.

The descent over the steep slopes of the Schafberg again required great care. At 1.30 A.M. we re-entered the hut after an absence of nearly 22 hours.

(*Concluded.*)

The East—or Baltschieder Face—of Bietschhorn.

(Explanation of Sketch.[2])

—··—··— route of Messrs. D. W. Freshfield and C. C. Tucker, with François Dévouassoud and Fr. von Allmen, July 10, 1866, from Baltschiederjoch over the N. arête.

Point 3712 = point where the first party to ascend the Bietschhorn gained the N. arête (Sir Leslie Stephen, with Joh. and Anton Siegen and Jos. Ebener, August 13, 1859).

— + — + — + — + line of ascent of Messrs. C. T. Dent and J. Oakley Maund with Joh. Jaun and Andreas Maurer, July 25, 1878. This route is sometimes a short cut for a party which descends over the E. spur when conditions are good.

+ + + + + + Herr Moritz von Kuffner's (with Alexander Burgener and Aloys Kalbermatten, July 26, 1892) variation.

— — — — — ordinary route when ascending over the E. spur for a party which starts from the Baltschieder-Klause, 2793 m. (*cf.* 'A.J.' **25**, 641–644).

—·—·—·— E. ridge, route of Mr. James W. Alexander, with Oskar Supersaxo, September 2, 1927.

Climbing in Greenland, Petermann Peak.[1]

By J. M. WORDIE.

(Read before the Alpine Club, March 4, 1930.)

GREENLAND, like Spitsbergen, has occasionally been visited by mountain climbers, but generally only as subsidiary to explorations of a wider nature.[2] In West Greenland

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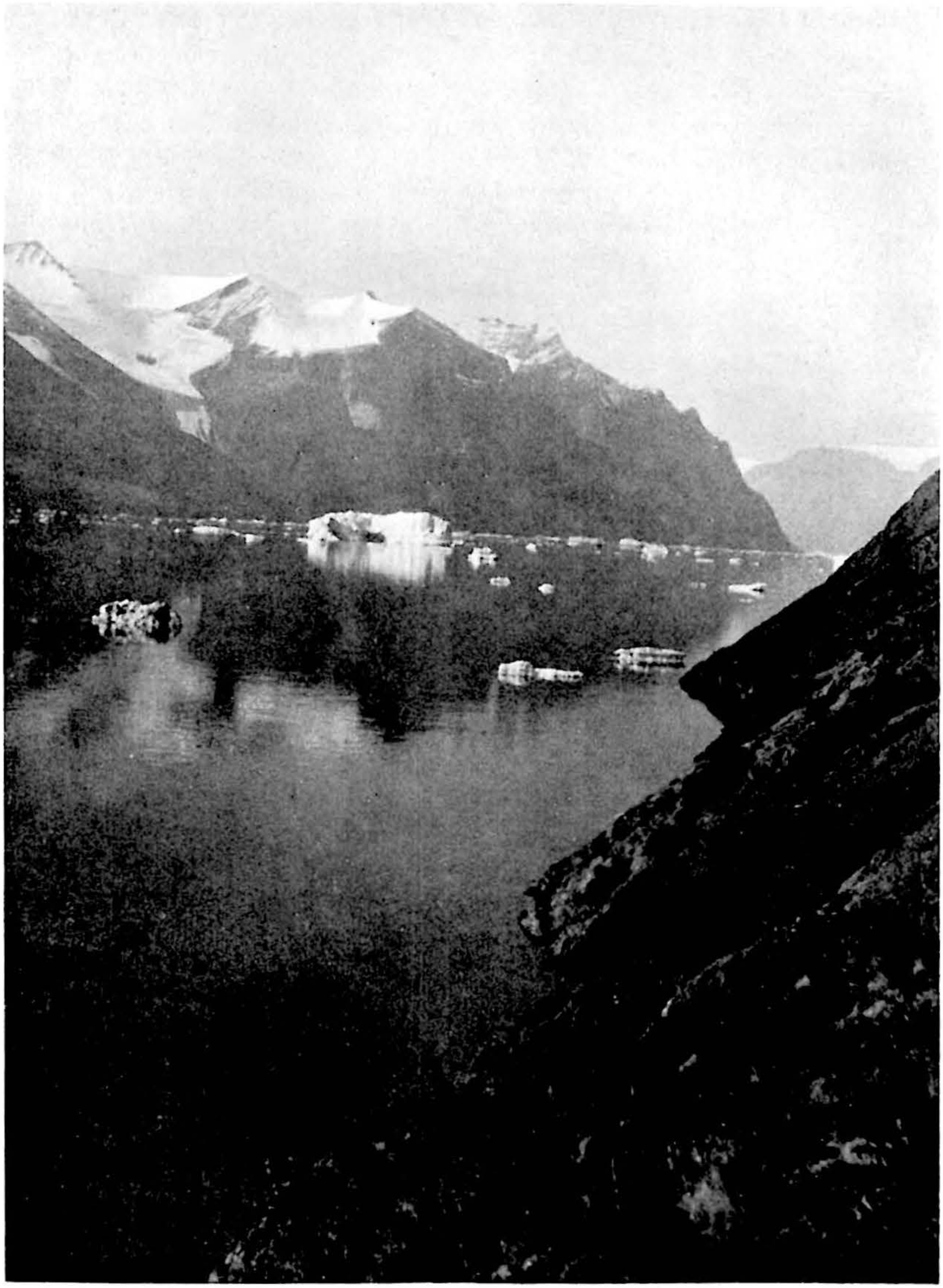
[2] By Herr O. Fahrni, to whom we are again much indebted.—*Editor.*

