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## WASTDALE NOTES.

By G. D. A.

SINCE the last Wastdale Notes appeared, the second and third ascents of Walker's Gully have been made. On July 4th, Messrs. Parsons and Riley showed that the ascent was possible under ordinary conditions, and in September, Messrs. Claude and Guy Barton repeated the climb, though their route up the first pitch was partly on the right wall. The route followed on both occasions was practically the same as that taken on the first ascent, and the opinions of the various climbers as to the difficulties of the different pitches are, as usual, somewhat at variance. It may be roughly stated that the top pitch, if climbed in the right way, has not retained the reputed standard of difficulty which the earlier explorers gave to it.

One hears no mention of falling stones, the "bogey" used by certain climbers to scare off youthful and thoughtless aspirants; but Walker's Gully can never be considered safe from this great danger, which is probably the worst feature of the climb.

Wastdale was a busy place during September and early October, several large parties of climbers being hard at work. Among the more difficult ascents may be mentioned those of the Engineer's Chimney on Gable Crag, the Ling Chimney on the Eagle's Nest Arête, and the West Jordan Gully by Messrs. Barton. Messrs. Slade, Fraser and Simey made the third ascent of the Pisgah Buttress, and the two former spent some days on variations of the Shamrock Chimneys.

A mysterious party of climbers spent some days on the direct north face of the Pillar Rock, and spoke vaguely of new routes and of overhanging places where suckers and

claws would be absolutely necessary ; nevertheless we hear of nothing new being done, and the leader who takes a party safely from the waterfall directly up the north face of the Low Man will have much to be proud of.

On October 2nd, a serious accident befell a tourist who was indulging in solitary walking over Pavey Ark. The unfortunate victim was a young medical student from Leeds called Sowerbutts, and the details of the accident will probably never be known. It may be mentioned that the day of the accident was decidedly stormy and misty, so that to anyone unaccustomed to mountains, the Upper Craggs of Pavey Ark must have been extremely dangerous. The body was not found until late on the following Thursday on the large screes near the lower end of Jack's Rake, and just below the Rake End Chimney. From the state of the remains the fall must have been a considerable one: the Craggs are about 400 feet high at that point. Many years have passed since our Cumberland mountains have taken revenge on any of those who explore them. Solitary scrambling is almost universally condemned, and its advocates have still another example of its dangers and risk.