

this is indeed a mountain climbers' playground. From the bridge at the Lower Falls of the River Nevis the crags present a frontage along the northerly roadside for almost half a mile.

They provide ample scope for entertainment on an off-day from the high hills for climbers at Steall, Glen Nevis Hostel and Fort William. They have been particularly popular with the student climbers who frequent the area during the summer months. Owing to the highly intricate nature of the rock formations, a detailed sketch would complicate, rather than simplify, route-finding, and for this reason the positions are only roughly indicated. Nail scratches will identify the climbs. The bridge referred to is the one at the falls.

A. *Sheep Flank Wall* (200 feet, Difficult).—This commences almost opposite the bridge above scree, to the right of an overhanging base, by slab and crack and continues on a crest.

B. *Hangover Buttress* (200 feet, Severe).—This lies above large jumbled boulders about 200 yards along the road from the bridge. A large overhang is very prominent. Start on rib of lowest rock and continue to grassy ledge. Short wall is followed by traversing to right round an awkward corner directly above the overhang on minute balance holds.

C. *Cavalry Crack* (60 feet, Moderate).—This is to the left of the large, steep buttress with vertical crack (200 feet), about 400 yards along the road from bridge. It is rather vegetative and was the result of an unsuccessful attempt to scale the long crack.

D. *Pinnacle Ridge* (150 feet, Very Difficult).—With two *severe* variations, lies about 600 yards from bridge and about 100 feet above the road. This small crag is identified by a vertical crack of 20 feet on left edge of the lower slab. The ordinary route commences at the lowest rocks, leading to a small tree at the top of a vertical crack. It continues up a shallow basin and traverses right on a large flake, then ascends the final slab direct. The vertical crack route is *severe*, as is the slab route to the right of the ordinary start.

E. *Pine Wall* (300 feet, Severe).—This lies several hundred feet above and to the left of Pinnacle ridge. It is identified by a pine tree at top of the second rock tier. The route commences up a rather holdless slab on the left to a ledge below a steep, reddish coloured wall on right. This is ascended by climbing out on to an overhanging corner and up easier rock to the pine tree. The final arching slab (60 feet) is climbed by a groove.

F. *Secretaries' Crack* (250 feet, Severe).—This block lies almost in the centre of the crags, and is easily identified by the oblong shaped face with the oblique crack running up to the right. The crack (70 feet) is climbed by complete entry with back and foot tactics (*difficult*). A traverse is made to the left at the top and the crest of the buttress ascended by delicate slabs.

Several other routes of a *severe* nature are to be found in this area, all of which have been pioneered by the Lochaber J.M.C.S. and members of C.U.M.C.

1872

1872. *Sheep Flank Wall*.—This is a very difficult climb, and was first ascended by H. C. Mackenzie, F.R.S.E., and F.R.S.E., and R. L. Dunlop, F.R.S.E., in July 1872. The route was difficult. The climb starts below a crack running between two overhangs about 100 yards from the bridge. The route goes to a rib about 10 yards off of a large rock face, which is a prominent feature of the face.

2. 1872. *Hangover Buttress*.—This is a very difficult climb, and was first ascended by H. C. Mackenzie, F.R.S.E., and F.R.S.E., and R. L. Dunlop, F.R.S.E., in July 1872. The route was difficult. The climb starts on a rib of lowest rock and continues to grassy ledge.

3. 1872. *Cavalry Crack*.—This is a moderate climb, and was first ascended by H. C. Mackenzie, F.R.S.E., and F.R.S.E., and R. L. Dunlop, F.R.S.E., in July 1872. The route was difficult. The climb starts to the left of the large, steep buttress with vertical crack (200 feet).

4. 1872. *Pinnacle Ridge*.—This is a very difficult climb, and was first ascended by H. C. Mackenzie, F.R.S.E., and F.R.S.E., and R. L. Dunlop, F.R.S.E., in July 1872. The route was difficult. The climb starts at the lowest rocks, leading to a small tree at the top of a vertical crack.

5. 1872. *Pine Wall*.—This is a very difficult climb, and was first ascended by H. C. Mackenzie, F.R.S.E., and F.R.S.E., and R. L. Dunlop, F.R.S.E., in July 1872. The route was difficult. The climb starts up a rather holdless slab on the left to a ledge below a steep, reddish coloured wall on right.

6. 1872. *Secretaries' Crack*.—This is a very difficult climb, and was first ascended by H. C. Mackenzie, F.R.S.E., and F.R.S.E., and R. L. Dunlop, F.R.S.E., in July 1872. The route was difficult. The climb starts by the oblong shaped face with the oblique crack running up to the right. The crack (70 feet) is climbed by complete entry with back and foot tactics (*difficult*). A traverse is made to the left at the top and the crest of the buttress ascended by delicate slabs.