[1] See map at end of this volume.

[2] The opposite coasts differ very considerably in accessibility: there are regular summer sailings to the W. coast, whilst on the E.



Photo, R. C. Wakefield.

FRANZ JOSEF FJORD.

Payer Peak (6,900 ft.), Suess Land on left.

Edward Whymper's visits in 1867 and 1872 have been described in the ALPINE JOURNAL. In East Greenland, with which the present account is concerned, the only recorded climb, but a notable one, is the ascent of a peak in Franz Josef Fjord in 1870 by Lieut. Payer, Professor Copeland and Peter Ellinger. The mountain has since been known as Payer Peak with a round figure height of 7000 ft. It was the last effort before the return of the German Polar Expedition led by Captain Koldewey in 1869–70 ; the expedition, planned originally to reach the North Pole, is now perhaps more noteworthy by reason of the chance discovery of Franz Josef Fjord. Payer and his companions climbed from sea-level, making the up and down journey in twenty-one hours. From the summit they discovered the much higher Petermann Peak in the far west. Payer wrote : 'One thing attracted our attention more than anything else, and that was a monstrous pyramid of ice to the west, rising about 4850 ft. above a high mountain ridge. This glorious peak could bear none other name than that of Petermann, the honoured originator of the first German Arctic Expedition : its real height must have approached 11,000 ft.' [3] Payer Peak remained the highest recorded climb within the Arctic Circle for over 50 years. Kebnekaise (6965 ft.) in Lapland was climbed by Monsieur C. Rabot in 1883. Beerenberg (7460 ft.) on Jan Mayen was climbed in 1921.[4]

Between 1870 and the Cambridge Expedition of 1926 the only other ship to penetrate the inner Franz Josef Fjord was that of the Swedish Expedition in 1899 led by Professor

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this is impossible owing to the presence of heavy pack-ice carried S. by the East Greenland Current. Ships attempting to reach the E. coast require special ice-strengthening, and the land has only occasionally been visited.

[3] Captain Koldewey, *The German Arctic Expedition of 1869–70*, English edition, edited by H. W. Bates (London, 1874), p. 561. The English edition lacks certain of the large-scale maps and coloured plates appearing in the original German, and more particularly a striking coloured plate of Petermann Peak from Payer Peak. This same view, but with some interesting differences, appears as a black-and-white illustration in Lieut. Payer's separately published account. There is a note on the two mountains in *A.J.* **5,** 266–268.

[4] *Geographical Journal*, March 1922, pp. 180–195, where the height based on aneroid observations is given as 8090 ft. The figure of 7460 ft. (2274 m.) was determined by Professor Mercanton by theodolite in 1929.

Nathorst. Nathorst reported that the height of Petermann was much lower than as stated by Payer. His photographs show, however, that he was observing a lower peak, not so far distant, and which we have since called Nathorst Peak. The Swedish surveyors do not appear to have climbed any mountain for survey purposes, their work being done either from the deck of the ship or from shore stations.

An attempt on Petermann Peak was included in the programme of expeditions from Cambridge in 1923 and 1926.[5] In the former year the ship, owing to exceptional ice conditions, failed to reach the East Greenland coast. In 1926, on the other hand, the seas were almost entirely ice-free, and a full programme of exploratory mapping was carried out. Five days in the beginning of August were all that could be spared for an attempt on the mountain, but the time so set aside proved, in the end, much too short and a reconnaissance of the approaches was all that could be attempted. It had been planned to follow a route up the Nordenskiöld Glacier from the head of Franz Josef Fjord, but close packing of brash ice due to falls from the glacier face prevented the ship reaching within 4 miles of the terminal ice cliff. On either side of the fjord the rock cliffs are impassable, and a side route had therefore to be found from Kjerulf Fjord. From the foot of Riddarborgen we climbed up towards the Riddar Glacier; camp was pitched the first night on heath-covered ground 3000 ft. above sea-level, and on the second night on the ridge W. of Cambridge Peak at a height not far short of 7000 ft. The view from this high camp made it clear that Petermann Peak was unlikely to be reached in less than six days. Only three more days were available, however, and the 1926 reconnaissance ended with the ascent of two other Cambridge Peaks and of Riddarborgen. This experience showed that the by-pass route from Kjerulf Fjord would require to curve well to the S. so as to avoid the deep-cut branch valleys on the S. side of the Nordenskiöld Glacier. It was also evident that, considering distance and terrain, the only possible method of transport would be by 'packing.'

In 1926 the ship had reached the coast in the second week of July and we had had six weeks at our disposal for exploration. Last year (1929) the pack-ice conditions were the reverse of favourable, and it took four weeks to reach the coast from Jan Mayen, and the ship did not get to the head of Franz Josef Fjord till August 6. On this occasion it would have

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[5] *Geographical Journal*, Sept. 1927, pp. 225–265.

been possible to have approached the foot of the Nordenskiöld Glacier and probably to have landed a party at either side. We did not adopt this course but again selected Kjerulf Fjord as a base for the following reasons. There might be a recurrence of the events of 1926, which would prevent the party being taken off by the parent ship or even leaving in their own rowing-boat from the foot of the Nordenskiöld Glacier: and a base near there would also always be liable to inundation by waves from bergs calving off the glacier end, whilst in Kjerulf Fjord this danger would be absent. We were most influenced, however, by the conviction that brash ice would only be temporarily held near the mouth of Kjerulf Fjord and that from a base there, a journey by rowing-boat to the outer coast, 120 miles distant, was always possible. In the event of having to retreat by rowing-boat a party can reckon on an unlimited supply of game, and particularly musk-ox meat, in the outer parts of Franz Josef Fjord. The chances of the ship not returning owing to ice hindrances and the waters being uncharted are of course considerable.

On August 6 we made a depôt at the S. foot of Riddarborgen consisting of two Whymper tents, a fortnight's provisions, rifles, a rowing-boat, and a certain amount of winter clothing. The only danger to the depôt was possible damage by polar bears; one was shot near here in 1926 and another in 1929, both males. The climbing party of six consisted of A. Courtauld and R. C. Wakefield in charge of surveys, J. F. Varley, V. E. Fuchs, V. S. Forbes and myself. The tents carried were of Mummery pattern, three in number, made of light material and modified for our particular purpose by having broad skirting and detachable ground sheets; this made it possible to dispense with pegs, and to pitch the tents with equal facility on either rock or snow; a tent complete weighed a little over 6 lbs. The sleeping bags weighed 4–5 lbs. and each consisted of an inner bag of eiderdown fastened inside an outer bag of fine down. The heavier items were the climbing ropes, crampons, Primus stoves and paraffin. Climbing and camp equipment totalled 120 lbs. In addition the survey instruments weighed 55 lbs.; these included a specially constructed $3\frac{1}{4}$-inch Watts theodolite weighing with legs 20 lbs. Of food the daily ration was very little more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per man per day; for the six men the daily consumption was 3–4 lbs. pemmican, 2 lbs. sugar and oatmeal, 2 lbs. chocolate and 2 lbs. biscuits. This was a low ration and could not have been maintained for more than a limited period. We found that

L-shaped 'Everest' carriers with detachable sacks were much more convenient for our varied loads than the more common frame-rucksack of Bergans Meis type. The total weight to be carried came to about 360 lbs., of which 120 only was food. This is a bigger load per head than can be carried on one journey. On the first day out we had the help, however, of some of those remaining on the ship; and subsequently Forbes was in charge of a couple of relay journeys. Loads of 40 lbs., if there is much uphill work, are about all that can conveniently be carried, and certainly so in the early stages before becoming hardened to the work.

Camp I was pitched amongst rocks and springy heath at 3775 ft. altitude on the N. side of the Riddar Glacier and about one mile above the glacier snout. The way had been a steady climb from sea-level, at first among a low and stunted vegetation of Arctic willow and birch, and later across bouldery scree streaming down from Riddarborgen, where 'bushes' had given way to sparser heath, among which berry plants of familiar Scottish aspect were prominent. The Arctic birch, but not the willow, is burnt dead, and this must certainly point to a climate exceptionally dry. Our height the first night was well below the snow-line.

Next day, August 7, we traversed the hill slopes for a short distance, edging down on to the dry glacier as found convenient. Following the southern branch we reached the first snow at about 6000 ft.; melting, however, was active, and there is no doubt that the snow-line must be still higher at the end of the season. The party divided: Wakefield, Courtauld and Fuchs went off to the right for survey purposes, while the remainder camped on the ridge of the Cambridge Peaks. We spent three nights at Camp II. In the two days following a relay party went down to sea-level and back, a depôt was left at Outlook Col, and a reconnaissance made from Outlook Peak.

We finally quitted Camp II early on August 10. A stiff wind was blowing from the west with drifting snow and heavy cloud; there was every indication of further poor weather comparable to the uncertain conditions of the two previous days. From later experience, however, it may be possible that these conditions are local; at sea-level on the 9th there was intense heat, while at Camp II there was a half-blizzard; again, some days later Forbes reported very strong winds at Outlook Col, while at the same time on the Battlements a survey party was enjoying perfect weather. From Camp II we contoured round to Outlook Col, and, as we reached the

pass, the weather cleared sufficiently to give a magnificent panorama, parallel intervening ridges serving to throw Petermann Peak, optically at any rate, into the remote distance. A most striking feature was the icy white cone of Mount Shackleton. From Outlook Col one can traverse the N.W. face of Outlook Peak, but to cross over the Peak itself, though slightly longer, is preferable. We were now following the watershed between the southern deep-cut branches of the Nordenskiöld Glacier and the glaciers flowing S. to the head of Kjerulf Fjord. Snow Dome gave some trouble by reason of a combination of wide schrunds and deep treacherous snow.

The top of the Knoll was reached about 7 P.M., and steps taken to find a camp site. Up till now we had been fortunate enough on each occasion to find sufficient bare ground adaptable to tent sites, and now to achieve our purpose we descended about 700 ft. of rock and scree to the Mercanton Glacier —the descent being, in any case, necessary to our route. The advantage of camp sites on stony ground, and therefore dry though angular, needs no emphasis; this object was always in view and was realized throughout the trip. Any inconvenience from a moraine mattress can be countered by judicious coiling of the climbing rope. Another advantage of selecting sites near the snow-line, preferably near bare rock, is the likelihood of finding running water. To melt ice for water is more economical than melting snow, but even then doubles the paraffin consumption. A generous water supply is very necessary, and the craving for it seems almost as strong as for sugar.

Up till now it had been a problem as to how far our route was the best one. That a deep valley might cut across our proposed track was clearly possible, and such had been the opinion of the 1926 surveyors; on the other hand, some of us thought that it was much more likely that the main peak would be reached without losing much height. These doubts were soon settled. On the 11th we reached Sentinel Col in a W. wind and driving mist; that we had chosen to follow this particular direction was perhaps a matter of luck, but until the mist cleared in the afternoon there was nothing to indicate whether we were on the right route or not. The clouds lifted; right and left of the pass we climbed the Sentinel and the Knuckle, and then definitely learnt that a descent was necessary down to and across the Nordenskiöld Glacier. We had struck blindly towards Sentinel Col in the fog; we now knew it as the only possible route, and as an easy pass over to the Ptarmigan Glaciers.

Photo, R. C. Wakefield.

Looking down Middle Ptarmigan Glacier to the big Nordenskiöld Glacier.

Photo, R. C. Wakefield.

High Camp on Ptarmigan Glacier.
(Mt. Shackleton in Background.)

Two nights were spent by the upper of these glaciers at Camp IV to allow of supplies being replenished and survey work accomplished from the Battlements. At the latter point also a telescope reconnaissance was made of the Nordenskiöld Glacier and its forbidding N. wall. The trunk glacier is deeply entrenched between nearly perpendicular cliffs, and the side glaciers are almost all of the 'cascading' type, the Ptarmigan on the S. side being the exception. We planned to follow the moraines along the S. side of the Nordenskiöld Glacier and then to cross it to a point a little W. of the Disa Glacier junction. An immense rock-fall from the Lion Bastion served as a warning that we were not dealing with an old, almost subdued land but with much more raw and immature country.

At Camp IV (5900 ft.) we had dropped below the snow-line, and on the screes nearby there had been a rich vegetation, withered by now, but occasionally frequented by hares and ptarmigan; while we were away from camp an inquisitive fox had followed our trail. The next days were gloriously warm: on dry ice we threaded a way down the crevassed portions of the Upper and Middle Ptarmigan Glaciers on to the wider and smoothly rolling Lower Ptarmigan. Corner Lake is ice enclosed like the Märjelen See. To us, who had just descended from higher and colder lands, it was a most attractive and tempting region.

On the 14th the difficulties of crossing the big glacier soon vanished. From six miles distant on the Battlements it was hardly possible to settle details, but the route selected in the end proved free from crevasses and séracs except in the last quarter-mile. The worst anticipation had been the ice-cut river gorges serpentining down the centre near two prominent medial moraines. Up till now we had regretted the lateness of the season and the hindrances in the pack-ice which had prevented a climbing journey in July; the nights were cold, falls of snow had been not infrequent, and we felt throughout that the Arctic autumn was already with us. This day, however, we experienced the advantage of the late season. In the thaw conditions during July the glacier would have been almost impassable and the same would have applied to the surface rivers. By the middle of August, however, what must have been rushing torrents in July had dwindled to trickles of clear water. It was, in fact, a comparatively easy matter to climb down their ice sides to the stream-bed, and by working either up or down stream find a way out on the other side. On one occasion Wakefield piloted us along a river-bed through

a narrow trench about 40 ft. deep and about 6 in breadth: the walls, wavy and rippled by water erosion, were of a dazzling blue, giving the effect of mirrors and jazz lighting when the light struck the ice from fresh angles.

While crossing the glacier Varley's boots gave out. He could still have carried on wherever the ground was suitable for crampons, but otherwise with difficulty. As we expected to return in three days we thought it advisable to leave him on the N. side of the glacier to make the best of impromptu ideas on boot-repairing. The rest of us pushed on up screes and rocks on a shoulder W. of the Disa Glacier and ultimately pitched camp on its right lateral moraine. At this height (5500 ft.) we were again still below the snow-line. In its nature, however, the rock differed from that round Corner Lake and Camp IV; quartzites had taken the place of the more tractable granite-gneiss, and, in the absence of a more easily weathered rock, vegetation had ceased.

On August 15 we broke camp about 8 A.M., local time, found an easy snow pass at the head of the Disa Glacier, and dropped about 1200 ft. to the upper reaches of the Gregory Glacier. The latter is snow covered but with the snow very near the melting stage. By the end of August its surface might well be below the snow-line. Petermann Peak stood in front as a squat pyramid beyond a wide snow apron. The mountain is composed of three ridges: that running to the N.E. abutted against the elbow of the Gregory Glacier and appeared to be the most difficult; right in face the S.E. ridge was foreshortened and offered apparently stiff rock work; the S.W. ridge, seen in flank, promised the easiest and therefore the best way to the summit. We chose the latter route, crossed the snow apron, struck up 1200 ft. of extremely hard snow, and about 5 P.M., local time, had reached a point 8200 ft. high on the S.W. ridge. At this point predominant snow gave place to a definite rock arête. The climbing presented no unusual difficulties, rocky steps alternating with snow and ice. Our only trouble was a threatened change of weather, which had been evident since the afternoon and had made it absolutely necessary, our rations being practically exhausted, to undertake the climb at once. About 7.30 P.M. we reached the first and only serious obstacle, finding ourselves about 100 ft. below the summit and at the foot of a steep ice cone. We were in doubt: the wind had risen to a gale from N.W. and was sweeping across the ridge at about 40 m.p.h. We hesitated to spend an hour step-cutting exposed to these conditions.

The S. face was in shelter, but a brief reconnaissance showed that we could hardly expect to negotiate the ice-slopes and widely spaced rock ribs with any degree of safety. The only other alternative was to turn the ice cone by a traverse on to the exposed N.W. face. Fuchs and Courtauld remained on the ridge; Forbes, Wakefield and myself traversed to the left across the foot of the cone, where the gentler slope permitted a crampon traverse. On the N.W. face we found conditions which in calm weather would have offered moderate ice and rock work, but in the gale then blowing proved both difficult and exhausting. After about an hour we crawled on to the top of the ice cone and into view of the two men left below on the ridge. In the interval since we had separated the weather had become worse, and it was now impossible to stand against the strong gale. We shouted down-wind to the waiting men that following us was out of the question, and that their only course was to return down the ridge. While waiting on the ridge Fuchs and Courtauld made boiling-point observations for height under what might have been considered almost impossible conditions. The ice cone was separated by a drop of 30 ft. from some higher shattered rocks, and we reached the summit proper at about 8.30 P.M.

The height of Petermann Peak has been a matter of discussion. From Payer Peak Copeland and Payer took theodolite angles, and stated at first that the height must be nearly 3300 m. (*i.e.* 10,827 ft.); this figure was put down as 11,000 ft. in the English translation of the German official account written by Captain Koldewey. In a map, however, inserted in the German edition the height is given as 3480 m. (*i.e.* 11,417 ft.). Lieut. Payer also published an account of the expedition as an appendix to *Die oesterreichisch'-ungarische Nordpol-Expedition in den Jahren 1872–74*, Vienna, 1876. He gives the height as at least 11,400 ft. in the text and repeats the same figure in his map. There seems little doubt therefore that 11,400 ft. was the height finally adopted. In one account of the expedition, however, the figure became 14,000 ft.; this probable misprint appears in several atlases, and in 'A.J.' **5.** Error has again arisen over Nathorst's measurement of a lower peak seen from the fjord. His estimate of 'the altitude as between 2500 and 2800 m. (8000–9000 ft.)' has had considerable currency.[6] Last summer we assigned to Nathorst Peak a height of 8480 ft. We determined the height of Petermann

[6] *Geographical Journal*, January 1901, vol. xvii. p. 62.

by the combined evidence of theodolite angles and hypsometer, apart from less reliable aneroid measurements. The figure calculated, 9650 ft., does not err by more than 50 ft. The peak stands higher than all its neighbours. The nearest rival within sight is Mount Shackleton, of which Wakefield estimates the height as 9000 ft. If there are higher peaks in the great mountain land fringing the ice cap, they must be looked for either some distance north of 74° or south of 72° N. lat. To the W. the mountains are lower and appear more deeply set in ice and snow, soon becoming more properly speaking nunataks. About 15 miles W. of Petermann, nunataks cease and the ice cap stretches westwards into the distance. In the S.W. we had a magnificent panorama of the Nordenskiöld Glacier draining the ice cap from beyond Mount Shackleton, and with its collected branches sweeping round the base of Petermann. East and S.E. were successive ridges with little possibility of picking out details. To the N.E., however, beyond the Gregory Glacier was a region more clearly visible. Some 15 miles distant we could see three lakes lying in apparently ice-free country: the conditions may be comparable to the Dry Valley in Victoria Land, Antarctica, and seem almost out of place in a region so closely set against the ice cap.

Return by the S.W. ridge had become uninviting. The S.E. ridge had been considered a possibility earlier in the day and now we saw that it offered in all probability an easier and certainly sheltered way down. We descended fairly slowly and reached the snow apron at the foot of the ridge, 1700 ft. below, in 3½ hours. We then dropped another 1700 ft. or more across the apron to moraine ground, where camp had already been pitched by Fuchs and Courtauld on the easier levels immediately above the northern rock wall of the Nordenskiöld Glacier.

During the next twelve hours the gale blew itself out. Wakefield by a supreme effort managed to complete his plane-table map even during the gale, and there was nothing to delay immediate return to Kjerulf Fjord. We pushed the pace on the return; we had overstayed our time from the ship, and in so doing were short of adequate rations. Late on August 16 we rejoined Varley at Camp VIII; a 12-hrs.' march on the 17th took us back to Camp IV, while a 15-hrs.' day on the 18th brought us to the ship at Kjerulf Fjord. An outward journey of nine days was compressed into three, due to lighter loads, no halts for survey purposes and a known route.

MT. SHACKLETON (9000 ft.)

LION BASTION (7600 ft.)

LITTLE PETERMANN (8400 ft.)

PETERMANN PEAK (9650 ft.)

Photo, R. C. Wakefield.

Panorama from BATTLEMENTS.
(S.W. to N.W.)

Pretty full details have already been given of the equipment and weights carried. Some further economies would have been possible. We carried too much paraffin because of the uncertainty whether snow and ice would have to be melted for drinking purposes. Pemmican wrapped in grease-proof paper would have been lighter than in tins. Two tents might have taken the place of three, and in that case they could preferably have been slightly bigger than the standard Mummery size. A general criticism would be that the food weight was a very small proportion of the total weight carried. Otherwise we appeared to have travelled as efficiently as possible in a region where one has to be always prepared for unexpected conditions.

East Greenland offers an almost inexhaustible field for summer exploration. At present the main drawback is the chance of finding the pack-ice impenetrable in the year selected. As a suitable ship must be specially chartered (in our case at Kr. 250 per day, not including fuel) the cost involved is considerable. In future one may expect that both Danish and Norwegian ships will frequent the coast more than at present; should this be so, passages might be obtained; such an arrangement, however, would not altogether take the place of the much more convenient and more secure position of chartering one's own ship. The most encouraging regions for further exploration in a summer season are the areas N.W. of Hudson Land, W. of Andrée Land, and the interior of Scoresby Land, S.W. of Davy Sound. There are also possibilities in the interior parts of Scoresby Sound, in 70° N. lat. Speaking generally, however the weather conditions are drier and more reliable between 72° and 75° N. lat. than in the area farther south. The extremely dry and settled weather conditions in these latitudes require special emphasis, and certainly no other part offers the almost incomparable scenery, colouring, and diversity of rock structure characterizing Franz Josef Fjord and Davy Sound.

The details of last summer's itinerary were as follows.[7] The s.s. *Heimland,* chartered from Norway, sailed with our party of nine from Aberdeen on July 2. The pack-ice was entered on July 8, and on August 4 we reached land water along the coast. The return journey was begun on August 25 and the ice belt passed through in six days. Calls were made at

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[7] A general account of the expedition's activities is published in the *Geographical Journal,* June 1930, pp. 481–504.

The Coast Region of

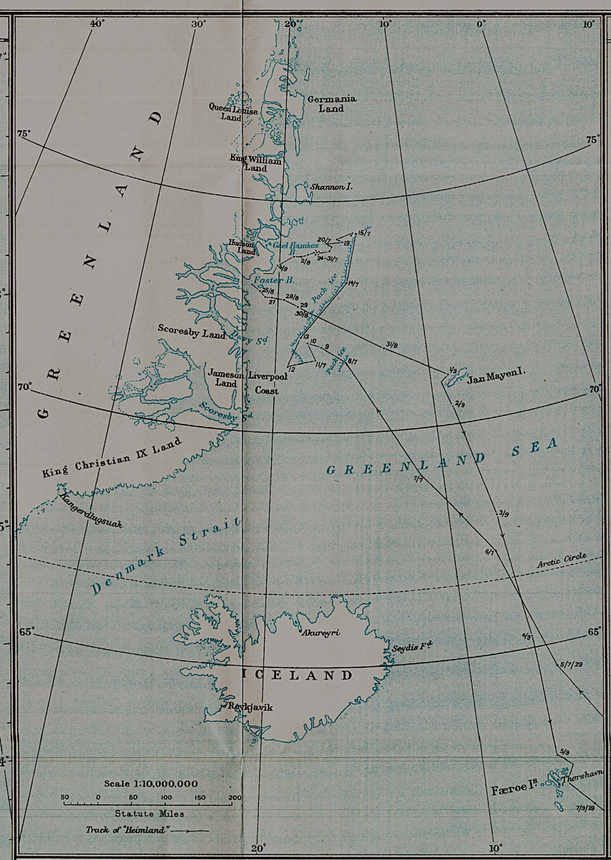
EAST GREENLAND

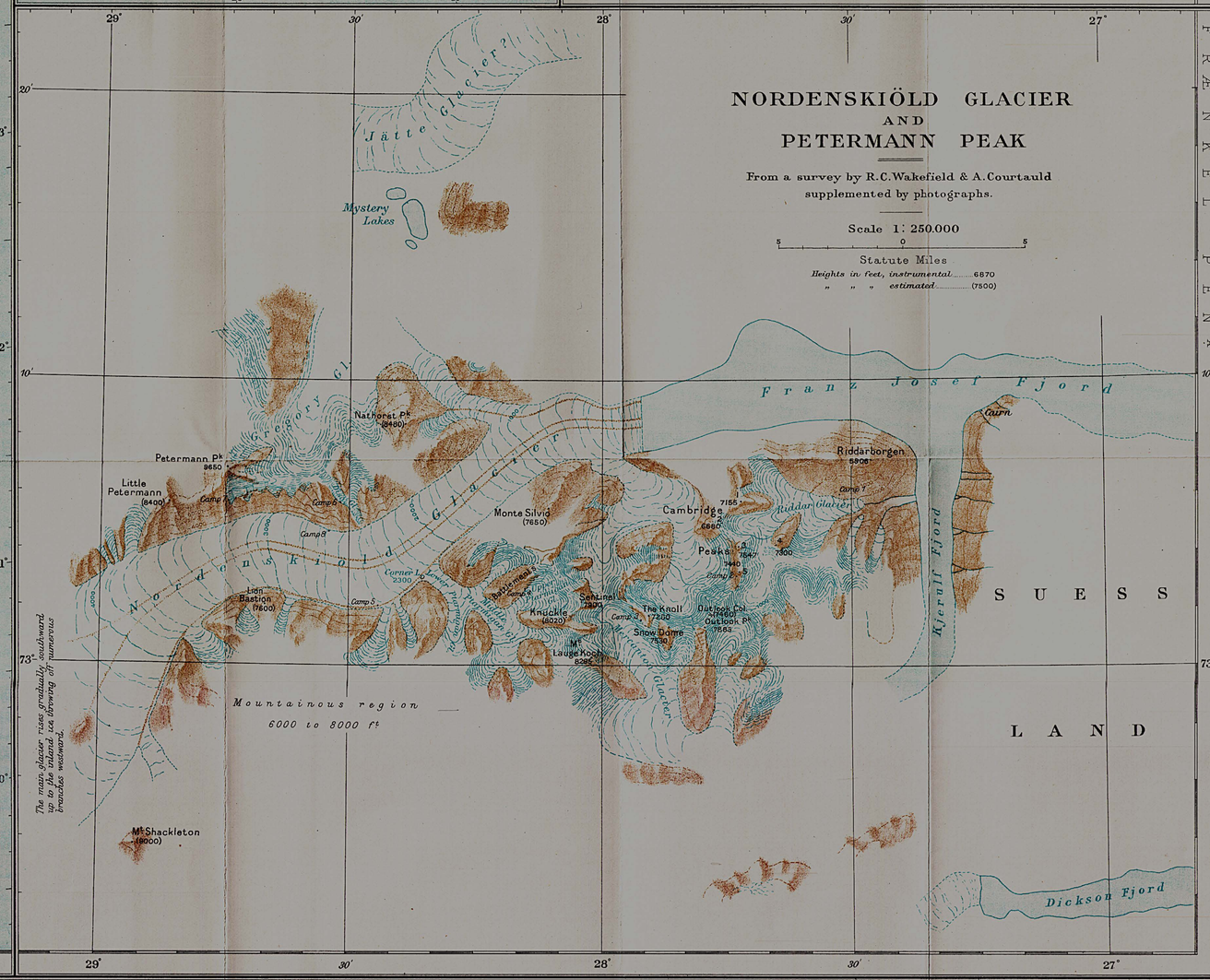
between

SCORESBY SOUND AND DANMARK HAVN

From surveys of the Cambridge Expeditions 1926 and 1929 under the direction of J. M. Wordie and the mapping of other explorers

For information concerning the survey work see Appendix I to Mr Wordie's paper, "Geographical Journal," June 1930.





NORDENSKIÖLD GLACIER AND PETERMANN PEAK

From a survey by R.C. Wakefield & A. Courtauld supplemented by photographs.

Scale 1: 250.000

Statute Miles

Heights in feet, instrumental 6870

" " " estimated ..... (7500)

FRÆNKEL PEN.

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Jan Mayen and the Faroes, and Aberdeen reached on September 9. By contrast in 1926 we left Aberdeen on June 30 and were in the ice from July 8 to July 11. Six weeks were spent along the coast and in the fjords. Scoresby Sound was left on August 23, and after a détour by Reykjavik the *Heimland* was back in Aberdeen on September 8.

[We offer our thanks to the Council of the R.G.S. for permission to reproduce their map.—*Editor*, 'A.J.']

Eiger and Hörnli:
Some Accounts and Recollections.

By SABURO MATSUKATA.

(This and the following paper were read before the Alpine Club, April 1, 1930, by the Rev. Walter Weston.)

[Both these papers are published in their own original and delightful form.]

I.

TO my great regret, strangely have I forgotten what my first impression of Grindelwald was. All what I remember is that I felt some sort of curious familiarity when I was walking up the village road alone. It was like a first visit to a place, which one thinks he has seen in his dream before.

Of course, it was much more agreeable to me to be free from the sight of stone buildings of French cities, which caused some sort of obsession, peculiar, perhaps, to me who has had bad experiences in the earthquake. But the main reason of my being so at home here was not this. In short, I knew so much of this valley and village already and could not think myself a stranger. I owed this unusual knowledge to my predecessor [1] who lived here for two years, wandering widely among the hills surrounding the valley as well as among the villagers, and eventually became a half-native. And when he came back [2] from abroad he found us waiting for his story of adventures among the foreign mountains. Soon he became the victim of hungry wolves and whenever he was

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[1] Mr. Yuko Maki.—*W. W.*

[2] To Japan.—*W. W.*